



Fall 2010

# Pitt State

MAGAZINE



Where  
it all  
began...

*acclaimed soprano  
found her voice at PSU*







# PittState

MAGAZINE

## Features

- 12 Where it All Began...
- 16 A Greener Future: Algae
- 17 A River Runs Through It
- 18 Neat Trick
- 19 Summertime is No Vacation
- 20 Baby Boomer Fashion— the '60s

## College Close-up

- 22 College of Arts & Sciences
- 24 College of Business
- 26 College of Education
- 28 College of Technology

## Departments

- 2 From the Oval
- 9 Fine Arts Calendar
- 10 Where in the World is Gus?
- 30 Athletics Update
- 34 Alumni News
- 38 Class Notes

### From the editor

This issue of the PittState Magazine comes to you as a new semester is about to begin. The opening of a new term is always an exciting time full of opportunity and anticipation.

We hope you enjoy this issue of the magazine and the stories about the campus, students and faculty, and alumni. The PittState Magazine is an important link to your alma mater. It would also be great if you could take some time to come back for a visit. Family Day is Sept. 18 and Homecoming is Oct. 16, but you're welcome anytime.

Until we see you in person, remember to send your class notes, letters, comments and suggestions to us at [psumag@pittstate.edu](mailto:psumag@pittstate.edu) or by regular mail to the Office of Marketing and Communication, 106 Russ Hall, Pittsburg State University, 1701 S. Broadway, Pittsburg, KS 66762.



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Inez Kaiser

## ► Apple Day features wisdom of African-American pioneer

When Inez Kaiser arrived on the PSU campus in the '30s, opportunities were very limited for a young African-American woman and there seemed no shortage of people around to tell her what she could do and become.

Her return in 2010 to deliver the keynote address at Apple Day was a tribute not only to social change, but also to the determination and grit of a unique person.

The first African-American woman to open and operate a public relations firm in the U.S., Dr. Inez Y. Kaiser earned a bachelor of science degree in education (home economics) from PSU in 1938 and a master's of science degree from Columbia (N.Y.) College in 1958. She also studied

at Chicago University, Rockhurst University and Dartmouth College. In 1952, Lincoln University awarded her an honorary doctor of law degree.

Over her lifetime, Dr. Kaiser has been a pioneer, recording a long list of "firsts" as an African-American and as a woman. She has advised presidents and directed the marketing efforts of major corporations hoping to reach African-American customers.

Despite her long list of accomplishments, Dr. Kaiser's words to the students gathered that day were simple.

"You've heard my life's journey," she told the audience. "If I did it, you can do it, too."

## Record setting numbers

PSU set a record for enrollment this past spring with a total of 6,752 students - a 2.4 percent increase over the spring 2009 semester. The university reported the numbers to the Kansas Board of Regents for the annual spring 20th day count of the six state universities.

"We are extremely pleased to see this number. Even with the budget challenges we face, which have resulted in a cut of \$4.7 million in state funding, Kansas students and parents continue to see Pittsburg State as offering a great value when they consider postsecondary education options," said President Steve Scott. "Clearly that is the result of the efforts of the entire campus community. I'm very proud of and grateful to our faculty and staff. They have put the budget challenges aside and have focused on ensuring a quality experience for our students."

PSU experienced increases in several areas, including new freshmen, transfer students, new graduate students, and Gorilla Advantage students. The university also saw an increase (66 students) in the number of Kansas residents.

In addition, PSU has

become the choice of more domestic minority students. This spring, minority enrollment was up 7.5 percent, with Hispanic students constituting the largest increase (13 percent). There was also a 9 percent increase in American Indian students and an 8 percent increase in African American students.

"We feel very good about this, and we give a lot of credit to our people who do so much in the way of recruitment and retention," said Dr. William Ivy, dean of Enrollment Management and Student Success.

"People are returning to school to increase their skills and marketability in the workplace, and they are seeing PSU as the place to do that."

Travis Stewart







## Honoring student employees

Rebecca Bauman, a senior English major who works as a writer and designer for the Collegio newspaper, was named the 2010 PSU Student Employee of the Year in April. Bauman was also named Student Employee of the Year for the State of Kansas. At the same time, Travis Stewart, a senior plastics engineering technology major, was named Student Employee of the Year in a new category established for students who work off campus. Stewart was nominated by his employer, Plastic Resource Group, Inc.

President Steve Scott said students are critical to the operation of the university. He said their role goes

beyond simply getting the work done, however.

"Students are the front line people" who visitors and other prospective students meet, the president said. "In many ways, they carry the culture of the campus. It's not just work to do, it's part of the campus culture."

For more information on the award and winners, contact the Office of Career Services at 620-235-4140.

## Students say 'Thanks!' with Big Event

Nearly 600 students put on gloves, grabbed rakes and shovels and set out across Pittsburg in April to say "thank you" to the community.

The Big Event is the largest community service event of the year and lets Pittsburg citizens know how much students appreciate their support during the year.

Participants in the service project went to 100 homes throughout the community to do yard work, painting, repairs, and other odds and ends. Organized by the Student Government Association and supported by PSU fraternities and sororities, students plan the event throughout the year, take applications from residents needing help and organize the volunteers.

"It's our biggest way



Yard tools in hand, energetic students fan out across Pittsburg to say "thanks" to the community.



to say thank you to the community," said Alyssa Hillman, SGA's Big Event director. "It's important for us to help the people in the community who can't do this kind of work themselves."

SGA has been putting on the Big Event for the past eight years, assisting primarily retired community members and in some cases even former and current PSU faculty.

Rebecca Bauman







President Steve Scott

### *Difficult budget year ends—* **President offers thanks, encouragement**

As the fiscal year ended in June, President Steve Scott took a few minutes to thank the university community and friends of PSU for their efforts in getting through a very tough budget year.

▶ **“On campus, everyone from administrators and faculty and staff, to physical plant workers and part-time student employees have pulled together so the university could continue to serve students in one of the most difficult budget years in the university’s history,” Scott said.**

Off campus, Scott said, there were many others who served critical roles.

“Some local legislators made difficult decisions to prevent even more drastic cuts to higher education and alumni and community members added their voices to those calling for an end to cuts to university budgets,” Scott said. “We appreciate their courage and their commitment to education.”

President Scott said the difficult budget year ahead could have been much worse if the current budget plan had not been passed. As it is, the university is facing a 2010-2011 budget that is essentially at the same level as 2006.

“Although we were pleased that the final state budget plan didn’t require additional cuts beyond those we’ve already absorbed, that doesn’t mean the months ahead will be easy,” Scott said. “We need to prepare

for the end of the stimulus money and for a range of higher costs over time. I really appreciate the efforts I’ve seen across campus to use our limited resources wisely and to come up with creative ideas for saving money.”

Scott said the university has approached the budget crisis as a shared responsibility.

“At the budget forums, I’ve seen faces from every department on campus and there have been very good questions,” Scott said. “These candid, open discussions have been key to our shared understanding of the issues we face and to finding solutions to some of our problems.”

The president pledged to keep the lines of communication open in the months ahead and to share information as it becomes available.

“We’ll have more budget forums in the future,” Scott said, “and I’ll post relevant news stories and other information in the budget area of my web pages as it comes along. And I need feedback, as well. It is important that we keep the information flowing in both directions.”

The president added that he will have additional budget information posted to a page he has created that is devoted to the university’s budget: [www.pittstate.edu/office/president/budget/](http://www.pittstate.edu/office/president/budget/).

## **Gorilla Advantage Program expands**

The Kansas Board of Regents recently granted the university permission to add Benton and Washington counties in Arkansas to the university’s Gorilla Advantage program. Beginning in fall 2011, the program allows qualified students in border counties to attend PSU at in-state rates.

In its proposal to expand Gorilla Advantage into northwest Arkansas, PSU pointed out that large high schools in those counties are actually much closer than some of the university’s large feeder schools in the Kansas City, Wichita and Tulsa areas.

“Pittsburg State has a number of highly ranked programs that are not available at any other university in the region, and would be beneficial to students in these fast-growing counties,” said President Steve Scott. “We’re eager to make those available to Arkansas students.”







## Scott names Olson provost

President Steve Scott announced the selection of Dr. Lynette Olson as provost and vice president of academic affairs in March following a national search. Olson has served in that role as an interim since July of 2009. The provost and vice president for academic affairs is the chief academic officer at the university.



Dr. Lynette Olson

"The selection of the provost is one of the most important decisions in the life of a university," Scott said. "The national search that Pittsburg State University has just concluded confirmed that Dr. Olson is the right choice for this pivotal role at PSU. In addition to coming through a demanding search process, Dr. Olson has demonstrated over the past year her ability to work well with the faculty and campus leadership. Her commitment to learning, to this university and its students is evident."

"I am pleased to serve as the next provost and vice president for academic affairs at Pittsburg State University and look forward to working with faculty, staff and administration in moving Pittsburg State forward," Olson said. "Pittsburg State has much to be proud of and I believe we will continue to be competitive through well-established programs and as we pursue new directions and initiatives."

Olson received a bachelor's degree in Christian education from Ozark Christian College, a master's degree

in student personnel and guidance - higher education from Oklahoma State University, and a Ph.D. in family life education and consultation from Kansas State University.

## President adds to leadership team

Two new faces were added to the President's Council this spring. In March, President Steve Scott announced the selection of Angela Neria as the university's new chief information officer. In June, he announced the selection of Chris Kelly as the new associate vice president for marketing and communication.

Neria leads the Office of Information Services and provides leadership and management for the university's information technology efforts. Kelly has been charged with integrating the university's growing marketing and communication efforts.

Neria, who holds three degrees from PSU, was previously the chief information officer for the Joplin, Mo., school district. Kelly, who holds two degrees from PSU, came to the university from Via Christi Hospital in Pittsburg, where he was director of marketing and public relations.



Angela Neria



Chris Kelly

## Fuchs to lead Honors College

In May, Dr. Craig Fuchs was selected to be the new leader of the PSU Honors College. The Honors College guides high-achieving students through enriched academic experiences during their time on campus. The director of the college recruits, oversees the selection of, and cultivates those students, who take intensive courses and complete more rigorous requirements for graduation.



Dr. Craig Fuchs

Fuchs, who has served as chairman of the Music Department since 2002, will continue to teach in the department and also to conduct the wind ensemble and to oversee the department's master's program in wind conducting.

Fuchs said that in his new role, he hopes to increase students' opportunities to study internationally, take field trips in order to provide experiential learning, and bring in guest speakers, as well as create new interdisciplinary courses.

## Homecoming 2010

Students have selected "The Grass is Greener on the Gorilla Side" as the theme for Homecoming Week, Oct. 11-16. Events during the week-long celebration include:

- Oct. 11** – Gorilla Games, 4 p.m., Oval
- Oct. 13** – Homecoming Convocation, noon, Carnie Smith Stadium
- Oct. 14** – Yell Like Hell, 7 p.m., Carnie Smith Stadium
- Oct. 16** – Parade, 9 a.m., downtown Pittsburg
- Oct. 16** – Football vs. Washburn, 2 p.m. (GorillaFest starts at 11 a.m.)





### 25 years and still going strong!

The university celebrated its 25th year of partnering with area businesses during the 2010 Community Campaign, which kicked off with a breakfast on March 9.

More than 30 area businesses were recognized for continually supporting the university since the campaign first began back in 1985. The breakfast, which marked the beginning of the two-week campaign, featured campaign co-chairs Elaine Castagno, co-owner of Jim's Steakhouse and a financial planner with University Bank, and Mark Werner, president of Citizen's Bank.

"You don't have to look far to see how important the university is to the community," Werner told the crowd of 150 business members and university supporters gathered for the breakfast. "There are a lot of



people around the state that would kill to have this kind of economic driver in their community."

At the breakfast, the Rex Crowley Award was presented to Wendell and Lynda Wilkinson, longtime supporters of Pitt State who have provided years of service and leadership to PSU and to the community. Both knew Crowley, a Pittsburg banker and one of the first members of the business community to volunteer his time for PSU fundraising, through their individual work in the banking industry.

For more information on giving to the Community Campaign, contact University Development, 620-235-4768.



President Steve Scott (right) presents the 2010 Rex Crowley Award to Wendell and Lynda Wilkinson.

*For future generations—*

### It's the right thing to do

PSU President Steve Scott frequently says that conserving finite resources and encouraging a culture that strives for sustainability is the right thing to do for future generations. Now the campus has embraced that goal.

The University Strategic Planning Council gave its approval to the addition of sustainability as a sixth goal in the university's strategic plan in April. President Scott made his case for adding the goal in a series of campus forums and a draft of the proposed goal got campus scrutiny before its adoption.

"I am extremely pleased with the enthusiasm with which the campus has embraced this concept," Scott said. "Clearly the time is right to include sustainability in our planning process."

The new sustainability goal calls for the university to "institutionalize environmental sustainability into all university activities including operations, teaching and learning, discovery and engagement." It joins five established goals:

1. Enhance learner success
2. Enhance discovery and research
3. Enhance engagement and interaction with external stakeholders to stimulate cooperative and progressive growth and development
4. Embrace emerging technologies
5. Obtain the resources necessary to support the university's strategic goals while maintaining sound fiscal management strategies that are clearly articulated to all constituents

The university uses these strategic goals to drive planning across campus and each department and unit measures progress against the goals.

To learn more about PSU's strategic planning, go to [www2.pittstate.edu/inres/](http://www2.pittstate.edu/inres/). To view PSU President Scott's forum on the new sustainability goal, visit [www.pittstate.edu/office/president/speeches/](http://www.pittstate.edu/office/president/speeches/).





### *Fashion Week—*

## **“Green is the New Black”Æ**

Students concerned with two very important things – looking good and caring for the planet – were in the spotlight as the Fashion Merchandising Association recognized Fashion Week in March.

The theme for the week was “Green is the New Black.”

James Smith, a sophomore fashion merchandising major who organized the week’s events, said that with designers making more eco-conscious decisions about their pieces, the theme seemed appropriate.

“We thought we should focus the week on something we all care about,” he said.

Fashion week events included a Q&A with fashion professionals, prizes on the Oval, and a runway fashion show featuring vintage and organic clothing.

## **Outstanding faculty**

The winners of this year’s Outstanding Faculty Award said they were honored to be singled out from peers they believe to be great teachers.

Dr. Cynthia Woodburn, mathematics, and automotive technology professors Ron Downing and Bob Schroer were honored at Apple Day ceremonies in the spring for their passion in the classroom and their reputation as great

teachers who care about their students. Each is a first-time winner of the award.

For Woodburn, who received the honor after multiple nominations, the win was a way to honor her father, a former accounting professor who won the award during his tenure at PSU.

“I’m humbled, because there are so many other good teachers at PSU,” said Woodburn, whose students cited her teaching skills, personality, and skill at her craft. “It’s a good feeling to be recognized.”

For Bob Schroer, the award is affirmation that his 30+ years in industry are valuable to students who will soon seek careers in the diesel and heavy equipment field.

