

Collegiate Life

Fall 2005

Topeka Collegiate School Alumni Newsletter

Topeka Collegiate: An independent School Grades Pre-Kindergarten Through Eighth

YOU NEVER LEAVE A PLACE YOU LOVE

DR. ROBERTS SAYS GOODBYE AFTER 17 YEARS



Founder and longtime friend Susan Garlinghouse pins a sunflower boutonniere on Dr. Roberts' lapel at his farewell reception.

"I give him credit for saving the school. Susan and I both feel a deep sense of appreciation to Michael for the role he's played in making the school successful."

KENT GARLINGHOUSE, *Founder*

SEVENTEEN YEARS and more than 200 students ago, Topeka Collegiate, then known as Shawnee Country Day School, was on the verge of closing. Even the founders acknowledged that the school probably wasn't going to make it. Jett Elmer, then Board President, remembers, "We really were in dire straits. We still thought we had a wonderful idea and that what we were doing was wonderful, but we didn't have any money." Then something remarkable happened.

A St. Louis public school curriculum director expressed interest in interviewing for the vacant Headmaster's position and, in what turned out to be a deal maker for the fledgling school, he was willing to drive to Topeka for an interview. The rest is history.

The interviewers agreed Michael Roberts was the top candidate, even though he met none of their pre-set search criteria. He was somehow able to see beyond the threadbare Pauline campus. “For me it was very appealing,” Dr. Roberts recalls, “because I knew what these people were talking about – not the building or the quality of the books or anything, but the community commitment to building something that had integrity and would stand the test of time.”

Within weeks of taking over as Head of School, Dr. Roberts suggested changing the school’s name. Other changes soon followed. “As soon as Michael arrived,” says Founder Kent Garlinghouse, “he seemed to intuitively understand how to run this kind of school.” Jett Elmer concurs. “He just knew how to marshal the forces that he needed to get the job done and to bring people along and educate them, and in a lot of ways, make a lot of these successes feel like it was their idea.” Enrollment began to increase, first to 100, then 200 and beyond. In 1996, the school moved

Founder Ruth Fink congratulates Dr. Roberts on 17 years of service to Topeka Collegiate School.



from Pauline to its current site. A few years later, Dr. Roberts oversaw Topeka Collegiate’s first capital campaign, which raised \$2.5 million to build the 17,000 square foot Founders’ Activity Center.

Through it all, his second-in-command, now Interim Head of School Kevin Freed says, Dr. Roberts has put the children first. “If there’s a student who is struggling for whatever reason, not getting the patience they need from their peers or their teachers,” says Mr. Freed, “he’s been courageous in standing up and saying ‘This is not a fair situation.’” Dr. Roberts believes that’s one of the things that sets schools like ours apart, “One thing I love about the smaller class size here is that the child who learns a little differently can be authentically accommodated and encouraged. All it takes, I think, is someone believing in you.”

Looking back over the past 17 years, Dr. Roberts’ friends and colleagues reminisce fondly about the man who is so closely

identified with Topeka Collegiate. Says former Board President Michael Tourtellot, “He has become Topeka Collegiate for so many people that it’s really not possible for a lot of us to imagine the school without him.” Another former Board President, Bob Ihrle, concludes, “I think that’s what really happened here, is that for 17 years, Michael always took care of making sure that we were always upgrading the quality.” Jett Elmer recalls, “Someone referred to him as ‘Magical Michael’ and I believe it because he just doesn’t know the word can’t.” Founder Susan Garlinghouse believes Dr. Roberts’ influence extends beyond the school. “Dr. Roberts has this searching intellect that’s always excited about learning as an adventure,” she says. “I think that gets passed on from the teachers to the students and the students take it home to their families and we have that ripple effect, so I think it’s helped build a better Topeka.”

In recent years, Dr. Roberts made a habit of quoting KU basketball player Jerod Haase at graduation, saying “You never leave a place you love. Part of it you take with you, and you leave a part of yourself behind.” What does Michael Roberts leave behind? “I hope I leave a legacy of this place doing the right thing because it’s the right thing to do,” he says. “I hope I’m leaving a legacy of people believing that good character is what you do when no one’s watching.”

MILESTONES

- » *Enrollment increase: 83 to 285*
- » *Budget increase: \$80,000 to \$2.5 million*
- » *Staff increase: 14 to 53*
- » *Student diversity increase: 1% to 24%*
- » *School moves to new site in 1996*
- » *Successful \$2.5 million capital campaign*
- » *Construction of 17,000 square foot activity center*
- » *School celebrates 20 year anniversary in 2002*
- » *Launch of After-School Adventures open to community*
- » *Growth of Summer Adventures*

Dear Friends,

Some of you might be surprised to see my photo on this page. After 17 years of visionary leadership at TCS, last year Michael Roberts made a decision to move to Chicago to take the helm of The Catherine Cook School. The TCS Board of Trustees asked me to serve as the Interim Head of School for one year while the school conducts a nation-wide search for a new permanent Head.

I am proud to have played a role in the growth and development of Topeka Collegiate School over the past 15 years. Under Michael's able leadership I saw enrollment triple, the school move into this newer larger building, and the construction of the new commons and activity center. Even more impressive is the diverse, innovative and dedicated learning community Michael has forged. Each year faculty, administration, parents, alumni and students all participate in a wide variety of community building activities that enrich the education of us all.

Every year at Collegiate has brought new challenges and new opportunities. In that sense, this year will not be different. Though Michael will be in Chicago, he leaves behind a skilled team of professional educators and a strong community of parents and volunteers. He has shared a vision of what a top-flight school can be, and we continue to fulfill that vision this year. With the support of faculty, administration, staff and parents, I'm confident Collegiate will continue to nurture the social, emotional and intellectual growth of our students. As Scott Hamilton, TCS Board President has said, "Nothing will be 'on hold' while we search for a new Head of School. We will move forward with confidence in the proud tradition of Topeka Collegiate School."

Keeping with the TCS tradition, we have plenty of exciting plans for this school year. Our school-wide theme this year will focus on Latin America. Other elements of a Collegiate school year remain much the same. Our teachers will continue to present students with a curriculum that challenges them to develop new skills and to think in new ways. Our commitment to issues of diversity, equity and justice remains strong. The Diversity Committee of the Board of Trustees is in the process of creating a strategic plan for diversity that will provide even stronger direction for our work in this area.

Please know that the Collegiate community remains a dynamic one. We face new opportunities and challenges each year with the confidence gained from all we have achieved and learned together. Please come by to visit your school at any time.



Kevin Freed

Interim Head of School



SEARCH UNDERWAY FOR NEW HEAD

WITHIN weeks of Dr. Roberts' announcement that he would be leaving, Board President Scott Hamilton appointed and the board approved a Search Committee to lead the effort to find a new Head of School. Not just any Head of School, but the very best candidate to lead our school. Board President Scott Hamilton noted, "We must waste no time in identifying the best professional to maintain the excellence in education to which we are accustomed here at Topeka Collegiate." The committee is made up of members from a variety of constituent groups. They include a school founder, board members, parents with children of varying ages, and faculty members representing grade levels from the youngest to the oldest.

Before turning over the search to Chairperson Lavonne Carpenter and her committee, the board unanimously approved the appointment of Kevin Freed as Interim Head of School for the 2005-06 school year. The board then interviewed several consulting firms and hired Independent Thinking, Inc. out of Newton, Massachusetts. It's a small firm that specializes in personal service and comes highly recommended by previous clients.

Representatives from IT visited Collegiate and during an intensive two days in April, spoke with everyone from student council representatives to board members to learn more about our school and to help

them frame the "opportunity statement" – the school profile that will be used to sell TCS to top-tier candidates and help set the focus for the search. The consultants spent time with every teacher and administrator, a group of past parents, the Head of School and Interim Head, and founders, as well as hosting two town meetings for parents.

The opportunity statement was finalized in June after the consultants concluded that Topeka Collegiate represents an "incredible opportunity" for Head of School candidates. During the summer, IT, INC. networked and advertised our position nationally

and locally. They are presenting their candidate recommendations to the Search Committee this fall. The committee will narrow the pool to semifinalists, then conduct interviews and background checks. Finalists will visit the school and meet with each constituent group. Finally, the Search Committee will make its recommendation to the board which will hire the new Head of School. He or she will begin July 1 of 2006.

Throughout the process, Lavonne Carpenter says the Search Committee's highest priorities have been and will continue to be the children of Topeka Collegiate and the welfare of our school. "Every member of the committee is committed to finding the very best candidate to lead us into the future," she says.

SEARCH COMMITTEE

Lavonne Carpenter, Chairperson

Carrie Barber

Mary Brownback

Susan Garlinghouse

Pat Gideon

Jane Greene

John MacDonald

Adam Obley

Ken Park

Monique Pittman-Lui

Michael Tourtellot

Beth Wittig

Eleese Young

Kevin Freed, Non-Voting Member

ALUMNI NEWS

(T) INDICATES STUDENTS WHO TRANSFERRED BEFORE GRADUATION

1984

YVONNE CUTRER joyfully reports her marriage to Thomas Cherian in May of this year. Thomas is a civil engineer working in the Power Plant Division at Black and Veatch in Overland Park. Yvonne is at Kansas Housing Resources in Topeka. They both commute to their new townhouse in Bonner Springs. Yvonne says the times they look forward to the most are when her daughters, 8-year-old Margot and 7-year-old Cassidy come to visit. She says this has been one of the best years of her life and she's looking ahead with hope and happiness.

1985

JENNIFER COWAN CHASE and her husband David celebrated 12 years of marriage in August. They live in Apalachin, New York and have three beautiful daughters, Madeline Joy, age four-and-a-half, Emily Ann, two-and-a-half, and Isabelle Rose, nine months. Jennifer spends most of her time chasing the little ones around, reading books, doing pre-school workbooks and "investing in the precious moments of toddlerhood!" She also works part-time as a social worker in a Christian counseling center. Jennifer says, "As we look at kindergarten next year for our vivacious Madeline, I have such

fond aspirations for her education, based on so many wonderful memories at Shawnee Country Day School (Topeka Collegiate). Thanks for all the memories and investment in my young life back then!"

BRAD GARLINGHOUSE and his wife Kristen welcomed Kate Garlinghouse into their lives last August. Kate joins Will, now two-and-a-half, and Casey, the black lab "who still thinks she's the only child!" Between the new baby, work and training for the "grudge match" triathlon he's running in California with younger brother Matt '90, Brad has a full plate.

1987

ALKA GANDHI, now Dr. Alka Gandhi, teaches economics at Lycoming College in Williamsport, Pennsylvania

1988

RICHARD ALBISTEGUI-DUBOIS reports a progressive change in career focus since we've heard from him, from research to teaching. Richard taught genetics during the UCLA summer session and is teaching anatomy and physiology at Mount St. Mary's College (a small women's college) during the

school year, in addition to doing some research work. As soon as possible, he intends to shift entirely into teaching.



Michelle Grim Caban '88 and big brother Deklin, 3, welcome little Nolan Caban.

MICHELLE GRIM CABAN (T) and her husband Aquilino have welcomed a new baby boy into the family, little Nolan, born on July 15 at UCLA Medical Center, weighing 10 pounds, 14 ounces. Deklin, now three, is enjoying being a big brother. The family is stationed at Edwards Air Force Base.

MARC-DAVID LEVY is a resident in his final year at the University of California-Los Angeles, preparing to be an ear, nose and throat specialist.

1990

MATTHEW GARLINGHOUSE and his older brother **Brad '85** were both training, at press time, for a triathlon in Pacific Grove, California, which they describe as a “grudge match.” This will be the second time they’ve done it together. Brad edged out his younger sibling the first time. When he’s not training, Matt says he’s “encouraging his entrepreneurial tendencies by working with clean technology experts exploring ideas around renewable energy like wind, solar and other technologies.”

KANSAS WAUGH is working for one of the largest architectural firms in the world: Kohn Pederson Fox Associates. KPFA is building the tallest building in the world in Shanghai. Kansas manages and designs graphics for the New York office and loves his job. He spends part of his leisure time with a bike club that hosted the recent “Brooklyn Bike Brawl” for which Kansas was the emcee. NPR covered the event and carried a story on *Weekend Edition*. Kansas was interviewed but for those who may have heard it, he warns, “The article doesn’t make entirely clear the tongue-in-cheek attitude of the club. I’m talking about Armageddon, but I truthfully don’t expect the end of the world any time soon!” Also featured in a photo on the NPR Web site: then-fellow Brooklynite, fellow bike enthusiast and fellow TCS alum **Stacy Elmer '95**.

1991

BRIDGET ELMER is happily ensconced in a newly-renovated house nestled in the foothills of the Blue Ridge Moun-

tains in Asheville, North Carolina, “one of the most beautiful places I’ve been to,” she says. She moved there from Brooklyn to work for a small letter press called Blue Barnhouse and a book arts education center called Bookworks. Bridget discovered that area of the country last spring when she went to the Penland School of Crafts nearby for a two-month book art class. There, she met the folks from Asheville, who invited her to work with them. In between, she did some traveling, spending a month with her parents in Topeka and several weeks with her boyfriend’s parents in Michigan.

1992

TYLER BINGESSER KOPP (T) is a restaurateur! Last winter, he opened a sports bar in Olathe called the Clubhouse Grill, boasting great food and cold beer. Why not stop by, grab a burger, and say hello to a TCS alum? It’s at 135th and Black Bob Road.

KATIE MCBRIDE-JENSON is living in Denver, Colorado, working on her master’s degree in construction management with an emphasis in sustainable building. She has been researching straw bale building and local wood usage, as well as women in construction management education, of which there are very few! Katie’s husband Brian heads up the marketing department of a regional bank, where along with commercials and advertising, he does a lot of research analysis at which, Katie says, “he really excels.”

1993

MICHAEL BONEBRAKE is a third year medical student at Creighton Medical School in Omaha, Nebraska.

