Carolyn Kaberline

Known for the suits and ties that he wears and described as both “a perfect gentleman” and “someone who can get elementary school kids to ask for CDs of Brahms and Beethoven for Christmas,” Clay Jones was selected as this year’s recipient of the Doris and Dale Hupe Teaching Excellence Award.

This award is presented to the outstanding teacher in USD 343 each year, particularly the teacher who most motivates students to want to learn and to obtain more education.”

Under the procedures set up by the Endowment Association, the staff in each district attendance center is allowed to nominate either one or two teachers. The nominees are then asked to respond in writing to the question, “How do you motivate students to want to learn and obtain more education?”

From there a selection committee consisting of the senior class president, a parent-teacher organization representative from each school, and the superintendent meets with the nominees to ask each a short list of questions. The announcement of the winner is made at the staff appreciation luncheon held the last day of the school year.

In addition to the prestige involved in winning, the recipient also receives a cash award to be used as he or she sees fit. This year’s award was $1,675.

Jones, who is retiring this year, has taught in the district for 22 years, first as the vocal music instructor at the high school, then as the elementary music teacher for the last seven years.

“I loved working with the high school students,” Jones said in explaining his move to the elementary level, “but I wanted another challenge. I wanted to do something different.”

While at the high school, Jones was the co-sponsor of the school musical, and said some of his fondest teaching memories come from those productions.

“I always enjoyed watching them come together at the end. They [the students] always managed to come through regardless of the difficulties along the way.”

Born in Winfield, Jones considers Arkansas City to be his hometown. He attended Arkansas City High School where he said he had the opportunity to be involved “in an outstanding music program led by an amazing director named Kenneth Judd. He’s the one who led me into teaching. I wanted to be just like him because of his leadership and encouragement, although I know I could never come close to him.”

Jones went on to graduate from the University of Kansas with a degree in music education and quickly found a job teaching kindergarten through twelfth grade students in vocal and instrumental music in the Basehor-Linwood music program led by an amazing director named Kenneth Judd. He’s the one who led me into teaching. I wanted to be just like him because of his leadership and encouragement.

While Jones hasn’t yet decided what to do with his prize money, he said that he plans to spend “a lot of time in his backyard watching the plants and life around him” during his retirement, and hopes that he and his wife can take a trip to Russia in the near future. So far, the Joneses, who enjoy traveling, have visited all continents except Australia and Antarctica.

Jones also says he is proud of having been part of the Perry-Lecompton school system and looks forward “to watching the music programs continue to grow. I am amazed at the talent our district has produced.”

Other retirees honored at the luncheon are Susan Alexander, English and French instructor (21 years of service); Linda Leonard, food service (20 years); and Steve Riley, elementary music instructor (31 years).

Others recognized for their years of service with the district include the following:


Ten years: Mike Copple, Sandy Gantz, William Gantz, Cindy Langton, Dennis Vigna; Fifteen years: Mary Guffey, Susan Tate, Kevin Wade;

Twenty years: Linda Leonard; Twenty-five years: Larry Nichol;

Thirty years: Marty Strait.

KU Awards were also given to Deb Ashlock and John Culvahouse.
Dennis Hupe, left, presents Clay Jones with the 2008 Doris and Dale Hupe Teaching Excellence Award.
Cotton completes KU global awareness program

More than 110 students from 30 departments completed the Global Awareness Program at the University of Kansas this spring. Among them was senior Shaunikia Renee Cotton, daughter of Latonya Cotton. A graduate of Wyandotte High School, she has earned a B.A. in African and African-American Studies.

The program recognizes students for studying abroad, taking courses with an international focus, learning foreign languages and being involved in international co-curricular activities. All undergraduates are eligible to participate. To receive certification, students are required to complete two of three requirements. This semester, 10 students completed all three requirements.
TOPEKA (AP) — It will cost more to attend the six state universities in Kansas next year.

The Kansas Board of Regents on Thursday approved tuition increases ranging from 4.9 percent to 6 percent for the universities and extended a program at the University of Kansas that sets a fixed four-year tuition rate for incoming freshmen.

Under the so-called tuition compact, University of Kansas freshmen will pay $229.25 per credit hour this fall, and that rate will not change through the 2011-12 school year. That’s an increase of $244 a semester, or 7.6 percent, more than 2007 freshmen paid.