“When you work on projects with your class, you always hope the students will enjoy it and learn from it,” he said. “To get this award affirms the fact that we’re doing things students appreciate and are learning from. It makes my work all that much better.”

On the heels of his recognition for leading his latest advisee to a win at WorldSkills USA, Ron Downing says the real reward is simply being able to work with students each day.

“I like to see young people succeed,” he said. “If I can pass on the knowledge to help them do that, then this has all been worthwhile. That’s why I teach.”



Bob Schroer, Cynthia Woodburn and Ron Downing

## **Goin’ mobile▼**

To accommodate the rapidly growing number of users who access the Internet through their smart phones, PSU has launched a mobile-friendly web site.

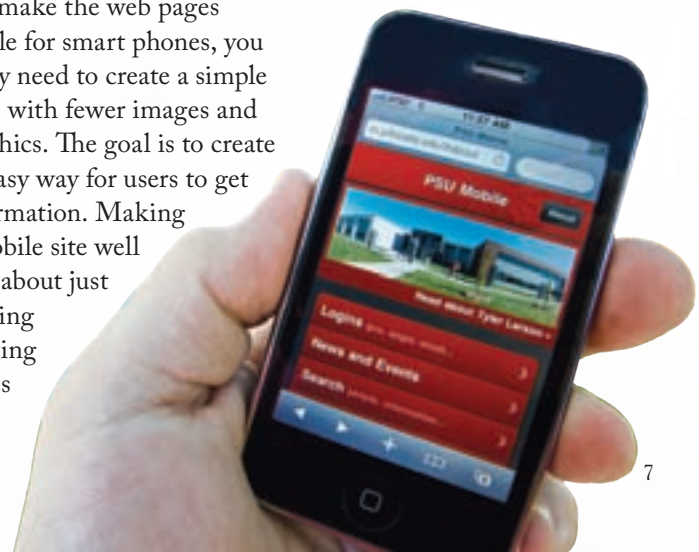
“We’ve seen a dramatic growth in the number of users who come to our website on their iPhones and other smart phones,” said Michael Fienen, PSU director of web marketing. “This is a global trend that is just going to get bigger, and it’s important to address it early.”

Mobile university sites are still rare, Fienen said. “To make the web pages usable for smart phones, you really need to create a simple page with fewer images and graphics. The goal is to create an easy way for users to get information. Making a mobile site well isn’t about just making existing pages

fit on a phone, it’s about addressing the specific needs of users on mobile devices.”

The university’s new mobile site will initially work on the iPhone, iPod Touch, iPad, Palm Pre and Android-based handheld phones. It will not yet work on Windows Mobile and Blackberry phones, but Fienen said he is working to expand the feature.

To visit the new mobile PSU site, point your mobile device’s web browser at [m.pittstate.edu](http://m.pittstate.edu) (don’t use the [www](http://www) in the web address). An ‘about’ page answers questions and describes the mobile site’s features.







### University begins work on new master plan

In the spring of 2010, the university began the exciting work of developing a new master plan for the campus.

"The current master plan was developed a little more than a decade ago," said President Steve Scott. "Many things have changed since that plan was put in place and many of the major components of that plan have been accomplished. Now it is time to prepare for the next decade."

The first step in the process was the selection of an experienced firm to guide the planning. After presentations from several highly qualified firms, PSU selected the architectural firm of Gould Evans.

"They have extensive experience in doing this kind of planning with other universities," said Paul Stewart, director of facilities planning. "They have very good experience with constituent group engagement."

That engagement, which included meetings with community stakeholders over the summer months, is part of the research phase of the process, which will run through September.

President Scott said a very important part of the master planning process will be a series of meetings with campus and community groups.

"An effective master plan is more than just a list of where to stick new buildings," Scott said. "It has its genesis in the university's strategic plan. It takes into account existing structures and systems, the changing needs and expectations of students and evolving technology."

Scott said it is important to keep the campus and the public informed and involved throughout the master plan's development.

"It is important that the campus and community participate in the presentations and forums that will take place over the next several months," Scott said. "We will also post information and updates regularly on the university's web site."

Stewart said the timeline calls for a draft master plan to be completed and ready for consideration for approval in the spring of 2011.

"There's a lot of work to do in a relatively short time," Stewart said. "but I know the result will be worth the effort."

*New scholarship program—*

### Non-resident children and grandchildren of alumni benefit

A new scholarship program for the nonresident children and grandchildren of PSU alumni got the green light recently from the Kansas Board of Regents.

University officials made the argument that admitting the nonresident children and grandchildren of alumni would help increase the geographic diversity of the student body and would be a benefit that alumni would appreciate.

"We get inquiries from alumni every year who would like to encourage their children or grandchildren to consider attending PSU," said President Steve Scott. "Often, they have a spouse whose alma mater offers some sort of legacy program."

The new program, which will go into effect in the fall of 2011, will allow nonresident children and grandchildren of alumni to attend PSU for 150 percent of the resident tuition. The program will be available for full-time undergraduate students enrolling at PSU for the first time and will be made retroactive to include currently enrolled students who meet the program criteria.

The duration of the award will be up to eight semesters of undergraduate study. Students in the program must maintain a 2.50 GPA in work completed at PSU.

For more information, contact the Office of Enrollment Management and Student Success at 620-235-4109.



Nature Reach's 30-year-old eagle, Aurora, surprised everyone this spring by laying her first egg. It is uncommon for eagles to lay eggs in captivity and Aurora has been with Nature Reach for 25 years. Caregivers substituted an artificial egg (above) for the real one, which was not viable, to allow Aurora to follow her nesting instincts.





# fine arts calendar

## Art Department

Lecture and reception dates and times TBA. Contact showman@pittstate.edu, or call 620-235-4305 for more information.

UNIVERSITY GALLERY

Porter Hall

**Aug. 23 – Sept. 20, 2010**

**Cathy Breslaw**

Wall Sculpture/Hangings  
Carlsbad, Calif.

**Sep. 22 – Oct. 20, 2010**

**Kevin Hughes**

Lecture: Sept. 21, 6 p.m.,  
316 Hughes Hall  
Reception: Sept. 21, 7 p.m.,  
Porter Hall  
Ceramics  
Springfield, Mo.

**Oct. 26 – Nov. 25, 2010**

**Judy Rushin**

Drawing Installation  
Tallahassee, Fla.

**Dec. 1, 2010 – Jan. 20, 2011**

**Stephen Heywood and  
Emily Douglas**

Ceramics and 2D  
Mixed Media Drawings  
Jacksonville, Fla.

**Feb. 4 – March 4, 2011**

**VISUAL TERRITORY**

National Juried Exhibit  
Sherry Leedy, juror

**March 10 – April 7, 2011**

**Art Department Biannual  
Faculty Exhibit**

**April 11 – May 10, 2011**

**Michael Aurbach**

Sculpture  
Nashville, Tenn.

HARRY KRUG GALLERY—  
Porter Hall

**Aug. 27 – Sept. 30, 2010**

**Vaughn Wascovich**

Lecture: Aug. 30, 10 a.m.,  
316 Hughes Hall  
Reception: Aug. 30, 11 a.m.,  
Porter Hall  
Photography  
Commerce, Texas

**Oct. 6 – Dec. 6, 2010**

**Michelle Rogers**

Photography  
Alexandria, Va.

**Jan. 27 – Feb. 28, 2011**

**Life-Force: Brianne Fulton,  
Jennifer Higerd, Casey  
Stueber**

Ceramics  
Fort Hays, Kan.

**March 11 – May 5, 2011**

**COLLECTIVE FUSION:**

A Salon Style Non-juried  
Exhibit by PSU Faculty & Staff  
Opening and Reception:  
March 11, 2011

## PALS/Theatre

Performing Arts and Lecture  
Series: for ticket information  
and prices, go to <http://www.pittstate.edu/office/tickets/pals.dot>.

**Duff Goldman  
"The Ace of Cakes"**

Sponsored by PALS

**Sept. 17, 2010, 7 p.m.**

Pittsburg Memorial Auditorium

**An Dochas & the  
Haran Irish Dancers**

Sponsored by PALS

**Feb. 3, 2011, 7 p.m.**

Pittsburg Memorial Auditorium

**Tracy Silverman**

Sponsored by PALS

**April 19, 2011, 7 p.m.**

U-Club - Overman Student  
Center

## PSU Theatre Productions

For ticket information on  
PSU Theatre productions visit  
[www.pittstate.edu/office/tickets/or](http://www.pittstate.edu/office/tickets/or) call 620-235-4716.

**The Jungle Book**

by Rudyard Kipling

Directed by Cynthia Allan

**Oct. 28 – 30, 2010, 8 p.m.**

Pittsburg Memorial Auditorium

**Theatre Unplugged**

student directed

**Dec. 3 – 4, 2010, 7 p.m.**

Grubbs Studio Theater

**The Water's Edge**

by Teresa Rebeck

Directed by Megan Westhoff

**March 3 – 6, 2011**

**Evenings: 8 p.m.**

**Matinee: 2 p.m.**

Grubbs Studio Theater

**Woman In Mind**

by Alan Ayckbourn

Directed by Linden Little

**April 28 – May 12, 2011**

**Evenings: 8 p.m.**

**Matinee: 2 p.m.**

Grubbs Studio Theater

## Music Department

**SEPTEMBER**

**26 .....Symphony Orchestra**

3 p.m., Pittsburg

Memorial Auditorium

**OCTOBER**

**4 .....Jazz Ensembles**

7:30 p.m., Overman

Student Center

**5 .....Band Concert**

7:30 p.m., Pittsburg

Memorial Auditorium

**8 .....Estonian Vocal Ensemble**

7:30 p.m., McCray Hall

**28 .....Chamber Orchestra**

7:30 p.m., McCray Hall

**NOVEMBER**

**5 .....Choir Concert**

7:30 p.m., McCray Hall

**DECEMBER**

**2 .....Jazz Ensembles**

7 p.m., Pittsburg

Memorial Auditorium

**5 .....Band Concert**

3 p.m., Pittsburg

Memorial Auditorium

**8 & 10 .....Annual Timmons  
Chamber Concerts**

Time: TBA Timmons Chapel

For a complete listing of  
performances, including senior  
recitals, visit [www.pittstate.edu/music/calendar.html](http://www.pittstate.edu/music/calendar.html).

## SOLO AND CHAMBER MUSIC SERIES

All performances begin at  
7:30 p.m. in McCray Hall.  
Tickets are available at the door  
and by calling the PSU Ticket  
Office at 620-235-4796.

**Friday, Sept. 10**

Trio Fedele

**Friday, Oct. 8**

Heinavanker (*vocal ensemble*)

**Friday, Oct. 29**

ETHEL (*string quartet*)

**Friday, Feb. 11**

Richard Raymond, *piano*

**Friday, March 11**

Adam Holzman, *guitar*

**Friday, April 1**

Chatham Baroque Ensemble





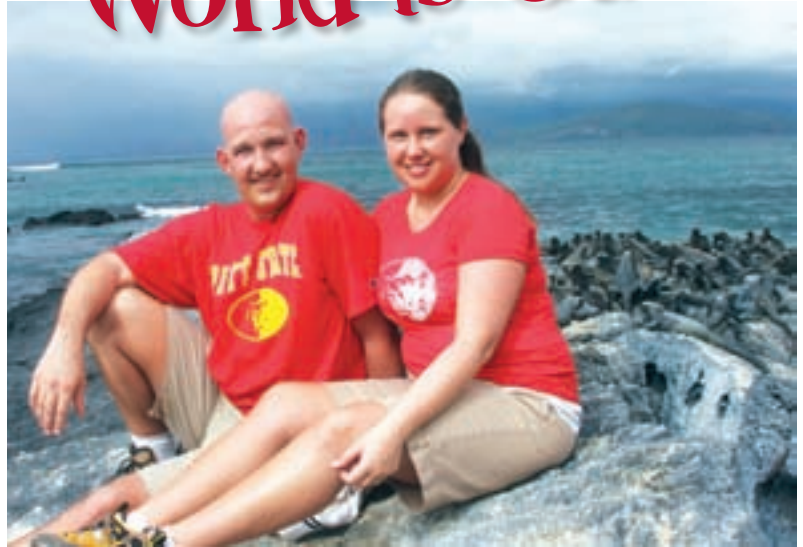
# “Where in the World is Gus?”



## Racing Fans

Becky Moore (BS '06, MS '08) and Jessica Moore (BS '10) traveled to Charlotte, N.C., in May 2010. They showed off their Pitt State pride while touring the Hendrick Motorsports Racing Complex, home to Jeff Gordon & Jimmie Johnson's racing teams. While on their adventure, they also toured Rousch Fenway, Earnhardt Ganassi, and Joe Gibbs racing shops, the brand new NASCAR Hall of Fame, and the qualifying for the Coca-Cola 600 race. They ended their trip by attending the Coca-Cola 600 race and cheering on their favorite drivers.

We would like to know what interesting places Gus has visited. E-mail your photo and a brief story to [psumag@pittstate.edu](mailto:psumag@pittstate.edu)



## Galapagos Gorillas

There are lots of exotic species on the Galapagos Islands, but not many Gorillas. While Matt Vietti (BA '99) and his wife, Angela (BA '99), showed their Gorilla pride, marine iguanas covered the rocky shore behind them. Matt and Angela live in Colorado Springs, Colo.

## Offering 30-day free access to all alumni job seekers

Find the perfect employee... *or find the perfect job!*



Search resumés • Schedule on-campus interviews • Schedule videoconference interviews  
Manage and track resumés • Search job listings and employers  
Save job searches • Be notified of upcoming career fairs, events, and workshops

Pittsburg State University Career Services  
620-235-4140 [www.pittstate.edu/office/careers](http://www.pittstate.edu/office/careers)

## Making a BIG impression

There was no shortage of Gorillas at the Vatican when these loyal alumni showed their pride on the Our Lady of Lourdes Choir (Pittsburg, Kan.) pilgrimage to Rome in March 2010.



## Another growing Gorilla family

It was a Gorilla family vacation to Hoover Dam in March 2010. Marlin Carson (BS '78), his wife, Ellen (BSN '78) their daughter, Lindsay Young (BBA '05, MBA '09), and husband, Aaron (BSET '05), all made the trip to celebrate the marriage of Grant Carson (BST '07) and Tosha (Gier) Carson. Tosha, a management major, is well on her way toward adding still one more PSU degree to the family.



## Proud to be teachers and alumni

These Pittsburg third grade teachers, all PSU alumni, show their Gorilla pride at the Botanical Gardens at Caesar's Palace in Las Vegas in June. The teachers were attending a national workshop on Professional Learning Communities (PLCs), a national strategy for school change and improvement. Left to right are Lori Wilkes (George Nettels Elementary), Kerstin Womble (Westside Elementary), Lacey O'Brien (Lakeside Elementary), and Amy Bartlow (George Nettels Elementary).



