Jim Sherbon, a 1956 graduate of Arkansas City Junior College, is the 2006 recipient of the Outstanding Tiger Alumni Award. The award will be presented during the 83rd commencement exercises May 6 in W.S. Scott Auditorium.

“It's a great honor, I was literally swept off my feet,” Sherbon said. “I am very humbled and very honored. I guess it means that somewhere along the line I have apparently done something right.”

A 1954 graduate of Arkansas City High School, Sherbon has been teaching for more than 47 years. He taught music at the University of North Carolina at Greensboro from 1975 until his retirement in 2002.

He and his wife, Glenda, moved back to Lenexa, KS in 2002, but retirement would have to wait as the university failed to fill Sherbon’s position, and the school asked if he would help them by teaching graduate music classes from his home over the internet. He decided to sign a one-year contract and keep his dissertation advisees.

In May 2005 Sherbon hooded his last three dissertation students with their doctorates during UNC-Greensboro's commencement. He is currently working as a substitute teacher in the Olathe school district.

“I found out I don’t want to retire,” Sherbon said.

Sherbon credits Arkansas City's legendary instrumental music instructor August Trollman with getting him started in music. Trollman visited Sherbon's fourth grade class at Washington Elementary School in Arkansas City and encouraged the students to join the band.

“This man, on that day, changed my life from that point forward,” Sherbon said.

He became proficient at playing the trombone and had thoughts of playing professionally. He also thought of working for his father's automobile repair shop, but decided to pursue a career as a music educator.

Sherbon, who was in band, orchestra, and was student conductor and president of the band at Arkansas City High School, went on to play in the pep band at ACJC. He has fond memories of his time at the school.

“My fondest memories are of playing for August Trollman and sitting on the stage with the pep band during the basketball games,” Sherbon said. “I also enjoyed being able to meet new students that were from outside Ark City. I established some good friendships with students from neighboring towns.”

After graduating from ACJC, Sherbon went on to attend Emporia State Teachers
College. Taking part in the school's teacher education program, he completed upper level courses and his student teaching assignment.

Sherbon accepted a teaching assistantship at Emporia State his senior year and began studying for a master's degree, which he earned, in music education, in May 1960. While working toward his graduate degree, Sherbon conducted Emporia State's marching band and taught brass private lessons and methods classes.

He went on to teach band and orchestra at Argentine Junior/Senior High School in Kansas City for eight years. However, he felt he was in a rut creatively, and decided to begin work on a Ph.D. at the University of Kansas in 1969, and quit working at Argentine in May 1970.

Following his doctorate, Sherbon remained at KU for one year to administer a Humanities program under a research grant. Then came a one-year appointment at the University of Texas at Austin. One year later, Sherbon was hired by the University of North Carolina at Greensboro. The position was defined as graduate music education and research.

In 1983, Sherbon was named director of graduate studies in music education, a position he held for 15 years. While administering the program, he advised close to 200 students in a curricular way and eight to 10 graduate students at the dissertation stage, while still managing to teach.

While currently serving as a substitute teacher, Sherbon has taught band, orchestra, computer, social studies, drama, and industrial technology. He took seven hours of graduate course work last summer and is fully licensed to teach band or orchestra.

Sherbon credits former ACJC instructors such as Trollman, Kenneth Judd, Paul Johnson, Dan Kahler, Allan Maag and Dan Stark for helping provide him with a solid foundation.

Sherbon is looking forward to coming back for the school’s 83rd commencement ceremony.

“I would not miss it for anything,” Sherbon said. “It is such an honor that I would almost walk there to make it back.”

The Sherbons have two daughters, Gina and Juli, and one grandson, Josh.

Staying busy with his teaching, family, and wood turning hobby, Sherbon is as busy as ever. Still going strong after 47 years of teaching, Sherbon is not sure he will ever retire.

Jim Sherbon

1954 Arkansas City High School
1956 Arkansas City Junior College
Emporia State Teacher’s College - Bachelors and Masters degrees
University of Kansas - Doctorate
University of North Carolina, Greensboro
Director of Graduate Studies in Music Education

Retirement - substitute teaching in public schools and graduate studies
Start out as a music major, Pamela (Peterson) Guinn started to develop an interest in marketing while in college. The change in direction turned out to be a good one as she has turned that interest into a stellar career in sales and marketing for more than 20 years.