Juniors, seniors, transfers and graduate students will pay 6 percent more in tuition at Kansas next fall, or an additional $175.50 a semester for a student taking 15 hours. Nonresident juniors, seniors and transfers would pay an additional $460.50 per semester.

The regents also approved a 5.9 percent increase, or $164.55 per credit, for undergraduate students taking 15 hours at Kansas State. In May, Kansas State had proposed imposing most of the increases on juniors and seniors, but that plan was later dropped.

Tuition will not increase for Kansas State students on the university’s Salina campus, which emphasizes technology.
Kansas Board of Regents increases tuition rates

The Kansas Board of Regents Thursday established the standard resident tuition rates for the six state universities for the 2008-2009 academic year. The newly-established rates range from a 4.9 percent increase at Emporia State University to a 6 percent increase at the University of Kansas.

The board also approved the University of Kansas' rate for the "Four-Year Tuition Compact," the rate that applies for first-time, full-time students who begin as freshmen in Fall 2008. That rate, which will be locked in over a four-year period, increased by 7.6 percent.

"The board recognizes the heavy financial burden hard-working students and their families bear as students pursue higher education," Donna Shank, chair of the board of regents, said. "Tuition enhancements are necessary if our institutions are to maintain the high quality of education that Kansans deserve and demand."

The 2008-2009 in-state tuitions at the six state universities for full-time undergraduate students per semester are: University of Kansas, $3,097.50, up $175.50 or 6 percent; Kansas State University, $2,977.05, up $164.55, or 5.9 percent; Wichita State University, $2,072.25, up $116.25 or 5.9 percent; Emporia State University, $1,647, up $77 or 4.9 percent; Pittsburg State University, $1,710, up $93 or 5.8 percent; and Fort Hays State University, $1,370.25, up $71.25 or 5.5 percent.
TOPEKA — It will cost more to attend the six state universities in Kansas next year.

The Kansas Board of Regents on Thursday approved tuition increases ranging from 4.9 percent to 6 percent for the universities and extended a program at the University of Kansas that sets a fixed four-year tuition rate for incoming freshmen.

Under the so-called tuition compact, University of Kansas freshmen will pay $229.25 per credit hour this fall, and that rate will not change through the 2011-12 school year. That’s an increase of $244 a semester, or 7.6 percent, more than 2007 freshmen paid.

Juniors, seniors, transfers and graduate students will pay 6 percent more in tuition at Kansas next fall, or an additional $175.50 a semester for a student taking 15 hours. Nonresident juniors, seniors and transfers would pay an additional $460.50 per semester.

The regents also approved a 5.9 percent increase, or $164.55 per credit, for undergraduate students taking 15 hours at Kansas State. In May, Kansas State had proposed imposing most of the increases on juniors and seniors, but that plan was later dropped.

Tuition will not increase for Kansas State students on the university’s Salina campus, which emphasizes technology.
A University of Kansas journalism student from Independence is spending his summer in Washington, D.C., working for an international news organization.

Andy Greenhaw began an eight-week summer internship last Monday in the Washington news bureau of Al Jazeera-English. He is the first KU journalism student to ever intern with the Al Jazeera news organization.

Greenhaw was a member of the University Daily Kansan newspaper staff this past school year when he interviewed the Washington bureau chief for Al Jazeera-English, Will Stebbins, for a news story.

Stebbins had been invited to the KU campus to speak to international media students in the William Allen White School of Journalism. While at KU, he also met with the journalism faculty and several Kansan newspaper staff members, including Greenhaw.

Al Jazeera-English is a 24-hour English-language news and current affairs television channel headquartered in Doha, Qatar. The station broadcasts news features and analysis, documentaries, live debates, current affairs, business and sports. It is the world's first news channel headquartered in the Middle East.

Since launching its Washington news bureau in November 2006, Al Jazeera-English has joined BBC World and CNN International as one of the three largest global English-language 24-hour news channels in the world.

In addition to its Washington bureau, Al Jazeera programming originates from Doha (Qatar), Kuala Lumpur (Malaysia) and London. The network also has broadcast centers in 20 other countries around the world which focus on events in Africa, the Americas, Asia-Pacific region, Central and South Asia, and Europe, as well as the Middle East.

Greenhaw is scheduled to complete his journalism degree in news and information in December 2008. He plans to graduate from KU in May 2009, after also completing requirements for a degree in strategic communications.