## Gorillas at Disney World

Mel Anderson (BSBA, MBA, MS, EdS) and sons Chris (BSBA '99) and Matt (BS '08) on spring break at Disney World – clearly loyal readers of the Pitt State Magazine.

# Pittsburg State University

[www.pittstate.edu](http://www.pittstate.edu)

## President

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**Vice President for  
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Dr. Brad Hodson, MBA '93

Dr. Lynette Olson

Matt Osterthun

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**Associate Vice President**  
Chris Kelly

Diane Hutchison

Paulina O'Malley

Cassie Mathes

Malcolm Turner

Carla Wehmeyer

Ron Womble

Sondra Wood

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**EDITOR: Ron Womble**

**EDITORIAL**

Cassie Mathes

**DESIGN**

Diane Hutchison

Paulina O'Malley

**PHOTOGRAPHY**

Malcolm Turner

Carla Wehmeyer

For extra copies or  
additional information:  
**PSU Office of Marketing  
and Communication**  
106 Russ Hall  
1701 S. Broadway  
Pittsburg, Kansas 66762-7575

telephone: 620-235-4122

**e-mail: [psumag@pittstate.edu](mailto:psumag@pittstate.edu)**



# Where it all began...

*Acclaimed soprano  
found her voice at PSU.*

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AS BARBARA RONDELLI-PERRY stood on the mezzanine walkway of McCray Hall, she couldn't help but remember the significance of the place where her career in music first began.

"I have so many memories of McCray," said Rondelli-Perry, a 1960 alumnae who has enjoyed an incredible career as a globally recognized opera singer. "I've seen a lot of facilities, and this building ranks up there with anything I've seen. It's beautifully done."

After nearly 15 years traveling and performing across the world – and more than three decades as a professor of voice at the University of Toledo – Rondelli-Perry recently returned to PSU for her Half-Century Club reunion and to visit the family farm where she grew up. Along the way, she shared memories of an exciting career as an internationally acclaimed operatic soprano who performed in a dozen countries on three continents, appearing with major opera

companies, TV, and radio stations across the world.

Born in Chicopee, Kan., to a German-Italian family, Rondelli-Perry had an early start at music, taking the stage at McCray for her first full recital at only 16 years of age.

"My mother taught me to play piano and sing," she said of the years before she began studying with PSU's Judy Bounds Coleman. "By the time I was 14 or 15, I knew voice was for me."

It wasn't long before she realized how rare her gift was. At PSU's former Carney Hall, she performed the lead in several works including "Old Maid and the Thief," "Brigadoon," "La Boheme," and "Telemachus." She also performed with the Inspiration Point Opera Workshop in Arkansas, being cast as a soprano Carmen ("to the chagrin of all the mezzos who wanted the part," she said with a smile) in Bizet's opera "Carmen."

Perhaps her first big break, however,

*(see Rondelli-Perry pg. 14)*

*(clockwise from top left ending in center) Madama Butterfly in "Madama Butterfly," Düsseldorf, Germany, 1970; Rosina in "Barber of Seville," Saarbrücken, Germany, 1967; Sophie in "Der Rossenkavalier," Saarbrücken, Germany, 1967; lead role, in "Venetian Festival," Wuppertal, Germany, 1969; Micaela in "Carmen," Lübeck, Germany, 1964; Gilda in "Rigoletto," Saarbrücken, Germany, 1965; Undine in "Undine," Wuppertal, Germany, 1970*





**Rondelli-Perry** (*from pg. 12*)

was when she won third prize at the national auditions for the National Federation of Music Clubs, an accomplishment that allowed her to make a professional recording that helped land her a concert tour performing for the U.S. Information Service.

It wasn't long before Rondelli-Perry received notification that she had

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*"..as the granddaughter of immigrants, I worked hard. It was a work ethic. My father was always adamant that nothing should be just given to you."*

---

become the first PSU graduate ever to receive a Fulbright Scholarship to attend the Royal Academy of Music in London.

"Nobody thought I would get it," she said. "But as the granddaughter of immigrants, I worked hard."

It was a work ethic. My father was always adamant that nothing should be just given to you. So it was a tremendous day when I got the letter."

In 1960, at the tender age of 20, she boarded the Queen Elizabeth for the five-day journey to England where she studied with the noted British soprano Dame Eva Turner. Rondelli-Perry began winning voice awards at the academy and performed in an opera tour in her spare time.

With school behind her, Rondelli-Perry came back to the United States, finishing as a finalist at New York City's Metropolitan Opera auditions. But in 1964, she returned to Europe to perform at an opera house in Germany – the beginning of her professional career.

During the mid 1960s, she performed as many as six major roles each year for opera houses throughout Germany and in Holland, Belgium, Switzerland, and London.

"This whole time, I was doing so

many concerts, performing in major operatic roles and guest performing in other opera houses when people would fall ill. I would travel on the train system and go wherever they needed me to go. I sang Elsa in Wagner's "Lohengrin" and the first Rhine Maiden in the "Ring of the Nibelungen." I learned the role of Sieglinde in four days when one of the sopranos fell ill. It was one of the biggest thrills of my life. I wouldn't try to do that now, but at the time I knew I could."

Of her nearly 100 operatic and oratorio roles, her favorite role is one she performed not only in Europe, but also in the United States at the New York City Opera and in Honolulu: Madama Butterfly in the famed Puccini opera.

"From one language to another, it is as though you're a pianist and someone has moved middle C," she said, her eyes lighting up. "But you still have to play the piece."

In the late 1960s, she traveled to South Africa, where her first husband was an opera and orchestral conductor. She took a break from opera, performing occasional concerts. She opted to return to the U.S. in 1974. With an infant daughter in tow, she accepted a position at the University of Toledo, seeking stability for her new focus in life. There, she fell in love with her students, many of whom went on to accomplish vocal fame in their own right.

As years passed, her students weren't the only ones she fell in love with. A widow by this time, she met Dr. Richard Perry, the university's associate vice president for academic affairs emeritus and a professor of higher education, who was taking voice lessons from one of her former students.

Accompanying her to the reunion this past May, Perry delighted in his wife's



Barbara Rondelli-Perry today and as Mimi in Puccini's "La Bohème," *Carney Hall, Pittsburg State University, 1959.*

reminiscing. Music, he said, brought them together.

"I attended a dinner party at her house where I was surrounded by professional singers. They warned me I would have to sing for my supper," he recalled with a laugh. "I find singing to be a great comfort. To me, if you can feel the song and are true to it, it becomes an expression of your very soul."

Her voice, he said, is as wonderful as one who has only read about her experiences might imagine. Fans in

Toledo were able to hear it as recently as April, when Rondelli-Perry was featured as part of a voice recital at the Toledo Art Museum's Great Gallery.

"Her voice is heavenly indeed. I'd like to say it's arresting," he said, watching her move among the crowd at the reunion. "No one has her repertoire. But I'm not just impressed with her. I am in love with her. She is my passion."

With retirement on the horizon, Rondelli-Perry said she was pleasantly surprised last year when a man from Carthage, Mo., contacted her. He had

purchased a collection of old LPs which included an original recording of her very first recital at McCray Hall 54 years ago, and wanted to know if he should return it to her.

"I opened them and it was like I was pulling back the curtain of time," she said. "I was very moved. It was as though I was there again." •

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To hear a sample of that recording, visit the PSU's online press and media center at [www.pittstate.edu/pr](http://www.pittstate.edu/pr).

# *Leaving a Legacy*

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## *a decade of gratitude.*

**TEN YEARS AGO**, the PSU Foundation established the Heritage Society to honor and thank those, like Ken Gordon, who have "planted seeds" to ensure continued growth of our vibrant institution and the success of our students. As a professor, Ken committed more than 40 years to the education of PSU students. Now retired, he has chosen to continue his commitment through a planned gift for scholarships. Planned gifts such as provisions in wills, trusts, retirement plans, life insurance and other long-range financial plans are integral to the generational success of PSU.

By planting the seeds of support today through a planned gift, you can join Ken and more than 400 other Heritage Society Members who have shown their commitment to the long-term success of the university we all love.



For more information on creating a lasting legacy at Pittsburg State, or if you have already included PSU in your plans, contact:

**Shawn Naccarato**, Director of Planned Giving  
620-235-4863 [snaccara@pittstate.edu](mailto:snaccara@pittstate.edu)

Ken Gordon, retired faculty, PSU College of Technology







Dr. Andrew Myers, director of the Kansas Polymer Research Center, examines algae samples.

# 1 a greener future: algae may hold the key

GREEN AND SLIMY, algae may not appeal to most people, but it is a thing of beauty to folks looking for sustainable energy solutions. A group of Pitt State scientists has been enlisted to help pave the way.

This year, PSU's Kansas Polymer Research Center was awarded its largest-ever federal allocation to become the first group of scientists to perform research using oil produced by algae.

In March, the USDA said 'yes' to a proposal by the KPRC to use a \$2 million allocation to pursue the cutting-edge research, which would simplify the conversion process of using natural oil to create polymers. Those polymers ultimately will lead to environmentally friendly end products such as floor tiles or foam seats for chairs. The allocation was included in last fall's Federal Omnibus Spending Bill, and is disbursed by the USDA.

Over the past five years, the center has received national attention for its work converting bio-based materials such as vegetable and soybean oil into products that are produced and distributed by industry partners. With this new allocation, which will be distributed to the KPRC over a three-year period beginning this September, scientists will become pioneers in exploring this sustainable form of research using an important natural resource.

"Depending on what you feed it, algae produce things like oils that we believe we can turn into polymers," said Dr. Andy Myers, director of the KPRC. Describing the algae as being grown in large tubes, Myers said the center is working with its partners to acquire samples and ultimately, algae oil.

"Using this oil would take our work from a multi-step to a single-step conversion process, which would save time, money, energy, and waste," he said. "The field of renewable materials is both popular and relevant to the green chemistry movement that is receiving a lot of attention today. Algae research is an area that has a lot of potential."

Steve Robb, KPRC executive director emeritus, said USDA leaders have expressed an unrivaled confidence in the research that is taking place at the center, and have encouraged the scientists to explore the unlimited potential in this field.

"This is definitely cutting-edge, and it keeps the KPRC on the forefront of research in that field," Robb said. "These kinds of research grants are few and far between. In most cases, the money goes out and it is the government telling schools what to do with it. But in this case, they're encouraging us to explore and they're as excited as we are." •



# a river runs through it

## Construction students create award-winning pervious concrete

WHEN KYLE BUNTIN AND JAKE KNIGHT chose Pittsburg State to pursue degrees in construction engineering technology, they learned quickly how access to the right materials and instructors can make all the difference in an education.

Lifelong friends from Erie, Kan., Buntin and Knight saw research opportunities in the developing area of pervious concrete, a form of concrete that allows water to flow through – a more sustainable choice for many contractors today. The two began spending long hours in the lab experimenting with a variety of rocks and filler materials. In the end, they created about 30 different concrete samples that were durable and permeable, allowing the maximum amount of water to filter out.

Their samples were so good (the best used a mixture of quartz and fiber) that they finished second last fall and again this spring at the Kansas-Missouri American Concrete Institute's Pervious Concrete Competition at the University of Missouri-Kansas City. Pitt State was the only Division II school represented in the competition.

With sustainable techniques proving to be the wave of the future in construction, Buntin and Knight are looking forward to using these successes to build their careers.

"It gives you confidence knowing you can go out and achieve goals you set for yourself," said Knight. •



Long-time friends, classmates, and now masters of new, environmentally friendly concrete technology: Kyle Buntin, left, and Jake Knight.



# Neat trick!

## ANDREW CLARK

was just a college freshman hanging out in his dorm room at Pitt State when his friends filmed him performing

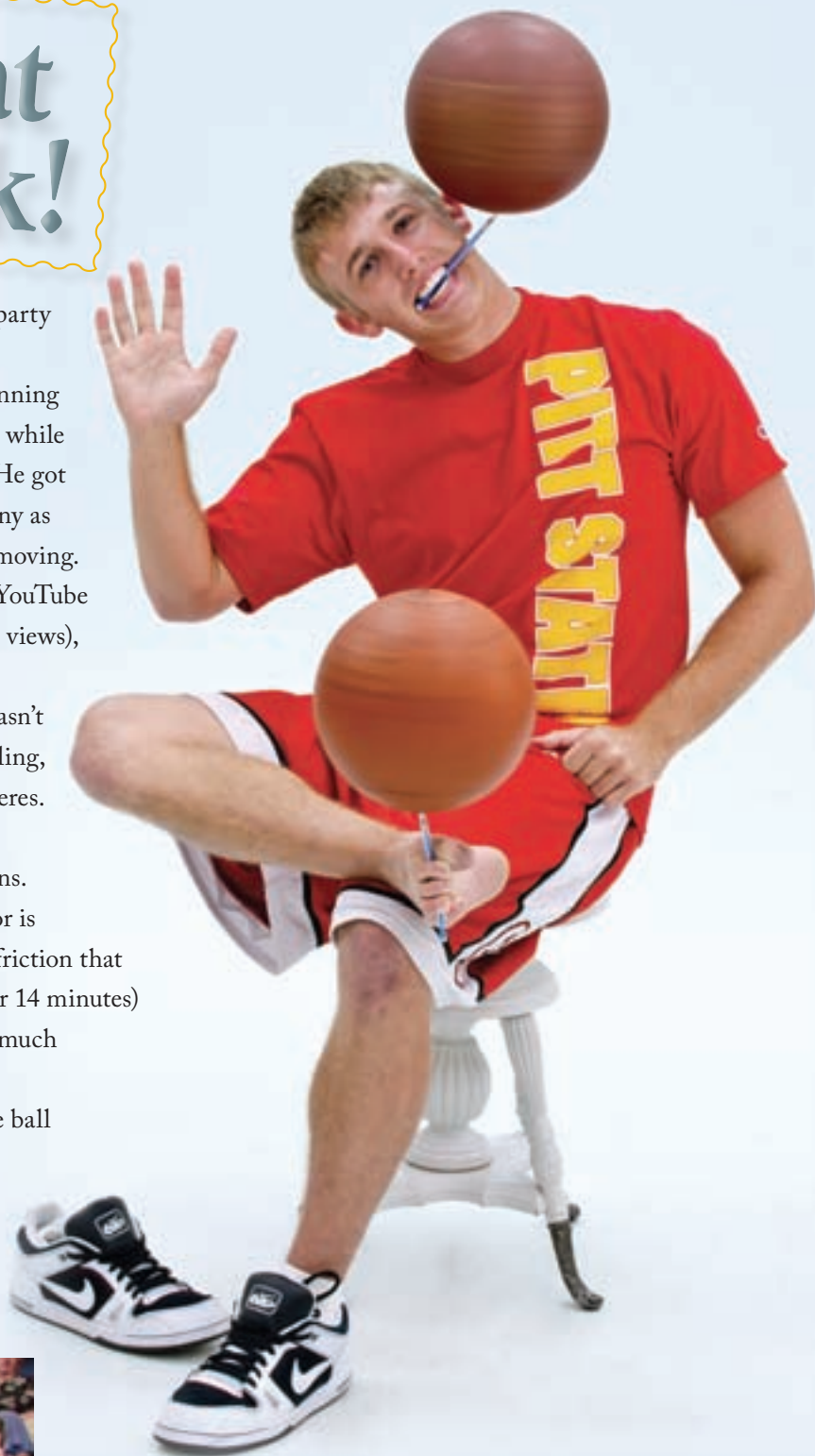
what has become perhaps the most widely broadcast party trick any PSU student has ever recorded.