Although she gave up thoughts on a career in music, she credits Arkansas City’s legendary music instructors August Trollman, and former Arkansas City Junior College music teacher Kenneth Judd, with helping her forge a successful career.

“Those instructors taught me to be creative and to follow my passion,” Guinn said.

That passion has helped Guinn become the Director of Sales and Marketing for Northwest Cable News in Tacoma, Wash., and Executive Director of Belo Marketing Solutions, which has its headquarters in Dallas, Texas.

Born and raised in Arkansas City, She graduated from Arkansas City High School in 1971, and did not think twice about attending Arkansas City Junior College.

“It seemed like a natural progression at the time,” Guinn said. “The school had a good music program.”

At ACJC, she participated in band, jazz band, and was a member of a singing group called “The Tigerettes”. As a sophomore she was a candidate for Queen Alalah.

She has come back for the past two Queen Alalah events, and has fond memories of being a Queen candidate.

“It was such a special time,” Guinn said. “There is so much excitement surrounding the whole event, and the junior college plays such a big role in that.”

Guinn married her first husband, Brent Trathen, during her sophomore year at ACJC. Following graduation from ACJC, the couple moved to Louisville, Ky., as Brent’s job at GE forced him to leave Arkansas City.

The couple later moved to the San Francisco bay area from 1974 to 1977. While there, Guinn received a Bachelor of Science degree in Marketing from Hayward College in Hayward, CA. in 1977.

The couple ended up moving to Seattle, Wash., and Guinn has lived in the Washington area ever since. She and her second husband, Bob Guinn, have been married for 18 years, and have lived in Kirkland, Wash. for the past 14 years.

Once moving to Seattle, Guinn began working as a sales assistant and account executive at an ABC affiliate in Tacoma. She worked there for eight years, and then went to work for King Broadcasting in 1986. King Broadcasting, which is owned by the Belo Corporation, has NBC affiliates in Seattle,
Portland, and Boise. They also have a CBS affiliate in Spokane.

Guinn has worked for King Broadcasting for more than 20 years, and has flourished during her time with the company.

“I really enjoy station work, there is such a variety in clients,” Guinn said. “I get to have a variety in my job without having to change jobs. In this business you have to continue to change and adapt.”

She first served as Director of Sales and Marketing for Northwest Cable News from 1995 to 1998, then became Local Sales Manager for King Broadcasting’s Channel 5, which is an NBC affiliate, from 1998-2000.

She has held the title of Executive Director of Belo Marketing Solutions since 2000, and had the title of Director of Sales and Marketing for Northwest Cable News added again in the summer of 2004.

“I like helping solve people’s marketing problems, and learning new products,” Guinn said.

In her free time, Guinn enjoys spending time with her 14-year old daughter, Morgan. She also enjoys traveling.

Her mother, Hazel Christy, and stepfather, Ralph Christy, still reside in Arkansas City.

She credits her success to her upbringing in Arkansas City.

“I had a strong foundation that was built early on,” Guinn said. “I learned traits of responsibility and hard work from the genuine people in the Midwest.”

Once the foundation was laid, Guinn did the rest.

Mrs. Gail White Stark remembers Arkalah as being the most anticipated celebration of the year. The former Queen Alalah XXIV still makes it back for many of the queen coronations despite living in Moose, Wyoming.

Her fondest memories include decorating floats, attending coronation programs, and of course, the parade. She simply could not wait for the drum major to appear, leading the Arkansas City High School band with the tall white fur hat and strutting with high step down Summit Street.

During Stark’s freshman year at Arkansas City Junior College, she was selected by the faculty and students to represent Arkansas City in the Miss Kansas Pageant. She won the title of Miss Kansas 1955 and participated in the Miss America Pageant. She then returned to ACJC for her sophomore year where she was chosen Queen Alalah XXIV.

Stark attended one semester at Southwestern College and then married Jack Stark. Jack and Gail moved to Yellowstone National Park to begin Jack’s career in the National Park Service. They lived in many beautiful national parks and moved their children all over the country but according to Gail they were “definitely Midwesterners at heart”.