At the annual KU Journalism Awards and Scholarships Ceremony held in late April, Greenhaw received the Angelo Scott Award that recognizes outstanding reporting on the University Daily Kansan. While in Washington this summer, he will also be providing editorial analysis for the Kansan's online opinion blog at www.kansan.com.

Greenhaw is a 2004 Independence High School graduate and the son of Dennis and Pat Greenhaw, of Independence.

KU's William Allen White School of Journalism and Mass Communications recently won the annual Intercollegiate Writing Competition of the prestigious William Randolph Hearst Writing Foundation Awards competition for the second consecutive year. Often called the "College Pulitzers," the Hearst program is a year-long writing competition in which journalism students from schools across the country earn points in each category of the six writing competitions.
Local law enforcement grad earns distinction

HUTCHINSON — Fairway Police Chief John Simmons congratulated 54 graduates of the Kansas Law Enforcement Training Center at a March 7 ceremony in the 4-H Encampment Building on the Kansas State Fairgrounds. Deputy Aaron Lamb of the Sumner County Sheriff's Department was among those recognized.

The graduates, who began their training course Sept. 10, represented 37 municipal, county and state law enforcement agencies from across Kansas. They were the 195th basic training class of graduates.

The training center is a unit of University of Kansas Continuing Education. Established in 1968 as the central law enforcement training facility for the state, the center is near Yoder.
KU unable to assist guard

Universities limited in how they can help athletes

By Tully Corcoran
THE CAPITAL-JOURNAL

LAWRENCE — Sherron Collins has a court hearing July 8, and it's a good bet somebody within the Kansas athletic department is going to remind him about it.

But that's about all anybody other than Collins can do.

"There's not much we can do except answer their questions and suggest that they get good legal representation," Kansas associate athletic director Jim Marchiony said.

The topic becomes curious because for the second time since December a Kansas basketball player has exacerbated his own legal problems simply by failing to respond to Douglas County District Court notifications.

First it was Brandon Rush and his traffic tickets now Collins and his lawsuit.

Marchiony said he didn't think the situations of Rush and Collins, a Chicago native, were symptoms of a larger problem.

"As every parent knows, your 20-year-old doesn't always do what you tell him or her to do," Marchiony said. "These are two instances where that has occurred. There is an overwhelming number of instances nobody ever hears about — I don't mean legal — where they do what you ask them and tell them to do."

Kansas athletes are encouraged to let somebody within the athletic department know if they encounter legal issues, Marchiony said, but providing legal counsel for

Please see KU Page 3C

KU: Providing legal counsel not allowed

Continued from Page 1C

players would constitute the dreaded "extra benefit" in the eyes of the NCAA. Thus, a tap on the shoulder and a finger pointed in the direction of the courthouse is about as much as anybody within the department could have done for Collins, and that's assuming he told them he had a lawsuit pending.

Kansas coach Bill Self said he knew about the May 2007 incident in Jayhawker Towers for which Collins was sued, but indicated he didn't know Collins was facing legal action until Monday.

"While I just became aware of the court's actions, I am very disappointed in the fact that Sherron didn't follow through on his responsibilities regarding the civil suit, and I am confident he will work diligently to address this situation," Self said in a statement Monday.

The University of Kansas does offer free legal services though Legal Services for Students, but doesn't offer representation in court for civil suits unless the suit is over a landlord-tenant dispute.

Collins' July 8 hearing is to determine exactly how much in damages will be awarded to plaintiff Jessica Brown, who because of Collins' failure to respond to a court summons won at least $75,000 in a default judgment against Collins made by Lawrence judge Jack Murphy.

The judge can set aside default judgments and should consider, according to a 1978 Kansas case, Jenkins vs. Arnold: "(1) whether the nondefaulting party will be prejudiced, (2) whether the defaulting party has a meritorious defense, and (3) whether the default was the result of excusable neglect."

Self said Collins recently had been away from Lawrence tending to his ailing father. Collins said he didn't understand his responsibility in the matter and that he meant "no disrespect to the court."

Tully Corcoran can be reached at (785) 295-5652 or tully.corcoran@cjonline.com.
EDITORIALS

KU HOOPS

Tarnished image

Collins’ personal behavior dulls
the luster of his on-court performance

The spotlight always shines brightly on sports heroes. But that same bright light also can tarnish, a lesson Sherron Collins apparently is just now learning the hard way.