1993 continued following page

Tyler Bingesser Kopp '92 invites you to check out his new Olathe sports bar.



ALUMNI NEWS

1993 continued from previous page

KATIE FREEMAN is continuing to grow her boutique gifting service in Chicago. She and her partners are expanding their corporate gifting company, which has tripled in size over the last few months. They've also been developing a new Web site at www.oddsandinschicago.com. "We are really a marketing company for professionals who need to thank clients and continue to acquire referrals," says Katie, "so our primary business is among successful real estate agents, developers and mortgage brokers throughout the city who want to appropriately thank their clients at closing." Odds & Ins is proud to have also added a certain Head of School at the Catherine Cook School to their client list recently. Katie loved having her brother **John '98** stay with her this summer during his Chicago internship.

EMMA KUNTZ graduated with honors from the University of Maryland School of Law in May. This summer, Emma studied for and took the bar exam, then moved from Baltimore to Washington DC to start work as an associate at the law firm of Baker Botts.

GALEN MCKAMEY is a senior designer on the Rescue Hero line of action figures at Fisher Price in Buffalo, New York. In his spare time, he water skis and snowboards. He completed the Chicago Marathon in October. Galen also paints – oils and acrylics on canvas – and recently opened a one-man show at a private gallery in Buffalo.

KEITH ULMER is a SLAC'er and his mother has the t-shirt to prove it! SLAC stands for Stanford Linear Accelerator Center, where Keith spent a year doing research for his PhD in high energy physics. Now he's back at the University of Colorado-Boulder analyzing his research and preparing to write his dissertation.

1994

BROOKE BOREL is living in New York, still working as a legal assistant in the patent litigation group at a law firm. Brooke says that while she was considering law school when she took the job two-and-a-half years ago, she has now completely changed her mind. She has begun graduate work at Draper, which is a multidisciplinary program in humanities and social thought at New York University. She thinks she will specialize in literary cultures and gender politics with a focus on children's literature. Brooke also reports that she sees fellow TCS alums **John Van Sickle (T) '94** and **Karli Keller '94** in New York.

RHIANNON DIETZE (T) is living in Lawrence and working at the Bradley Animal Hospital as a veterinary assistant.

EMILY FRANKLIN moved to Boston after graduating from KU with dual degrees in Russian and biology. She is working for a biology software company.

ANN GANDHI was accepted into a forensic nursing master's program in Hamden, Connecticut. She has begun her coursework there, and very excited about this nursing specialty.

NICOLE HOHERZ is busy anchoring newscasts at the CBS station in Salt Lake City. Nicole (who goes by Nicole Hunter on the air) jokes that her life has been filled with "local, late-breaking, close-to-home, fresh air on 2 News. We've just added another couple of newscasts," she says. "Pretty soon we aren't going to have any CBS programming and we will just be 24 hour news!"

1995



Samantha Crow '95 and U.S. Supreme Court Justice Sandra Day O'Connor are both members of Stanford's women's honor society Cap and Gown.

SAMANTHA CROW is in product marketing at Google. She reports that she has spent most of the past year trying to think of ways to inspire small businesses to try out Google's AdWords advertising program. Samantha just transitioned, though, from local advertiser acquisition projects to consumer acquisition projects for Froogle, Google's shop-

ping Web site. Samantha reports that during her spare time, she was teaching literacy for quite a while, until her student gave up and left. “Maybe tutoring literacy isn’t my best skill,” she says. Now she is getting to know San Francisco, going on outings with co-workers (broomball, kickball, laser tag, book club, movie trips), watching her Roomba vacuum by itself, being with friends and oh, “talking to mom and dad on the phone, of course.” Samantha has vacationed in Hawaii and taken business trips to Europe, New York and Kansas City.



Stacy Elmer '95 organized and raced in the Cycle Messenger World Championships in New York City this summer.

STACY ELMER has left Brooklyn for a month at home in Topeka with her parents. Then it’s on to New Orleans, where she and her boyfriend Bert are relocating to work with his uncle doing special events. Meanwhile, Stacy plans to take the GRE and apply to graduate school for philosophy and neuroscience. Before leaving New

York, Stacy organized the Cycle Messenger World Championships, which was a huge success. For fun, she and Bert built “chunk” bikes with friend, fellow bike hobbyist and TCS alum **Kansas Waugh '90**. Stacy also worked part-time as a bike messenger and part-time in Billy’s Bakery.

MEGAN MCKAMY (T) is living in Los Angeles, working as an actress. She’s been in several independent films, including a lead role in *Sense of Need*, judged the Festival Best in the Colorado Golden Film Festival. She supports herself with commercials, most of which play regionally in California, although she also appears in Nebraska lottery spots. One of Megan’s recent projects involves a production and on-air job with E! Television’s new reality show *Fight For Fame*. This fall, she is the guest artist at the Riverside Theater in Iowa City, Iowa and has the lead part in a play called *Prosperity*.

ADAM OBLEY left the governor’s office and has begun his first year at the University of Kansas School of Medicine in Kansas City. During his two years in public service, Adam served as Special Assistant to the Governor working as a senior advisor on education and health care policy. During that time, he says, “I survived three school finance debates (including the first special legislative session in 15 years!).” Even though he will be extremely busy with med school, Adam has agreed to stay on the TCS Board of Trustees

as its first alumni member and is also serving on the Head of School Search Committee.

MICAH ROLFS has been pursuing a degree in sustainable community development through Prescott College in Arizona. After many trials and tribulations, including two years of health challenges, Micah is graduating in December. Following graduation, he plans to pursue a master’s degree in renewable energy resources such as solar power and wind collection.

HALEY (ROEMBACH-CLARK) SCHARF (T) has moved with her husband to the Twin Cities to attend graduate school at the University of Minnesota. Haley is studying school psychology; Roger environmental engineering. They’re excited to be there for the next few years and “looking forward to this new stage in our lives!”

ZACHARY YORKE (T) is a graduate student in fine arts, attending the University of Pennsylvania in Philadelphia.

1996

LESLIE ASH is living in New York where she has been working for the past year as a preschool teacher in downtown Manhattan and really enjoying it. This fall, she began a graduate program in art (*photograph following page*).

CARMEN BROOKS continues her PhD program in history at Washington University in St. Louis where she’s experiencing being an apartment renter. This summer, she traveled to Madrid, where she met her sister **Sonja '99** and studied Spanish.

1996 continued following page

ALUMNI NEWS

1996 continued from previous page

1997



Leslie Ash '96 and Julia Franklin '96 visited Disneyland together this summer.

JULIA FRANKLIN moved to Los Angeles after graduating from Kansas University with degrees in Russian and film studies. She completed a one-year professional course in film editing. In August, Julia began a two-year master's program in film editing at the American Film Institute. Her friend-since-third-grade, TCS classmate **Leslie Ash '96**, flew to LA to visit for a week and the two went to Disneyland, among other things.

KERSTIN NORDSTROM graduated with honors from Bryn Mawr College in Pennsylvania a year ago, with degrees in mathematics and physics. She is now a doctoral student in physics, studying on an academic fellowship at the University of Pennsylvania in Philadelphia.

Kerstin Nordstrom '96 is in graduate school at Penn after graduating from Bryn Mawr.

LAURA ADAMS has been awarded a \$5,000 Morris Udall scholarship, designed for students planning careers in fields related to the environment. Laura is completing her degree in civil and environmental engineering at KU and plans to pursue a master's degree in ecological engineering. She will spend her final semester in San José, Costa Rica. Her design projects will center on water conservation and reclamation; designing low impact water systems that mimic the natural ecosystem. Part of this summer, Laura worked in an engineering laboratory in Lawrence, studying the responses of aquatic life to antibiotics. Then she headed to Arizona for a gathering of the Udall scholars. She is one of only 80 nationwide.

BENJAMIN BAMMES is at KU, on track to graduate next spring with



a trio of majors: physics, math and computer engineering. He's still working with a physics professor on protein folding and will present their research at a physics conference in Chicago this winter. He's also working with the KU Medical Center on cardiac imaging software. Ben lives in Lawrence with his "wonderful wife" Stephanie, who will graduate in the spring with an elementary education degree, and their newly adopted dog Maggie. Rounding out the Bammes household are guinea pigs Mr. Patches and Dr. Watson. *(photograph opposite page).*

KATHERINE GARLINGHOUSE graduated in the spring from the University of Pennsylvania's Wharton Business School with a bachelor of science in economics and a dual concentration in marketing and global analysis. After graduation, Katherine, fellow TCS grad **Rohini Thukral '97** and another friend set off on a month-long adventure, hopping aboard the Trans-Siberian/Mongolian Railroad and riding from Beijing all the way to St. Petersburg. Along the way, they stopped in Mongolia, Laiké Baikal, Ekaterinburg, Moscow and St. Petersburg. For the next month, Katherine traveled through Europe, meeting her brother **Pere '00** for a few days in Poland and Italy. They parted ways, and Katherine joined a friend from Penn for travels through Italy, France and Spain. They had the opportunity to watch Lance Armstrong cross the finish line at the end of the Tour de France in Paris. By August, Katherine had moved to San Francisco where she started a job with Chevron as a brand specialist working with the global branding team.



*Ben Bammes '97
and his wife Stephanie
recently adopted
Sheltie/Gordon Setter
mix Maggie.*

JENNY HOYT is in her final semester at KU, working on a degree in psychology. Last fall, she spent a semester abroad studying in Paris and Florence and traveling through Europe. Jenny's still teaching ballet classes in suburban Kansas City and working at a Lawrence restaurant. After graduation, she plans to attend graduate school.

ELIZABETH JAKLE graduated magna cum laude in May from Baker University in Baldwin, Kansas, with dual degrees in business marketing and mass communication. After graduation, she moved to Denver to start her job as an assistant media planner at The Integer Group, the nation's seventh largest promotional agency, where she is working on the Coors Brewing Co. account. Elizabeth was married on September 3 and took a honeymoon to the Caribbean for a week of well-deserved relaxation.

STACIE KOSOY graduated from Grinnell College in Grinnell, Iowa in May, with a major in sociol-

ogy and a concentration in gender and women's studies. At graduation, she was awarded the Grace McIlrath Parker Award for outstanding performance and leadership on an athletic team for her role as both captain and four-year medal-winning swimmer on the Grinnell team. After graduation, Stacie moved

to the Philadelphia area where she spent four weeks teaching a fourth grade summer school program in a school in north Philly. That was part of her training to be an elementary school teacher through Teach for America, a program that trains and places outstanding college graduates in low-income areas to teach for two years with the goal of ending educational inequality. This fall, Stacie is teaching fifth grade in Camden, New Jersey, just across the bridge from Philadelphia.

NIKHIL PARULKAR (T) graduated from Washburn in the spring with a bachelor's degree in anthropology. In April, he was invited to Antioch University in Yellow Springs, Ohio, to conduct a workshop on the Union Carbide tragedy in Bhopal, India. This fall, he traveled to India to volunteer at a clinic where he is practicing Ayurvedic medicine, a form of indigenous healing. The clinic helps victims of the Union Carbide gas leak. Nikhil plans to stay at least a year. "All I know is

that is there will be people who need help," Nikhil said before departing for India. "I will go there with the knowledge I have and do the best I can to help a nation of people who've been neglected."

ALEXIS ROWE graduated magna cum laude from Marquette University in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, with a degree in psychology. In August, she began graduate school at Columbia University in New York City, pursuing a master's degree in social work with a focus on children and families. She predicts that despite some initial anxiety about being in New York on her own, she'll gravitate to "the opera house and museums as much as I can make time for them." As a senior at Marquette, Alexis was inducted into the Phi Beta Kappa honorary society, and served as the secretary of Psi Chi, the honor society for psychology majors. Before heading to the Big Apple, Alexis found time for a trip to New Mexico where she "saw a lot of historical sites, some beautiful mountains and a lot of sand!"

SARAH TEMPLE has had a busy few months. She is a spring graduate of KU and has begun medical school at Johns Hopkins in Baltimore, Maryland. In late April, her boyfriend, a Brit named Angus, proposed to Sarah on the beach at sunset. She accepted and the two plan to be married next summer. They will have to endure long separations for the next three to four years, as Angus works as the mental conditioning coach at the Nick Bollitieri Tennis Academy in Florida. He earned his master's and PhD at KU in sports psychology. The two were

1997 continued page 16

WHEN PHYLLIS HOYT started teaching math at Topeka Collegiate, she assumed it would be a temporary position. Twenty-three years later, she realizes what was in-

tended to be a short job stint has turned into a long and meaningful career.

Mrs. Hoyt earned her undergraduate degree in math at Evangel University in Springfield, Missouri. She attended Pittsburg State University for her graduate degree in secondary education and then worked in the public school system as a math teacher for seven years. She came to Collegiate after she had her first child, because TCS offered her the opportunity to work part-time. The school was “willing to be flexible and accommodating and work with me,” she says. So she worked part-time, but as the school grew, she moved up to full-time. When her second daughter was born, school enrollment was down, which gave Mrs. Hoyt the opportunity to be part-time again, though she still felt it was only a temporary position. The longer she stayed, however, the more she “fell in love with it [Topeka Collegiate] and thought, ‘Why would I want to leave?’” She went back to teaching full-time and still is today.

Throughout the years, she has taught everything from eighth grade all the way down to fourth grade math, although today she teaches only middle school math. Mrs. Hoyt not only teaches math,

but coaches the Athletics team. The school formed a MathCounts team 22 years ago and has done the Sunday competition for at least as long.

“I love the competitions, even though it’s incredibly time-consuming,” says Mrs. Hoyt. MathCounts is a way to take the students who love math to a higher level, and to see the students rise to that challenge is incredible. I love seeing kids excited about math.”