Stark’s primary vocation was raising their three children while entertaining many visitors including congressmen, senators, and vice presidents. In later years, Stark was a school secretary at Jackson Hole High School. Stark says “she will always be thankful to have grown up in Arkansas City with its good values and traditions.”
Bob Sneller, a standout basketball and tennis player at Arkansas City Junior College in the late 1940's, who later went on to a stellar coaching career at Crowder College, recently had the Crowder College athletic building named after him.

Sneller coached the men’s basketball program at Crowder from 1964-1979. During 23 years as a junior college basketball coach, he compiled a record of 467 wins and 216 losses. He is ranked in the top-12 in the all-time NJCAA coaching ranks for most victories and highest winning percentage.

Former players, students and friends of Sneller’s were on hand as the Crowder College athletic building became the Bob Sneller Gymnasium on Jan. 21.

Sneller guided his teams to two region championships. In 1963, as coach at Independence Community College, he led his team to the NJCAA National Championship and was selected Coach of the Year. He was inducted into the Cowley College Tiger Athletic Hall of Fame in 2002, and the NJCAA Basketball Hall of Fame in 2004.

Sneller remains active today, serving the Crowder Athletic department as an assistant coach to the Lady ‘Riders basketball team and working with the Booster Club.
Rob Faust will appear with the Winfield Regional Symphony at 7:30, April 21 in the Brown Center Theatre. The newly commissioned Mask Symphony by Cowley College instrumental music director, Gary Gackstatter will be performed for the first time.

Since 1983, Rob Faust has appeared worldwide at a variety of venues, including The Sydney Opera House, The Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York, The Kennedy Center in Washington, D.C., The Kentucky Center for the Arts, and The Maui Arts and Cultural Center. Mr. Faust has performed and choreographed with Pilobolus Dance Theatre, Martha Clarke, Mangrove, Jules Feiffer, and the Paul Winter Consort. His sculptures and masks have been commissioned by the American Conservatory Theatre in San Francisco, Pilobolus, Momix, Harvard University, The Paul Winter Consort, and David Kirk/ Callaway Editions, Inc. Faustwork company members also appear hundreds of times annually at theatres, festivals, universities, corporate events, and schools throughout the United States and Canada.

Robert Faust, native New Orleanian, is the founder and artistic director of Faustwork Mask Theatre. Mr. Faust designs and creates all the masks used in Faustwork shows, which include The Mask Messenger, Faustwork In Concert, Voice of the Wood, and Carnival Knowledge. He currently resides in Canada.

Local audiences will remember Faust for his work with PrairieFest.

He was commissioned to add a visual element to cellist, Eugene Friesen’s composition “Grasslands”. The choreographed performance in Arkansas City, Kansas included masked dancers, the Winfield Regional Symphony Orchestra and The Paul Winter Consort. He also has worked with the Smoky Hill River Festival in Salina. A bronzed mask of “Old Man River” was created for the event and a troupe of masked characters (local actors) paraded both on and off stage.

While on campus, Faust will hold workshops with the college drama and 3D art classes as well as at Arkansas City High School.
Gavin Wartick of Rose Hill High School with his Best of Show sculpture. 135 area students attended the first Fine Arts Day held March 1. Aubree Nighswonger, also of Rose Hill, won Best of Show for her charcoal drawing.

Pinocchio draws 1,600 area children

Pinocchio, sponsored by Cowley College’s Act One Drama Club and the Tyger Tawk Communications Club, drew 1,600 area children to the showing of the play held in December at the Robert Brown Theatre.

Children from Arkansas City, Dexter, Cedar Vale, Trinity Lutheran (Winfield), Newkirk (Okla.), and Sacred Heart were entertained with two morning shows, and one afternoon showing of the play. The play sold out its 7 p.m. performance that was open to the public.

Tom Mason, Director of the Children’s Theatre, thought the play was a tremendous success.

“The children seemed to really love it and the actors and actresses really enjoyed their parts which was easily seen on the stage,” Mason said.
A pair of Arkansas City natives were named Cowley College's Homecoming king and queen during halftime of the Tiger men's basketball game played January 25 at W.S. Scott Auditorium/Dan Kahler Court. Brandon May was named king, while Ashley Colburn was crowned queen.