Collins, a University of Kansas sophomore who in April was one of the heroes of the Jayhawks’ NCAA Basketball Tournament championship, as of today is liable for more than $75,000 in damages awarded to a woman in a civil lawsuit.

The woman accused Collins in May 2007 of exposing himself and rubbing against her in Jayhawk Towers, a student housing complex on the main KU campus northwest of Allen Fieldhouse. Campus police investigated the report but no criminal charges have been filed.

However, the woman filed a civil lawsuit last month and on Monday was awarded damages after Collins failed to respond to a summons and petition served May 14.

While offering an apology later Monday, Collins said he wasn’t fully aware of what was expected of him and what his responsibilities were in regard to the civil lawsuit.

As apologies go, that’s really lame. The truth is there’s no excuse for the way Collins handled the situation, which dulls the luster of his own on-court performance and casts his teammates, the basketball program and the university in a very negative light.

It stretches the imagination to believe a college sophomore, athlete or not, wouldn’t understand the importance of a court summons and petition, particularly one involving a person who earlier had filed a criminal complaint making the same allegations. If he really didn’t understand what was happening, he should have known enough to take the court documents to someone who could have enlightened him.

We can only conclude he wasn’t paying attention when teammate Brandon Rush was arrested in December for failing to appear in court on a traffic violation.

KU basketball coach Bill Self said he was made aware of the criminal complaint against Collins at least 13 months ago but didn’t become aware of the disposition of the civil lawsuit until Monday.

Based on the information he has received, Self said, Collins has his support on criminal complaint.

We don’t have sufficient information about that original complaint or the subsequent investigation to discuss it here. Collins reportedly cooperated with investigators at the time. He now may get a day in court to respond to the civil case, but it will be difficult to repair the damage already done by his initial inaction.

With most of the stars from the KU’s championship team now headed to the NBA or elsewhere, Collins was one of the veterans being counted on to tutor a large class of new recruits on what will be expected of them this fall when basketball season rolls around.

We hope they are paying attention to his off-court behavior and learning from that, too.
Tornado timing costly

Insurance policy carries $5 million deductible, which is set to be lowered to $100,000 after July 1

By Mike Hall
THE CAPITAL-JOURNAL

There is an adage that time is money. For Kansas State University, it is all about timing.

It is true that an insurance policy would have paid a lot more of the repair of tornado damage at Kansas State University if it had struck after July 1.

Another way to look at it is there was no insurance at all to pay for reconstruction of Hoch Auditorium at The University of Kansas in June 1991.

Gavin Young, spokesman for the Kansas Department of Administration, said Wednesday the state was "self-insured" before the Hoch fire. That means the state maintained a fund to cover such disasters without having to pay insurance premiums to a private company.

Hoch Auditorium, originally opened in 1927, was gutted by a lightning-sparked fire in 1991. The actual dollar cost of the damage was set at $13 million. But the building already was becoming obsolete, so most of it was razed, leaving only the historic facade. The new building created behind the facade cost the state $23 million, but it provided more usable space for university activities than the original building had.

It was after the Hoch fire that the Legislature decided to begin carrying some private insurance on state property. A relatively high deductible of $2 million was selected to keep the insurance premiums low. Since then, the deductible has been increased to $5 million.

The deductible is the amount the state would have to pay for an incident before the insurance company begins paying the rest.

An emergency fund was created to pay deductibles on insurance claims. Gov. Kathleen Sebelius said recently $10 million is available in that fund to help cover the deductible for the K-State damage.

A new policy is to take effect July 1 that will reduce the deductible to $100,000. That is where the timing comes in. Because the tornado struck three weeks before the new policy will go into effect, the state will need to pay the first $5 million of the expected $20 million in repairs needed on the K-State campus. Had the tornado waited until after July 1, the state would be out only $100,000.

Kansas Board of Regents officials Wednesday were unable to provide the cost of the insurance premium based on the $100,000 versus $5 million deductible.

Bruce Shubert, associate vice president for administration and finance at K-State, said all of the universities in the regents system are covered by the state's insurance policy, but the policy allows for modifications to address the unique risks on each campus.

He said K-State has programs and facilities that don't exist on some of the other campuses. The unique facilities need to be insured, but there is no need to insure all of the campuses for risks they don't have.

Mike Hall can be reached at (785) 295-1209 or mike.hall@cjonline.com.