In her years as a coach, Phyllis Hoyt has been to the National MathCounts competition in Washington DC three times. Twice she accompanied an individual student. Once she went as a team coach. **Steven DuBois** ’86 qualified in 1986, **Hero Okono** (T) ’04 qualified in 2003 and her team qualified in 1997. Sharon Dubois remembers that on one of those trips, she and Mrs. Hoyt traded airline tickets, to allow Mrs. Hoyt a few extra hours in the nation’s capital to do some sightseeing. This was long before airline security was as tight as it is now. You just showed

By Allison Atwood '00

MATHCOUNTS AND BOX TOPS: THE PHYLLIS HOYT ENDOWED MATHEMATICS CHAIR



An endowed chair is named for beloved math teacher, Phyllis Hoyt

*Mrs. Hoyt and her 1997 1st place State Mathcounts Team
Jessica Cook '97, Sarah Temple '97, Wesley West '98, Ben Bammes '97*



your ticket and got on the plane. “Unfortunately, when Phyllis arrived and they said, ‘Have a nice flight, Mrs. DuBois,’ Phyllis felt obligated to explain the situation to them” says Mrs. DuBois. “We almost never saw her again! I’m glad some kindhearted airline official finally took pity on her. I would hate to have been responsible for losing one of the school’s finest teachers.”

Mrs. Hoyt says her favorite part of the job is the unique and different personalities of her students. “The students are what keep it neat and fresh,” she says. “Even though I may teach the same thing, it is always a new experience, and I love it when students are excited to learn. I love it when students return and you see they have continued with math and have excelled with math, and you feel like you have made a difference.” She adds that Topeka Collegiate is special because students do return. “It’s like being in a family. You have the parents as well as the kids; it’s a family experience and you’re a continuous part of life after the students leave, and that means a lot to me.”

Mrs. Hoyt’s students have always noticed and appreciated her enthusiasm for math and for teaching. As **Wesley West '98**, now a senior at MIT will tell you, “Phyllis Hoyt is the best teacher I ever had.” **Stephanie Atwood '03** adds that Mrs. Hoyt taught her more than just math. “Mrs. Hoyt taught me as much about English, science, really everything, as she did math. And I learned a lot of math from her, so that’s saying a lot.”

Erin Atwood '04, noticed how much Mrs. Hoyt cared about and tried to help the entire Topeka Collegiate community. “I remember Mrs. Hoyt being obsessed about box tops. She was my homeroom teacher for two years, and she really wanted to make a difference. She stressed the importance of box tops and the impact they can have on our school. Mrs. Hoyt really cares about helping the whole school community.”

Mathcounts continued following page

MATHCOUNTS

continued from previous page

Although Mrs. Hoyt has had a lasting impact on students for more than two decades, eventually, she will retire, and Topeka Collegiate will lose an inspirational teacher. The school is determined, however, not to let their math program take a hit. To help ensure that TCS continues to offer excellent math training even after Mrs. Hoyt, Topeka Collegiate has established the Phyllis Hoyt Endowed Mathematics Chair. The endowment campaign is chaired by Lucia West, Wes' mom. The goal is to provide continuing funds to finance the margin of excellence - the difference between an average teacher's salary and the salary for a teacher of Mrs. Hoyt's caliber. Topeka Collegiate realizes it has found something special in Mrs. Hoyt, and the school wants to honor her with this endowment fund named for her.

Lucia West says, "Topeka Collegiate and its kids have been so lucky to have a teacher like Phyllis. She gives 150% of herself and her time to her teaching and also to the preparation of kids for the math competitions. While no one wants to ever see her retire, she will at some point, and the school wants to be ready to have the resources to pay somebody who will be willing to step up to the job Phyllis has done for the school for so many years."

For more information or to donate to the fund, contact Mary Loftus by telephone or email: 785.228.0490; mloftus@topekacollegiate.org.

CHEROKEE CHIEF WILMA MANKILLER VISITS TCS

THE TOPEKA COLLEGIATE community enjoyed a rare privilege in November when Former Principal Chief of the Cherokee Nation Wilma Mankiller visited as the high point of a year of cross-curriculum Native American study involving every student in the school.

She was the first woman Principal Chief of the Cherokee Nation. She met with Presidents Reagan, Bush and Clinton to discuss tribal issues. She received the Presidential Medal of Freedom. She has written three books and holds honorary degrees from some of the nation's top universities. Wilma Mankiller is, in the words of her friend, colleague, fellow tribal member and TCS parent David Kingfisher, "a true historical American who has witnessed, within one lifetime, the beginning of the end of tribal sovereignty and culture, and the transformation and renaissance of that same sovereignty and culture."

To some Topeka Collegiate students, Wilma Mankiller was more like a rock star. They had read about her in a Scholastic Magazine article titled "100 People Who Changed America." They asked for her autograph on books, t-shirts and even sneakers. One little girl, a third grader, said, "I'm going to always keep these shoes, even when they don't fit me anymore!"

A recurring theme, as Mankiller spoke to Topeka Collegiate students and to the 60 invited students and teachers from the Kickapoo Nation School, was that girls can do anything. She observed that her nation is ahead of the United States because it has elected a woman chief. The U.S. has yet to elect a woman president. Mankiller also reminded students that not all Indian tribes are alike. Each has a different language. Some lived in tipis. Her people, the Cherokee, lived in longhouses made of wood.



Former Chief Wilma Mankiller explains the origins of the written Cherokee language.

The youngest students particularly enjoyed Wilma Mankiller's husband, Charlie Soap, who taught them some Cherokee words. "See-oh!" he said with a smile. It means hello. "See-oh!" the children greeted him in return. They children were delighted when Soap demonstrated the game of stickball, which the Cherokee used historically to settle disputes. "Wouldn't it be wonderful," Mankiller observed, "if we could do away with war and settle disputes with a game?"

Mankiller was touched when the students sang "The North Wind Song" for her in the Cherokee language. It is the song of hope sung by the Cherokee as they traveled the infamous Trail of Tears. "That is very moving," she told the children, "because of what it means to my people."

There was a chilling moment when a seventh grader asked Mankiller about President Andrew Jackson's policy of eradication. "I can't express my true feelings on that in an elementary school," Mankiller said. "I try to respect historical leaders, but Andrew Jackson was a self-proclaimed 'killer of Indians.' His actions changed the course of history for the Cherokee people."

Mankiller commended Topeka Collegiate for giving its students the opportunity to meet Cherokee people. "I view the teaching of native history not as teaching about a minority group, but as teaching the history of America," she said.

2004-05 NATIVE AMERICAN STUDY ACTIVITIES

- » *Full-size tipi constructed on playground and painted with traditional designs*
- » *Tipi blessed by Potawatomi tribal elder*
- » *Native dancers and musicians perform for students*
- » *1st graders act out Cherokee wisdom tale The Story of Jumping Mouse*
- » *1st and 2nd graders create tipis from ice cream cones and flour tortillas*
- » *Native American Artist Dana Tiger teaches art lessons and displays work*
- » *5th graders research Indian tribes, write reports and create displays*
- » *2nd graders learn about power shields and totem poles, and design their own*
- » *Students learn songs in Cherokee and learn to accompany them on native instruments*
- » *Presentation by Plains Indian woman "The Grower"*



Wilma Mankiller's husband, Charlie Soap, teaches students to greet each other in Cherokee.

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together this summer. Sarah tutored some of the tennis academy kids in math as well as volunteering for the local Turtle Watch program, walking the beach at dawn looking for new sea turtle nests and assisting with any necessary relocation.

1998

ANNE MARIE BIRETA is a senior at Truman State University in Kirksville, Missouri. Last year, she spent four months studying in Aix-en-Provence, France where all but one of her classes were in French. Anne Marie also traveled in Italy, Germany and England and as a result of her wonderful experience, highly recommends study abroad for everyone. Back home, she is vice-president of Phi Delta Phi, the French Honor Society, and active in her sorority, Alpha Gamma Delta.

ALEX BLEIBERG is a senior at Macalester College in St. Paul, Minnesota where he is majoring in English and also studying philosophy. He spent the summer and fall of 2004 working on the John Kerry campaign and raising funds for the Democratic Farm and Labor Party. While he could not deliver the entire country for Kerry, he was successful in helping to deliver Minnesota. This summer, he worked at the Sea Salt, a St. Paul restaurant, where he honed his skills shucking oysters and learning the secrets of fine grilling.

NATALIE BONEBRAKE is a senior at KU majoring in industrial design. After graduation, she plans to be a

shoe designer. A few months ago, in a material workshop class, Natalie had an accident with an electric saw and cut off the tips of two of her fingers. Her new nickname in the art department is "Lefty."

AKHILA CHALLA (T) is studying medicine in St. Lucia, in the West Indies, at Spartan Health Sciences University. She is currently in her first trimester, which includes a full day of classes followed by gross anatomy involving dissection of cadavers. Akhila describes St. Lucia as an amazing place, with its white beaches and almost constant sunshine. But, she admits, "It is sometimes a distraction to be in such a wonderful, tropical place." Hurricane Emily hit St. Lucia, but by that time, had been downgraded to a tropical storm. Still, Akhila and her fellow medical students volunteered in areas affected by the heavy rains, raising money to buy food and water, and providing medical care for anyone who needed it. Akhila also headed up a fundraising effort to provide four pacemakers to hospital patients who could not afford them.

KATHLEEN DAUGHETY is a senior at the University of Kansas. Last fall, she served as president of the KU Young Democrats and as the Deputy Finance Director of the Kansas Democratic Party. Though races in Lawrence turned out favorably, Kathleen says the national election results were disillusioning and diluted her interest in politics. Last year, she served as public relations coordinator of Alternative Breaks, a service-learning program that provides volunteer opportunities across the U.S. for college students on weekends and vacations

from school. On winter break, Kathleen traveled to Ignacio, Colorado to work on the Southern Ute Reservation. Over spring break, she went to Chicago to volunteer at Bonaventure house, a transitional living facility for people struggling with the combination of HIV/AIDS, homelessness and substance abuse. This year, Kathleen is co-director of the Alternative Breaks program. After returning from Chicago, she took a week off school and visited a friend in Paris. In the spring, she received an undergraduate research award for a project that studies the role of class and appearance in the current wave of feminism and how these elements play into the portrayal of women in popular culture. This summer, Kathleen worked on campus as an orientation assistant.

DAVID DUNIVEN is a senior at Notre Dame University in South Bend, Indiana, double majoring in honors anthropology and pre-med, and he's in the process of applying to medical schools. This summer David worked at a golf course.

JOHN FREEMAN is a senior in the School of Business at KU. This summer, John interned at Rokit Ranch Productions, a marketing and entertainment company in Chicago. He enjoyed learning the business and rubbing elbows with celebrities at Rokit Ranch's nightclub Le Passage. John also formed a hip-hop group with three of his friends and they've been having a lot of fun performing around Lawrence at places like the Bottleneck and the Granada. Last fall, John served as an intern on a local congressional campaign. Late this summer, he vacationed at the

Jersey shore before heading back to school in the fall.

JULIE FREESE spent the summer in New York, interning at Dance Magazine and living at Columbia University. Among other duties, she interviewed her dance teacher, Don Wagoner, who recently retired from Connecticut College and had danced with such notables as Martha Graham, Paul Taylor and Merce Cunningham. Julie also worked a part-time job and took dance classes.

RACHAEL GREENE spent her spring semester in Copenhagen, Denmark, studying international business and economics and traveling around Europe. This summer, she did a law internship, studied for the LSAT, and attempted to start a business. This fall, she's back at Brown University in Providence, Rhode Island where she will direct her third "Locks of Love" drive. "Locks of Love" collects hair and money for quality hairpieces for children who lose their hair because of medical problems. Rachael will also write a thesis and apply to law school.

DAVID KELLY (T) is a senior at Marquette University in Milwaukee, Wisconsin and general manager at MUTV, Marquette's student-run television station. David was selected for the top job on his birthday which was "a nice birthday present," he says. He's been active at the station for the past three years, working behind the scenes in the production department and directing a weekly entertainment news show called "Entertainment Bytes." He also produced an award-winning piece on a local band that was featured in the Marquette Film Festival.

DEREK MOELLER is a senior at Northwestern University in Evanston, Illinois and was elected head of the student business club last spring. This summer, he worked as an investment banking intern at Lehman Brothers in New York.

JONATHAN SCHMIDT has been elected captain of the University of Georgia-Athens swim team for his senior year. He stayed in Georgia this summer, training and competing. In August, he traveled to nationals in Irvine, California where he swam against Olympic superstar Michael Phelps. Jonathan placed eighth in the 100 meter butterfly and had a lifetime best swim in that and in the 200 meter butterfly. Jonathan swam in the same heat as Michael Phelps and the scoreboard showed their "reaction times" off the starting blocks were the same! Jonathan was



Georgia Swim Team Captain Jonathan Schmidt '98 kept Coach Tracie Lamb laughing with his remarks at the TCS Sports Recognition Program in May.

the keynote speaker at the TCS spring sports recognition program, where he advised young athletes to compete for the fun of sports, "You don't have to be the best," he said, "Do it because you love it."

ALLISON VIOLA is a senior at KU and vice-president for public relations for the Panhellenic Association, which takes up a good deal of her time. In the spring she traveled in Europe with friends, visiting Brussels, Paris and Amsterdam. This summer in addition to writing for *Collegiate Life*, she interned at H&R Block World Headquarters in Kansas City. Says Allison, "While I learned a lot about public relations, I still don't understand taxes!"

WESLEY WEST is a senior at MIT in Cambridge, Massachusetts, where he's training for the Boston Marathon, although he reports progress is slow.

He's also contemplating a run for state representative in Massachusetts. "I really think I'm going to do this," he says. "The incumbent has been in place for 23 years, and I personally feel it's time for a change." Wes is the pledge trainer for his fraternity this year and has a job as a consultant for non-profits, working with Boston-area groups on how to maximize and streamline their operations. He's stepping up the research he's been doing, as senior undergraduate re-

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searcher for one group and the only undergraduate researcher for the other. He's hoping to get his name on the published research this school year.



In his Corps of Cadets uniform, Texas A&M senior Blake Whitaker '98 says goodbye to Dr. Roberts. (Check out those custom-made boots!)

