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September 2010

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### Alumni News

**Robert Burch '51** and **Patricia (McManis) Burch '52** recently celebrated their 60<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary on a week-long cruise around the Hawaiian Islands.

The Sandzén Gallery is now featuring the work of **Betty Jo Houchen '53** in a retrospective of 60 years of her work.

**Robert Overbeck '72**, Minneola, Kan., has retired as Vice President and Branch Manager of Centera Bank in Minneola. Robert has been in the banking business for 38 years.

**Connie (Coutermarsh) Baer '73**, Topeka, Kan., has retired after 37 years of teaching elementary music in the Topeka Public Schools. One of her retirement projects includes her involvement in establishing the Kansas Youth Chorale which will have its premiere concert on November 14, 2010 at First Lutheran Church in Topeka.

\***Jim Ruble '81** has been appointed as the new vice president for advancement at Bethany College. Beginning October 25, Jim will provide leadership and supervision in the area of advancement at Bethany with a goal of progressing the college's mission through fundraising and relationship development. At Bethany, he will provide oversight for all the college fundraising campaigns, including the current annual fund campaign and final phases of the planned Pearson Chapel and Welcome Center. [Read more>](#)



**Lori Holden '84**, Arvada, Colo., was named one of the Top 10 Must-Read Moms by Parenting Magazine and by BlogHer.com.

**Joel Albers '90**, Limon, Colo., is the K-8 Principal at Limon Schools.

**Michelle (Hansen) Daberkow '91**, Lincoln, Neb., was named the 2010 State-

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Fish Art Educator of the Year. The Minnesota-based national conservation organization, Wildlife Forever, honored Michelle for her work with students in aquatic conservation.

**Marcus Newsom '93**, Waverly, Iowa, was named the United States Track and Field and Cross Country Association's Division III women's indoor coach of the year for the fifth time since 2004.

**Misty Opat '93** has accepted the position of Interim Athletic Director at Rock Valley College in Rockford, Ill.

**Michelle Mors '98**, Overland Park, Kan., is working in the non-profit arena as the Development Director for Jackson County Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA).

**Katie (Bishop) Grover '00** was named WAMA's Academic/Government/Non-profit Marketer of the Year. [Read Katie's blog here>](#)

**Beth Schmidt '01** is an assistant principal at Maize High School in Maize, Kan.

**Amber Maneth '04** received a Master of Nonprofit Administration from the University of Notre Dame in May 2010.

**Jerri Zehnder '06** began work at Bethany College as the director of advancement services on September 27.

**\*Mariah McDowell '08** has received the 2011 Kansas Horizon Award. This award program, currently in its ninth year, allows school districts around the state to nominate one elementary and one secondary teacher for the award. Mariah teaches in a fifth grade classroom at Grace E. Stewart Elementary School in Salina, Kan.



**Aaron Larsen '10**, Fallbrook, Calif., drafted in the 34<sup>th</sup> round by the Oakland Athletics, has been promoted from the Arizona Rookie League to the Midwest League Oakland Athletics affiliate, the Kane County Cougars. The Cougars are located in Geneva, Ill. While in the Arizona Rookie League, Aaron had a record of 5-2 with a 2.98 ERA. He has accumulated 31 strikeouts while allowing only 10 walks.

## Births

A daughter, Maggie Rose, was born May 18, 2010 to **Nathan J. Loudon '01** and Stephanie M. Loudon of Ellsworth, Kan.

A daughter, Nadia Bryn, was born June 30, 2010 to **Audrey (Bazil) Ratzlaff '01** and **Aaron Ratzlaff '01**.

A son, Axel Stanley, was born September 9, 2010 to **Lucy (Kinzel) Walline '02** and Mike Walline.

A son, Austin Boyd, was born July 2, 2010 to **Amy (Jacobs) Cruce '04** and **Jamie Cruce '99**. The family resides in Lindsborg, Kan.

A son, Elijah Hernandez, was born August 19, 2010 to **Samantha (Koelling)**

**Hernandez '05** and Joseph Hernandez. The family resides in Hillsboro, Kan.

A son, Michael Pers Wayne, was born August 8, 2010 to **Elizabeth (Wagner) Sidenbender '05** and Mitch Sidenbender.