Clark, of Seneca, Mo., had perfected the art of spinning a basketball on the tip of a pencil back in high school while killing time in the locker room with his teammates. He got so good at it that he expanded the trick to spin as many as three balls at once, using even his toes to keep them moving.

Talk about productive downtime. Posting clips to YouTube this spring (as of July he'd received more than 25,000 views), his videos soon became viral sensations, twice being featured by ESPN as their "Video of the Week." It wasn't long before producers with major networks began calling, first from the "Tonight Show" and then Ellen Degeneres. Clark flew to California in June, meeting Leno and performing the trick in front of an audience of millions.

Now, the 19-year-old engineering technology major is back at PSU. A science guy at heart, he explains the friction that makes the trick work (he once kept a ball spinning for 14 minutes) and laughs at how such a simple skill has received so much attention.

"I know it looks hard, but you just have to keep the ball spinning," he said. "I never thought all this would happen to me. I came back from doing Leno and decided to get even more balls and start practicing to see what else I can do." •



Andrew Clark hadn't been west of Kansas until a talent he perfected while clowning around in the locker room won him a chance to appear in the audience on the Tonight Show with Jay Leno

# Peak time for new construction and renovation— Summertime is no vacation

COME SUMMERTIME, Paul Stewart may just be **one** of the busiest people on campus.

As director of the Office of Facilities Planning, Stewart and his small team are responsible for the multitude of renovations of buildings across campus, as well as the oversight of new construction. And with construction being a major focus on the Pittsburg State campus for the past several summers, it's a schedule he's getting used to.

"Each summer I feel like I'm seeing progress," said Stewart, who had eight major projects going on this summer. "Our priorities are the building envelopes and then we look inside at the mechanical systems. We have big goals."

In the summer of 2009, the campus began a frenzy of projects with the goal of having everything complete by the time new freshman moved into the dorms in August.

This summer was even busier, with projects in Kelce, Porter, Russ, Whitesitt, Yates, Grubbs, and Trout Hall. Ranging from the replacement of windows and doors to roof and masonry repair, the projects varied in size and expense and

were paid for by a variety of sources, including state funds and federal stimulus dollars.

With only about 12 weeks to get the work done, construction and renovation projects have also resulted in the creation of hundreds of jobs and the hiring of nearly a dozen contracting companies.

One of the most visible projects, however, is the construction of the new Crimson Commons residence halls, a \$10 million, five-building project that will house 200 students. Although the project experienced some weather delays, university officials anticipate it to be complete this fall. Also this summer, the second of several existing residence halls was completely renovated.

It's a busy time, Stewart said, but it's work that each year is making a big difference.

"When you start relocating classrooms and moving departmental offices, you get a lot of people involved," Stewart said. "It's busier every summer than it is at any other time during the year, and we appreciate everyone proactively doing what they need to do to keep PSU operational." •

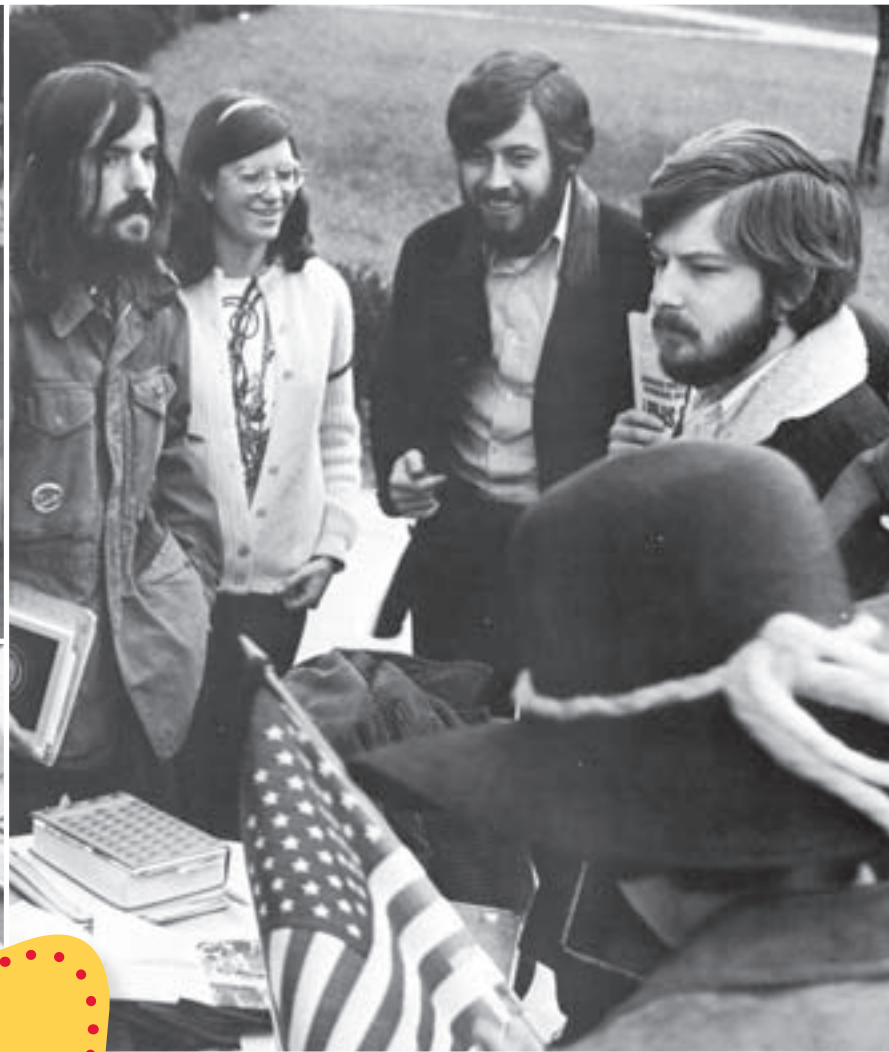


For many who work on university campuses, summer is a time when the pace slows. But for Paul Stewart, director of facilities planning, summer is a hectic ballet in which he coordinates multiple construction and renovation projects that can only be done in the weeks between the end of the spring semester and the beginning of the fall semester in August.

*Below: crews work on the Crimson Commons residence hall complex.*







# BABY Boomer FASHIONS

## *The '60s—* Fashions tell the story of social change on campus

The students who arrived on the Pittsburg State campus in 1961 looked a lot like their predecessors, who came in rapidly increasing numbers throughout the '50s. Today, we call them Baby Boomers.

By the end of that tumultuous decade, however, styles, like society, were undergoing radical change and Kansas State College was in the midst of it.

Many social scientists argue that fashion reflects the politics and mood of the time. Some even claim to be able to track the stock market by the length of women's skirts or the width of men's ties. Whether fashion has some

Do you see yourself or anyone you know from these unidentified photos we gleaned from old Kansas? If so, drop us a line. We'd like to hear more. [psumag@pittstate.edu](mailto:psumag@pittstate.edu)





deeper meaning or it is simply a matter of the incessant striving by each generation to differentiate itself from those who came before, there is no denying that the decade of the '60s brought one of the most dramatic shifts in fashion the nation has seen before or since.

In the early '60s, men wore their hair well above their ears and crew cuts were a popular style for men at Kansas State College. Men's casual shirts were likely to be plaid, with buttoned down collars and blue jeans were the uniform of the day.

The women, meanwhile, were inspired by the both by the elegance of First Lady Jacqueline Kennedy and by the early Beach Party films. The beehive was a

popular, if difficult hair style at the beginning of the decade, but it quickly gave way to much shorter page boy and chin-length contour cuts. The required knee-length skirts of the early '60s also gave way to polyester slacks and capri trousers. When the mini-skirt was introduced in 1964, the fashion floodgates opened.

In the wild years between 1965 and 1970, the nation changed and Kansas State College changed with it. Styles on campus were just the visible evidence of that wider, deeper social upheaval.

By '69, longer hair had become more fashionable for men and facial hair was popular. Bell bottom jeans for both men and

women were common. The beehive and bouffant hair styles for women in the early part of the decade had been replaced by long, straight hair more characteristic of Joan Baez than of Jackie Kennedy. For both African-American men and women, the afro became not only a popular hairstyle, but also a symbol of the struggle for racial equality.

Color, for both men and women, was everywhere.

It was just 10 short years, but what a difference – in clothes and hair, but also in attitudes and opinions. The Baby Boomers had arrived! •







Col. Ron Seglie (BA '65) presents the Bronze Cross Award to Cadet Melissa Roush at the ROTC Spring Banquet.

## Cadet honored with rare military awards

Four years ago when Melissa Roush enrolled at PSU, she knew she wanted to pursue a career as a military physician. But what she and ROTC leaders at PSU couldn't foresee was that before she even finished her bachelor's degree, she would end up one of the most highly awarded cadets in university history.

Roush, a native of Louisburg, Kan., received a number of awards at the ROTC Spring Banquet for both her academic success and physical aptitude. What places her above the rest are two top honors: the Legion of Valor Bronze Cross Award and the 2009 Pallas Athene Award.

The Bronze Cross is awarded to the top cadets in the nation, including Roush, who ranked 26th out of 4,703 cadets nationwide. Roush earned her top ranking last summer while spending a month at Fort Lewis, Wash., at the U.S. Army Cadet Command's Leadership Development Camp. Her high grades, physical fitness tests and extracurricular involvement all factored into the ranking.

Pittsburg State ROTC Cpt. George Johnson said the honor is so rare, that the

military prefers the award be presented by a Medal of Honor recipient. Because those are hard to find, Roush's Bronze Cross was awarded by Col. Ron Seglie, a Pittsburg physician and the event's keynote speaker.

"There are only about 200 still alive in the U.S. It's easier to find generals than it is Medal of Honor recipients," Johnson explained. "To our knowledge, this is the first time anyone from this department has ever received this award."

Roush was also selected by the Women's Army Corp Veterans Association to receive the Pallas Athene Award, which is given to only a handful of female cadets in the country each year.

Despite her success as a woman - at 22 years old, Roush oversaw more than 80 cadets as PSU's Battalion Commander - she says it's not about the awards. She decided to join ROTC after seeing her brother, Bradley Roush, flourish in the program four years ago (he is finishing a captain career course at Fort Leonard Wood before going into the special forces). Although they had no history of military in their

family, she says it was a good fit from the beginning.

"As I got further into it, I became impassioned that I could give medical care to all these people giving their lives for their country," she said. "I think the military has a lot of special people in it."

When she graduated in May, Roush was commissioned as a 2nd lieutenant. With a near-perfect GPA, she will begin medical school at the University of Kansas this fall. The Army has granted her an educational delay, which will put off her active duty requirements until after she finishes her three-year residency.

"I'm very honored by all of this. I always think, 'Are you sure this is for me?'" she said with a laugh. "But I haven't done any of this to get rewarded for it, I just push myself and if recognition comes, then that's great."

## Science students land competitive K-INBRE grants

Eleven students studying science at PSU have won highly competitive research grants through the Kansas IDeA Network of Biomedical Research Excellence (K-INBRE).

The students, who plan to attend professional or graduate school upon completing their degrees, each received \$4,000 (\$1,000 of which goes toward their research supplies) through the grant program, which provides money to qualifying university scholars throughout the state. The funds come through the National Institutes of Health, which aims to provide money for biomedical research in states that have traditionally been underfunded.

Dr. Virginia Rider, PSU's campus representative for K-INBRE, said the university has received more than \$700,000 since the program became available in Kansas. With the addition of chemistry majors competing for grants for the first time in 2009-10 (four were

awarded), more science majors received funds this past year than ever before.

"We probably have the most competitive students of any university in Kansas. Their maturity, their drive, their grades, their ethics - they can compete with students at any university in the state," Rider said. "Research is expensive, and we couldn't sponsor undergraduate research projects without this."

The students who received scholarships are Alissa Becknell, a senior from Cherryvale, Kan.; Caleb Burrows, a senior from Quapaw, Okla.; Afrita Davis, a senior from Coffeyville, Kan.; Sierra Foster, a junior from Edna, Kan.; Dustin Graham, a senior from Carl Junction, Mo.; Emma Hayes, a senior from Andover, Kan.; Joshua Kristalyn, a sophomore from Iola, Kan.; Joshua Mayfield, a sophomore from El Dorado, Kan.; Meagan Miller, a sophomore from Wichita, Kan.; Haley Ruther, a senior from Robins, Iowa; and Sarah Wolfe, a sophomore from Shawnee, Kan.

### **Conference features experts on terrorism, Afghanistan & Pakistan**

A day-long discussion of terrorism, Afghanistan and Pakistan drew an interesting mix of students, faculty and community members to the campus in January.

"Terrorism, War, and the Challenge Facing the U.S. in Afghanistan and Pakistan" was sponsored by the Department of Social Sciences, the International Academic Affairs Committee and the International Studies Program. The conference featured a distinguished panel of experts, including military officers, authors and an Afghani military officer.

Paul Zagorski, a member of the faculty in the Department of Social Sciences, said the speakers' on-the-ground experience in Afghanistan gave special weight to their comments.

### **Student broadcasters win state awards**

Student broadcasters from PSU took home 10 awards, including five first-place awards, last spring at the Kansas Association of Broadcasters' annual banquet in Wichita.

Students from Pittsburg State competed in a variety of broadcasting categories against students from other colleges and universities in Kansas. They received five first-place awards, four second-place awards and one honorable mention award.

Troy Comeau, associate professor in communication, said the state competition is becoming more competitive each year.

"Kansas colleges and universities have some excellent broadcasting programs," Comeau said. "This year, nine different schools received a first place award. Kansas has one of the most competitive state competitions, in not only the number of entries, but in the quality of student productions."

For more information, contact Dr. Troy O. Comeau, at 620-235-4721.

### **More than 850 attend Math Relays**

More than 850 high school students from schools across the four-state area tested their math skills at the 42nd annual PSU Math Relays in April.

The students competed individually and in teams in areas such as algebraic equations and inequalities, geometry, trigonometry, logic and set theory and algebraic word problems.

Terry Martin, a member of the Math Department faculty and the director of the annual event, called the attendance at this year's Math Relays "tremendous," in light of widespread school district cuts.

### **High School students compete at Science Day**

More than 450 high school students participated in PSU's Science Day 2010 on April 22. Students competed individually and in teams in four areas: Chemistry Capers, Physics Frolics, Earth and Space Science, and the Biology Bowl.

