

Coloradan

Alumni Magazine Summer 2024



Leading with Heart

Why top business leaders embrace humility and empathy

Be Boulder.



Alumni Association
UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO BOULDER



NOW

MARCH 21, 2024

In March, several CU Boulder students who are Dalai Lama Fellows, a program hosted by the university's Renée Crown Institute, had the honor of meeting directly with His Holiness in Dharamsala, India, to discuss the topic of compassionate leadership. The group also included faculty and staff associated with the Crown Institute and Leeds School of Business, as well as others from the University of Virginia and Dalai Lama Fellows from around the world.



COVER A growing body of research shows that company leaders who exhibit communication, flexibility and compassion help teams collaborate more effectively, motivate workforces and retain employees. Illustration by Ben Kircher.

ABOVE Apple co-founder **Steve Wozniak** (EIngr ex'72, HonDocSci'89) speaks to students at 2024 commencement. His advice: "Keep smiling and pay your own success forward."

16 Soft Skills Are the New Power Skills

Studies show today's business leaders need increasing levels of empathy, humility and emotional intelligence to navigate a rapidly changing world.

22 50 Years on Campus

Chancellor DiStefano has seen CU Boulder change and grow over the past 50 years. Now, he prepares to take on a new chapter.

26 Black & Gold in Our Soul

Ally Chapel (ArtHist'14) founded Brass Queens, an all-female, nine-piece brass band making waves in New York City.

32 The Science of Getting Things Done

CU's **Leslie Leinwand** helped develop the first drug for an incurable heart disease, sold two companies for billions and founded a thriving biotech institute. She's just getting started.

36 In the Breakaway

Former CU cyclist **Sepp Kuss** (Advert'17) has emerged as a dark horse powerhouse on the international cycling scene.

38 Cooking with Kindness

Bruce Bromberg (Anth'88) and his brother Eric founded Blue Ribbon Restaurants in 1992. Some staff members remain with them more than 30 years later.

EDITOR'S NOTE

This summer, we examine powerful leadership skills: empathy, humility and emotional intelligence. I'd like to add one to that list — kindness. A few years back I found my favorite T-shirt: it's charcoal gray with simple white lettering that reads, "kindness is magic."

Kindness takes many forms: asking about someone's day, giving the benefit of the doubt or offering help. In a bustling world, even a little can leave a lasting impact. I vividly remember a moment when a supervisor shared tough feedback with me. They communicated with kindness — enabling me to soak up their gift. I've never forgotten it.

This issue is packed with leaders who display kindness alongside strength and tenacity. Read about Philip P. DiStefano's 15-year tenure as chancellor and enjoy other inspiring alumni profiles, including Ally Chapel, founder of jazz group Brass Queens, cycling legend Sepp Kuss, and chef and entrepreneur Bruce Bromberg.

Maria Kuntz

CONTACT THE EDITOR AT
EDITOR@COLORADO.EDU

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Muriel Sibell-Wolle



The Universal Musician

With over three decades of experience as a performer, educator, conductor and administrator, College of Music dean John Davis champions a holistic approach to musical education through a mission he calls “developing the universal musician.” Davis originally joined CU Boulder in 1999 as director of the jazz studies department. Following three associate dean roles from 2012 to 2020, he assumed the role of dean in January 2021. He discusses his musical background, career achievements and the issues within higher education that have inspired his leadership philosophy.

John Davis seeks fresh career pathways for music students.



How did you get your start in music? My musical journey began with the decision to pick up the trumpet in elementary school, which is reflective of how one small choice can change a person’s entire life.

I eventually joined my high school jazz band, which was led by a band director who regularly performed in shows and big-band gigs. And that came at a time when jazz musicians like Stan Kenton and Woody Herman were touring the nation. That exposure really inspired me, so I stuck with it.

What prompted your shift from music performance to education and leadership?

After earning my master’s degree in music, I found myself seeking a change. I realized that the life of a professional freelance musician lacked the stability I sought, particularly in terms of job security and benefits.

Reflecting on my family’s military history, with my father’s service in both World War II and the Korean War, and my grandfather’s tenure as one of the oldest soldiers in the army, I became curious about that experience. So I enlisted as an infantry soldier for two years.

During my service, I gained a deeper understanding of the educational backgrounds of my fellow soldiers, many of whom had very little education beyond a GED

or a few years of college. This made me realize the power of education in expanding opportunities beyond people’s immediate circumstances.

That really solidified my commitment to education and prompted my return to academia to pursue a doctorate in trumpet performance and pedagogy, with an emphasis in jazz studies. But I wanted to play a more significant role in shaping music education, and that ultimately steered me toward administration.

What’s the basis of your leadership philosophy? Most music institutions have traditionally offered two career paths for students: performance and education. While

those tracks are still very valid, many students are now seeking out music careers that don’t necessarily fit into those two areas, such as arts administration and entrepreneurship, tour management, recording engineering, music copyright law or health and wellness in music.

For decades, students have had to find their way to these careers through mentorships, outside education, self-teaching or learning on the job. As the dean, I want to address the demand for additional career pathways.

This has led me to establish the concept of the universal musician — a leadership philosophy and strategy aimed at providing students with a wide range of experiences and training so they can meet the demands of today’s industry and be better equipped to find success and fulfillment in emerging fields.

How did the pandemic impact higher education? The pandemic was by far the most influential factor in shaping my approach to leadership.

During the peak of COVID-19, one of our professors shared an impressive composition created by a recent graduate and performed by current and former CU Boulder students over Zoom. I was struck by the remarkable quality of the sound and presentation, despite each musician performing from their own little Zoom square. From technical setup to sound engineering and video editing, the project showcased a range of

abilities beyond the traditional curriculum and allowed students to explore unique avenues of learning.

It also highlighted the skills and training that we as a college didn’t provide at the time — these students had to develop these skills independently. Since then, we’ve offered new badges, micro-credentials, certificate programs and interdisciplinary degree options to give students more agency in their education. With these new offerings, we hope to confirm the value and redefined relevance of higher education today.

How does diversity, equity and inclusion factor into your philosophy? Many musicians seeking higher education

empowered to thrive in a rapidly changing world.

What’s your favorite song? The one song that always stops me in my tracks is Charlie Chaplin’s “Smile.” The lyrics mean everything: “Smile though your heart is aching; smile even though it’s breaking... although a tear may be ever so near, that’s the time you must keep on trying.” Despite being released in 1936, its relevance persists, demonstrating the impact of music across generations.