“It's a huge honor, there are only so many defining moments in life that you can look back on, and this is one of them,” Colburn said. “Having my family there was awesome.”

Colburn serves as the Advertising Manager of the Cowley press. She is undecided on a major, and plans to transfer to either Wichita State University or the University of Kansas.

May is a member of Student Ambassadors. He is a golf course management major who plans to transfer to Kansas State University. Queen finalists were: Ashley Colburn, Kelsey Creed, Ashley Bland, Fernanda Domingos, and Megan Schoenfeld.

King finalists were: Brandon May, James Franklin, Joey Glenn, Cameron Traxson, and Brandon Burke.

Cast and Crew of Proposals, a Neil Simon comedy preformed March 2, 3,4. Directed by Scott McLaughlin and staged by Jamison Rhodes.
Indoor Track

Led by freshman Daniel Maina being named national champion in four events, and Courtney Gougler becoming the program’s first female national champion, the Cowley College men and women’s indoor track and field teams placed third and sixth, respectively at the NJCAA Indoor National Championships held at Kansas State University March 3-4.

Maina finished as the national champion in the 1,000-meters, 3,000-meters, 5,000-meters, and the mile run. Gougler, a freshman, became the Lady Tiger’s first national champion in track as she won the shot put. Kaitlyn Connor broke the school-record in the pole vault (10-7 ½) as she placed fourth in the event, while Irene Kosgei finished fifth in the 5,000-meter run.

Men’s Basketball

Starting the season 1-3 in the Jayhawk East, Cowley bounced back to win 9 of its final 14 conference games and finished in a tie for fourth in the East with a record of 10-8.

The Tigers defeated defending Region VI champion Pratt Community College 62-50 in the first-round of the Region VI Tournament, but had their season come to an end in the second round with a hard fought 67-61 loss to Cloud County.

Cowley lost an astounding seven games by three points or less, or else the Tigers’ record would have been much better than their final mark of 16-16.

Women’s Basketball

Losing its leading scorer prior to conference play, the Cowley College women’s basketball team finished in an unfamiliar fifth place in the Jayhawk East.

Softball

After splitting its first six games of the season, the No. 2-ranked Cowley College softball team has started to heat up as they are currently 10-6 overall and 2-0 in the Jayhawk Conference Eastern Division.

The Lady Tigers, winners of each of the last two Jayhawk Conference Eastern Division titles, hope to get back to the NJCAA Division II National Tournament, after finishing fourth in the nation in 2005.

Baseball

The No. 9-ranked Tiger men’s baseball team has been carried by its pitching early in the 2006 season. Cowley has just nine sophomores and 18 freshman on its roster, so the hitting has taken a while to come around.

Cowley, 11-5 overall and 2-0 in the Jayhawk Conference Eastern Division, is in search of its third straight conference title, and is hungry to get back to the national tournament after a three-year hiatus.

Men’s Tennis

Led by new head coach Brad Louderback, the Cowley College men’s tennis team has started to hit its stride as they have won three consecutive matches to improve to 5-3 on the season. Led by a veteran squad, the Cowley men will be in the hunt for a Region VI title and a trip to the national tournament.

Women’s Tennis

With newcomers Hanane Toumi and Samantha Cowan making immediate impacts to the squad, the Cowley College women’s tennis team has gotten off to a strong start.

The Lady Tigers, winners of three of their first four matches, have just two players (Gina Pendrak and Molly Bowman) back from last year’s team that placed eighth at the national tournament. The team should once again be a major force in the region.
Taking pride in her work in the classroom and on the softball field, Justina Way has worked hard to overcome obstacles on her way to being named Cowley College’s December Student of the Month.

The Emporia sophomore, who came to Cowley on a softball/academic scholarship, suffered a serious knee injury prior to last season. However, she did not let the injury distract her from her studies as she posted a 4.0 grade point average her freshman year at the school.

Way spent six months rehabbing her knee, and is at full strength heading for the spring softball season.

She is happy to add the December Student of the Month to her list of accomplishments. “I was proud of myself when I got it,” Way said. “To get recognized for your good grades shows that your hard work pays off.”

Way, the daughter of John and Janet Way, has two older brothers, Jason, 23, and Jeremy, 21 who played baseball for Emporia State university.