BLAKE WHITAKER is a senior history major in the Corps of Cadets at Texas A&M in College Station, Texas. In the corps, he's a flight officer, in charge of the training of about 20 freshmen and the supervision of ten sophomore and three junior cadets. At the end of this year, Blake will take a reserve commission with the U.S. Air Force as a second lieutenant. Blake is staying active in theater

as well. He's been in five musicals in the past year, including the roles of Che in *Evita* and Lumier in *Beauty and the Beast*. He's also part of an educational performance group called the George Bush Presidential Library Troubadours.

CHRIS YORKE is a senior at Williams College. Last year he attended the fall semester at the Williamstown, Massachusetts campus, majoring in sculpture. Then in our spring, he attended another fall semester (their fall) at the University of Melbourne in Australia studying architecture. This summer he took a Spanish class at KU and worked various jobs "to fund upcoming road trips."

1999

NATHAN BAMMES is a junior at K-State, majoring in biology/pre-med. He joined the Lutheran fraternity, Beta Sigma Psi. Nathan received a scholarship from the National Institutes of Health to do biomedical research. He's working with a doctor in the veterinary medical center attempting to create living pig blood vessels from stem cells. If that's successful, the team will insert them into a pig and see how well they work. Says Nathan, "This should keep me fairly busy over the next year."

SONJA BROOKS is a junior at Creighton in Omaha. She is hoping to major in American History and Spanish and is a member of the crew team. This summer she met her sister **Carmen '96** in Madrid, and they enjoyed traveling and being together.

BRIANNE BURNETT is a junior at the University of Michigan at Ann Arbor. She is living in the Alpha Delta Pi house where last year she served as chairwoman for the sorority's 75th anniversary celebration weekend in April. She is continuing with her communication studies major and linguistics minor, and picking up political science as a second major. This summer Brianne took a class at Michigan State and has been doing research at the Michigan Public Health Institute and the state's Department of Community Health. In August she enjoyed some down time with friends at the New Jersey shore.

JENNY CLINTON is a certified cook. She finished her one-year training at the Art Institute of Colorado, then moved to Germany with her family. She coached swimming for the 5-to-18-year-old children of U.S. service members. Her team competed all over Europe, traveling to Spain, Gibraltar, the Netherlands, Belgium, Germany, France and Austria. Then it was back to the U.S. for Jenny. She's now in her second year of studying speech and language pathology with an emphasis on communicative disorders in deaf education at Utah State University in Logan.

LISA GREENE is a junior at the University of California at Berkeley. This summer she took some classes and interned at a mortgage brokers' office. Good news for Lisa's Topeka friends: She plans to spend a semester at KU in the spring.

EDDIE FONNER is a junior at Northwestern University in Evanston, Illinois, majoring in math and physics. Last summer he helped create an

analysis of indicators for the Society of Thoracic Surgeons. From that analysis the society produced a CD, pamphlet and poster. As a result of that work, Eddie earned an internship at the Virginia Medical Center. He shadowed doctors and observed various operations performed by surgeons in Norfolk, Virginia. In the spring, Eddie served as one of two campaign managers for a friend who was running for president of Associated Student Government.

WILLIAM MANSFIELD is a junior at KU with an interest in business, although his favorite class so far has been poetry. Could be an interesting combination!

MARIA MALDONADO is a junior at KU living at Sellards Scholarship Hall where she was social chair last year and is currently on the administrative board. This summer she spent a month in England and Scotland, traveling and studying British history, art history and literature. Maria and her group had just left London for Scotland when the July 7th subway bombing attacks occurred. "It was a very surreal moment," says Maria, "because we were far enough away that we were not physically hurt but close enough that we were affected in every other way. It was particularly strange for us because the tube stations that were hit were ones that we used every day and were in the neighborhood where we were staying. Had we been in London at the time, more likely than not one of us would have been in the tube." Maria says her group seemed to be blessed with good luck throughout their trip. They missed the London bombings and left Edinburgh just before the protests surrounding the G8 summit.

2000

ANNA ANGEL is a sophomore at Washburn University. She transferred there in the spring after a semester at K-State.

ALLISON ATWOOD is a sophomore in the honors program at KU where she's also a member of the Kappa Alpha Theta sorority. Last year Allie volunteered in a second grade classroom and in an elementary school science lab. This summer she taught swim lessons to more than 100 children, many of whom are current TCS students. Allie is keeping up her running and ran her first half marathon in Lawrence in April, finishing first in her age group. Allie also contributed to this edition of *Collegiate Life*.

ABBY BROWNBACK is campus editor for the *K-State Collegian* this, her sophomore year at K-State. She got her feet wet as a staff writer for the paper last fall and as a copy editor in the spring. Abby pledged the Kappa Kappa Gamma sorority last year and played intramural tennis. This summer she was a counselor at Pine Cove Christian Camp in Texas.

PERE GARLINGHOUSE is a sophomore in the Elliot School of International Affairs at George Washington University in Washington, DC. His first year there was a busy one. He was elected to represent the freshman class in the student senate, pledged the Pi Kappa Alpha fraternity, and joined the crew team. He

also organized a university-wide cookout through the Residence Hall Association, in which he served as an officer. Throughout the year and for the first half of the summer, he worked as a researcher for the Libertarian Party's national headquarters. The rest of the summer was devoted to travel, from Poland to Spain. Pere studied in Barcelona and visited Madrid where he saw a bullfight and critically acclaimed flamenco dancers.

ASHLEY GIROUX is in her second year of K-State's architecture program, in the area of interior architecture. This summer she worked at Glass Expressions, waitressed, worked estate sales and drove young children around, "making lots of money!"

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Pere Garlinghouse '00 has grown a bit since he was in Eleese Young's Pre-k class, but says, "I haven't changed much on the inside!"

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WHITNEY HAMILTON is a sophomore at Truman State University in Kirksville, Missouri. As a freshman she played number four on the tennis team. This summer Whitney worked for Nike at the University of Illinois as a tennis instructor and counselor.

REBECCA HOLMES is a sophomore at KU, pursuing a major in social work. She is a member of the Alpha Delta Pi sorority and works at a local restaurant. She helped gather alumni news for this publication.

REBECCA KOPP is a sophomore at St. John's College in Santa Fe, New Mexico. She also helped gather alumni news for this edition of *Collegiate Life*.

ALEXANDRA KOSSOY is a sophomore at Grinnell College, where she hasn't decided on a major yet, but is pretty sure it will be in the sciences, possibly pre-med. She swam for Grinnell as a freshman, helping her team win its conference championship. Allie swam three relays (the team took first in each), the 200 freestyle, the 100 freestyle and the 200 individual medley. She also went out for track and field for fun, running the 5K. Allie took on heroine status for a Topeka family this summer when she helped revive their four-year-old, who had stopped breathing after nearly drowning at the city pool where Allie was working as a lifeguard. Another guard pulled the boy from the water, and Allie began rescue breathing. She breathed twice

into his mouth, then applied an oxygen mask. It was the first time Allie had used her training to actually revive someone. She was focused during the crisis and didn't get nervous until after it was over. Then, she says, she "freaked out, thinking of that little boy fighting for breath." The experience taught her "that every breath is important."

BENJAMIN LEIFER is consumed by music both in school and out. He's studying at the University of Missouri-Kansas City's Conservatory of Music and playing in bands three to four nights a week in the Kansas City area. As he describes it, "I'm



Brothers Matt Leifer '98 and Ben Leifer '00 (second and third from left) played at a farewell reception for Dr. Roberts in the spring.

doing music, not sleeping enough, and more music. I'm working pretty steadily now and having the time of my life." Ben, whose instrument is bass guitar, is playing with a couple of bands including *Grupo Candela* which is a salsa band, and *Makuza*, a Latin jazz band made up of students from the conservatory. You can catch them at Jardine's or 12 Baltimore. Ben heads to Europe with the conservatory jazz band this year to play in the Montreux Jazz Festival, the Red Sea Jazz Festival and elsewhere.

TYLER SCHMIDT is a sophomore at the University of Minnesota where he's a swimmer. He stayed in the Twin Cities this summer to train and to work at the University's swim camps. In one case, that meant he was in charge of a group of 10-year-old girl swimmers for two weeks. In August Tyler swam at nationals in Irvine, California in the 200 meter freestyle and had a lifetime best swim. He anchored the



Allie Kossoy '00 didn't realize the value of lifeguard training sessions like this one until her training helped her save a child's life this summer.

800 meter freestyle relay team which placed fourth overall, and swam on the 400 meter freestyle relay that placed eighth overall.

SARAH SELLERS is a sophomore at Northwestern in Evanston, Illinois. As a freshman she pledged Gamma Phi Beta sorority, played her violin in the Philharmonic Orchestra and was chairman of the 31st Annual Dance Marathon. Sarah and her partner collected pledges and danced for 30 hours straight! Proceeds went to the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation and the Evanston Community Foundation. Her family has moved from Topeka to Arizona, but Sarah spent the summer in New York interning for American Heritage Magazine, living in a dorm on the NYU campus and, she says, “loving every minute of it.”

BREANA TUTUSKA is a sophomore at Emory University in Atlanta. Last year she was vice-president of her 400-person freshman dorm, a freshman tour leader and a member of the by-audition-only Emory dance company. This year she is an orientation leader and will serve as a student advisor to incoming freshmen. Bre is considering business school for next year, with an

Our sympathy
to the
family and friends of
DAVID WEYRENS
(T) '00,
whose death we report
with sorrow.
David attended fourth
and fifth grades
at TCS.

international emphasis. She also plans a second major in Russian, which she has continued studying ever since she was a student at Topeka High.

2001

ROBERT ADAMS is a freshman at Creighton University in Omaha after graduating with high honors from Topeka High as a member of the National Honor Society. Rob was photography/art editor of the *Topeka High World* during his senior year and inducted into the Quill and Scroll International Honorary Society. His photography went to state level competition, and he was selected to attend the National High School Journalism Convention in Seattle. He also participated in tennis, basketball and band. This summer Rob taught swimming lessons while working full-time as a senior lifeguard and assistant pool manager for the city of Topeka. In addition to Creighton scholarships for academics and leadership, Rob was awarded the Sam Walton Community Foundation Scholarship from Topeka.

GABRIELLE AULT-RICHE (T) graduated from her Palo Alto, California high school early and already has one year of college under her belt. She's now a sophomore at Wesleyan University in Middletown, Connecticut.

SARAH BELLOWS-BLAKELY is a freshman at Stanford University in Palo Alto this fall. In the spring she graduated as valedictorian of her Topeka High School class, with superior honors. She was named to the *Topeka Capital-Journal's* All-State Academic



(Photo: Topeka Capital-Journal)
Friends since fourth grade at TCS, Sarah Bellows-Blakely '01 and Rachel Buck '01 are a formidable debate duo.

Team, the National Honor Society, the Quill and Scroll International Honorary Society, and recognized as a Kansas Honors Scholar. Sarah served as president of Topeka High's debate and forensics teams and distinguished herself in both disciplines. She partnered with TCS classmate **Rachel Buck** '01 to win the 6A state tournament in debate. The two have been friends ever since fourth grade, and they think that gives them an advantage since one tends to know what the other is thinking. The duo won the Debate Coaches' Invitational tournament and qualified for nationals in the two-speaker category. Sarah is a four year national qualifier. She won top

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speaker in the Coaches' Invitational and was ranked 5th in the National Forensics League All-American Contender standings, out of 100,000 members. She and Rachel finished in the top 20 at nationals in debate this summer in Philadelphia. In forensics Sarah won state in domestic extemporaneous speaking for the second year in a row. Sarah was one of only eight students in Kansas honored by the National Council of Teachers of English in their 2004 writing contest. She founded the Young Democrats Club at High, served as its president, and interned with the Kansas Democratic Party. She also was a member of Fearless, the Heritage Panel, and was one of five THS students to receive the highest grade possible on the AP U.S. History exam.

TOBEY BILLINGER is a National Merit Scholarship Program commended student who graduated with superior honors from Topeka High School in the spring and was named a Kansas Honors Scholar. This fall she is attending Kansas University.

SCOTT BOND is a freshman at KU where he has pledged the Phi Gamma Delta fraternity. He graduated from Topeka High with superior honors in the spring. As a senior he played varsity golf and was senior captain of the varsity tennis team. He was regional champion in tennis and the first boy from Topeka High to qualify for state all four years. Scott was nominated for the Topeka Shawnee County Sports Council's Outstanding Male Athlete for spring sports. He was also chosen

as a Royalty of Courts king candidate. This summer Scott took a vacation from tennis and worked at a sporting goods store. For the Sunflower State Games, he joined forces with some old basketball buddies who had played together in elementary school, and they won their age group. The boys also tried their luck at slow pitch softball where they had a lot of fun, but not as much success! Before heading to Lawrence in the fall Scott vacationed at a family reunion on the beach at Haig Point, South Carolina, where there was plenty of golf, fishing, swimming and alligators.

RACHEL BUCK is a freshman at Duke University in Durham, North Carolina, where she plans to major in public policy. She graduated from Topeka High School with superior honors as a Kansas Honors Scholar and a member of the National Honor Society. She and fellow TCS alum **Sarah Bellows-Blakely** made quite a mark in the debate arena as seniors. They won the two-speaker event at the 6A state tournament and were undefeated in ten rounds. The duo went on to place among the top 20 teams in the nation at debate nationals in Philadelphia. The friends decorated the side of their evidence bin with a picture of Gene Simmons (the makeup wearing member of the band KISS) not because they listen to the band, but "purely for intimidation." Rachel is a National Merit commended stu-

dent and was one of only eight Kansas students honored by the National Council of Teachers of English with its writing award.



(Photo: Topeka Capital-Journal)
Shruti Challa '01 is Miss India Ks-Mo.