What do you believe is music’s most significant impact on society? Music is what makes us human. When something of great significance takes place,

“MUSIC PROVIDES A PLATFORM FOR SELF-EXPRESSION AND HELPS US NAVIGATE THE COMPLEXITIES OF THE WORLD AND OUR ROLE WITHIN IT.”

face significant barriers due to a lack of early training, or access to instruments, teachers and practice spaces.

CU Boulder’s goal is to create an environment of inclusive excellence where all aspiring musicians, regardless of their background, feel welcome, valued and supported. It’s an essential part of our mission to develop universal musicians who are equipped and

people turn to music. It can serve as a celebration of joyous occasions, but it’s also where we find comfort and understanding in times of darkness.

Music provides a platform for self-expression and helps us navigate the complexities of the world and our role within it. And that is crucial in today’s society, where the need for connection and empathy is paramount. INTERVIEW BY ALLY DEVER

Making Feelings Fun

CU Boulder's Renée Crown Wellness Institute has partnered with Pixar to launch a web-based application that can help kids better understand their emotions.

Have you ever thought about what's going on inside your head?"

It's no small question — and the first one school-aged users are asked to contemplate in episode one of InsideU, a web-based app that uses Pixar's *Inside Out* as a platform for social-emotional learning.

Over the course of four animated episodes, a character dubbed "the Mind Worker" guides kids through real-world scenarios. Characters like Joy, Sadness, Fear, Anger and Disgust offer common language and frameworks to build emotional awareness in children and their caregivers.

"It's a platform for understanding some of our most difficult moments," said Sam Hubley, an assistant research professor with CU Boulder's Renée Crown Wellness Institute, whose vision for InsideU began nearly a decade ago with the release of the movie.

Hubley and his team at the Crown Institute have spent years in partnership with Pixar Animation Studios and the Boys & Girls Club of Metro Denver to create an accessible and free experience that is also fun.

"We wanted something that could be used in schools, as well as in less formal settings like after-school programs," said Hubley. "I give this to six-year-olds who've never seen it and, within 10 seconds, they know exactly how to start playing."

According to Marie Olivett, director of mental health programming at the Boys & Girls Club of Metro Denver, the app has become a vital part of their after-school programming.

"Technology is the language of kids," said Olivett. "InsideU is very experiential and helps them gain control of how they want to make decisions in a way that's really empowering."

Julia Zigarelli, deputy director of the Crown Institute, has seen tremendous results upon implementation.

"I could see a hundred clients in my office, but we'd never be able to reach this many kids at such a deep level," said Zigarelli. "That accessibility and reach is really exciting to me. Our hope is that it reaches as many kids as possible." **BY KELSEY YANDURA**

InsideU helps kids identify and name their emotions.



© Courtesy Crown Institute

Becoming a Boulder Climber



Chris Weidner, belayed by Bruce Miller, on the crux pitch of a route on Longs Peak.

I woke up in my VW van parked behind the Boulder Rock Club and started making coffee, map in hand, plotting the drive to Eldorado Canyon. I'd arrived a week earlier from my home in Seattle to spend the summer guiding for the Boulder Rock School. It was my first day, and I was nervous — not about the climbing (though I'd be leading clients up routes I'd never climbed before), but about the drive.

It was July 2001 (when paper maps were still a thing), and I didn't know Broadway from Baseline. And though I'd been guiding in Washington since the mid-1990s, I feared being "found out" as an outsider in Colorado. Nothing scared me more than getting lost en route to one of the country's most famous climbing areas with a van full of clients paying good money for local knowledge.

To my immense relief, all went well that day. So well, in fact, that by the time another week had passed, I'd ditched the map and had logged dozens of routes in Eldo (mostly "onsight" guiding), Boulder Canyon, the Flatirons and on Longs Peak. I couldn't believe the volume and variety of climbing so close to town. I would guide in the morning, climb with friends in the afternoon and repeat. I'd never climbed so much in my life.

Admittedly, I used to roll my eyes whenever I heard Boulder being called the "Center of the Universe" for American climbing. It couldn't be that good. But by the end of that summer, my skepticism had turned to pride: I owned 14 guidebooks covering thousands of climbs, all within 90 minutes of Boulder. I felt like I was just getting started.

So I did that classic Boulder thing: I never left.

I stayed because being a climber in Boulder feels limitless; it means as many different things as there are climbers. We're scramblers and ice hogs, first ascensionists and gym rats, alpinists and Olympians. We're young and old, fast and slow, inexperienced and elite. We're of every color, gender, shape and size, and yet somehow we've all chosen climbing as our medium to face fears, challenge our beliefs and build meaningful friendships.

Above all, being a climber in Boulder means taking part in a wild and wonderful community invigorated by our unique vertical playground. Here, there's a synergy at work — a motivating power that strengthens relationships well beyond the "Off belay!" on top of a climb.

BY CHRIS WEIDNER



Yvonne DiStefano, wife of Chancellor Phil DiStefano, has a history at CU Boulder stretching back to 1974. She is a proud supporter of Buffs athletics, a loyal donor to CU and an advocate for students, faculty and staff. With her husband, she championed the Guardian Scholars program, supporting former foster youth. The best part of being a Buff? “I love meeting so many wonderful people,” said DiStefano. “At the end of the day, I hope I helped someone feel seen and heard.”

◀ **Model:**
Apple
iPhone 8 Plus

APPS

▼
Most-used apps

Safeway



iMessage



Photos



Most-used emoji



A Legacy of Love for CU

How soon after waking up do you look at your phone?

Immediately, to check the time.

Last person you called:

One of my daughters.

Duration of longest call last week:

Two hours with one of my closest friends who doesn't live here in Colorado. When we are able to get together by phone, we laugh, we talk, we lift each other up.

Location and description of last selfie:

Me in front of the White House in April 2024.

Does anyone else have your passcode?

Yes — my daughters and my husband.

Oldest photo on your phone:

Photo from 2012 of our late Bichon Frisé, Tucker.

What is your lock screen or background image?

It's a gorgeous shot of a night game from Folsom Field facing west with a stunning sunset. The team is on the field, and the stadium is filled with black and gold.

What do you use your phone for most?

Texts and calls.

Boosting the Helmet

New kinds of padding could make football gear, bike helmets safer than ever.