Some of the competitions included the popular mouse trap car, in which students design and build cars powered only by a mousetrap; the water balloon drop, in which students attempt to design and build a container to protect a water-filled balloon in a 3-story fall; and seismic shakers, in which students construct a tower of craft sticks and glue that can withstand an earthquake.



A Science Day competitor watches as the device he has designed to protect a water balloon in a fall plummets toward the ground.



## Entrepreneur magazine names College of Business one of the nation's best

PSU's Kelce College of Business has been named one of the top business colleges in the nation by Entrepreneur magazine, a leading publication for and about entrepreneurs.

In its April issue, the magazine listed the MBA program as one of the most highly rated by students.

The publication rated schools in six areas key to a successful career in business: accounting, finance, general management, global management, marketing and operations. The "Student Opinion Honors for Business Schools" announcement lists 15 graduate schools of business across the nation that were rated the highest by their students.

Within those six areas, PSU's College of Business was recognized in two categories, accounting and marketing (management).

Although the award recognizes graduate programs specifically, College of Business Dean Richard Dearth said the reward reflects positively on the entire college, since no faculty teach exclusively in the graduate area.

"We are extremely proud of this honor

and of our faculty, who have created a student-centered environment," Dearth said. "We have world-class faculty who are consistently recognized on a national and international level."

The Princeton Review compiled the lists using data from its national survey of students attending the schools that were recognized for its "Best 301 Business Schools" ranking announced in late 2009. The 80-question survey asked 19,000 students to report on classroom and campus experiences at their schools and rate their MBA programs in several areas.

"We commend the schools on these lists for the outstanding job they are doing in preparing their students to apply their MBA training beyond the classroom to successful job searches and productive careers," said Robert Franek, senior vice president and publisher of the Princeton Review.

For more information, contact Dr. Dearth at 620-235-4590 or at [rdearth@pittstate.edu](mailto:rdearth@pittstate.edu), or visit [www.entrepreneur.com/topcolleges/index.html](http://www.entrepreneur.com/topcolleges/index.html).

## One man's legacy: scholarships

It's been two years since PSU alumnus Doyle Morton passed away, but his niece can remember his love and generosity like it was yesterday.



Doyle Morton

"He did so much for us and was a very giving, hardworking man," said Nancy Moyer, recalling her mother's brother. "When my parents passed away, I was supposed to take the piano but didn't have room for it in the house. I remember him writing us a letter saying that if we wanted to build an addition onto our house in order to make room, he would pay for it. He was always so kind to us."

Morton, who finished his BS in business administration in 1955, saw much of the world during his 79 years. Born in Moline, Kan., he served in the U.S. Army during the Korean War. After finishing his degree, he went to work for the former Amoco Production Co. (now BP), a job that led him to live in Trinidad, Madagascar, London, Egypt and Iran. He retired to Texas in 1989.

Pitt State this spring experienced the great generosity his family had always known. Morton left a portion of his estate to the university – nearly \$900,000 in total – to go toward business scholarships (the amount was added to a scholarship fund he had set up in 2007). The gift is the second largest ever made to the College of Business, and the third largest received by the PSU Foundation since its inception.

"He was big into education," said Moyer, whose family was honored at the spring College of Business banquet. "After he passed away, we found lots of correspondence and personal things that had the PSU emblem on them. Those were the things he had saved, because PSU was important to him."



President Steve Scott speaks at a celebration of the Princeton Review's special recognition of the Kelce College of Business.

## Computer science changes with the times

This spring, PSU took official steps to modify the Computer Science/Information Systems degree program, changing the coursework and focus of the major.

Now, the Department of Computer Science-Information Systems will no longer offer the Bachelor of Science degree in computer science. Students can still pursue a Bachelor of Business Administration degree with a major in information systems, now housed in the Department of Accounting, which has been renamed the Department of Accounting and Computer Information Systems. Students majoring in Information Systems may select an emphasis from System Design or Information Assurance and Computer Security.

The merger with the Department of Accounting creates an opportunity for collaboration between the System Design emphasis and Accounting Systems as well as between the Information Assurance and Computer Security emphases and the Fraud Examination and Internal Audit minors.

The decision to modernize the coursework was carefully made, said Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs Dr. Lynette Olson, based on what today's students were needing out of the program.

"We found that we needed to make the program more relevant for what our graduates are being asked to do today, and we believe changing the focus will make it more attractive to students who want to go into these fields."

Students already enrolled in the Bachelor of Science degree in Computer Science program will be allowed to finish, Olson said, with the final graduates finishing by 2013. Faculty are also relatively unaffected by the change: professors who taught in the former

degree program will now teach courses through the Department of Accounting or the Department of Engineering Technology.

## SIFE competes at nationals

The Pitt State chapter of Students In Free Enterprise (SIFE) was one of 170 teams out of 375 to advance out of their regional competitions to the SIFE USA National Exposition in Minneapolis in May. The regional competition was held in Dallas.

The SIFE presentation detailed the group's use of business concepts to develop community outreach projects that improve the quality of life and standard of living for people in need. This year, the team organized 16 projects in the Pittsburg community, including Just Imagine Nation, where SIFE members taught area fourth-grade students

the fundamentals of national market economics.

"Our team worked extremely hard this year and although we did not advance out of our league, it was a great experience to be part of the national competition," said Katie Gull, vice president of operations for the student group.



*Above:* SIFE members Li Shin Chang and Ivan Hunnicutt celebrate their regional success in Dallas. *Below:* The team advanced to national competition in Minneapolis.

*Bottom photo:* Among their many local projects was an effort that helped the growing recycling program on campus.





## College of Education honors educators

The College of Education honored three teachers and an administrator for their distinguished service, excellence, and outstanding efforts at the annual Clyde U. Phillips Awards Recognition Ceremony on April 29.

The Clyde U. Phillips Distinguished Service Award is given to one teacher and one administrator whose careers have been highlighted by significant achievement and excellence in education. This year, the administrator's award went to Steve Parsons, superintendent of USD 413 in Chanute, Kan. The educator's award went to John Holloway, an 11th/12th grade physics teacher at Blue Valley High School in Stilwell, Kan.

The Outstanding Educator Award is given to persons who have shown, within their first seven years of service, the potential to make significant contributions to education. The 2010 Outstanding Educator Awards went to Andrea Merrick, a fourth grade teacher at Frank Layden Elementary School in Frontenac, Kan., and Christen Jackson, a mathematics teacher at Girard High School in Girard, Kan.

The Clyde U. Phillips awards were established in memory of Clyde U. Phillips, a graduate of Pittsburg State University and a well-known Kansas educator. Phillips, who met his wife, Fern Field Phillips when they were both students at PSU, completed his career in education as the superintendent of schools in Hays. In their will, the Phillipses bequeathed a sum of money to support the awards.

## Flynn receives Excellence in Teaching Award

Gloria Flynn used her acceptance of the College of Education's Excellence in Teaching Award as an opportunity to encourage scholarships. Flynn received the award at the Clyde U. Phillips



John Holloway, an 11th/12th grade physics teacher at Blue Valley High School in Stilwell, Kan., speaks to student scholarship recipients at the annual Clyde U. Phillips Awards in April. Holloway, BS 1992, received the Distinguished Service Award for teaching.

### Awards and Scholarship Ceremony.

Flynn, SSLS, told scholarship donors that their gifts have effects beyond what they know.

"Know that your dollars certainly extend further than a nine-month school period," Flynn said. "You likely will never know the complete branching effects of your generosity...but you should be assured that it happens."

Flynn used her own family experience to illustrate the power of scholarships.

"In 1961, my mother was a single parent raising two teenagers, a preteen,

and two toddlers," Flynn recalled.

"Her oldest child was a senior in high school who, along with my mother, had been saving her money so she could attend college after graduation. Their efforts were thwarted by unfortunate circumstances and the money was just not there for sis to attend college."

Because of scholarships, however, that sister (Marilyn Graham Bishop) did go on to college, earning both a BSED and an MS from PSU.

Flynn then asked, "What if my sister had not gone to college? Children in classrooms in Fredonia, Neodesha, and Pittsburg would have never had the opportunity to have Mrs. Bishop as their teacher. It has been overwhelming the number of people who, upon discovering Marilyn Bishop is my sister, have told me how much they loved her or that she was their favorite teacher or that their kids just loved Mrs. Bishop."

Flynn urged the students receiving scholarships to thank donors for their gifts and also to not let them down.

"These folks have faith in you and trust you will be wise in your decisions," Flynn said.



Gloria Flynn

## Smith named College of Education dean

Dr. Howard W. Smith began his new duties as dean of the College of Education on June 1. Smith was selected to fill the post being vacated by Dr. Andy Tompkins, who was tapped earlier in the year to be the new CEO of the Kansas Board of Regents.



Dr. Howard W. Smith

"During his interview process, Dr. Smith received great support from faculty, staff, and administrators," Provost Lynette Olson said. "We are fortunate to have someone with his breadth of experience at various levels of education and administration to provide leadership for the college at this point in time."

"I'm excited to continue my relationship with the faculty and staff in the College of Education," Smith said. "Pittsburg State University is a great place to work and a great place to be and I'm looking forward to the work that lies ahead."

Smith received his bachelor's degree in elementary education from PSU, his master's degree in curriculum and instruction from the University of Kansas and his Ph.D. in educational administration from Kansas State University. He first joined the Pitt State faculty in 1996.

Smith began his career in education in 1975 as an elementary school teacher in Shawnee Mission, Kan. Over the years, he was a middle school teacher, elementary school principal, middle school principal, executive director of middle schools and superintendent of schools. He served Kansas school districts in Shawnee Mission, Overland Park and Coffeyville, as well as districts in Amarillo, Texas, and Bentonville, Ark.

At PSU, Smith has served in a variety

of roles, including professor, chairman of the Department of Special Services and Leadership Studies, director of the Kansas City Metro Center, and legislative liaison and assistant to the president.

## Family's generosity provides scholarships for future teachers

A family of former teachers has created a scholarship for education majors that will make a big impact on students for many years to come.

Felix Shular ('39) of Arcadia, and his sisters Mary Shular Logan ('41) of Wichita and Rose Shular Campbell ('42) of Pittsburg recently established the Shular Family Scholarship, which is making an immediate impact by

providing financial assistance to 20 students this spring and fall. The family also endowed a portion of their contribution to provide scholarships well into the future.

The children of immigrants John and Mary Shular, Felix, Mary and Rose, as well as their late brother John ('41), were determined to get great educations. They found success at PSU. Graduating with a variety of degrees, the four all pursued careers in teaching and together accrued more than 100 years in education.

Now in their 90s, (Felix died in May) the Shular siblings are pleased to see their scholarship fund making a big difference in the lives of students.

For more information on giving to PSU, contact the Office of University Development at 620-235-4768.

## New graduates take Teacher's Oath

Christa Kimzey is all smiles after taking the Teacher's Oath with her fellow graduates at the College of Education recognition ceremony for newly minted teachers in May.



Brett Potts, BS '90, welcomed the class of 2010 into the profession. Potts, an assistant principal at Blue Valley High School, is a former Kansas Teacher of the Year.







## It's a jungle out there!

First-grader Karen Maturino didn't know what to expect as she walked through the thatch-covered doors to what used to be her school cafeteria. But as she entered the room, now transformed into a lush, chirping jungle complete with palm trees and props reminiscent of an Indiana Jones adventure, her day at West Central Elementary in Joplin, Mo., just got a lot more interesting.

"I'm so glad I'm at school today!" she said after being chosen to hula-hoop in front of her classmates before climbing into a wooden wheel demonstrating the same rotary motion. "This is a fun day. We don't get to do this every day."

Thanks to PSU professor Mike Neden and his technology education students, the physics and math lessons these children are learning may be concepts they'll never forget. Neden and his students presented "The Mystery of the Golden Gorilla" to students at West Central Elementary in Joplin, Mo., a treasure hunt exploration that teaches children about physics - disguised in fun. For the past 10 years, Neden and his students have spent the spring semester creating an adventurous activity that solidifies the lessons children have been learning all year.

Divided into different stations, the activity featured a real moving car that laid a bridge across the Treachery Tar Pits, canoes (on small wheels) that

children rowed through the Crocodile River Rapids, the Mad Monkey Mine - a real roller coaster with a wood car speeding across a frame of PVC pipes, and the Mystery Maze, where children compiled clues gathered along the way to spell out the location of the hidden treasure. The stations, each focusing on different elements of math and science, were all built by the PSU students manning them and accentuated with dim lights and tropical background noises.

"It's an awesome opportunity for us," said Rachel Hartley, a junior technology education major, who taught children how to use Python Pass, a large wooden wheel they moved by crawling inside. "We're learning to work with students of all ages, and modifying activities by the seat of our pants. It's a great experience that's teaching us what it will really be like."

## Racing teams take off at spring competitions

The Pittsburg State University College of Technology knows its cars.

Last spring, four teams took part in racing competitions located throughout the U.S., with nearly 40 students in various areas of the college coming together to build baja vehicles and moonbuggies.

**Baja**— In April, the first half of the 20-member PSU Baja Team competed at the SAE Baja South Carolina competition

in Greenville. The team finished 4th in the four-hour endurance race, and took 11th place overall out of 106 teams. The second baja group competed with their car at the SAE Baja Washington competition May 18-22, where they finished 20th overall and 12th in the endurance race.

**Moonbuggy**— In the area of engineering technology, the moonbuggy teams competed April 9 in Huntsville, Ala., at the Great Moonbuggy Race held at the Marshall Space Flight Center. After a rough start that resulted in one of the vehicles losing a wheel, the teams made the repairs and modifications needed and rallied to finish in 9th and 12th places out of 35 college teams.

For more information, visit [www.pittstate.edu/academics/technology/](http://www.pittstate.edu/academics/technology/).

## Gift makes technology scholarships possible

Early this year, the university received \$87,000 from the estate of E. Neural R. Reagan to be used for scholarships for students in Plastics Engineering Technology. Mrs. Reagan, of Pittsburg, died in November 2008.

"This is an example of the many gifts the university receives from persons who have developed a strong bond with the university and its students, even though they, themselves, are not alumni," said Scott Roberts, former director of the PSU Office of Development.

Mrs. Reagan first established a scholarship in Plastics Engineering Technology in 1980 in memory of her late husband, Maurice. Maurice Reagan was an electrical engineer who in retirement served on PSU's Plastics Advisory Committee. With this latest gift, the scholarship has been renamed the Maurice V. Reagan and E. Neural Reagan Plastics Engineering Technology Memorial Scholarship Fund. For information about endowed scholarships and gifts to the university, contact the Office of University Development at 620-235-4768.

## Block Kids competition teaches construction concepts

More than 40 area children participated in the Block Kids competition at the Kansas Technology Center in January. The event, now in its third year, is sponsored by the National Association of Women in Construction. It is designed to teach young children construction concepts.

"Block Kids exposes youngsters to construction-related activities," said Dennis Audo, PSU construction instructor. "Plus, it's a lot of fun."