SHRUTI CHALLA is a freshman at Stanford University in Palo Alto, California, with TCS classmate **Sarah Bellows-Blakely**. Shruti graduated from Topeka High in the spring with superior honors, as senior class president, a member of the National Honor Society and a Kansas Honors Scholar. In debate Shruti participated in the Debate Coaches' Invitational Tournament. In forensics she qualified for the national tournament for the fourth year in a row, one of only two students from Topeka High ever to do so. At the Philadelphia tournament, she won the Bruno E.

Jacobs National Award and fifth place in oratory. She has the distinction of being the first student from Topeka High to make it to the oratory final. She was also named an All-American Debate and Forensicator and an Academic All-American debater. Shruti was chosen Royalty of Courts Queen during basketball season. She competed in the state tennis tournament and was named to the All-Regional, All-City, All-League teams. Shruti was featured in the *Topeka Capital-Journal's Hers Kansas* magazine in an article about the leaders of tomorrow. She said she pushes herself to work hard because she has decided that education is going to be her tool to succeed. "I really don't think I'm smart naturally," she says. "I think that hard work is what makes me smart." This summer on a lark, Shruti entered the Ms. India Ks-Mo pageant and won. She not only won the title, she won Best Talent for her traditional Indian dancing, Ms. Photogenic and Ms. Popularity. Winning the local contest entitled Shruti to enter the national pageant in Florida in late August. She came away from that competition with the title "Ms. Congeniality."

MOLLY DAUGHETY is a freshman at KU, living in Amini Scholarship Hall and majoring in pre-med. As a senior at Topeka High, Molly stayed active in ballet and got involved in politics, co-founding the Young Democrats Club with fellow TCS grad **Sarah Bellows-Blakely** and working on various political campaigns. Molly is a Kansas Honors Scholar and graduated with superior honors as a member of the National Honor Society. She

also worked in the nutrition services department of St. Francis Hospital.

CLAIRE FISHER is a freshman at Knox College in Galesburg, Illinois, where she plans to major in Spanish and psychology. She got a jump start on her study of Spanish with a ten-day trip to Spain this summer. Claire visited Madrid, Salamanca, where she stayed with a host family for three days, spent a day on the beach of the Costa del Sol, and stopped in Seville and Cordoba.

EMILY HERONEMUS is attending Bethany College in Lindsborg, Kansas on a softball scholarship. She graduated from Topeka High School with superior honors, was named the National Honor Society's Outstanding Senior, and recognized as a Kansas Honors Scholar. At THS, Emily played varsity volleyball and varsity softball as starting centerfielder. She was named to the All-City and All-League teams. She volunteered at various scouting events, was active in the Young Democrats Club and helped campaign for local candidates. She was also involved in the Heritage Panel.

ASONA LUI is a freshman at Washington University in St. Louis, where she has been designated one of only ten Ervin Scholars, an honor that includes a full-ride scholarship, a stipend and support services. She was also named one of 1,300 National



Asona Lui '01 was a lead singer for CoAx, a student/faculty band at Lake Forest Academy.

Achievement Scholarship finalists in the U.S. Asona graduated from Lake Forest Academy in Lake Forest, Illinois as an AP Scholar of Distinction (a designation given to students who receive grades of 3 or higher on five or more AP exams) and winner of her school's Fine and Performing Arts Award. As a senior Asona was elected by the faculty to be a dorm proctor, she won the lead role of Timoune in the winter musical *Once on the Island*, and was one of five students heading up Lake Forest's tsunami relief project. Asona was president of the Cultural Diversity Club for two years and says one of the most satisfying projects she's ever been a part of was one undertaken by this club. Members raised money for a school in Equatorial Guinea in west Africa. The funds were used to put in a cement floor and install plumbing for water and toilets. Asona founded and was president of Mosaic, a leadership council of all the culturally-based clubs at Lake Forest. She also managed the cross country

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CLASS OF 2001 MAKES ITS MARK

Prestigious Scholarships Awarded



Rohit Parulkar '01



Dan Thompson '01

IN TOPEKA COLLEGIATE'S class of 2001, you will find students who are among the nation's brightest. More than a fifth of the class – 7 of 32 – were honored as high school seniors by either the 2005 National Merit or National Achievement Scholarship Program.

Of the 1.3 million students who took the Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test, TCS alums **Rohit Parulkar '01** and **Dan Thompson '01** are among the fewer than one percent of high school seniors to be honored as National Merit finalists. Both Dan and Rohit were further honored with college-sponsored Merit Scholarships; Rohit's for Washington University in St. Louis, Dan's for Kansas University.

Asona Lui '01 was named a finalist in the National Achievement Scholarship Program, which specifically honors black high school students. Asona was one of only 1,300 students nationwide to be so honored. Like Rohit, she will attend Washington University in St. Louis, where she has been designated one of ten winners of the prestigious Ervin Scholarship.

Four more members of the class – **Sarah Bellows-Blakely '01**, **Tobey Billinger '01**, **Rachel Buck '01** and **Natalie Penn '01** – finished in the top five percent of seniors nationwide who took the qualifying test, and were designated commended students by the National Merit Scholarship Program.

Kaity Heflin '00 was inadvertently left off the list of students recognized by the National Merit Scholarship Program in the last Collegiate Life. Now a sophomore at Bryn Mawr College in Pennsylvania, Kaity is modest and gracious about the omission, saying "It's not important what awards we receive, but what we actually do with our lives!"



Tobey Billinger '01



Asona Lui '01



Sarah Bellows-Blakely '01



Emily Heronemus '01



Natalie Penn '01



Rachel Buck '01

there is to learn, you are mistaken. But if you think

that the Topeka High School environment has given you the tools to succeed in this world, you are absolutely right. THS has instilled within us a passion, desire, and a curiosity to learn, and for that I am forever grateful." Shruti notes that her speech stood out from the others because she couldn't get through it without becoming emotional. "I cried!" she says.

Finally, **Emily Heronemus '01** closed the ceremony as the National Honor Society Senior Award Recipient, with what she called "Emily's Life Rules" including: "Exercise. It makes you feel good and the best ideas come when you can clear your mind. Keep in touch with your friends and come back for the class reunions. Work hard and play hard. And finally, VOTE DEMOCRAT! Okay, okay, just get out there and vote!"

GRADUATION SPEAKERS

FOUR SENIORS spoke at Topeka High School's graduation in May. Three were members of Topeka Collegiate's Class of '01. Valedictorian **Sarah Bellows-Blakely '01** mixed humor with serious advice in her version of All I Need to Know I learned in Kindergarten, which included: "Share things, Play and work fair, If you push people in the halls, they will push you back, Take responsibility for your own mistakes, Flush, Live a balanced life – learn, join clubs, go out for a sport, try something you wouldn't normally try, and finally, Thank the people who helped you along the way."

Shruti Challa '01 addressed her classmates as Senior Class President: "If you think that life stops here, you are mistaken. If you think you have nothing else to give, you are mistaken. If you think that you have learned all



Shruti Challa '01

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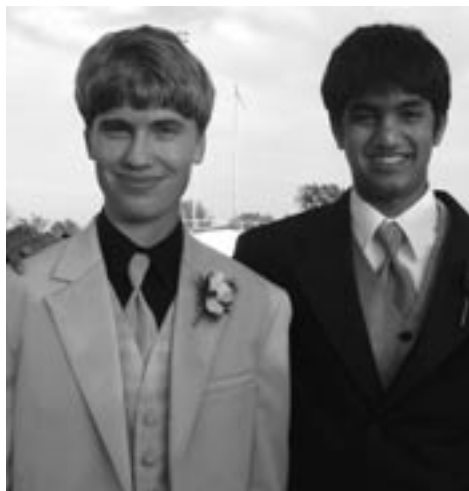
team and was soprano section leader in the choir. Before heading to Wash U., Asona said she had loved being at Lake Forest Academy, but was looking forward to college and no curfews!

MEREDITH MANSFIELD is a freshman at Baker University in Baldwin, Kansas, hoping to major in art and psychology. This summer she worked as a medical assistant at a family medicine practice. In the spring Meredith graduated from Topeka High School with high honors as a member of the National Honor Society.

ERIN MCDOWELL (τ) has begun a three-year bachelor's program at the Culinary Institute of America (the CIA!) in Hyde Park, New York, pursuing a degree in baking and pastry arts. Erin graduated from Lawrence's Free State High School in the spring where she was active in forensics, theater and film. She also volunteered at the Lawrence Arts Center, often videotaping performances there. This summer Erin worked in the bakery at The Merc, as assistant to the pastry chef. What made her choose this career path? She explains that she has two brothers who are visual artists. "I didn't want to be a starving artist," she says, "so I began looking for a more practical application."

ROHIT PARULKAR is attending Washington University in St. Louis on a Wash U-sponsored Merit Scholarship, with the idea of pursuing pre-med. Rohit was one of two members of the TCS Class of '01 to be named a National Merit finalist. He graduated from Topeka High in the spring with

superior honors, as a Kansas Honors Scholar, a member of the National Honor Society and a member of the Quill and Scroll International Honorary Society. Along with Collegiate classmate **Tyler Waugh '01**, Rohit was nominated for Homecoming King in the fall. He and his debate partner qualified for the national debate tournament in Philadelphia where they fell just one ballot shy of breaking into the top 60. In addition to being active in debate and forensics, Rohit was literary editor for Topeka High's student magazine *Mandala*, a member of the Young Democrats Club and president of the Pingpong Club, which he helped start. Rohit reports that he was unemployed all summer, "much to my delight." And while he may not put it on his résumé, Rohit returned to Topeka Collegiate to serve as a spelling bee judge in January. You may remember that Rohit represented TCS and Kansas in the National Spelling Bee twice – finishing seventh in the nation as a seventh grader.



Tyler Waugh '01 and Rohit Parulkar '01 were candidates for Topeka High School Homecoming King.

NATALIE PENN is enrolled in the honors program as a freshman at KU, pursuing pre-med. She was named a commended scholar by the National Merit Scholarship Program, and graduated with superior honors from Topeka High as a Kansas Honors Scholar and member of the National Honor Society. She sang with the elite Madrigals as a senior and spent the summer working, vacationing and preparing for college.

DANIEL THOMPSON is one of two members of his class to be named a National Merit finalist. He is attending KU on a college-sponsored Merit Scholarship, in the honors program. Dan graduated from Topeka High with superior honors as a member of the National Honor Society. Dan was one of five Topeka High students to receive the highest grade possible on the AP U.S. History exam. Dan was involved in Pingpong Club and debate, where his strength was Lincoln-Douglas debate. Dan was named the best overall delegate at Model United

Nations in March. As a member of the Young Democrats Club, Dan volunteered for six or seven political campaigns. "I've always felt if I'm going to do anything in the community," he says, "I enjoy doing the political stuff." Not to embarrass Dan, but he graciously allowed himself to be drafted for a night of Trivial Pursuit at the library not long ago, and even though he was on a team of adults, it was his knowledge of history, geography, mythology and pretty much everything else that propelled them to a second place finish.

ALEX THURBER is a freshman at Kansas University, still undecided on his major. He already has one semester of college to his credit, having attended the spring semester at Washburn University.

TYLER WAUGH brought his maternal grandmother to tears with his decision to attend KU this fall. She's a KU alum and none of his three older brothers had become a Jayhawk, so Tyler was her last chance. He made her a happy woman! Tyler graduated from Topeka High in the spring as a member of the Quill and Scroll International Honorary Society for his work in photography on the *Topeka High World*. Tyler was a Homecoming King candidate in the fall, continued to perform on the THS drum line, and kept busy practicing and playing gigs with his band Fo'estt, which includes fellow TCS alum **Elliott Buck** (T) '03.

2002

DANIEL BLEIBERG couldn't resist the charms of Kansas so he returned to Topeka High School in January of 2005, living with his friend, TCS classmate **Andrew Herrera-Thomas** '02 and his family. During his junior year Daniel competed in Lincoln-Douglas debate and international extemporaneous debate, took honors at Model UN, was a staff member on the literary magazine *Mandala*, was inducted into the National Honor Society and developed an interest in broadcast journalism. This summer he took classes at Rice University in Houston and traveled to New York. He continues to volunteer at the Capper Foundation and still finds

time to visit his family in Houston, which he finds a little hot and humid and not as progressive as Kansas!

ANDY BROWBACK has become quite the chef. He's taken three cooking classes at Washburn Rural, which he loved, and according to his family, makes "a mean crème brûlée." When he wasn't in the kitchen, Andy played tennis and was a member of the diving team for Rural during his junior year. This summer he checked out some colleges, went fishing in Canada, visited his dad in DC and built a floating dock.

JEAN-PAUL CASTEL (T) continues to do well at Reno High School. This summer he learned C++ programming at the University of Nevada-Reno as well as trig and calculus in preparation for AP calculus this year.

SAMANTHA COPELAND (T) is vice-president of her senior class at Topeka High and co-captain of the varsity cheerleading squad. This summer, she was crowned Sunburst Miss Teen Kansas and Cover Miss in pageants in May and July. She continues to enjoy reading, playing guitar and competitive dance and cheer. She also squeezed in a trip to New York to see the Royals play the Yankees.

ERIC GIROUX is a senior at Topeka High where he's anchoring The News Desk on the public access cable channel 14. He is a member of the National Honor Society. As a junior Eric and his debate partner won third place, along with fellow TCS alum Stephanie Atwood '03, in the 4-speaker category. This summer Eric spent three weeks at the Jayhawk Debate Institute at KU

and won first place in the tournament. He worked at a local photography studio as a graphic artist and Web designer and also volunteered for Meals on Wheels. He claims the highlight of his summer was the 311 concert! He looks forward to finding the perfect college for next year.

CAMERON HOBBS is a senior at Topeka High. He had quite an adventure this summer, as he and his family retraced parts of the Lewis and Clark trail through Montana.



Amelia Maxfield '02 is Editor-in-Chief of the Topeka High World.