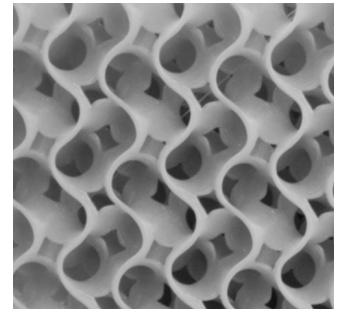
Football players (and anyone else who takes hard hits) may want to breathe a sigh of relief. Engineers at CU Boulder and Sandia National Laboratories have been hard at work researching and developing a new design for padding that can withstand powerful impacts.

“If you're riding your bike and get into a crash, you don't know if that's going to be a low-speed impact or a high-speed impact. But regardless, you expect your helmet to perform well,” said Robert MacCurdy, assistant professor in the Paul M. Rady Department of Mechanical Engineering at CU Boulder. “We're trying to develop a geometry that performs well under all of those scenarios.”

The team's innovations, which can be printed on commercially available 3D printers, could one day wind up in everything from shipping crates to football pads — anything that helps to protect fragile objects from the bumps of life.

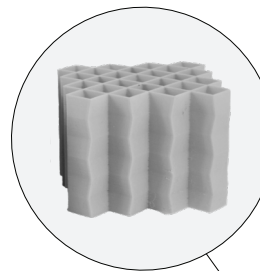
“Impact mitigation is something that's important everywhere,” said MacCurdy. “It's in highway crash barriers, knee pads and elbow pads, and in packaging equipment.”

Currently, some of the most common types of padding materials are foams, which are filled with tiny holes and channels, such as packing peanuts or stress balls. Foams can absorb a lot of force, but if you squeeze them hard enough, they will compress down into a rigid wad. MacCurdy and his colleagues wanted to develop cushioning that would provide protection, regardless of the force of impact.



The group's new designs look a bit like the cells in a honeycomb. When you squeeze them, the cells collapse, but always following a careful pattern.

Everyday risks may soon be greatly reduced. The researchers put their designs to the test in labs, reporting that the padding could absorb roughly six times more force than standard foams made out of the same material. **BY DAN STRAIN**



The team's designs could help helmet padding absorb roughly six times more force.



CAMPUSnews

DIGITS

Conference on World Affairs

The Conference on World Affairs (CWA) brings leaders and experts across different fields to CU Boulder, sparking lively conversations on today's top issues.

4

Days of panels, discussions and debates took place April 9–12, 2024.

75th

Year the conference has been running for in-person attendance.

49

Years of Cinema Interruptus, a film screening and the longest-running CWA event. This year, *The Babadook* (2014) was featured.

1948

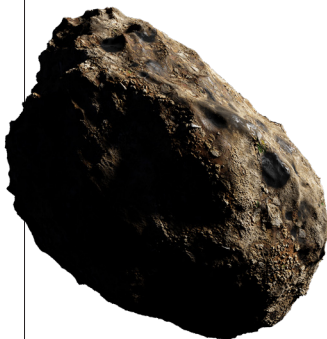
The year CWA was founded by Howard Higman, professor of sociology at CU Boulder.

109

Speakers, including Coach Prime and Carl Quintanilla (PolSci'93).

CU in the Sky

The International Astronomical Union dubbed an asteroid: "(33974) Alexmeyer" in honor of Alex Meyer (MAeroEng'21; PhD'24) for the fundamental research he conducted on the dynamics of binary asteroid



systems and how they are affected by close planetary flybys. "It's pretty cool and quite an honor. You look around at other asteroids and the people they're named after; it's very good company to be in," Meyer said.

"Professor Prime" in CMCI Course

The College of Media, Communication and Information launched a new NIL-themed course this spring semester. "Prime Time: Public Performance and Leadership" was created with

student athletes and aspiring media professionals in mind. Head CU football coach Deion Sanders was one of the guest lecturers. "The purpose of the class is to have students think about this 'Prime Time' persona," department chair and associate professor Rick Stevens told *The Washington Post*. "That's not just about what's happening on the court or on the field, but also...thinking about their financial future, trying to figure out who they should interact with and how to speak about causes and social justice."

Lakota Elders on Campus

In February, a delegation of elders from the Lakota Nation visited CU Boulder from the Pine Ridge Reservation and the Black Hills of South Dakota. The group met with campus leadership and other members of the CU Boulder community to forge stronger relationships with campus researchers and explore how Indigenous knowledge and science can expand and strengthen existing university science opportunities.

Heard Around Campus

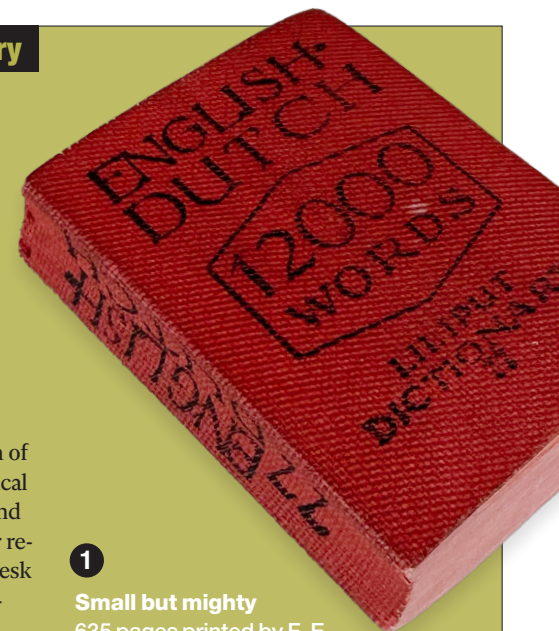
"TECHNOLOGY IS NOT THE PROBLEM. SCIENCE IS NOT THE PROBLEM. IT'S WHAT WE DO WITH THOSE THINGS THAT IS THE PROBLEM..."

— Ted Schmitt, senior director of conservation at the Allen Institute for Artificial Intelligence in Seattle, WA. Schmitt spoke at CWA.

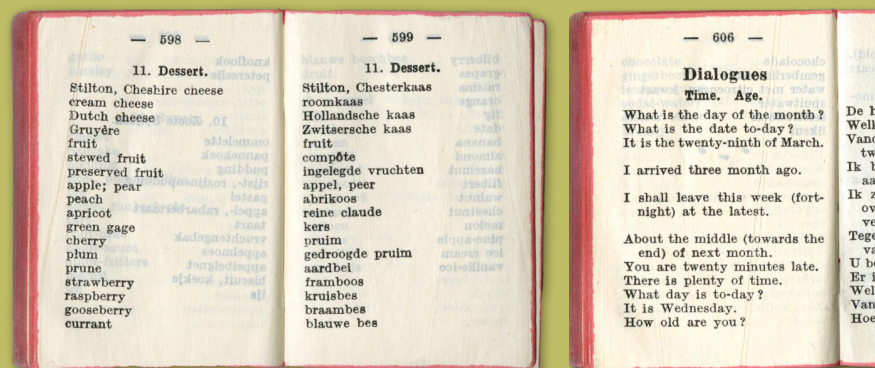
ARTIFACT Miniature Dictionary

Tiny Book, Trove of Knowledge

In 2003, nearly a decade after the death of Jacob Van Ek, former CU Boulder political science professor and College of Arts and Sciences dean, the CU Heritage Center received an anonymous donation of his desk items — including a miniature English-Dutch dictionary, 1 which stands two inches high and less than 1.5 inches wide.