## Deaths

**Signore (Fornberg) Goehring '44** died August 31, 2010 in Olathe, Kan.

**Dr. James Nyberg '51** died November 24, 2008 in Sun Lakes, Ariz.

**Louis "Al" Johnson '54** died September 17, 2010 in Northridge, Calif.

**Clifford Sinopoli '54** died September 20, 2010 in Derwood, Md.

**Pamela Hird '75** died January 21, 2010 in Sedona, Ariz.

**Jim Glover '77** died April 5, 2010 in Lenexa, Kan.

**Patricia Helen Meek '92** died February 24, 2010 in Independence, Mo.

## Marriages

**Rebecca Wilson '03** and Jordan Pflughoeft were married June 19, 2010. They currently live in McPherson, Kan.



**Ashleigh Kane '08** and Bryan Parry were married July 31, 2010. They are at home in Westminster, Colo.

**\*Lisa (Runnebaum) Kidd '09** and Jeff Kidd were married July 3, 2010. They currently live in Lindsborg, Kan.

## Upcoming Events

### October 15

Terrible Swedes Golf Tournament

[Registration form online](#)

### October 15-17

[Homecoming & Family Weekend](#)

### October 23

Alumni Women's Basketball Game

To register, contact [Jim Campion](#) or register [online](#)

### October 23

Alumni Men's Basketball Game

To register, contact [Clair Oleen](#) or register [online](#)

## Bethany News

### Bethany receives top ranking

Earning the second highest spot for a Kansas college in its category, Bethany College has been ranked as 44th in the Midwest region of U.S. News and World Report's 2011 "Best Regional Colleges". This marks the fourth straight year that Bethany has been classified in the top tier of the Midwest region.



Bethany also had high rankings in several key indicators in its category, including:

- 4th in "Proportion of Classes Under 20"
- 11th in "Campus Ethnic Diversity"
- 10th in "Average Amount of Need-Based Aid Awarded"
- 9th in "International Students"

Other Lutheran colleges ranked in the Midwest region included Augustana College (fifth) and Carthage College (11th). The regional colleges category includes schools that focus on undergraduate education and grant fewer than 50 percent of their degrees in liberal arts disciplines. The baccalaureate colleges are divided into four regions. [Read more>](#)



### Overall enrollment largest in seven years

Bethany College enrollment has surpassed a total of 600 for the first time since 2003. With 163 first time freshmen and 57 transfer students, the total student enrollment for the semester is 610, a three percent increase from last fall's 592 students and a 14 percent increase over the last three years.

The college also has the most new students this decade, 250, including eight new international students on campus as part of the U.S. Department of State's Global Undergraduate Exchange Program in Eurasia and Central Asia (Global UGRAD). In addition to their academic studies, Global UGRAD fellows perform community service, explore American traditions through the unique Cultural Passport to America program and hold one-semester internships.

The largest boost in overall enrollment is directly related to retention efforts. Surpassing set goals for fall enrollment, Bethany welcomed back 360 returning students. This is a nearly eight percent increase over last fall's 333 returning students. [Read more>](#)

### Planning charrette hosted by Bethany

Bethany College hosted a planning charrette September 30-October 2 for the planned Pearson Chapel and Welcome Center. Bethany's charrette included three major components: a design workshop, fact-finding events and a public presentation. Members of the Smoky Valley and Bethany community were invited to the public presentation on October 2 from 9-11 a.m. in Lindquist Hall. [More>](#)



### Pearson Professor participates in final events at Bethany

The end is near for Per Harling's tenure as the 2010 Pearson Distinguished Professor of Swedish Studies. On October 1, the Bethany community came together during a special convocation to premiere the [morning prayer service](#) Harling wrote specifically for Bethany. If you missed the service, you listen to it [online](#).