For the event, each participant received a kit with 100 Legos blocks, string, aluminum foil, a rock, and other basic items. The children then have a set amount of time to create a structure.

## Construction management students earn stunning victory

A team of construction management students returned from this year's International Builders Show with record-setting honors.

Six students in the Department of Construction Management and Construction Engineering Technologies competed Jan. 18 at the IBS's Residential Construction Management Competition in Las Vegas. The team challenged 38 other four-year schools in a competition that tested their organization and management skills on a construction project in a town they'd never seen.

Justin Honey, a professor in the CMCET department and the team's coach, has guided the students since last October on the project. The team's task was to analyze the demographics of a real city (competition organizers assigned the city of Corsicana, Texas to the PSU team) and develop a construction plan to fit that community.

In the end, the team submitted a 150-page business plan, which they presented



Builders Show competitors Derek Morgan, Derek Jackson, Lori VanDyne, Justin Honey (professor), Jon Fargo, Michael Gillis and Andrew Molgren.

and defended at the competition alongside top Division I teams. The team took home Rookie of the Year honors as well as third place overall, becoming the competition's first rookie to place that high.

The Pitt State team was surrounded by teams from Brigham Young University (1st place), the University of Denver (2nd place), Michigan State University (4th place), and Texas A&M (5th place).

The PSU team consisted of Lori VanDyne, of Independence, Kan.; Jon Fargo, a senior from Gardner, Kan.; Andrew Molgren, a senior from Newton, Kan.; Derek Jackson, a junior from Council Grove, Kan.; Derek Morgan, a sophomore from McPherson, Kan.; and Michael Gillis, a senior from Drexel, Mo.

## Casting program tests out machine new to U.S.

Students in the manufacturing/metal casting program have become the first to test out a thermal analysis machine never before used in this country.

Students in the casting lab led by Engineering Technology Professor Dr. Russ Rosmait received the Thermaltest 5000 thermal analysis unit from Foseco Metallurgical, a Brussels, Belgium-based

company, in February. Used for the past several years in Europe, the unit uses advanced technology to perform a computer analysis of molten metal, reporting exactly what is in the composition.

"This machine can tell us how well the metal is forming, the size of the grains that are forming, and whether it's a good or bad sample overall," Rosmait said.



Testing the Thermaltest 5000





### For Muff, head men's basketball job is a dream come true

For Kevin Muff, head men's basketball coach of the Gorillas is a "dream job." Muff was introduced as PSU's 14th head men's basketball coach in April and went right to work preparing for the always tough MIAA schedule, which begins with a home game on Nov. 16 versus Newman.

Muff takes over for former head coach Gene Iba, who retired after 15 seasons with a 261-172 record leading the Gorillas.

"It's something that I've always dreamed that I would see myself doing some day, to coach at a four-year institution with the kind of class and, quality that Pittsburg State has. I am back at a place I wanted to be," Muff said.

A former assistant coach at Pitt State from 1990-93, Muff has served the past 12 seasons as head coach at Cloud County Community College in Concordia, Kan., where he has averaged 21 wins per season over the last five years.

As an assistant coach at Pitt State in the early 1990s, Muff helped the Gorillas post a 21-8 record during the 1991-92 campaign – the school's first 20-win season in two decades. That Pitt State squad rose to a top 10 national ranking and the Gorillas upset No. 1 ranked Washburn, 72-71, before a school record crowd of 5,000 fans at John Lance Arena on Jan. 18, 1992.

While Muff has a keen appreciation for the school's proud past, he's eager to write new chapters of success for Gorilla basketball.

"My expectations ... I want to win championships," Muff said. "I want our program to be a contender year in, year out with the right type of kids who do it the right way. We want to put a product on the floor that people can identify with."



Kevin Muff

A Salina, Kan., native, Muff was a two-year basketball letterman at Kansas State during the 1984-85 and 1985-86 seasons. He transferred to K-State after playing two seasons at Cloud County Community College, where he was a first-team NJCAA All-Region VI selection as a sophomore in 1983-84. Muff was both a McDonalds and Converse High School All-America selection as a senior during the 1981-82 season at Salina Central High School.

Muff earned a bachelor's of science degree in education (BSed) in social science from Kansas State University in 1986 and a master's of science degree (MS) in physical education from Pittsburg State University in 1991.

### Hunt-Shepherd brings a history of success to softball coaching position

Pitt State's new head women's softball coach is no stranger to success. During her seven-year tenure at Ohio Northern University, Annette Hunt-Shepherd compiled 191

victories. Her squads averaged 35



Annette Hunt-Shepherd

wins per season over the past four years and played in the NCAA Division III National Tournament twice.

Athletics Director Chuck Broyles praised Hunt-Shepherd for taking a program struggling for an identity and making it one of the most competitive programs in its conference. He also lauded her commitment to students and student success.

"Annette is a well-rounded person," Broyles said. "She's committed to helping develop well-rounded student-athletes – individuals who succeed in the classroom as well as on the softball field. She's interested in cultivating relationships not only on campus but also in the community and with alumni. We are excited about the future of Gorilla Softball."

Hunt-Shepherd earned a bachelor's degree in health education in 1997 from the University of Maryland, where she helped the Terrapins to an ACC title as a senior team captain. She batted leadoff and played first base for the Terps and was voted the Academic Player of the Year at Maryland in 1997.

Prior to playing her senior season at Maryland, Hunt-Shepherd played collegiately for two seasons at Miami (Ohio) University, from 1993-94, and one season at Shippensburg University (1995).

Hunt-Shepherd also earned a master's degree in parks, recreation and resource management from Frostburg (Md.) State in 2003.

Hunt-Shepherd becomes the ninth head coach in the 36-year history of the Pitt State softball program. She takes over the reins of the Gorillas softball program following the resignation of former head coach Brad Horky, who coached for 10 seasons during a pair of stints at the school (1991-95, 2006-10). Horky compiled a 296-216-1 (.578) record leading the Gorillas, including a 20-29-1 mark in 2010.



## Pitt State track teams enjoy solid seasons; Jewett receives regional honors

The men's and women's track & field teams enjoyed a pair of successful seasons again in 2010.

The Gorilla men finished as the MIAA runner-up at the conference meet, which Pitt State hosted at Prentice Gudgen Track/Carnie Smith Stadium on May 8-9, while the women placed third overall.

Both squads qualified several athletes to the NCAA Division II Outdoor National Championships, which took place at Charlotte, N.C. The Pitt State men came away with a ninth place finish at nationals, while the women placed 21st overall.

For the men, junior Mike Beeler finished as the national runner-up in the javelin and senior Jeremy Jackson placed as the national runner-up in the 110 meter hurdles. Junior Kiara Jones also earned All-America honors with a fifth-place showing in the triple jump, while senior Brian Allen placed sixth in the hammer throw and junior Ethan Hobbs placed sixth in the pole vault.

For the women, sophomore Larissa Richards, also a post player on the Pitt State women's basketball team, earned All-America honors with a third-place effort in the discus throw and a fifth-place finish in the shot put. Junior Gretchen Clark and freshman Amber Kloster also garnered All-America honors with eighth-place showings in the high jump and the javelin respectively.

Head coach Russ Jewett was named the NCAA Division II South Central Region Men's Track & Field Coach of the Year at the end of the season.

The Pitt State men's combined cross country and track & field squads were



ranked No. 2 nationally by the United States Track & Field and Cross Country Coaches Association (USTFCCCA) following the conclusion of the 2009-10 academic year.

The Gorillas, who finished among the top 10 schools at nationals in indoor and outdoor track & field, ranked second behind only Adams State College. Pitt State compiled 33.5 points in the USTFCCCA's scoring system, which awards points based upon a school's final standings at nationals.

The Gorillas placed 18th overall at cross country nationals, sixth nationally in indoor track and tied for ninth place in outdoor track.

## Pitt State announces 2010 Hall of Fame Class

PSU will induct seven individuals into its Intercollegiate Athletics Hall of Fame during ceremonies on Saturday, Sept. 18.

PSU's Class of 2010 is headlined by former football All-American Ronald Moore (1989-92), who captured the 1992 Harlon Hill Trophy as the national player of the year during his senior season, before embarking upon an eight-year NFL career.

Two-time All-Americans Oscar Gonzalez (1996-99) and Ben Peterson (1995-98) also join the Hall of Fame, representing the sports of basketball and football. Former football athlete J.W. Emerson (1951-52), who went on to enjoy a decorated four-decade coaching career, joins the Hall of Fame as a meritorious achievement inductee, along with former Pitt State associate athletics director Tommy Riggs, who will be posthumously lauded.

Additionally, Walter "Vic" White (1926-29), a national class shot putter in track & field and Francis Wachter (1929-32), a key member of Pitt State's undefeated basketball teams from 1930-31, will be inducted in the Hall of Fame's "Legacy" category. The Legacy category, created in 2005, focuses solely on individuals from the school's first 50 years (1903-53) in an attempt to bolster the school's rich heritage from its first half-century.

"We are very excited about our newest class of inductees into the PSU Athletics Hall of Fame," athletic director Chuck Broyles said. "Every year we feel like we have a class of inductees that measures up very well with past induction classes, and this year is no exception. Like always, this year's group features individuals who

*(continued on pg. 33)*



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are near and dear to many of our hearts.

"These seven individuals are an impressive cast, representing a wide range of years in the history of Pittsburg State University. Each of these individuals is most deserving of joining the group of all-time elite Hall of Fame members at Pittsburg State."

Pittsburg State's 23rd class of inductees will be honored at a special Hall of Fame Induction Banquet at 10:30 a.m. on Saturday, Sept. 18, in the Crimson & Gold Ballroom of the Overman Student Center on the PSU campus.

The group also will be honored at halftime of PSU's football game against MIAA rival Central Missouri later that evening.

For information, contact Intercollegiate Athletics at 620-235-4389.

#### *Baseball—*

### **Sibala earns Academic All-America, Second-Team All-MIAA Honors**

Junior second baseman Taylor Sibala led the baseball team on the playing field as well as in the classroom in 2010.

Sibala, a native of Overland Park, Kan., and a Blue Valley Northwest High School graduate, batted .366 with nine doubles and a team-leading 39 runs scored and 11 stolen bases this past spring.

Sibala, a mechanical engineering technology major with a perfect 4.00 GPA, claimed first-team ESPN The Magazine® Academic All-America honors following the season.

Sibala also was one of three Pitt State players to garner All-MIAA honors after the Gorillas finished a disappointing season with a 15-29 overall record (13-27 MIAA). Pitt State's final record was a bit deceiving with the Gorillas suffering



eight losses by two or fewer runs.

In addition to Sibala's play, junior shortstop Jeremy Graves, from Albany, Ore., batted .380 with a team-leading nine home runs and 37 RBIs, earning honorable mention All-MIAA honors. Senior outfielder Rhett Rigby, from Oak Grove, Mo., also hit .348 with 12 doubles and 34 RBIs to earn honorable mention All-MIAA honors.

#### *Softball—*

### **Jones Finishes Career as Four-Time All-MIAA Player, Earns Academic All-America Honors**

Senior designated player Jessica Jones finished her softball career as a four-time All-MIAA performer for the Gorillas.

The Osawatomie, Kan., native earned second-team All-MIAA honors last spring after batting .338 with eight home runs and 27 RBIs. Jones helped Pitt State post a 21-29-1 overall record (4-16 MIAA) on the season.

In addition to her athletics success, Jones also earned first-team ESPN The Magazine Academic All-America® honors. She enters her professional teaching semester in Fall 2010 with a



3.97 GPA as an early/late childhood education major.

In addition to Jones' on-field success, four other Pitt State players received All-MIAA recognition. Sophomore utility player Amanda DeCastro was named to the first-team All-MIAA squad, while senior outfielder Cassie Martin was named to the second-team All-MIAA squad. Senior catcher Lindsay Birchfield and senior pitcher Melissa Slayden both garnered honorable mention All-MIAA honors.

DeCastro, an All-American as a freshman in 2009, also earned second-team All-Region recognition this spring. The Carl Junction, Mo., native batted .367 with 12 doubles, 12 home runs, 34 runs scored and 39 RBIs.

Following the season, head coach Brad Horky resigned his position. Horky led Pitt State to a 296-216-1 record in 10 seasons during a pair of stints (1991-95, 2006-10) at the school.

On June 23, Pitt State hired Annette Hunt-Shepherd as Horky's successor. Hunt-Shepherd spent the past seven seasons as head coach at Ohio Northern University (see related story). [www.pittstategorillas.com/home/detail.dot?id=216382](http://www.pittstategorillas.com/home/detail.dot?id=216382)





Harlan Hess, left, and Rob Kobel

### Alumni honored

Two alumni whose service to the university spans decades were honored with the Dr. Ralf J. Thomas Distinguished Service Awards in March. Harlan Hess (BS '63, MS '68) and Rob Kobel (BST '80) received the award at the annual Apple Day convocation.

A retired school teacher and administrator, Harlan Hess has remained involved with PSU since graduation. He served on the Alumni Association Board and has been a volunteer for the Kansas City Phonathon. Hess, who was inducted into the Athletics Hall of Fame in 1990, is a charter member, past president and present member of the KC Gorilla Club. He and his wife, Carol, are members of the Excellence in Athletics endowment fund and he has helped run the Gorilla Open Golf tournament for the past 28 years.

From the time Rob Kobel graduated and joined the Service Center management team at Ford, he has given back to his alma mater. During his years with Ford, Kobel supervised and mentored more than 100 PSU graduates. He served on the Automotive Technology Advisory Board and was instrumental in securing in-kind gifts from Ford Motor Co., that included software, automotive components and even vehicles. Kobel and his family have established the Kobel Family Endowed Scholarship, which helps out-of-state students meet expenses after choosing to study Automotive Technology at PSU.



Members of the Class of 1960 gather on the iconic marble steps of Russ Hall for a photo during their Half-Century Club reunion.

## Gorilla Bookstore

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## PSU honors three alumni for achievement

Three alumni who have shown outstanding leadership and achievement in their fields were awarded the 2010 Meritorious Achievement Award during commencement activities May 14-15.

The PSU Alumni Association established the award in 1958 as the highest award given to graduates based on career achievement. Candidates for the award have demonstrated substantial professional growth and advancement over an extended period of time. The candidate's activities, including participation and leadership in civic and professional organizations at the local, state and national levels, are also considered by the awards committee in selecting the recipients.

This year's recipients were Inez Y. Kaiser of Overland Park, Kan., a speaker, consultant, and founder and CEO of the public relations firm Inez Kaiser and Associates; Paula F. Baker of Joplin, Mo., the CEO of Ozark Center and CCO for Freeman Health System; and James L. Harlin of Edmond, Okla., the founder and president of FiSource, Inc., an actuarial and financial consulting firm.

For complete biographies of the three winners, visit the alumni website at [www.pittstate.edu/press-media/detail.dot?id=211473](http://www.pittstate.edu/press-media/detail.dot?id=211473).