At Emporia High School, she was a first-team all-league selection as a senior. She decided to come to Cowley when Lady Tiger head coach Ed Hargrove offered her a scholarship.

Last season, Way was expected to be the team’s starting shortstop prior to her season-ending knee injury. This season she will see time at left field and shortstop.

Way had to watch from the bench as the Lady Tiger softball team tied a school-record for wins (53), went undefeated in the Jayhawk Conference Eastern Division (18-0), and placed fourth at the NJCAA Division II National Tournament in Fort Dodge, Iowa.

“I wanted to be a part of that,” Way said. “It really motivated me to get back.”

Along with softball, Way is involved in SGA, Phi Theta Kappa, and Mu Alpha Theta. She also serves as the resident assistant for the Kirke Dale dormitory.

Way is glad she made the decision to come to Cowley. “I absolutely love the school,” Way said. “I recommend it to anybody I talk to.”

Way plans to major in accounting, and would like to do accounting work within a corporation. She will decide on her next school after the season is finished. Away from her activities at Cowley, Way enjoys hunting, fishing, camping, and four-wheeling.

It took coming to Cowley College to get Kelly Hedges to come out of her shell. Now that she is in the middle of her sophomore year, Hedges seems like a different person compared to the shy girl that graduated from Valley Center in 2004.

Hedges, the daughter of Ben and Betty Hedges, was named Cowley’s January Student of the Month. She has an older sister named Katie, and four younger brothers. Her brothers’ names are, Brad, Benny, Blair, and Blaine. Hedges, a theatre major, was involved in the school newspaper and band at Valley Center High School, but was not involved in theatre. However, the theatre program is what brought Hedges to Cowley, as she knew she wanted to be involved with the school’s theatre productions.

Hedges turned out to be a natural as in her first performance at the school she won a Best Supporting Actress “Woody Award” for her role as Betty Meeks in the school play “The Foreigner”.

“I guess I kind of waited to come here to bloom,” Hedges said. “I was too shy in high school to try out for a show, and now I can’t wait to meet new people and try new things. Here I can be myself and not be afraid of being myself.”

Hedges currently serves as the President of Phi Theta Kappa and the Act One Drama Club. She is also a Student Ambassador, and carries a 4.0 GPA.
Jared McGuire is a man of many hats as the Arkansas City native is involved in several activities at Cowley College. Whether it be singing, acting, writing, or picture taking, McGuire can be seen doing it.

McGuire, the son of Jim and Janie McGuire, was named Cowley’s February Student of the Month. McGuire, a liberal arts major, nearly ended up at Independence Community College as he wrote a play for a contest that was sponsored by Independence and was awarded a play writing scholarship. He thought of being a student play write at Independence, but decided Cowley had better academics.

He auditioned for Cowley Director of Vocal Music Connie Donatelli and was awarded a Vocal Music scholarship. At Cowley, he is a member of Act One, Concert Choir, CC Singers, Phi Theta Kappa, and Mu Alpha Theta. He also serves as the managing editor of the Cowley Press, and has appeared in each of the school’s theatre productions during his two years at Cowley. He is also a talented photographer.

“I feel like if I’m not busy I’m not accomplishing anything,” McGuire said. “I’m trying to get the most out of college that I can.”

McGuire says he got that trait from his father, Jim, who is an environmental health technician for Cowley County. His mother, Janie, is a teacher in the Family and Consumer Sciences Department at the Arkansas City Middle School. “I have got to give my mom credit, she encouraged me to read a lot and pushed me to try my best at everything I did,” McGuire said.

McGuire has enjoyed writing since a young age. He attended summer writing camps at Drury College in Springfield, Mo., when he was in seventh through ninth grade.

(Hedges continued)

Being named Student of the Month was something Hedges had been striving for since she became aware of the award.

“As soon as I walked by the display case as a freshman and saw the first student of the month, which was Lory Turney, I didn’t know freshmen couldn’t get the award, but I knew I wanted it,” Hedges said. “I wanted to be in a show and be the Student of the month, and I have been able to accomplish both of my goals.”

Hedges, is described as highly energetic, involved, and dedicated. Being involved in so many campus activities leaves Hedges with little free time. “I would not have it any other way,” Hedges said. “This has been the best two years of my life. I knew I made the right choice my very first day on campus.”