1 Small but mighty
635 pages printed by F. E. Haag in Leipzig, Germany



2 Actual size!
1.38 in. wide by 2 in. high by 3/8 in. deep

Mini books, according to auction service Britannic Auctions, were popular throughout history as they allowed the reader to conveniently and discreetly carry knowledge. 2 Van Ek and his wife may have used the dictionary on their global travels, said Mona Lambrecht, Heritage Center interim director and curator of its history and collections.



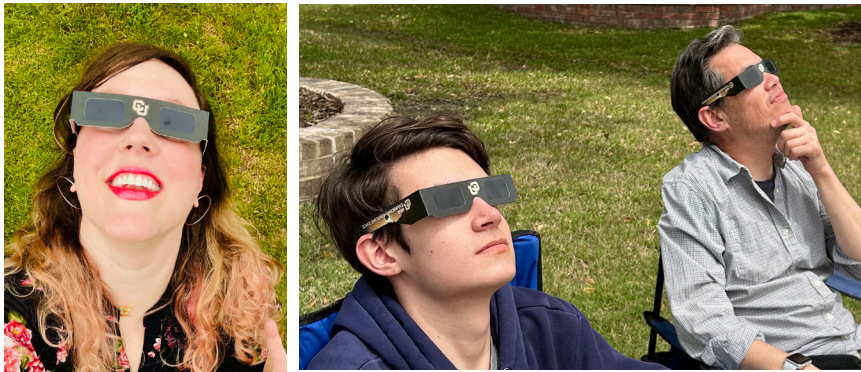
3 Global citizens
Dr. Van Ek and his wife, Eve, spent a year traveling the world.

After winning a year-long travel fellowship in 1928, Van Ek and his wife, Eve Drewelowe, 3 traveled around the world to familiarize themselves with different peoples, countries and civilizations. During this time, they spent time in the Netherlands, where Van Ek's parents were born.

The couple returned from their travels in 1929, and Van Ek assumed his role as Arts and Sciences dean, a position he held at CU Boulder for 30 years before teaching full time for several more years.

The experience left him with a broad worldview.

According to the Jacob Van Ek collection housed in the Norlin Library, "When the 'Red Scare' gripped college campuses in the late 1940s and the 1950s, Dr. Van Ek won the respect and gratitude of his faculty and student body when he acted as a steadfast defender of freedom of expression."



A Celestial Event

CU Boulder alumni, staff, donors, parents and friends around the country took part in the April 8 solar eclipse viewing with special CU-themed eclipse glasses. Whether they were gazing at a full or partial eclipse, the moment brought awe and reflection.

“My son starts CU next fall, and it was really cool to wear the CU glasses together,” said **Michael Woods** (MechEngr’94) of Allen, Texas. “The eclipse was an amazing experience. The whole thing literally brought a tear to my eye.”



Master of Arts in Corporate Communication

Amplify Your Professional Impact

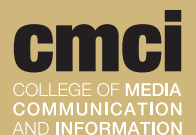
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The Magic of Science

For over three decades, CU Wizards has engaged and informed children about the wonders of science.

One Saturday per month throughout the academic year, children and their families gather at CU Boulder to witness the magic of science — hosted by the university’s very own “wizards.”

The CU Wizards program, a free science-education experience for children, unofficially began in the late 1970s and early 1980s when CU physics professor John Taylor, the original “Mr. Wizard,” started presenting two to three children’s science shows each year on campus. Eventually, he began traveling to Colorado schools and presenting his science shows up to 20 times per year.

In 1987, after years of sharing his passion for science with others, Taylor handed the torch to CU professor David Nesbitt, a Joint Institute for Laboratory Astrophysics (JILA) and National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) fellow and current director of CU Wizards. Since that time, the program has expanded in funding, frequency and faculty. The monthly show typically boasts over 400 attendees and has been attended by more than 100,000 children and family members over the past 37 years.

“The shows have a different sort of energy than a kids-only class because parents also participate,” said the program’s coordinator Candice Brown in an article she penned for NIST on CU Wizards. “It’s the perfect combination — an enthusiastic young audience plus the [adults] who get the chance to be kids again — all eager, curious and interested in learning.”

While the program has grown and flourished under the leadership of Nesbitt, the “Chief Wizard,” it is still centered on Taylor’s philosophy of science education: we cannot have science without joy.

“Joy and curiosity are the fundamental reasons each of us studies science,” said Nesbitt. “Kids are naturally curious and excited about learning new things. CU Wizards is a perfect venue for professors and their graduate students to expose young scientific minds to their own joy and delight in science.”

And the program does more than entertain — it’s also helping children to view themselves as scientists. In a 2022 survey of 120 adults and children who have attended presentations, 84 percent responded that CU Wizards allowed children to better identify with scientists.

Nesbitt describes the program as “running on a special kind of magic: the goodwill of a fantastic community.” From the professors who volunteer time to prepare the presentations, to the staff, postdocs and students, CU Wizards involves a whole community dedicated to sharing the magic of science. **BY JESSICA WINTER**

CU Wizards brings the cold, hard facts to life for kids and families at CU.

Soft Skills

Are the New Power Skills

In light of a growing body of research, today's top businesses are seeking leaders with elevated empathy, humility and emotional intelligence to meaningfully navigate a changing world.

By Katy Hill



F

or decades, the archetypal C-suite executive stood tall as a domineering figure, leading from a distant corner office. Interpersonal skills — literally labeled “soft skills” — were seen as expendable on the corporate ladder.

However, a growing body of research shows that company leaders who exhibit communication, flex-

COVID-19 pandemic underscored the need for empathetic leaders and a more nurturing workplace culture, Kong said. And today, corporate downsizing and emerging technologies further compound that need. According to the World Economic Forum’s 2023 Future of Jobs Report, skills like creativity, resilience, flexibility, self-awareness and empathy will be among the most valued over the next five years.