## Technology reunion planned for Homecoming weekend, Oct. 15-16

Pittsburg State will host its largest alumni reunion ever this fall as graduates from the College of Technology are welcomed back to campus.

The reunion, planned for the weekend of Homecoming on Oct. 15 and 16, will have the largest invitation list yet. With nearly 11,000 graduates since the college was first established, organizers are



2010 Meritorious Award recipients: James L. Harlin, Inez Y. Kaiser and Paula F. Baker.

hoping to see a bigger crowd of attendees than ever before.

"It's the first time we've ever had an entire college invited back for a reunion," said Johnna Schremmer, director of alumni and constituent relations. "This is a good college to start with because they're a very special and unique group. And they have a lot of loyal alumni, so we wanted to bring them back at once."

With the Kansas Technology Center completed in 1997, approximately 7,000 of the college's alumni have never seen the building. The activities for the weekend include a tour of the center, as well as time for alumni to reconnect with faculty members and their fellow classmates. The weekend also centers around the Crimson and Gold Dinner, a large-scale tailgate party, and the Homecoming game.

"The most exciting thing about this reunion is that we'll be able to visit with our alumni, some of which we haven't been able to talk to in awhile, and hear about their successes," said Dr. Bruce Dallman, dean of the College of Technology. "That's one of the most

important gifts we get back from them. It makes you appreciate their success, and that in turn is a measure of our success."

The early bird deadline to register for the reunion is Sept. 1. To sign up, contact alumni relations at 620-235-4758. For more information on the reunion schedule, go to [www.pittstate.edu/audiences/alumni-friends/](http://www.pittstate.edu/audiences/alumni-friends/).

"We are so excited about hosting a reunion of this magnitude," Schremmer said. "We're hoping all of our technology alumni will mark it on their calendars and make it a point to return to PSU for this event."

## The best plate in the state

With Pittsburg State license plates becoming the one of the most popular collegiate plate in the state, it seems you never have to look too far to find a Gorilla.

This spring, numbers from the state transportation office showed that PSU surpassed Wichita State University in having the third highest number of license plates on the road. Currently,





there are more than 1,500 vehicles in Kansas bearing PSU tags. The highest number is Kansas State University.

"We're seeing them everywhere, including more often on company vehicles," said Johnna Schremmer, director of alumni and constituent relations. "Our push is to become the most represented university in the state."

Soon, supporters across the state line may have a chance to show PSU pride on their vehicles, as well. The alumni office is working with the Missouri Department of Revenue to release a Pitt State plate in Missouri. Over the summer, the office collected names of residents who would potentially purchase tags (with more than 14,000 alumni and friends in Missouri, there's a strong support system). The state will collect comments from drivers until Nov. 30 before the decision is made by the Joint Committee for Transportation.

"Ideally, we'll be seeing PSU license plates on Missouri vehicles as early as next summer or fall," Schremmer said. "We're hoping the process goes smoothly and that our neighbors can share in the Pitt State pride the way Kansans can now."

For more information on getting a PSU license plate for your vehicle – as well as a half-price special Sept. 1-15 – go to the PSU alumni web site at [www.pittstate.edu/audiences/alumni-friends/](http://www.pittstate.edu/audiences/alumni-friends/) or call the office at 620-235-4758.

### *Gorilla Gatherings—* **Keeping connected!**

When Craig Yocham and his wife Jennifer received an invitation this spring to attend their first PSU Gorilla Gathering in their hometown of Tulsa, Okla., they weren't certain what the evening would hold.

But within minutes of walking through the door, the meaning of being a lifetime Gorilla came flooding back.

"We wanted the opportunity to go and meet people in our area who had graduated from PSU, and it was so interesting listening to their stories," said Yocham, a business development project manager who finished his engineering technology degree in 2003. "We don't make it to Pittsburg as much as we'd like, so it was great to get the updates."

Hosted by the Office of Alumni and Constituent Relations, Gorilla Gatherings are held throughout the country during the school year as a way to build relationships with alumni, update them on the university, and give them a chance to hear from current administrators about university initiatives and programs. Held in a variety of forms (gatherings range from more formal dinners to cookouts at ballgames) every gathering has a common goal – to keep alumni engaged in and connected to PSU.

"I think that for most alumni, the biggest thing is the reconnection to other graduates," said Johnna Schremmer, director of alumni and constituent relations. "It brings them back to their college years. It may be the one time of year they can really focus on PSU, and

they tell us how appreciative they are that we've come to their area and provided that for them."

With 70-80 Gorilla Gatherings held each year (including two in Los Angeles and Washington, D.C.), it's no small feat. A prominent university representative attends each gathering, and the agenda is simple and enjoyable: guests hear an update about the university, see the latest pictures from campus, hear about upcoming events, and hopefully run into old friends.

"We saw friends we hadn't seen in years, and now we're staying in closer contact with them," said Yocham. "People should definitely attend these. It was great to see that PSU leaders are networking and traveling."

Gorilla Gatherings like the night at the Kansas City T-Bones baseball game draw Gorillas (and future Gorillas) of all ages.







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## Class of '66

**Gary Daniels** (MS) of Grove, Okla., has been awarded the 2010 Cardinal Citation Award by the Labette Community College Alumni Association and Labette Community College. This is the highest honor that is bestowed to an individual for lifetime achievement by LCC.

Each year the association recognizes an individual for a lifetime of outstanding service to their community or college. Daniels has had teaching experience at several different universities including PSU, Ohio State University and Kansas State University.

## Class of '69

**Carl Birney** (BS) retired from a 17-year teaching career at Minneola (Kan.) High School this spring. After college he spent two years in the Navy as a mechanic, serving in Guam, before briefly teaching in the Oakley and Meade, Kan., school districts. Birney, who taught industrial arts, now plans to spend time working on his farm in Minneola.

## Class of '71

**Brilla Highfill Scott** (MS), of Lawrence, has been named the state executive director for the Kansas Association of Retired School Personnel (KARSP). She began her responsibilities on March 1. Scott, a former Lawrence junior high principal, retired in 2003 as the executive director and chief lobbyist for United School Administrators of Kansas.

## Class of '74

**Dan Burke** (BS) Counseling, retired in May after 35 years in teaching, 28 in the Delta County (Colo.) School District. In addition to his degree from PSU, Burke earned a master's degree in education from Wichita State University and an educational endorsement from the University of Denver. Burke began his teaching career at the middle school level in Douglass, Kan., in 1975. In 1982,

Burke began teaching in Hotchkiss, Colo. In 1985, he was named assistant principal and counselor at Hotchkiss High School. In '83, he was named principal. Over the years, Burke served in a number of administrative roles for the district. His wife, Beverly, continues to teach in the district.

## Class of '76

**Dr. Jo Ann C. McDowell**, president emeriti of Metropolitan Community College (MCC) in Omaha, was honored on June 5th at the fifth annual Great Plains Theatre Conference (GPTC) on the occasion of the 30th anniversary of her Theatre Conference oversight and the fifth anniversary of the GPTC.



That evening, the Jo Ann C. McDowell Great Plains Theatre Award for Outstanding Service to the Omaha Theatre Community was established. McDowell will present it each year at the conference.

Dr. McDowell semi-retired last year from MCC and plans to fully retire in December to her hometown of Cherryvale, Kan.

Prior to her tenure at Metropolitan Community College, McDowell served as president of Prince William Sound Community College in Valdez, Alaska, from 1992 to 2005 and holds president emeriti titles from both PWSCC and MCC.

McDowell served her alma mater, Independence Community College, in several senior administrative positions from 1979-1992, including serving as president from 1988-1992. McDowell also held the position of executive

assistant for education to the governor of Kansas. She served as a member of the Kansas Board of Regents, the governing body of the six state universities, from 1989-1992.

McDowell holds a Ph.D. from Kansas State University (KSU) and was named Alumni Fellow (Outstanding Alumna) from KSU's College of Education in 1992. She holds an Ed.S., M.S. and B.S. from PSU where she was named Outstanding Alumna in 1984 and received PSU's 2005 Meritorious Service Award. McDowell also holds an associate of arts degree from Independence Community College.

**Larry Mitcham** (MS) retired at the age of 47 after a successful career with a number of companies including Texas Instruments. He spent a number of years as a consultant with companies that included Sharp and Samsung before taking a position with the Samsung Advanced Institute of Technology. Mitcham holds 14 U.S. patents and 3 overseas. After retiring, Mitcham earned a Ph.D. in theological studies in Hebrew and special Biblical studies. He has since written two books and has appeared on numerous television and radio broadcasts. He and his wife, Sharon, live in Salado, Texas.

## Class of '85

**Cheryl Horton** (BBA), of Naperville, Ill., received the \$2,500 Ruth C. Dissinger Memorial Award for Outstanding Administrative Support Staff from North Central College in Naperville. She has served there as an academic affairs secretary since 2006. She graduated from PSU with a degree in marketing. According to one proud nominator, Horton is "very much the 'face' of North Central College to prospective faculty."



## Class of '87

**Richard (Rick) Simoncic** (BSEd), was one of five Kansas school administrators honored for excellence this year by the Kansas Association of School Administrators. Simoncic received the Superintendent of Promise Award. Simoncic, who received an MS from FHSU, is in his first year as the superintendent of the Barnes-Hanover-Linn school district. Previously, he served as a teacher and coach in Lamar, Mo., and then at Southeast High School. For the past 15 years, Simoncic has been with the Larned schools, where he taught math, coached the girls basketball team, served as athletic director, assistant principal and eventually principal. Simoncic and his wife, Jacquelyn (Bozone), BBA 1990, have four children



## Class of '90

**Mark Knoles** (BS), an 18-year member of the Winfield Police Department in Winfield, Kan., was promoted last spring from sergeant to lieutenant. A native of Independence, Kan., Knoles earned one of the highest scores of all promotion-eligible officers during an intensive testing process. Knoles attended Independence Community College before earning a degree in sociology from PSU. He and his wife, Michelle, have two children, Eric and Emma.

## Gorilla Generations

We don't know what the record is for PSU degrees in a single family, but the Otto family set the bar pretty high when they gathered to show their family and Gorilla pride. They are, left to right, **back row:** Brandon Clark (BS '09 Physical Education), William Clyde "Bill" Otto (BS, MS, EdS), JoNita Hunt Otto (BS, MS), Amy Otto Mispagel (BS, MS); **6th row:** Julie Otto Cain (BS Construction Engineering), JoVeia Clark (6 months), Casey Mispagel, 6th grade, Olathe, Kan.; **5th row:** Captain Travis Cain, US Army, ROTC (BS), Carl A. Otto (BS '50, MS '57), Deloris Wilson, Tim Mispagel (MS); **4th row:** Charlie Cain (7 months), Conner Mispagel (4 years); **3rd row:** JoVoli Otto Clark (BS), Elizabeth "Lizzy" Otto, Soph at Allen County College, coming to PSU next year; **2nd row:** Adriana Cain (3 years), Logan Mispagel (2 yrs); **front row:** Brody Clark (2.5 years).

## Class of '91

**Julia (Anliker) Pyle** (BSN) has been named the chief nursing officer at Newman Regional Health Center in Emporia. After earning her BSN at PSU, Pyle went on to earn an MSN from the University of Missouri Kansas City. She worked 18 years in intensive care and cardiac nursing at St. Luke's in Kansas City, Mo. She served as the chief nursing officer at Coffey County Hospital in Burlington from 2007 to 2009 before coming to Newman.



## Newest Gorillas

Malissa L. (Hawn) Walden ('97) of Walden & Pfannenstiel, LLC in Lenexa is proud to announce the birth of her daughter, Lenora Christine. Lenora was born three weeks early on February 4th at 8: 52 a.m. She weighed 6.2 pounds and was 17 inches long. Malissa, her husband Don, big sister Opal Adelle, and Lenora are all at home doing well.





## Class of '99

**Kim (Emerson) Vogel** (BS) Recreation, has been named director of Parks and Recreation for the City of Pittsburgh. Vogel has served as recreation supervisor for the city for the past 10 years and as such has been instrumental in the expansion and development of much of the department's current programming.

## Class of '00

**Lisa Walser** (BS) of Miami, Okla., is the new community relations coordinator at the Independence (Kan.) Living Center. For the past eight years she worked in Texas as a corporate trainer and as the Director of the Training and Auditing departments, contracting hospitals in 14 states.

## PSU grad receives tenure and promotion

PSU alumna **Vicky Fang** recently received a promotion and tenure at Cedarville University (Ohio). This honor goes into effect August 2010. A faculty member at Cedarville University since 2004, Fang has been promoted to associate professor of computer engineering. She earned her BSEE at Shanghai Jiao Tong University in 1992, MSET at PSU in 1998, and Ph.D. at the University of Akron in 2004. She currently resides in Xenia, Ohio.

Located in Cedarville, Ohio, Cedarville University is an accredited Baptist university of arts, sciences, professional and graduate programs.

## PSU grad named partner at BKD

**Troy E. Hill**, (BBA '84) has been named as a partner to BKD's Joplin (Mo.) office.

After earning his degree in accounting, he joined BKD in 1992, when CPA firm Oler, Casey & Dennett in Pittsburgh was acquired by BKD, one of the 10 largest CPA and advisory firms in the U.S. He spent eight years in the firm's Pittsburgh

and Joplin offices before moving to Branson to lead that branch in 2000.

As a member of both the BKD Southern Missouri retail and business services and Wealth Plan teams, Hill has 26 years of experience providing tax, accounting and consulting services for individuals and closely held businesses, including those in the real estate, hospitality, retail, business services, manufacturing and distribution industries.

Hill is a member of the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants, Missouri Society of Certified Public Accountants, Branson/Hollister Rotary Club and the Southern Missouri BKD Foundation Advisory Committee.



## Graduate publishes memoir set in Pittsburg

**Kevin Gray**, an author and 1976 graduate of PSU, has written a memoir about the adventures and life lessons learned during his college years. His new book, "On the Strand," is focused largely in Pittsburg and at the former Kansas State College, which became PSU in 1977.

Gray, whose father Harold L. Gray graduated from Kansas State Teachers College in 1941, works as a journalist for the Osawatimie Journal. He taught English and journalism at Paola (Kan.) High School for 30 years before retiring to pursue journalism.

"On the Strand," named after a poem

his father wrote in 1939 while attending KSTC, is Gray's third book. He has also published the memoir "Waking Up in the Studebaker" and "To the Prairie and to God," a book of poetry written by his father. For more information, visit <http://onthestrand.org>.

## Insurancenter Associate Earns Professional Designation

**Dallas Johnson**, a native of Kansas and a PSU graduate, was recently awarded the professional designation of Accredited Adviser



in Insurance (AAI) from The Insurance Institute of America. To receive the AAI designation the candidate must successfully complete three courses and national examinations that test for the person's knowledge of insurance coverage, marketing concepts, selling techniques and agency and sales management.