After Cowley, Hedges plans to transfer to the University of Kansas and major in film/theatre. However, she will miss working with the members of the theatre department.

“Scott (MacLaughlin) and Jamison (Rhoads) are great, if they were not here I don’t think I would be either,” Hedges said. “Everyone in humanities is awesome. I will really miss the theatre, it is outstanding.”
Beginning the fall semester of 2006, students who want to pursue an elementary teaching license can complete Wichita State University coursework at Cowley College’s Arkansas City or Mulvane campus, through a new Cowley College and WSU partnership.

WSU will offer the Core courses of the elementary education licensure program at Cowley’s Mulvane campus. Thanks to interactive television technology, the courses will also be beamed to the Arkansas City campus.

The new partnership will help Cowley students limit their commuting time by not having to travel to Wichita for the required coursework. An incoming freshman could attend classes on a Cowley campus for three and one-half years, earning an associate degree from Cowley during the first two, and then attend WSU classes at a Cowley campus for the next three semesters.

The culminating student teaching semester can also be completed in a district located in south-central Kansas. There are a few classes that students may need to complete at the Wichita campus, but the two institutions are working to provide all coursework at a Cowley campus.

“We are delighted to partner with WSU in bringing access to this educational program and their service area,” Cowley College President Dr. Pat McAtee said. “It’s another example of college’s working together to serve citizens of South Central Kansas.”

“We are excited about this partnership program for many reasons, but specifically, the program reflects WSU’s mission to meet the needs of our community,” WSU President Don Beggs said. “The structure of this program illustrates our desire and willingness to serve the needs of our students.”

The program is on a first-come, first-serve basis and will have a capacity of up to 30 students. Once accepted to the WSU teacher education program, students can enroll in the WSU Core I classes offered at Cowley during the upcoming fall semester, 2006.

In another benefit to students, courses will be taught at times and through delivery methods that are convenient to the working adult or stay-at-home parent, with courses typically beginning after 4 p.m. or offered online. “Offering courses in the evening and/or online better serves prospective students who need to be free during the day because of needed employment and/or family obligations,” said Lori Miller, Wichita State University Associate Dean for Teacher Education. “This program will help provide quality, competent instructors for employment in the south-central school districts.”
Cowley’s 5th Endowed Chair

Marlys Cervantes, Cowley College humanities instructor, was named the school’s fifth endowed chair during a ceremony held at the college’s Webb Brown Building.

Cervantes was nominated by her peers and selected by a pair of committees.

Thanks to the generous support of CornerBank, Cervantes will receive $2,000 a year for each of the next two years. A total of $500 each year will be used for continuing education, while the other $1,500 is Cervantes’ to use however she would like.

With Cervantes being the fifth recipient of the award, CornerBank has now donated $20,000 to the endowed chairs.

Cervantes has taught at Cowley for six years. She is a member of the outcome’s assessment team; she also serves on the AQIP council and student success team. She is active in campus activities, and is a familiar face at concerts, art exhibitions, theatre productions, and sporting events. She was also the recipient of the 2004 Tiger Booster of the Year Award.

Butler, Branscum to receive NISOD Excellence Awards

Cowley College instructors Brett Butler and Cindy Branscum will receive Excellence Awards from the National Institute for Staff and Organizational Development in Austin, Texas, in May.

Butler, an industrial technology/agriculture instructor on the main campus in Arkansas City, and Branscum, the lead MICT instructor at Cowley’s Winfield Allied Health Center, will receive the awards during NISOD’s annual International Conference on Teaching and Leadership Excellence May 28-31.

“The two are very deserving for the award of teaching excellence,” Cowley College Vice President Sheree Utash said. “The standard they set in the class room and to their students is outstanding.”


Branscum also works part time for the Winfield and Sedgwick County Emergency Medical Services. She uses her field experiences in her teaching.

“Butler also learned valuable experience that he has applied to his teaching by previously working as a vocational agriculture instructor at the high school level, managing a breeding stock swine farm in Missouri, working for a commercial hog farmer, starting his own seed stock business, and working for Total Refinery, Conoco, and Boeing,

She has been a presenter at NISOD twice, and is planning to present another proposal this year. She has won the Master Teacher Award, and is valued as an excellent teacher and a positive role model to her students.