Kong, also the faculty director of Leeds’ leadership certificate, and David Hekman, associate professor of organizational leadership and information analytics, share more research-backed insights about the benefits of empathy and humility in company leadership and why leaders at all levels need to embody these skills.

The surprising power of **humility**

By acknowledging their mistakes, highlighting others’ strengths and

“Humility spreads — it’s contagious,” Hekman said. “It enhances feelings of safety, so you can feel safe speaking up to your boss. It reduces turnover and results in a more motivated workforce.”

Although it’s clear that leader humility benefits teams and organizations, there is a widespread belief that humility may hinder leaders from advancing through the corporate ranks.

However, Hekman’s recent research indicates that there is a “humble route” to career advancement.

“Conventional wisdom is that you’ve got to be Machiavellian and self-promote and bully to rise to the top, but humility is also a catalyst for leadership success,” said Hekman, who co-authored a study on humility and career advancement that was published in the January 2024 edition of the *Journal of Human Resource Management*.

Informal career mentoring, which helps cultivate a network of loyal followers, is key to humble leader advancement. “It gives them status in the organization because passing on

“warmth” can build trust with their direct reports, fostering open communication and acceptance of new ideas.

Warm and empathetic leaders can also help lessen employees’ negative work stress. According to a study published in April 2023 in the *Academy of Management Journal* and co-authored by Kong, whether an employee sees a work stressor as a challenge or threat hinges on how they view their direct manager.

Based on two surveys of more than 250 employee-leader pairs in 234 companies and organizations in more than 40 industries in China, researchers found that employees view the prospect of performance-based pay raises positively when they view their manager as competent and warm.

Capable and supportive leaders create fulfilling work environments, inspiring employees to rise to the challenge with increased work engagement and performance.

On the other hand, “If my leader is cold, untrustworthy, unfriendly and unsupportive, then I’ll perceive pay for performance

“Being a good leader is being a **good human.**”

ibility and compassion help teams collaborate more effectively, motivate workforces and retain employees. As a result, modern paradigms are shifting to reframe these “soft skills” as highly coveted “power skills” among today’s top leaders.

“Being a good leader is being a good human,” said Tony Kong, associate professor of organizational leadership and informational analytics at Leeds Business School. “When a leader can show tenderness, sympathy and compassion, especially in times of crisis and uncertainty, it can trigger employees’ feelings of gratitude and make them want to go above and beyond.”

The stress and upheaval of the

exhibiting a learning mindset, leaders cultivate a workplace culture oriented toward growth.

“Humility in leadership benefits teams, individuals and entire organizations,” Hekman said. “It helps people experience more psychological freedom, authenticity, job satisfaction, improved team performance and motivation.”

Hekman studies how leader humility influences team performance. One such study, published in the *Academy of Management Journal* in 2016, examined the operations of 84 laboratory teams and 77 health care teams. It revealed that when leaders exercise humility, it can effectively propagate throughout a team.

skills, tips and tricks builds up a lot of social capital,” Hekman said. “So they build this network of people who end up being an army of very talented, very motivated, trusting people, which is unbeatable.” The elevated status often leads to promotions.

Warmth in the workplace

Interpersonal warmth is also crucial in fostering a positive workplace culture, Kong’s research shows. Employees are more likely to be engaged and motivated when a leader is understanding and supportive. Similarly, leaders who convey

as a threat,” Kong said. “I’ll be stressed and withdraw from my work, maybe coming to work late and leaving early. I will perform worse because I’m disengaged.”

Kong’s research also shows the importance of prioritizing employees’ psychological needs during a crisis. A 2021 study he co-authored, published in the *Journal of Positive Psychology*, surveyed employees during the peak of the first wave of the COVID-19 pandemic. It found that when supervisors acknowledged their employees’ suffering and provided emotional support and flexibility, it improved relationships and evoked gratitude among their reports. It also helped employees adapt and increased their engagement at work.

The study underscores why prioritizing human connection is essential for a positive work culture, Kong said.

“When a leader shows empathy, people appreciate it,” Kong said. “They actually do more even though it’s not a requirement.”

A cornerstone for inclusion

Empathy can help managers lead with inclusivity and better understand others’ perspectives and worldviews.

According to a 2021 survey by Catalyst, employees across different genders and racial groups feel more valued and respected while working with an empathetic leader compared to less empathetic ones.

Kong said it’s also important for leaders to consider diversity in a wider context.

“Diversity is very complex, but often

“It’s not a luxury for leaders to have empathy. It is a necessity,” said Kong. “But oftentimes, we promote leaders in terms of technical skills. And sometimes we find that they don’t understand people. They only understand what they do, but they don’t understand who they’re working with.”

Kong explained that companies often prioritize short-term performance over long-term culture building because return on investment (ROI) is not attached to these relationship-building skills. “We need to shift the thinking about who we hire, who we promote and what kind of culture we want,” he said.

Hekman and Kong believe companies should implement systems that promote and cultivate “power skills.” For example, human resources departments can work with companies’ leadership to promote mentoring programs, create systems that provide transparency, and

“When a leader shows empathy, people appreciate it.”

we fixate our attention on demographics and forget that people have different perspectives, different backgrounds and different ideologies,” said Kong, who teaches a module on managing diversity in Leeds’ Executive Leadership Program.

“Instead of using demographics as a proxy, why don’t we try to better understand people’s perspectives, worldviews and experiences? That’s using empathy to understand and respect others’ points of view.”

Empathetic leaders value diverse perspectives and create a culture of respect, acceptance and unity, which helps foster a sense of community among employees.

“Over time, I think practicing empathy will not only give you emotional talent, but also cultural intelligence,” said Kong.

Powering up “soft skills”

Empathy and emotional intelligence are hard to quantify, and they’re often overlooked when it comes to hiring, according to Kong.

facilitate leadership training programs that contribute to career success and organizational growth.

Meanwhile, company leaders at any level should focus on providing quality feedback to employees more often, Kong said. “Providing good feedback is a skill set. It’s a leadership skill that requires empathy,” he said.

“A lot of times leaders do not know how to give feedback, but employees crave it for self-growth,” he added. “Try to frame feedback sessions as more constructive and focus on strengths instead of limitations. Take perspective and try to put the right people in the right positions according to their strengths.”

This shifting emphasis promises lasting repercussions — especially as companies integrate AI technology into their operations. According to recent research, employers will increasingly value these “power skills” that enhance human interactions in the AI age.