AMELIA MAXFIELD is Editor-In-Chief of the *Topeka High World*, overseeing a staff that includes nine other TCS alums. Amelia was diagnosed a year ago with a neurological condition in which the cerebellum does not fit correctly into the skull. She underwent two brain surgeries, the first in August of '04, the second last March. She was in considerable

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pain and spent most of the last quarter of her junior year at home, but still managed to finish the year with an A average and has been inducted into the National Honor Society. Between surgeries, Amelia won second place in a regional journalism competition, which qualified her for the state contest. While she couldn't swim because of her health, she stayed as active as she could with the THS swim team. She started a fundraising project for the Prairie Advocacy Center and volunteered as a Kids in Court advocate, accompanying abused children through the court process. This summer she worked on pain management techniques and enjoyed a "girls only" trip to the Bahamas with her mom.

ELISE MONACO is playing varsity volleyball again this fall as a senior at Topeka High and has been selected to sing with the elite Madrigals. Last spring she was inducted into the National Honor Society. This summer she worked at a local eatery, taking time out for a July 4th holiday road trip to Chicago with four other THS seniors, including fellow Collegiate alum **Kelsey Wills '02**.

NATHAN PETERSON was Atticus Finch in the Topeka High production of *To Kill a Mockingbird* (see photo page 36) last year. He was active in forensics where his event was dramatic interpretation. He finished second at regionals, fifth at state and qualified for the national tournament in Philadelphia. He was one of seven TCS grads on the ten-member

national forensics team. Nathan also works year-round at Dairy Queen.

PAIGE WHITAKER was named Topeka Young Artist of the Year in the vocal music category and awarded a \$500 scholarship. She continues to excel in voice, receiving a superior rating at both the regional and state music festivals. As a junior at Topeka West, she performed in *Music Man* and logged her third year in both the Topeka West Singers and the Westsiders, the dance team. She's a senior this fall and has begun her college search.

KRISTEN YEE is all-school president in her senior year at Topeka High. This isn't her first foray into student government. Last year she was all-school treasurer. She was also a varsity cheerleader, and in the spring, an inductee into the National Honor Society.

Paige Whitaker '02 and Caitlin Seals Schwanke '03 performed in the Topeka West production of Music Man.



Elise Monaco '02 (third from left) and Kelsey Wills '02 (far right) join friends for a summer trip to Chicago.

2003

AUBRIE ANGEL is a junior at Washburn Rural this fall. Last year she played junior varsity soccer at school and club soccer, earning Most Improved Player honors on her Prodigy team. She played in both the marching and symphonic bands. This summer Aubrie played league softball, attended an engineering camp at KU, participated in the regional Miss Teen competition and went to the Utah State Especially for Youth program.

STEPHANIE ATWOOD had a successful sophomore year at Topeka High, where she is now a junior. She served in student government as sophomore class secretary. With her debate partner, she took third place at the four-speaker state tournament along with fellow TCS alum **Eric Giroux** '02, and qualified for the National Forensics Tournament in domestic extemporaneous speaking.

JEAN-MARC AULT-RICHÉ (T) is a junior in high school and continues his studies at the San Francisco Ballet School. This summer he was accepted at an intensive summer institute conducted by the Boston Ballet.

BENJAMIN BOUTON is a junior at Topeka High and one of ten TCS alums on the *Topeka High World* staff. Ben's a reporter. In his spare time he's learning electric guitar, specializing in lead riffs. He received a car at Christmas and has been doing practice hours, getting ready to take his driving test. Last year he was on the junior varsity track team and plans to go out for track again this year, and maybe basketball.

ELLIOT BUCK (T) is the drummer for the band Fo'estt, which includes

fellow TCS alum **Tyler Waugh** '01. Band members were busy last year with regular practices and periodic gigs. They even made the winners list in the annual Best of Topeka contest, in the Best Local Band category. Elliott was on the Topeka High track team in the spring, competing in the pole vault and 400 meter dash. He participated in the State of Kansas Scholarship contest, placing first on both the psychology and general math tests. This summer Elliott traveled to Washington with Collegiate classmate **Charles Lee** '03 to attend the Lead America Leadership Conference.

JORDAN CARTER is a junior at Topeka High and one of the ten TCS alums writing for the *Topeka High World*. She was on the *World* staff last year too, and a member of the forensics squad and the National Forensics League team. Jordan is active

in Spanish Club, Heritage Panel, Fearless and Interact. She also volunteers at Avondale East Elementary and at TCS Summer Adventures camps.

CELINA GARAY was a manager for Topeka High's volleyball team last year. She was involved in SRO, the annual fall talent show, and sang on the steps of the Lincoln Memorial on the Robed Choir's spring break trip. Celina continues her study of the violin and plays second chair in the Topeka High orchestra. She received a superior rating in both solo and ensemble performance at the regional music festival in Leavenworth. At state in Emporia, she received an excellent rating in solo performance and a superior in ensemble. The ensemble group is the THS string quartet, which features TCS alum **Ana Maldonado** '02 on cello. Celina also plays in the

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(Photo: Topeka Capital-Journal) Celina Garay '03 (rear left) and Ana Maldonado '02 (front) play together in the Topeka High string quartet.

CAMPUS CONNECTION: YOUNG HISTORIANS MAKE US PROUD

EIGHTH GRADERS **Anna Hamilton** and **Sjobor Hammer** hadn't even started seventh grade yet when they began working on last year's History Day entry. They spent a full year researching, writing and producing a documentary examining William Allen White's battle against the KKK in Kansas. Their hard work paid off. In June, the two won second place in the group documentary category at National History Day in College Park, Maryland with *Walking the Path of Duty: William Allen White and the Ku Klux Klan*.

The girls, who are best friends as well as History Day partners, became experts on the little-known period in history when the Klan thrived in Kansas. They pored over microfilm of White's Emporia Gazette editorials denouncing the Klan. In 1924, White ran for governor, not because he aspired to the office, but to expose the KKK.

At the national contest, Anna and Sjobor told History Day judges they were surprised by how people felt about the Klan at the time. They used a poem they'd come across in their research to illustrate their point. Sjobor began with the line "I'd rather be a Klansman," then Anna remembered the rest: "In a robe of snowy white, Than to be a Roman Catholic, In a robe as black as night." The poem goes on for several more lines. When Anna recited the entire verse by heart, the judges were clearly impressed. Watching from the audience, history teacher Travis Lamb says his students "knocked the judges' socks off!"



Eighth graders Sjobor Hammer and Anna Hamilton won second place at National History Day with their documentary on William Allen White.

Anna's brother **Robert Hamilton '05**, a recent TCS graduate, won 14th place in the individual performance category after taking on the persona of Kansas public health crusader Dr. Samuel Crumblin before a panel of History Day judges. Crumblin outlawed the common drinking cup and popularized the "Don't spit on the sidewalk" clean-up campaign in the first decade of the 20th century. One of Robert's performance props was a period brick stamped with the "don't spit" warning. When he was invited to stage his performance at the National Museum of Health and Medicine in Washington, Robert learned they didn't have a paving brick with the anti-spitting slogan, so he donated his to the museum.

Robert says the most unexpected question from the History Day judges was whether his study of Dr. Crumblin had caused him to change his personal hygiene habits. No, he replied. "I wash my hands more often now, but my room's still a mess!"

A trio of seventh, now eighth grade boys represented Topeka Collegiate at the national competition in the group exhibit category with their project *Native American Code Talkers: Secret Military Code Changes a Nation*. **Quentin Chediak**, **David Gast** and **Daniel Mandel** donated scholarship



(Photo: Topeka Capital-Journal) Robert Hamilton '05 placed 14th at National History Day portraying Dr. Samuel Crumbine. (Below) The Science Olympiad team took third among small schools at state competition.



money they won at the state competition to help ensure that their history teacher, Travis Lamb, could accompany them to nationals. Travis Lamb was there as the boys prepared to answer judges' questions. As he straightened their ties and brushed off their lapels, he realized, "It was one of those moments that makes you realize why you teach."

SCIENCE OLYMPIAD TEAM MOVES UP

AFTER LAST YEAR'S State Science Olympiad, Coach Loren Shinn said, "The team is excited to do even better next year." Did they ever! The team traveled to Wichita State University on April 2 for the state contest. They finished 3rd in the small school division, up from 7th last year and 12th the year before.

The team also improved its overall finish, placing seventh among all schools competing this year, both large and small. That's up from 12th last year and 21st the year before. This year's team brought home six first place medals, two second place and one third place medal. Coach Shinn's top team highlights in this year's state contest include:

- ...Winning our first trophy ever at state,*
- ...Seeing our Naked Egg Drop result stand up throughout entire afternoon of competition,*
- ...Watching our bottle rocket soar,*
- ...Knocking two minutes off our regional Robo-Billiards event time.*

Mr. Shinn credits the remarkable progress TCS has made in the three short years we've been competing in Science Olympiad to "the students' hard work, commitment and dedication to the goal of eventually qualifying for the national tournament." The top two teams overall go to nationals.

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Topeka Youth Symphony and is active in Topeka High's Fearless Club. This summer, Celina attended the Midwestern Music Camp at KU and volunteered in the TCS Summer Adventures Program. A highlight during fiesta season: Celina took a mariachi workshop and had the opportunity to play on the Fiesta Mexicana stage with a professional mariachi band from San Antonio.

CHRISTINA GITTO and her family are back in Topeka after a move to the East Coast. They're even back in their old house! At her high school on Long Island last year, Christina was active in concert chorus and Future Business Leaders of America. She also had regular babysitting jobs for many of her neighbors.

CHASE HAMILTON is one of the large contingent of TCS alums writing for the *Topeka High World* this year. He also plays varsity golf and is in the marching band. This summer Chase took a college level Spanish class and volunteered at the Kansas Historical Society.

KATHY HEFLIN kept busy during her sophomore year at Choate Rosemary Hall in Connecticut with clubs, volunteering, a challenging class schedule and her virtually year-round sport of crew. During the winter she joined the swim team. Swim practices plus her daily indoor rowing practices to prepare for the World Indoor Rowing Championships in Boston added up to nearly four hours of sports practice seven days a week. At the rowing competition, Kathy finished fourth in the

junior lightweight division in a field of 150 top rowers. She was elected secretary of the Young Democrats and debated on weekends without crew races. This summer Kathy raced at the rowing nationals in Indianapolis, qualifying as a semifinalist in her singles and doubles races.

MARC HERONEMUS played varsity football as a safety during his sophomore year at Topeka High, as well as sophomore basketball and junior varsity baseball as starting center fielder. This makes his sister **Emily** '01 very proud, since he's following in her footsteps and since, in her opinion, "centerfield is the best position." This summer Marc apprenticed with an independent contractor, volunteered at a youth football camp and played summer baseball. His team placed fourth in the state.

JACQUELINE HOYT is a junior at Topeka High School. Last year she played trumpet in the band and was a starter on the varsity teams for volleyball, basketball and soccer. She was named to the 2nd team All-City and All-League for both volleyball and basketball.

PABLO KENNEDY is a junior at Topeka High. Last year he played in the band as part of the drum line. They performed throughout Topeka, at the American Royal Parade in Kansas City, KU Band Day and a competition in Colorado, where they took first place. Pablo was also a member of student government and played junior varsity soccer and tennis. This summer he volunteered at TCS camps and the Capper Foundation and worked at the Kumon Center, a math enrichment program.

TAYLOR OBLEY is a junior at Topeka High and sports editor of the *Topeka High World*. This summer he played tennis and a lot of sand volleyball with friends.

MEGAN REYNOLDS is active in drama at Topeka High and officially a thespian – inducted into the International Thespian Society at the end of her sophomore year. She earned two stars in recognition of her work onstage in *Little Shop of Horrors* and *To Kill A Mockingbird*, and offstage in *Mockingbird* and another play. She attended the Kansas Thespian Conference and was a member of both women's ensembles in SRO. Megan entered the regional music festival as a vocal soloist and as part of a small group; she received an excellent rating for those performances. As a member of Chansonettes and Robed Choir, she received superior ratings. After successfully auditioning, Megan joins the elite Madrigals as a junior as well as the Advanced Theater Ensemble. This summer, again by audition, she was chosen for the Kansas Choral Directors' Honors Choir. She is also working at a local retirement home.

CAITLIN SEALS SCHWANKE continues to pursue her interests in theater and dance. At Topeka West she danced and sang in *Music Man* (photo page 28) and worked on costumes for *The Heiress*. As a Ballet Midwest company member, she danced three featured roles in *The Nutcracker* and performed as Lady Capulet in *Romeo and Juliet*. Behind the scenes she taught a beginning ballet class, helped with other classes, and has been choreographing *Mother Goose*, which will be performed with the Washburn

orchestra in November. Caitlin also auditioned for and was accepted into Players, the theater group at West. This summer she took six weeks away from dance in order to allow recurring ankle injuries time to heal. She helped with Nature Camp at TCS and attended a Mennonite Youth Convention in North Carolina. She also spent a week with friends rock climbing and backpacking in the Colorado Rockies, which included a rafting trip through the Royal Gorge.

RYNE TUTUSKA is a features writer for the *Topeka High World* along with several other TCS alums. Last year he played sophomore basketball at High. This summer he volunteered at Summer Adventures basketball camps and read to children at the public library.

In July he attended a National Youth Leadership Conference in Washington and the following month, traveled to Hawaii for a family vacation.

ERIC WANG played varsity tennis and sophomore basketball as a sophomore at Topeka High. This summer he attended a three-week summer program at Case Western University in Cleveland, volunteered at the Capper Foundation and worked as a grader at Topeka Kumon Center, a math enrichment program. Eric was last year's top scorer at Topeka High on the AMC-10 (American Mathematics Competition).

DAVIS WITTIG is a junior at Deerfield Academy. It's his second year there. This summer he went to Spain for three weeks of study and lived with

a host family in Barcelona. Davis attended Hoop Mountain Basketball Camp with his team from Deerfield and a few other basketball camps before heading back to Deerfield's Massachusetts campus for the fall term.