“I feel so honored to be nominated by my peers and looked at by the committees,” Cervantes said. “I do the job because I love the job. I love it here at Cowley and I honestly love my students. To be honored this way is overwhelming.”
in memory ☢☢☢

W. Farley Frazier, class of 1973, died Jan. 1, 2006, in Winfield. He is survived by his wife, Liz Frazier; a son and his wife, Jeremy and Laura Frazier, and two grandsons, Braden and Jace, Arkansas City.

He was born Aug. 9, 1952, in Shreveport, La., to Emily (Bernstorf) and Stephen K. Frazier. He was raised and educated in Winfield. He graduated from Winfield High School in 1971, from Cowley College in 1973 and from Southwestern College in 1975. He was an All-Ark Valley basketball honoree in high school and played basketball for two years at Cowley College. Frazier was a teacher and coach at Lenora, Pratt Skyline, Caldwell and Central of Burden high schools. He had taught social science at Central High School since 1985. He took girls' basketball teams from Lenora and Central to state tournaments, finishing runner-up twice and third-place winner twice. In 1989, he achieved an .810 winning percentage and still ranks in the top 10 percent of winning percentages for girls high school basketball coaches in Kansas. He was the current president and longtime board member of the Cowley County Fair Board and a member of the Red Valley Gun Club. He received the Cowley County Conservation Rangeland Award in 1993.

James Monteith Austin, Class of 1949, died May 5, 2005 in Hawaii. He was 75. He is survived by his wife of 51 years Mitzi, daughter Lynne, sons Eric and Jim, brother Alan and five grandchildren.

He was born on New Year's Eve 1929, in Wellington. After graduating from ACJC, he was accepted into the US Naval Flight School at the age of 19. He received his wings as a Naval Aviator and began a 20-year military career that included service as both an aviator and intelligence officer.

He was later assigned to intelligence duty at the Pentagon where in 1962 he found himself at the White House briefing President Kennedy's administration on the buildup of Russian Nuclear Missiles in Cuba as evidenced in the photographs he hand-delivered. This role earned him the Joint Service Commendation Medal and the National Defense Service Medal. While on assignment in Washington, he completed his undergraduate degree at George Washington University where he graduated top in his class. He continued his education at GWU and earned his law degree. In 1964, he accepted a transfer to Hawaii as the Deputy Director of Joint Reconnaissance for CINCPAC, where he remained until he retired from the military as Lt. Commander in 1969.

After his military career, he used his law degree to assist Hawaiian corporations and families with estate planning. Shortly thereafter, he accepted the position of Director of the Hawaii Trade Adjustment Assistance Office, where he assisted dozens of Hawaiian companies with federal loans to help their business.

He finished his career as a State of Hawaii Hearing Officer for the Department of Labor, where his knowledge of the law and foundation of fairness allowed him to resolve appealed cases between employers and employees.

We heard from ☢☢☢

Jennifer (Myrick) Seibert (Class of 1996) lives in Wichita, Kan., where she is a monitor technician/secretary at Via Christi Regional Medical Center at the St. Joseph campus. Her husband, Perry Seibert, serves in the military.

Rick Nichols (Class of 1986) lives in Wichita, Kan. He has a daughter, Nicki 16.
Under the direction of Cowley College Director of Vocal Music, Connie Donatelli, the Cowley Concert choir along with the 2005 All-League Honor Choir, performed at the Stiefel Theatre in Salina. The event featured between 180-190 honor choir students from Belleville, Beloit, Ellsworth, Minneapolis, Russell, Sacred Heart, and Southeast of Saline schools.

Donatelli was asked at last year’s KMEA convention to direct the event, and is glad she did not turn down the offer. “It was a fabulous experience,” Donatelli said. “It ended up being one of the better ones I have ever done. This really exposed us recruiting wise for students who may not have known we existed.”

The Steifel Theatre is a historic building that has been refurbished to capture its original beauty. “The acoustics were gorgeous,” Donatelli said. “My choir really rose to the occasion, they were stellar.”

The Cowley Concert Choir, under the direction of Donatelli, also recently performed at the new Fine Arts Center at Scott City High School at the beginning of this semester.