“We don’t know what is going to happen, but my hunch is that our human advantage is going to be our [interpersonal] skills,” Hekman said.





50 Years on Campus

Chancellor DiStefano has seen CU Boulder go through plenty of ups and downs over the past 50 years. Now he prepares to take on a new chapter and reflects on his time as a Buff. *By Dave Curtin*

Chancellor Phil DiStefano has always had a passion for education. As an undergraduate at Ohio State, he spent summers shoveling asphalt in his hometown of Steubenville, Ohio — where many of his fellow workers had elementary-level literacy. During lunch, DiStefano would break out the newspaper, offering reading lessons to his peers. “They liked sports, so I brought the sports section,” he said.

This experience foretold a passion for campus diversity and inclusion efforts — hallmarks of his administration.

In 1960s Steubenville, young men typically found work in local steel mills — but CU Boulder’s 11th chancellor chose a different path, becoming the first in his family to attend college. DiStefano knows the benefits of education, and he marvels at it every day.

“A first-generation student becoming

chancellor of a major research university like this? It would have never happened without education and our democracy,” he said.

DiStefano has served many roles throughout his CU Boulder career: professor, dean, provost, and — after 35 years — chancellor. As he prepares for this next transition, he reflects on the disciplines that have guided him throughout his career: listening carefully, learning from the community and practicing self-reflection.

As chancellor, he has worked with stakeholders at every university level and partnered with industry, business and community leaders. He’s advocated for CU in the legislature and on the national stage and has connected with people of all ages, demographics, interests and agendas.

But it hasn’t always been smooth sailing. Navigating the pandemic, rallying the campus through the devastating flood of 2013, and guiding CU through free speech issues — these moments kept him up at night.

In the fall of 2020, after much consultation with his leadership team, Chancellor DiStefano decided to open CU

Boulder’s campus for in-person learning. Three months later, he reversed the decision as COVID cases spiked. “It was the wrong decision and the one I regret the most,” reflects DiStefano four years later. “We learned a lot from our mistakes during that time.”

It is a reminder that leadership carries hard lessons, even in the final quarter of a 15-year chancellorship — the longest in CU Boulder history.

DiStefano will draw upon those lessons to uplift future leaders in his new role as senior executive director at the Center for Leadership, a multidisciplinary program preparing tomorrow’s leaders to address complex issues. This July, he returns to the School of Education faculty where he began his career in 1974.

“What I want to be remembered for is that the decisions I made were always in the best interests of the university, never personal,” DiStefano says. “I want the campus to be better than when I started — high-quality education for students, research improving the lives of more people, and creating a better world through our teaching, research and service.”

Chancellor Phil DiStefano has spent 50 years on campus; Here's what he's seen over the years.



Folsom Field becomes first zero-waste football stadium, igniting a nationwide stadium sustainability trend.



1974

1976

2008

DiStefano joins CU Boulder as assistant professor in the School of Education, embarking on his 50-year career on campus.

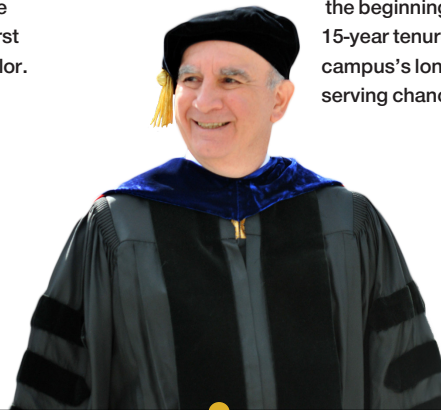


Nation's first student-led campus recycling program is born, foretelling CU's national leadership in sustainability.

1986

DiStefano appointed dean of the School of Education for 10 years. He goes on to become the campus's first provost and executive vice chancellor.

CU Boulder Tuition Guarantee launches, allowing students and families to accurately predict the total, four-year cost of attendance.



DiStefano appointed chancellor on May 5, the beginning of a 15-year tenure as the campus's longest-serving chancellor.

2009



2012

CU wins fifth Nobel Prize, all in a 23-year stretch: four in physics, one in chemistry.

2021

Annexation of CU Boulder South is approved, protecting lives and property through flood mitigation, creating newly designated open space and providing new housing to relieve pressure on the Boulder community.



2016

2013

Historic flood closes campus and roads, 515 people evacuated, 120 buildings damaged, rare art collections and valuable research saved.



2023

Groundbreaking of on-campus conference center hotel, the result of years of collaboration between the city and university to strengthen the connection between campus and the community.



Today

Record-high retention, graduation rates, donor and research funding; largest and most diverse graduating class.



SOUL

BLACK
AND
GOLD IN
OUR

Ally Chapel (ArtHist'14) started an all-female, New Orleans-style brass band called Brass Queens. She adopted the colors black and gold for her band in CU's honor. **By Erika Hanes**



In the heart of New York City's vibrant music scene, a dynamic force is shaking up traditions and breaking down barriers. Meet Brass Queens, an electrifying nine-piece, New Orleans-style brass band on a mission to redefine the landscape for female musicians in the Big Apple.

But before they were playing major gigs like the Met Gala, performing on *Good Morning America* or releasing their debut album, "Black & Gold," the Brass Queens had to fight their way into existence. According to Ally Chapel (ArtHist'14), one of the founders of the

Brass Queens, opportunities for female musicians in New York City circa 2018 were abysmal.

"In the music industry, a lot of success comes down to your connections," Chapel said. "At the time, the scene was so oversaturated with male musicians and bandleaders that it was hard for us to get enough attention to make those critical connections in the first place."

LOVE FOR THE MARCHING BAND

Chapel's journey from art history major to working full time in music began in Colorado's foothills. Born and raised in this Rocky Mountain state, CU Boulder was a natural choice. Soon after enrolling, Chapel's love for music and art found fertile ground when she joined the Golden Buffalo Marching Band. Having done marching band throughout high school, Chapel thought she knew what to expect.

"Where I came from, the marching band wasn't in the spotlight," Chapel said. "There wasn't this sacred bond between musicians and the school or the fans [like at CU Boulder]. I remember thinking, 'This is really special.'"

During her college years, Chapel immersed herself in music as much as possible. Pivotal moments during this time shaped not only her musical aspirations, but also her life decisions for years to come.

After graduation, Chapel crammed all her belongings into two boxes, grabbed her saxophone and headed for the Big Apple, where she jumped into the arts scene. She soon found a day job at a prestigious painting gallery, filling her evenings with jam sessions and impromptu performances with local musicians.