Johnson, who joined the agency in 2008, is a commercial insurance producer and is responsible for bringing in new business for the agency. He has 13 years of experience in the insurance business and holds a Bachelor of Science degree from Pittsburg State University and an Associate of Arts degree from Neosho County Community College. He and his wife, Teresa, and their two children reside in Webb City, Mo.

The Insurancenter, an independent, Best Practices agency, provides business and personal insurance, employee benefits and financial planning services for businesses and individuals.



## Alum's company wins state business award

The Joplin (Mo.)-based company owned by a PSU graduate has received the "2010 Rising Star of Entrepreneurship" award from the Missouri Small Business and Technology Development Centers in Jefferson City.

Brian Carpenter, (BS '95) and his wife Amy own I3 Technology Group, a telecommunications and low-voltage wiring contractor which sells phone systems to clients throughout the U.S. The company, one of 19 outstanding small businesses in Missouri to win the award, was founded in 2007.

The award was presented in January at the 2010 MO SBTDC Client Showcase, held at the Capitol rotunda. In addition to the award, I3 was also presented with legislative resolutions by Missouri Senator Gary Nodler and Representative Tom Flanigan.



(Left to right) Missouri Senator Gary Nodler (District 32), Amy Carpenter, Brian Carpenter, and Missouri Representative Tom Flanigan (District 127).



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## In Memory

(Deaths are reported based on information received from families or reported in local newspapers. Listed by date of graduation/attendance.)

- Mae Van Sickle, 1928, Fulton, Kan.  
Anna C. Loch, 1929, Louisburg, Kan.  
Elizabeth Toepfer Ashbrook, 1930, Shawnee, Kan.  
Logan C. Guffey, 1930, Buhler, Kan.  
Marjorie Harwood, 1930, Humboldt, Kan.  
Iris Jackson, 1930, Winfield, Kan.  
Sarah Jane Leach, 1930, Sedan, Kan.  
Thelma Moran Hamilton, 1932, Leavenworth, Kan.  
Pauline Dalton Beatty, 1933, Topeka, Kan.  
Frances Colleen Hess, 1936, Altamont, Kan.  
Ruth M. Rohde, 1937, Broken Arrow, Okla.  
Vivian Mildred Ralls, 1939, Uniontown, Kan.  
Myrtle A. (Miller) Presson, 1939, Cherryvale, Kan.  
Felix Shular, 1939, Arcadia, Kan.  
Kay Breinig, 1940  
Ruby Louise Erickson, 1940, Overland Park, Kan.  
Doris Eugenia Tharp, 1940, Lenexa, Kan.  
Dorothy Elizabeth (Mallicoat) Van Daele, 1940, Olathe, Kan.  
Garnett E. Bloomcamp, 1941, Pittsburg, Kan.  
Jacqueline Gore Edgar, 1942, Pittsburg, Kan.  
Leon H. Jursche, 1942, Pittsburg, Kan.  
Lois Wanita (Goodno) McKinnis, 1942, Uniontown, Kan.  
Eva Frederick, 1943, Pleasanton, Kan.  
Tony Buffo, 1944, Arkansas City, Kan.  
Ferne L. (Paradee) Westfall, 1944, Joplin, Mo.  
Pauline G. Harvey, 1946, Lawrence, Kan.
- Velma Louise (Heckethorn) Holmes, 1947, Columbus, Kan.  
Rene E. Thuillez, 1947, Wichita, Kan.  
Eugene E. Donaldson, 1948, Galena, Kan.  
Richard Eugene Harley, 1948, McCune, Kan.  
Raymond J. Holland, 1948, Joplin, Mo.  
Leo Charles Schweitzer, 1948, Pratt, Kan.  
Lemuel D. Holmes, 1949, Columbus, Kan.  
Theodore Wiebe, 1949, Hutchinson, Kan.  
Elsie M. Ellis, 1950, Frontenac, Kan.  
Mac Hay, 1950, Independence, Mo.  
Shirley Knepper, 1950, Wichita, Kan.  
Roberta Sooter, 1950, Derby, Kan.  
Gerald L. Hougland, 1951, Olathe, Kan.  
Perry Webb Page, 1953, Pittsburg, Kan.  
Robert D. Coughenour, 1954, Tyler, Texas  
Roy M. Adams, 1955, Tyler, Texas  
Dolores Joan Rogers, 1955, Vero Beach, Fla.  
Douglas C. Searge, 1956, Joplin, Mo.  
Pete T. Monsour, 1957, Pittsburg, Kan.  
Maida C. Kirk, 1958, Cherryvale, Kan.  
Warren D. Lagle, 1958, Columbus, Kan.  
William Bill Kline Stevens, 1958, Benedict, Kan.  
Rudy A. Pouch, 1959, Lyndon, Kan.  
Charlene Yates McDaniel, 1960, Arcola, Mo.  
Bertha Mae Persons, 1960, La Cygne, Kan.  
Joseph Micheal Fenoughty, 1961, Osawatomie, Kan.  
Harold Fisher, 1961, Frontenac, Kan.  
Virginia Rae Peterson, 1961, Katy, Texas  
Richard Rankin, 1961, Longton, Kan.  
Harry E. Fay, 1962, Broken Arrow, Okla.  
Rosella M. Hillbrant, 1962, Iola, Kan.  
Larry Sutherland, 1962, Le Roy, Kan.  
Billy Gene Chrismon, 1963, Commerce, Okla.  
Dennis Shaw, 1963, Valley Center, Kan.
- John Nichols, Jr., 1964, Elizabethton, Tenn.  
Jerry R. Choate, 1965, Hays, Kan.  
Betty May (Edwards) Finley, 1965, Miami, Okla.  
R. Roger Moore, 1965, Parsons, Kan.  
Anna Enoch, 1967, Callao, Mo.  
Mark William, Gassen, 1967, Shawnee, Kan.  
Gerald A. Johnson, 1967, Joplin, Mo.  
Diane F. (Schofield) Jones, 1967, Parsons, Kan.  
Claude Parks, 1967, Hutchinson, Kan.  
Beverly A. Turner, 1967, Franklin, Kan.  
Rosalee A. Wright, 1967, La Quinta, Calif.  
Larry R. Dunphy, 1968, Brentwood, Mo.  
Mary Etta Hynds Lane, 1968, Kansas City, Mo.  
William Lewis May, 1968, Fort Scott, Kan.  
John Peterson, 1968, Winterspring, Fla.  
Edwin Joe Sanders, 1968, Lancaster, Calif.  
Ronald L. Boydston, 1969, Topeka, Kan.  
William R. Albertson, 1970, McCune, Kan.  
Casey R. Capps, 1970, Nacagdoches, Texas  
Della J. Capps, 1970, Granby, Mo.  
Floyd Byerl Lyerla, 1970, Pittsburg, Kan.  
Winfrey M. Ruffin, 1970, Newburg, PA.  
V. Clione Bieber, 1971, Columbus, Kan.  
James F. Comstock, 1971, Fort Scott, Kan.  
Gregory Kent Evans, 1971, Girard, Kan.  
LaDonna R. Marsh, 1971, Bella Vista, Ark.  
Orville Dean Plummer, 1971, Cherryvale, Kan.  
Duane Edward Rau, 1971, Broken Arrow, Okla.  
Bradley E Oman, 1972, Altamont, Kan.  
Barbara Ann Purdon, 1972, Ozawkie, Kan.



James J. Crowdes,  
1973, Kansas City, Mo.  
John Laurie IV, 1974, Atchison, Kan.  
Mildred Marie Lemon, 1974,  
Parker, Kan.  
Doris Jean Duffey McVay, 1974,  
Nevada, Mo.  
John Davis Forbes, 1975,  
Fairbanks, Ala.  
Gary Lee VanPielt, 1975,  
Bernice, Okla.  
Margaret Varvel, 1975, Corvallis, Ore.  
Mike Farris, 1976, Iola, Kan.  
Marjorie Wiand, 1976, Oswego, Kan.  
Victor D. Brown, 1977,  
Huntington Beach, Fla.  
Kathy Edmonds, 1977, Monett, Mo.  
Jodi S. Spilman, 1978, Edmond, Okla.  
Brent L. Cherry, 1979, Conn.  
Sandra Lynn Patterson, 1982,  
Bella Vista, Ark.  
Gary W. Massa, Sr., 1984,  
Olathe, Kan.  
Kevin Brian Dougherty, 1985,  
Kansas City, Mo.  
Jerald L. Larery, 1985, Parsons, Kan.  
Iva June Johnson, 1986,  
Leavenworth, Kan.  
Dean A. Chamberlain, 1987,  
Tulsa, Okla.  
George Daniel Homan, 1987,  
Columbus, Kan.  
Gareld G. Payne, 1989,  
Oklahoma City, Okla.  
Kraig Leroy Stevens, 1990,  
Scammon, Kan.  
Todd Swanson, 1990, Merriam, Kan.  
Gracie M. Fager, 1991, St. Paul, Kan.  
Clint Wayne Day, 1993,  
Baxter Springs, Kan.  
Shawn Lee Bowman, 1994,  
Caney, Kan.  
Rodney D. Mathis, 1994,  
Leavenworth, Kan.  
Helen Geist, 1995, Garden City, Kan.  
Teryl Borders, 2000, Neodesha, Kan.  
Eric Frederick Haag, 2000,  
Leavenworth, Kan.

Dillon J. Fullerton, 2009,  
Yates Center, Kan.  
Derek R. Schirer, 2006, Newton, Kan.  
Seth David Kaplan, 2009,  
Shawnee, Kan.  
Christopher Moon, 2009,  
Pittsburg, Kan.  
Travis Micheal Morrison, 2009,  
Overland Park, Kan.  
Reva (Cottle) Blanchard, Topeka, Kan.

Isaac Deer, Fredonia, Kan.  
Nancy J. Jacquinet Fox, Walnut Kan.  
Winifred Helsel, South Haven, Kan.  
Lucille Bernice (Larsen) Neil,  
San Antonio, Texas  
Thomas Ross Pickerell, Wichita, Kan.  
Delidia Ann San Romani Price,  
Independence, Kan.  
Vivian Shore, Johnson, Kan.

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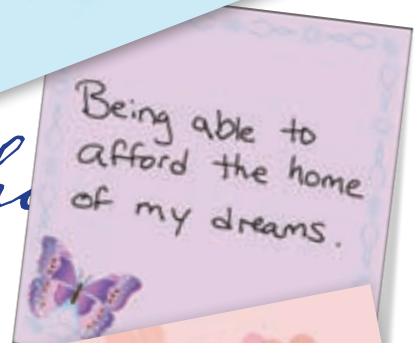
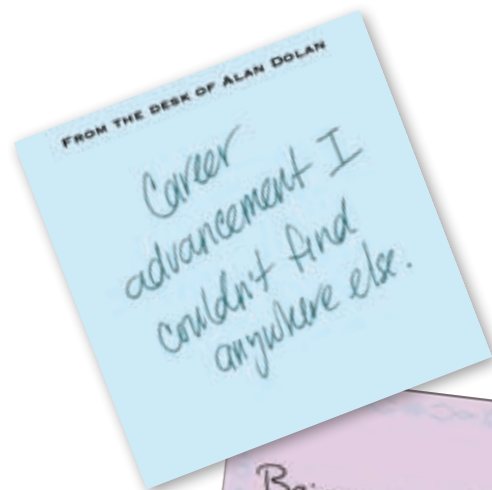
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## PSU Foundation Spotlight: *Jacob Tupper*

### Student makes the connection with loyal alums

2010 graduate Jacob Tupper was looking for a part-time job two years ago when he heard about student caller openings for PSU's annual Phonathon. With only one day left to apply, he made the call.

Since then, he's made thousands more. Tupper, of Stilwell, Kan., was a natural fit for the Phonathon, one of PSU's ongoing communication tools designed to keep alumni connected to the university. Tupper took to the job right away, becoming the top student caller in reaching out

to new donors and bringing in gifts to the PSU Foundation.

"We have a chance to connect to so many people across the country, from the East Coast to the West," said Tupper, an accounting graduate. "Whether or not people were able to give, you could tell how fond and loyal they are to the university. As a student, that was inspiring to hear."

Recently, the PSU Phonathon expanded to a year-long effort, allowing current students and alumni

a greater opportunity to connect and share their stories. This year's Phonathon kicks off in September.

"As a caller, you speak with a variety of people – those who give right away and those who don't," he said. "But what I found interesting were the ones in between, who open up when you remind them about their days at PSU. When we are able to tell them about life on campus now and how we need their support more than ever, it makes for some wonderful conversations."

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Sept. 21 ....Bourbon County, Fort Scott  
Sept. 23 ....Cherokee County, Galena  
Sept. 25 ....Jasper County, Joplin  
Sept. 28 ....Labette County, Parsons  
Sept. 30 ....KC Lunch Series  
Sept. 30 ....Detroit, Mich.  
Oct. 5.....Sedgwick County - Lunch  
Oct. 7.....Montgomery County, Independence  
Oct. 19.....Topeka, Kan.  
Oct. 28.....KC Lunch Series  
Nov. 4 .....Crawford County -  
Meet the PSU President's Council  
Nov. 12 .....Johnson County - Tanner's Pregame Party  
Nov. 19 .....Jasper County - After Hours

### 2011

Jan. 11 .....Houston, Texas  
Jan. 13 .....San Antonio, Texas  
Jan. 19 .....Family Night at Gorilla Basketball  
Jan. 27 .....KC Lunch Series  
Feb.-TBA...Washington D.C.  
Feb. 3 .....Sedgwick County - After Hours  
Feb. 8 .....Jasper County - Lunch  
Feb. 10.....Phoenix, Ariz.  
Feb. 12.....Southern California  
Feb. 23 ....Crawford County - Day with the Deans  
Feb. 24.....KC Lunch Series

## Imagine the possibilities when Gorillas connect...

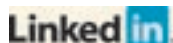
share stories, get university updates, Q&A,  
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## EVEN MORE GREAT EVENTS. MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

### 2010

Sept. 3 ..... Movie, Jungletron  
Sept. 4 ..... Chris Cakes Pancake Tailgate  
Sept. 18 ..... Family Day, Gorilla Village  
Oct. 2..... Current & Retired Faculty & Staff Tailgate  
Oct. 15-16 .. College of Technology Reunion  
Oct. 15..... Outstanding Alumni Award Reception  
Oct. 15..... Crimson & Gold Dinner  
Oct. 16..... Homecoming Tailgate  
Oct. 30..... Discount Day, Gorilla Village  
Nov. 6 ..... Gorilla Chili Challenge, Gorilla Village  
Nov. 13 ..... Fall Classic GorillaFest, Arrowhead  
Nov. 29 ..... Gingerbread House Contest starts  
Dec. 17 ..... Meritorious Achievement Award Reception

### 2011

Jan. 25..... Career Makeover, Kansas City Metro  
Feb.-TBA ..... Children's Symphony  
Feb. 24..... Current & retired faculty & staff  
wine/beer tasting

Limited mailings will go out to these events,  
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invitations to all events

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