The final two events with Harling include a chapel talk on Monday, Oct. 4 at 10:30 a.m. in Swenson Chapel and the folk dance mass on Saturday, Oct. 9 at 7:30 p.m. in Presser Hall. A folk dance mass combines the singing in a religious ceremony with dancing. [More>](#)

[Read more Bethany news>](#)

### Swedes in the news

**Tricia (Hartshorn) Hawk '84**, dean of recruitment and marketing, was interviewed at the Kansas State Fair. [Watch the video online>](#)

Director of the Red Barn Studio **Marsha Howe '86** is featured in the *McPherson Sentinel's* "Day in the Life." [More>](#)

Junior **Michael Broome '12** is mentioned in a story by the *Bismarck Tribune* featuring his twin brother, Marcus. Both are collegiate football players who serve their teams as captains. [Read the full story online>](#)

### Swedes sports updates

#### New voice of Swedes Football

Bethany College is proud to welcome Wes Balun as the announcer for Swedes Football this fall. Balun attended Bethany College in the fall of 1994 as a music education major. During his time as a Swede, Balun was a member of the Blue Dozen Pep band and Bethany College Symphonic Band.



He is a 2000 graduate of McPherson College with a Bachelor of Science degree in philosophy and religion.

Balun currently lives in Ellinwood, Kan., where he writes sports for the *Ellinwood Leader* and has been an active supporter of Ellinwood High School athletics. He also serves as a color commentator for Ellinwood High School sports broadcasts on 107.9 FM. [More>](#)

### Swedes football opens the season 2-1

This Saturday, Bethany Football will take on rival Kansas Wesleyan University at Anderson Stadium at 7 p.m. They go into this game with a 2-1 overall record. With a win against the University of Saint Mary in the season opener and another win after a long road trip to Jacksonville, Ill., to take on MacMurray College, Bethany was defeated by Tabor College in their only home game of the season. [More>](#)



### Cross country team led by senior



This season, the cross country teams have competed in three meets. Their first meet was in Baldwin City, Kan., at the Maple Leaf Invitational. The Swedes top finisher was senior Kate Dibbern (left) with a time of 15:44:38 in the women's 4K. The second meet of the season was hosted by Friends University with their third meet at the Tabor Invitational. Dibbern led the women's team once again with an 11<sup>th</sup> place finish in the 5K race with a time of 22:38:11. The women's team took 9<sup>th</sup> overall. The cross

country teams travel to McPherson for their next event on Oct. 9. [More>](#)

### Volleyball picks up four wins

Swedes Volleyball has picked up four wins, including their first conference wins of the years. They won two games recently at a tournament hosted by Johnson and Wales University in Denver, Colo. The Swedes defeated Johnson and Wales University and picked up a win over Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University. Then, the team traveled to Ottawa University on Tuesday defeating the Braves in their first conference win. The Swedes added to their win column on September 30 with a win against the University of Saint Mary. They host Sterling College on October 2 at 2 p.m. [More>](#)



### Men's soccer looking for their stride

Chalking up their first win of the season last week against York College, the Swedes are now 1-6-1 overall. Last Saturday, the Swedes recorded a disappointing 2-5 loss to Central Christian College. The team is back on the field with their first conference game this Saturday at 2:30 p.m. against Kansas Wesleyan University. [More>](#)

### Women's soccer continues to win



The women's soccer team holds firm with a 4-4-1 overall record. Last week, they were on a three-game winning streak before tying with Central Christian College on Saturday. The team even features two players of the week: Megan Xavier (top left), junior midfielder from Highlands Ranch, Colo., was named KCAC Offensive Player of the Week and senior goal keeper Sarah Garlock (bottom left), Thornton, Colo., was named KCAC Defensive Player of the Week. The team



begins conference play this Saturday with a noon game against Kansas Wesleyan. [More>](#)

### **Men's golf grabs top finishes**

On Sept. 20, men's golf finished second overall at the Hastings Fall Invitational. Leading the team was senior Brock Bullard (pictured right) who tied for second with a score of 72, 79. Junior Jack Hiscock tied for fourth overall with freshman James Tisdale tying for 14th, sophomore Tyler Maydew tying for 30th and senior Adam Glover tied at 58th. Earlier this week, the team traveled to Eagle Bend in Lawrence, Kan., and walked away tournament champions. With four players in the top 10, the Swedes shot a 587 for an eight-stroke victory over Southwestern. [More>](#)



Send your news to [Molly Johnson](#), director of alumni relations.