When the band hits the stage to #KickBrass, they stick to a black-and-gold dress code, a nod to CU Boulder and the New Orleans' Saints.

BECOMING BRASS QUEENS

Among the female musicians Chapel met during these early days, many became the foundation for Brass Queens, not just as a band, but as a cultural revolution. Most had struggled to find reliable and consistent collaborators among their male cohorts. By 2019, Chapel was done waiting. Joining forces with friend and bandmate Alex Harris, the two musicians formed their own group dedicated to pushing musical boundaries and empowering female musicians.

"Brass Queens formed on March 9, 2019," Chapel said. "I'll never forget it because it was the day after International Women's Day. That felt significant to us."

Chapel immediately went to work on crafting the brand identity for the band, something she learned a lot about through CU's Technology, Arts and Media (TAM) program. She knew the unifying power that two colors could have from her time at CU, so the group adopted black and gold as their official colors — also the colors of the Saints in New Orleans, where their sound originates.

By enforcing a black-and-gold dress code at gigs, Chapel hoped to establish the same sense of pride she felt while performing as a member of the Golden Buffalo Marching Band. That unifying element has become their story, which they celebrated by naming their debut LP "Black & Gold."

Inspired by the soulful sounds of New Orleans, the Brass Queens' band consists of one sousaphone, drums (both line and set), two trombones, one alto sax, one tenor sax, three trumpets and a whole lot of passion.

FROM GIGS TO THE MET GALA

When Brass Queens first hit the gig circuit, they accepted a variety of opportunities that came their way. Soon, birthday parties, street festivals and busking on the streets of Brooklyn turned into higher-paying gigs at venues across the city. Within the year, the group became a local standout, earning them invitations to play at iconic venues like the Blue Note Jazz Club and exclusive events like the Met Gala. Chapel's leadership and unwavering commitment to her craft pro-

pelled the band forward, earning them a loyal following and critical acclaim.

"We're experiencing more success now because we're doing something different. We don't look or sound like other bands. We're showing people that you don't have to fit the mold to be successful at what you love."

Brass Queens do not take their success for granted. In 2017, several Brass Queens members helped establish Brooklyn Brass Band Collective, a nonprofit created to help increase access to the transformative power of music for adult musicians. Ally Chapel currently serves as the organization's president along with two other Brass Queens, who serve on the board.

Looking ahead, Chapel's impact on the music industry shows no signs of slowing. With collaborations on the horizon, including recording projects at Atlantic Records and touring across the country, the Brass Queens are poised to reach even greater heights.

Her advice to aspiring artists? "Just start," she said. "Find your community. Follow what inspires you."

Tools for Success

This July, CU Boulder's Precollegiate Development Program (PCDP) celebrates its 40-year anniversary. The program gives social and academic resources to Colorado middle and high school students — particularly first-generation students who live in geographically diverse communities — to help them prepare and succeed at the post-secondary institution of their choice.

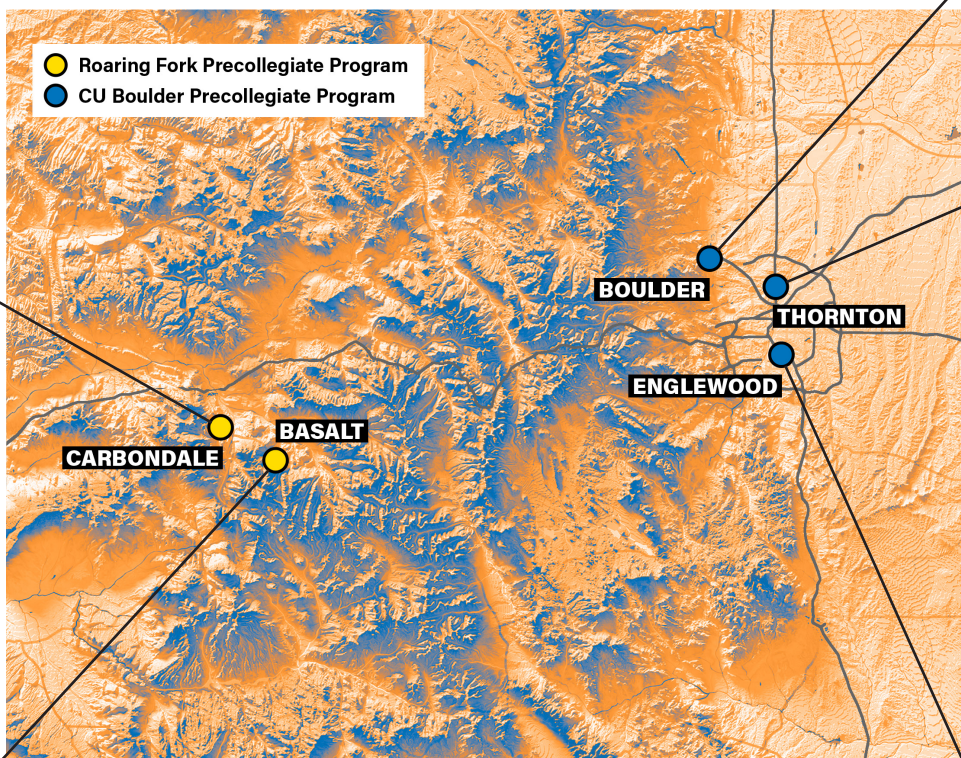
Over the past 40 years, PCDP has helped approximately 1,800 student and family participants from 60 middle and high schools. Ninety-eight percent of them attended college (73% at CU Boulder). In 2003, the program's success led to a partnership with the Roaring Fork Valley School District to create the state's first rural precollegiate partnership program. In 2009, CU Boulder helped create a similar program in Colorado's Summit County School District.

Here, five precollegiate program alumni speak out about their experiences.



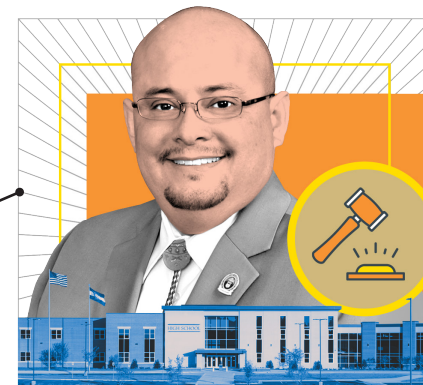
Wenming Ye (CompSci'99; MS'00)
Senior Product Manager Lead for Google Cloud

"My family immigrated to the U.S. in 1992. We lived off Folsom Street, and I was curious about college life and research work that was done at CU Boulder. PCDP provided me with a comprehensive understanding of the university system, enabling me to navigate the campus more effectively two years later. Most notably, it led to a job where I developed a keen interest in high-performance computing systems and machine learning."