ALEXANDRA WOODBURY won a second Tower Award for math at Topeka High as a sophomore. It's unusual to win two, particularly in the same subject. She swam on the varsity swim team, and her relay team set a school record at the state meet. This summer she was a senior camper in charge of sailing at Camp Birchwood for a month, then went to volleyball camp at KU where she was awarded the Gatorade Will to Win Athlete Award for being the most inspirational player.

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Topeka High School volleyball players for '05-'06: (l to r) Kirsten Marples '04 (varsity), Rebecca Rosacker '04 (JV), Ali Dattilo '05 (freshman), Laura Politi '05 (JV), Jackie Hoyt '03 and Aly Woodbury '03 (varsity) Not pictured: Elise Monaco '02 (varsity)

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2004



Erin Atwood '04 serves as volunteer accompanist for young singers after school at TCS.

ERIN ATWOOD is secretary of her sophomore class at Washburn Rural High School. As a freshman last year, she was a student government representative and served on the Community Service Committee. She played on the sophomore volleyball and junior varsity softball teams, and was volunteer accompanist for Topeka Collegiate's After-School Adventures "Junior Singing Fun" choir. This summer she volunteered at Stormont Vail's Breastfeeding Clinic and helped her mom with a swim class for disabled children. She also played summer league softball.

ELIZABETH BROWNBACK played volleyball and softball at Washburn Rural her freshman year. Her interest in acting continues. She played the grandmother in *A Thousand Cranes*

at Topeka Civic Theatre last year, attended the Donna Reed Acting Camp in Denison, Iowa this summer, and is a member of Washburn Rural's acting troupe The Blues Players this year.

BILL BUTLER (T) is a sophomore at Bishop Seabury in Lawrence. As a freshman he played basketball and ran track. This summer he spent two-and-a-half weeks in his mother's native China, visiting relatives, seeing the Great Wall and "stocking up on cheap DVDs." Bill is taking piano lessons and in his spare time enjoys playing rock piano with friends.

CASSIDY CARPENTER is a sophomore at Phillips Academy in Andover, Massachusetts. As a freshman she played varsity volleyball, performed community service and, in her words, "did my fair share of homework." Playing volleyball was fun not only because the team took fourth place in the tournament, but because, says Cassidy, "I love and respect my coaches so much." She also volunteered in a nursery once a week, feeding and playing with babies younger than a year. As you might expect, Andover is academically challenging, but Cassidy says her History Day experience and all the study skills she learned at TCS have given her "a huge leg up in my studies." She loves boarding. "Living within walking distance of your closest friends every day is an experience I would never trade," she says. This summer Cassidy honed her volleyball skills at camps at UMKC, K-State and the University of Maryland. She also spent some time at her family's lake house with old friends from Collegiate, "tanning, boating and doing nails."

PETER EBELING played junior varsity soccer and freshman basketball at Topeka High last year, and was active in debate and forensics. Over the summer he went halibut fishing in Alaska and to a debate camp at KU. This year Pete is serving as sophomore class president and is a sportswriter for the *Topeka High World*. He's in the process of starting a science club and wants to thank TCS science teacher Loren Shinn for his expertise in establishing the group. Eventually, he'd like to see a Topeka High team competing in the Science Olympiad.

CAITLIN FITZPATRICK is a sophomore at Choate Rosemary Hall in Wallingford, Connecticut. As a freshman Caitlin says one of her most important learning experiences was adjusting to dorm life, to her roommate and to a room that she estimates was a third the size of most college dorm rooms. Despite some misgivings at first, she and her roommate forged a friendship that she thinks neither would have pursued had they not been thrown together. "We had many amazing times and learned a lot from each other," Caitlin says. Of living in a dorm with 50 girls, Caitlin says there was never a dull moment. "I could always find someone to talk to," she says, "and I made many amazing friends, from places like Mexico, Hong Kong, Thailand and Colorado."

AUSTIN GIDEON is a sophomore representative in student government at Washburn Rural. Last year he played freshman football and earned a varsity letter in tennis. He also participated in forensics second semester. This summer Austin traveled to Spain with 30 other students from

the US and abroad. He lived with a host family while taking Spanish at the International University in Cadiz. He recorded his experiences on video and incorporated them into a documentary during evening filmmaking classes in Spain.

DANIEL GROSS kept busy his freshman year at Thomas More Prep in Hays where he played basketball and golf. He also played soccer in the fall with other students living in the dorm. This summer he worked and played golf. Daniel says he misses his friends from TCS, adding that “Hays is an incredibly boring town!”

CHRISTAL HANNIGAN loves Topeka High School where she is a sophomore this year. She’s in Choraliers, a select girls’ choir that went to the State Music Festival last year. She also works stage crew for the plays and musicals. Outside of school Christy volunteers at the Topeka Zoo, mostly with kids’ programs and is a program aide for younger girl scouts. Christy spent the summer at various camps, including a chemistry and engineering camp at K-State, a four-week girls’ camp in Minnesota and a week-long Canadian canoe trip. She’s also had the opportunity to travel to the Caribbean, Central America and England this year. She says “life is great.”

KRISTOPHER HUFF enjoyed his freshman year at Washburn Rural where he is now a sophomore. He traveled to Montreal this summer with a church youth group to do volunteer work with grade school children.

NIKE KLEIGER (T) is a sophomore at Sidwell Friends School in Washington, DC. He has been drumming seriously for nearly four years – rock and jazz.



Nike Kleiger (T) '04 attends Sidwell Friends School in Washington DC and has “indelible memories” of TCS.

He is in the pit band at Sidwell as well as year-round Jazz Ensemble, and has his own band with several good friends. Check out their Web site at www.TheKnockersBand.TK. Nike is an avid lacrosse player. He’s played defense for Sidwell for two years and is playing football this year. Nike has been working with filmmaking for about three years. He and a friend have a home-grown “production company” called KleigerMullins Films. The two of them spent a week in New York last summer taking a course at the New York Film Academy. Nike has made five summer visits to Whale Camp on a small island off New Brunswick, Canada. He tracks migrating whales, kayaks, follows puffins, hikes, hangs out with old friends and swims in the North Atlantic. His good friend at TCS, **Hero Okano** (T) '04, was Nike’s inspiration to take up Japanese, which he began the summer after fourth grade and has been studying ever since. Nike has also been working on French for three years at Sidwell and has been lobbying his

parents to take him to the beaches of Normandy next year so he can walk the land of the D-Day invasion. World War II and the military have become intense interests for Nike. By the way, you may remember Nike as Nick, but he began spelling his name “Nike” in the fourth grade.

ATIMA LUI smashed the freshman high jump record at Phillips Academy Andover last year with a jump of 4’10” - four inches higher than the previous record. That qualified her to participate in the New England Prep Schools Interscholastic Championships in May. The sophomore record is 5’. Atima’s goal is to break that, too. She thanks Coach Lamb for getting her to try the high jump at TCS. She was a starter on the varsity volleyball team and played junior varsity squash, which she loved. In the academic realm, she received a departmental award in Spanish at the end of the year. She continued her violin studies and performed an individual recital. Atima was elected sophomore representative to Andover’s African-Latino-American Society. This summer she was accepted at an elite volleyball camp at the University of Missouri-Kansas City and attended a four-week Spanish camp in Minnesota. Atima says a high point of her first year at Andover was dressing as Dorothy for the Halloween dance and getting her friends to dress as Tin Man, Lion and the Wicked Witch. She also notes that she lived in a third floor walk-up dorm with no elevator!

KIRSTEN MARPLES played junior varsity volleyball as a freshman at Topeka High and club ball for the
2004 continued following page

ALUMNI NEWS

2004 continued from previous page

Topeka Elite Volleyball Club. This summer she and three fellow TCS alums played in the 16-and-under volleyball division at the Sunflower State Games. Their team won the silver medal. Kirsten continues to play the flute. She earned a 1, (superior) at regionals, which qualified her for state, where she earned a 2. She plays in Washburn's youth flute choir and is active in both marching and symphonic bands at THS. This summer she played in a summer volleyball league and helped Coach Lamb with Summer Adventures volleyball camps.

ERIKA O'SHEA is a sophomore at Bishop Seabury Academy in Lawrence. As a freshman she was the high scorer on the AMC-10 (American Mathematics Contest) and was accepted as a member of Mensa. Erika has taken up the guitar in order to accompany her sister Shannon on the fiddle. Together they've played at the Kansas Fiddling and Picking Championships, Cider Days and The Apple Festival.

MONTE PARRISH is a sophomore at Shawnee Heights High School. Last year he played freshman football at quarterback and free safety. While their record (1-8) doesn't reflect it, Monte says it was a good season and a good time. He participated in debate and forensics. He preferred debate and had a successful year, finishing sixth in the Novice State Tournament. Monte also pitched on the freshman baseball team. "Playing baseball was one of the best times of my life," he

says. The team went 6-12, which was good considering they started out 1-11. Monte is having a great experience at Shawnee Heights, but misses his TCS classmates and teachers!

OLIVIA PENN (T) is a sophomore at Topeka High, and a junior varsity cheerleader. She participated in forensics as a freshman and has added debate this year. This summer she studied Spanish at a month-long language camp in Minnesota.

MICHAEL WHITE (T) was a varsity wrestler as a freshman at Washburn Rural. He placed third in his class at regionals, which qualified him to wrestle at the state high school championships. He also wrestles for a club team, the Topeka Terminators.

This summer he raced motocross and at press time, was first in the Sunflower Series points race in his class.

TESS WILSON landed the lead part of Scout in Topeka High School's production of *To Kill a Mockingbird* as a freshman. She also performed in the choruses of the musical *Little Shop of Horrors* and SRO, the student-run variety show. Tess plays drums in the THS band, which traveled to Colorado over spring break. She also played junior varsity soccer. This summer she and fellow alum Caitlin Fitzpatrick '04 traveled to Colorado for a vacation of hiking, swim-

ming and "taking in the beautiful atmosphere."

KANDACE YEE is vice-president of her sophomore class at Washburn Rural. She is also one of only three in her class to make the varsity cheerleading squad. Kandace plays club volleyball for the Topeka Juniors. This summer she attended a week-long leadership camp at Washburn and traveled to the Ozarks with fellow TCS alums.

SAM ZLOTKY is on the drum line at Washburn Rural and plays in the marching band. He was the only freshman on snare drum last year and enjoyed performing at football games and in competitions. This summer Sam traveled to Dallas for a family reunion.



Nathan Peterson '02 and Tess Wilson '04 starred as Atticus and Scout Finch in the Topeka High production of To Kill a Mockingbird.

THE
CLASS
OF 2005



CONGRATULATIONS

*and
the high
schools
they've
chosen to
attend*

DANIEL FLEMING LESSENDEN

Topeka High School

STEVEN TODD ANDERSON

Topeka High School

MARY KELLY MCKENZIE

Topeka High School

CRYSTAL ALEXANDRIA BASS

Topeka High School

EVAN LEON MIELKE

West Junior High School

LINDSAY ALYSSA BRIER-SMITH

Topeka West High School

MICHAEL MARTIN MYERS

Topeka High School

TYLER KEITH CHANAY

Topeka High School

LAURA GRACE POLITI

Topeka High School

ALEXANDRA RAE DATILO

Topeka High School

HAYDAN ELIZABETH VOSBURGH

Topeka High School

ROBERT WILLIAM HAMILTON

Topeka High School

SETH ALEXANDER WILEY

Topeka High School

DAVIS STEWART VALDOVINOS KAYE

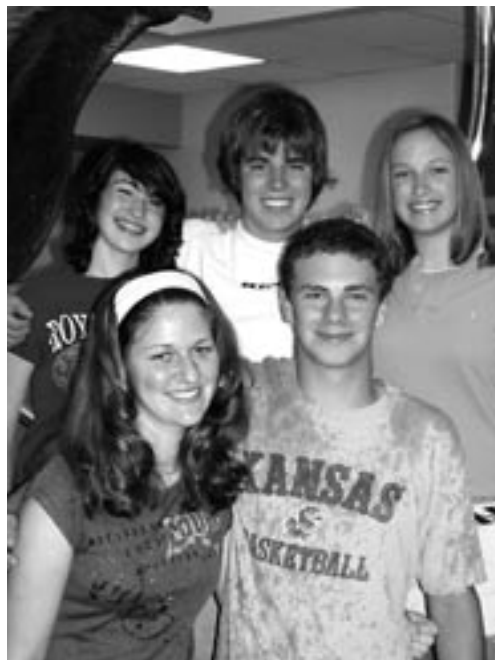
Topeka High School

ONE YEAR OUT: TOPEKA COLLEGIATE GRADS' TRANSITION TO HIGH SCHOOL

By Allison Viola '98

TOPEKA COLLEGIATE'S school song closes with the words "Like the eagle on the mountain you are free." When eighth graders leave TCS, they are free to soar, wherever they may be. When they say their goodbyes to Topeka Collegiate and step into the world of high school, it can be a challenging and exciting time. From using the study habits learned at TCS to becoming involved in new activities and making new friends, there are many aspects of high school that are a big change from the Topeka Collegiate community.

Like many of the 2004 graduates of Topeka Collegiate, **Tess Wilson '04** and **Pete Ebeling '04** chose to go to Topeka High School. The more than 2,000 high schoolers roaming the "Halls of Troy" represent a big change from the "big fish in a little pond" feeling eighth graders have at TCS. Tess has found her niche in the high school's theater department because of her love of acting. She's also involved in the band and through these activities has made a lot of new friends. "There are more opportunities to get involved in high school which creates more opportunities to make new friends," says Tess. She was pleasantly surprised at the amount of homework, observ-



Members of the Class of '04 (l to r) Tess Wilson, Caitlin Fitzpatrick, Austin Gideon, Pete Ebeling and Cassidy Carpenter are not only surviving but thriving in transition.

ing that "Most people say that there's more homework in eighth grade at Topeka Collegiate than freshman year in public schools, which was true for me."

Tess really enjoys her theater teachers but misses the personal relationships she had with teachers at TCS – relationships that were possible because of the small classes. "Teachers at TCS not only become mentors for students, but they also become good friends to them. That makes learning a much more fun experience," she says. Pete agrees. "Not only do the teachers at TCS teach exceptionally well, they inspire their students to go above and beyond the academic call of duty," he says. Pete is enjoying Topeka High's size and the diversity of its students. "I enjoy being involved in all of the different clubs and getting to know many different people."

The added independence that high school brings suits Pete. “Since I don’t have every class with the same people every day, I am much more on my own. It has helped me become more responsible and autonomous,” he says. “There is a lot more freedom in high school, but it comes with much more responsibility.” Tess concurs that you’re much more on your own. “What you get out of your high school experience is pretty much in your hands when you leave Topeka Collegiate,” she says.

Across town at Washburn Rural High School, **Austin Gideon** ’04 has experienced many of the same things as his fellow TCS alums. Adjusting to a class of several hundred after being in the TCS environment is a jolt, he says, but “it’s nice because the opportunity to have more friends with different backgrounds and traits is amazing.” One down side, he points out, is the lack of trust. “At TCS, everyone is trusting of everyone else. When there is a larger group of kids, naturally there is going to be less trust.” One result of that, he says, is that “Tardies and absences are taken much more seriously and you can’t leave to go get a drink whenever you need one.” Austin says because of his TCS education, his freshman year was “close to a breeze. While others were learning how to cite sources, I was writing my paper.”

For **Cassidy Carpenter** ’04 and **Caitlin Fitzpatrick** ’04, high school is more than just a short drive down the street – it’s in a completely different region of the country! They are both sophomores at boarding high schools known for their rigorous academic programs; Cassidy at Phillips Academy Andover in Massachusetts, Caitlin at Choate Rosemary Hall in Connecticut. Cassidy feels she was well-prepared for the stressful workload at Andover. “TCS instilled great study skills that many other students lack,” she says. “History Day made research papers and annotated bibliographies a piece of cake.” History Day as useful preparation for high school is a common theme among TCS alums. Caitlin says, “Most long-term assignments at Choate have just one deadline – the due date. This requires a

lot of preparation on the students’ part and it’s one of the things TCS prepared me for through History Day.” Both Caitlin and Cassidy feel they were well prepared academically for high school. “I love that Andover took learning and rigorous courses to the next level and continues to challenge me,” says Cassidy. While Andover is much bigger and far from home, Cassidy feels that the same sense of community that she did at Topeka Collegiate because of the small class sizes. “The small classes are the same at both schools and make it a fun and engaging learning environment,” said Cassidy.

For Caitlin, the scariest thing about boarding school was leaving home. “I expected that most of the kids there would be much less afraid about spending time away from home,” she says, “but it was the fact that most of my dorm mates were just as anxious as me that helped me to make friends.” It has been meeting all sorts of people from all over the world that has been the biggest and best surprise for Caitlin. While Cassidy has also relished the opportunity to meet so many people from many different backgrounds, she does miss things from home. “It’s so hard leaving my best friends for months at a time, but they are always there for me whether I am 1500 miles away or 15 minutes away,” she says.

All five recent graduates are making their way confidently and successfully in their new schools, “soaring like eagles.” Yet clearly, they have fond memories of Topeka Collegiate. “I miss the connection with the teachers,” says Austin. At TCS, I knew all the teachers and they all knew me. At Washburn Rural, there are so many different teachers and students and it is difficult to form a good bond.” Cassidy says, “Topeka Collegiate was so secure and safe and it provided so many opportunities to succeed, and though Andover provides many amazing opportunities, I miss the support and encouragement everyone gives at TCS.”

SUPPORTING OUR SCHOOL: PAST, PRESENT, FUTURE AUCTION



*Auction Co-Chairmen **Cathie Wiley** and **Barbara Shinn** led the most successful auction in school history.*

YESTERDAY IS HISTORY. TOMORROW IS A MYSTERY. TODAY IS A GIFT. THAT'S WHY WE CALL IT THE PRESENT. Those words by Brian Dyson provided the inspiration for 2005 auction Co-Chairpersons Barbara Shinn and Cathie Wiley. The invitations were gifts that invitees unwrapped. Presents decorated the Ramada Inn and guests found iced cookies in the shape of gifts at their places. Custom-made pink and black watches were available for sale. But the most important gift for our school was the success of the auction. For the second year in a row, the auction raised a record amount for our school. Net proceeds were \$145,000.

Proceeds from the auction help fund our operating budget. That means teachers' salaries, heat and air conditioning, instructional supplies, field trips, etc. Thanks to bidders who purchased the wrapped gifts on each auction table, every teacher received a memory stick to give them greater computer memory capacity and speed up all computer functions.

With a generous boost from Security Benefit group, generous bidders to the staff professional development fund set a new record for continuing education - \$25,000.

THE PLAYGROUND FUND

TOPEKA COLLEGIATE ALUMNI will remember spending many happy hours on the “big toy,” first at the old Pauline campus, then at our current location on Eveningside Drive. But the “big toy” had deteriorated to the point where it needed to be replaced. Now, colorful new structures have taken its place including an “infinity climbing toy,” a “loop ladder” and a “megarock.”

We have many people to thank for the transformation of the playground. At the top of the list is the energetic and creative Julie Unruh, the parent volunteer who headed the Playground Fund. We are grateful to all the parents, grandparents and students who helped with gifts both large and small. It’s been especially gratifying to see the children get involved. Some asked for playground donations instead of gifts at birthday parties. Some saved their loose change and dropped it in “Pennies for the Playground” jugs around the school. The four siblings set up a lemonade stand. Thanks, too, to the parent volunteers who staffed the snack carts after school. The new playground will provide a safe and fun place for our students to play – and make memories – for many years to come.



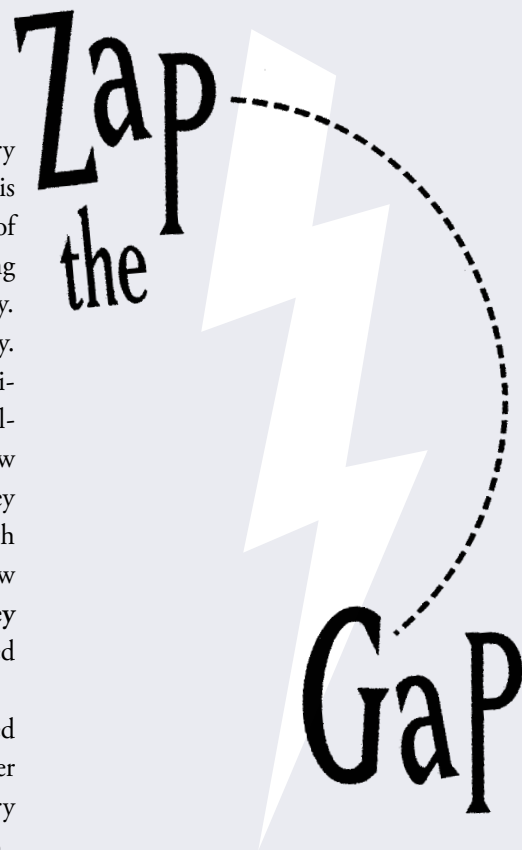
*First graders **Krystal Cheung** and **Gabrielle Fager** try out one of the new playground toys.*

ZAP THE GAP

THANK YOU! The 2004-05 Zap the Gap campaign was very successful under the leadership of Co-Chairpersons Kris Chanay and Cheryl Kingfisher. We surpassed our goal of \$132,000. Even more impressive was our participation level among current families - 80.1%! Thank you for your support and generosity.

This year for the first time, we recognized a new giving category. The Ruth Fink Society was formed to honor and thank those families who “zapped the gap.” Society members were invited to a “Celebration of Education” in April. The purpose was not only to show our gratitude, but to demonstrate the quality of the education they are supporting with their gifts. The Youth Choir sang, three eighth graders reminisced about their years at Topeka Collegiate (a few tears were shed), and our first alumni board member, **Adam Obley '95**, spoke about what TCS has meant to him. The program wrapped up with the school song, led by Dr. Roberts.

The Zap the Gap campaign continued this summer as we asked our alumni to respond to an extremely generous matching gift offer from two anonymous alums. These two have offered to match every dollar donated by an alum with an additional dollar, up to \$2,000.





COLLEGE CHOICES

Following is the list of colleges and universities members of the Class of 2001 have chosen and the scholarships they've been awarded. (T) indicates students who transferred before graduation.

ROBERT ADAMS

Creighton University: Omaha, Nebraska
Academic Merit Scholarship – Creighton University
Leadership and Service Merit Scholarship – Creighton University

MEHMET ARMAY

Barton County Community College: Great Bend
Athletic Scholarship – Barton County Community College

GABRIELLE AULT-RICHE (T)

Wesleyan University: Middletown, Connecticut

SARAH BELLOWS-BLAKELY

Stanford University: Palo Alto, California
Manuel Pusitz Scholarship

Watkins-Berger Scholarship – University of Kansas
Robert C. Byrd Scholarship
YWCA 2005 Future Leader Scholarship
John Carroll Scholarship – Georgetown University

BRETT BENEDICT (T)

Kansas University: Lawrence

TOBEY BILLINGER

Kansas University: Lawrence
Freshman Honors Scholarship – Kansas University
Geology Department Scholarship – Kansas University

SCOTT BOND

Kansas University: Lawrence

MATTHEW BONEBRAKE

Kansas University: Lawrence

RACHEL BUCK

Duke University: Durham, North Carolina
Manuel Pusitz Scholarship

SHRUTI CHALLA

Stanford University: Palo Alto, California

Manuel Puszitz Scholarship

Warden Scholarship – Kansas University

Academic Scholarship – Denver University

CHRISTIAN CURTIS

Kansas University: Lawrence

MOLLY DAUGHETY

Kansas University: Lawrence

Freshman Honors Scholarship – Kansas University

Presidential Academic Award – Emporia State University

CLAIRE FISHER

Knox College: Galesburg, Illinois

WILLIAM FRAGER

Kansas University: Lawrence

EMILY HERONEMUS

Bethany College: Lindsborg

Manuel Puszitz Scholarship

Provost's Scholarship – Ottawa University

Athletic Scholarship – Bethany College

Founder's Scholarship – Bethany College

Kelce Scholarship – Kansas State University

Freshman Honors Scholarship – Kansas University

President's Scholarship – Manchester College

STEPHANIE JOHNS

University of Missouri: Columbia, Missouri

JOEY KENNEDY

Kansas University: Lawrence

KATE LAND

American Academy of Hair Design: Topeka

ASONA LUI

Washington University: St. Louis, Missouri

Ervin Scholarship – Washington University

MEREDITH MANSFIELD

Baker University: Baldwin City

Staff Tuition Benefit Scholarship – Baker University

ERIN MCDOWELL (T)

Culinary Institute of America: Hyde Park, New York

DALE MEADOR (T)

Kansas University: Lawrence

ANN MOENIUS

University of Nebraska: Lincoln, Nebraska

Chancellor's Scholarship – Kansas University

Endowment Meritorious Scholarship – Kansas University

Aaron Douglas Scholarship – University of Nebraska-Lincoln

JILL MOENIUS

University of Arkansas: Fayetteville, Arkansas

Silus Hunt Distinguished Scholarship – University of Arkansas

ROHIT PARULKAR

Washington University: St. Louis, Missouri

Manuel Puszitz Scholarship

Merit Scholarship – Washington University

NATALIE PENN

Kansas University: Lawrence

Manuel Puszitz Scholarship

DANIEL THOMPSON

Kansas University: Lawrence

Robena Pringle Scholarship

W. Harold Otto Merit Scholarship – Kansas University

National Merit Scholarship – Kansas University

ALEX THURBER

Kansas University: Lawrence

REED UNDERWOOD

Indiana University: Bloomington, Indiana

KELLEY VAN SICKLE (T)

Knox College: Galesburg, Illinois

Academic Scholarship – Knox College

Marymount Academic Scholarship – Fordham University

Academic Honor's Scholarship – Drury University

Leadership and Service Merit Scholarship – William Jewell College

Trustee Scholarship Award – Pace University

Academic Scholarship – Savannah College

TYLER WAUGH

Kansas University: Lawrence

KEEPING IN TOUCH

IF YOU DON'T see your news in this edition of *Collegiate Life*, it may mean we don't know how to get in touch with you. Please help us by sending us your current e-mail address, as that is our primary means of gathering alumni information. Send your address to mloftus@topekacollegiate.org. *Collegiate Life* is published once a year in the fall. We gather alumni news during the summer months, but welcome your updated e-mail address any time.

If you would like *Collegiate Life* mailed to you at an address other than the one we have for you, which may be your parents' address, please let us know by contacting Development Director Mary Loftus at 785.228.0490 or e-mail mloftus@topekacollegiate.org.

CONTRIBUTORS

Thanks to two alums named Allison and two named Rebecca, the task of gathering information for this *Collegiate Life* was a much easier one.

ALLISON ATWOOD '00 taught swim lessons to more than 100 students this summer, but still found time to contribute to *Collegiate Life*.

ALLISON VIOLA '98 worked full-time, yet committed to writing for this publication, too. Thanks to both Allies.

REBECCA KOPP '00 and **REBECCA HOLMES '00** sent lots of e-mails and made lots of follow-up calls in search of their classmates' alumni news. Thanks to this pair of Rebeccas.

If you would like to help gather alumni news or write articles for *Collegiate Life* (even if your name isn't Allison or Rebecca), please contact Mary Loftus. Thank you.

Collegiate Life

Fall 2005

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Mary Loftus

Allison Atwood '00

Allison Viola '98

Design and production by:

Lawson Phillips Associates: AM LP

Photos were submitted or taken by Mary Loftus unless otherwise credited.

SAVE THE DATE!

Alumni Reunion

Monday, January 2, 2006

2:30 – 5:00 PM

Play basketball

Try your skill on the climbing wall

Test your knowledge with alumni trivia!



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