Tyler Ting (BioChem; MechEngr'15)
Director of Regulatory Affairs at Avio Medtech Consulting

"[PCDP] gave me a lot of confidence that, despite the fact I was a first-generation student, I would have the tools and resources to succeed. Also, I was introduced to two of my lifelong mentors, Herb and Kate Feinzig, through the program."



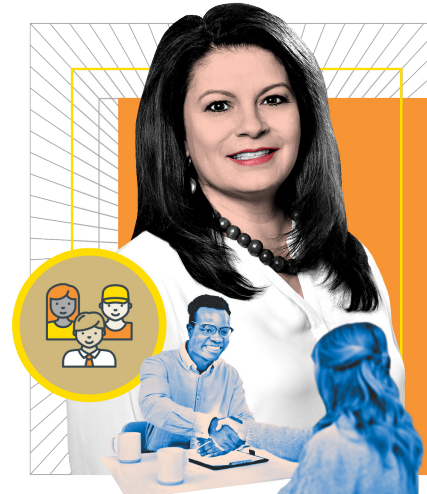
Hon. Joseph A. Salazar (Soc'93)
Chief Legal Counsel for Adams 14 School District

"The first day of the summer program, my dad expressed his astonishment that I was going to attend college classes at CU Boulder. He hadn't finished high school. His first visit was my third, and I saw myself in his expressions. I was so happy that he was excited about this journey. My mama was excited, too. She was my guiding light to seize this moment."



Estefania Vigil (Acct'13)
Financial Reporting and Technical Accounting Senior Manager at EY

"The program provided me with the resources necessary to make attending a higher education institution an attainable goal, as well as provided a lifelong mentor whom I can still call upon for advice. I also currently hold a position on the precollegiate advisory board as it instilled in me the desire to pay it forward in the form of mentorship."



Nicole Lucero-Holub (OrgMgmt'93)
Vice President of Human Resources for the Denver Museum of Nature & Science

"PCDP gave me the opportunity to experience the challenges of college-level coursework and gain exposure to campus living. I had comfort knowing I wasn't alone on campus. My mom always taught me that through my success I have a responsibility to pay it forward to our Hispanic community. After my freshman year in college, I became a counselor at the CU Denver Precollegiate program."



The
Science
of
Getting

Things
Done

CU's Leslie Leinwand helped develop the first drug for an incurable heart disease, sold two companies for billions and founded a thriving biotech institute. She's just getting started.

By LISA MARSHALL



Some

might

say

the cards were stacked against Leslie Leinwand.

At age five, the precocious kindergartner was plucked from her Manhattan home and transplanted to the one-stop-light town of York, South Carolina, after the sudden death of her father, an internal medicine doctor. Her mother remarried a man who told young Leinwand repeatedly that “girls didn’t need to go to college.” Then, when she was 13, tragedy took her mother and she was sent to live with extended family.

Leinwand persisted, landing at a small college in North Carolina where an astute professor noticed her interest in science and insisted she take a summer organic chemistry course at Cornell University.

“That’s when my somewhat sad story changed,” she recalls, now seated in her spacious office at the glistening, \$210-million biotech facility she helped bring to life. “All because I had this fantastic professor.”

Today, Leinwand is a distinguished professor of molecular, cellular and developmental biology and the chief scientific officer of the BioFrontiers

Institute at CU Boulder. She has achieved what many scientists only dream about: turning a seed of scientific inquiry into a multibillion-dollar company that saves lives — more than once.

Leinwand stayed at Cornell and helped pay her way through by working as a fraternity house waitress. She later earned her PhD in genetics from Yale and served on the faculty at Albert Einstein College of Medicine for 15 years before landing in Boulder in 1995.

Throughout this time, one fundamental question drove her research: What genes and proteins are responsible for making the heart function properly, and what causes this complex machine to break down in some people?

“She is very special. When she discovers things in her lab, she doesn’t stop there,” said Nobel laureate and Distinguished Professor of Biochemistry Tom Cech, who has known Leinwand for three decades. “She works tirelessly, doing whatever it takes, to make something happen that will impact patients.”

Healing a big, sick heart

Much of Leinwand’s work has centered on hypertrophic cardiomyopathy (HCM), which she describes simply as a “big, sick heart.”

It is the most common genetic heart disease in the United States, impacting roughly one in 500 people, as well as the most common cause of sudden death among athletes — who often don’t know they have it and push their hearts too hard, with lethal results.

HCM first made headlines in 1990 when Hank Gathers, an all-American college basketball star, collapsed and died while on the court during a game at the age of 23. Since then, a long list has followed, including Reggie Lewis of the Boston Celtics, who died on a basketball court shortly after Gathers in 1993.

In patients with HCM, their hearts — the walls thickened by disease — squeeze too hard and don’t fully relax, which burns through energy, leaves them breathless, causes the heart to race and depletes their energy.

HCM gets worse over time — and, until recently, there was no medication to treat it.

Leinwand’s interest in the disease dates back to 1985, when she first began studying a protein called myosin, which converts chemical energy into mechanical energy to move muscles, including the heart. Early on, she suspected that glitches in this ubiquitous protein might

contribute to heart troubles and that studying them could ultimately lead to new therapies.

“It was an idea before its time,” she recalls. “We didn’t have the technology back then that we did later.”

First, she and her students had to develop a way to manufacture myosin in the lab so they could study it. That alone took years.

In 1996, Leinwand and other CU colleagues took what they had learned about myosin and founded Myogen, a startup that developed two novel drugs for treating hypertension, which sold to pharma giant Gilead Sciences for \$2.6 billion in 2006.

Ultimately, Leinwand’s team determined that faulty myosin was a key culprit in HCM.

In 2012, she joined Harvard’s Christine and Jonathan Seidman, who study the genetic mechanisms of heart disease, and Stanford biochemist James Spudich, who studies how muscles contract, to create the biomedical company MyoKardia.

MyoKardia developed a drug that attaches to the faulty protein, effectively cranking down the heart’s overactive motor. The drug was tested in clinical trials, and mavacamten (brand name Camzyos) was born.

Bristol Myers Squibb bought MyoKardia for \$13 billion in 2020 and, in April of 2022, the Food and Drug Administration approved mavacamten as the first and only cardiac myosin inhibitor approved in the United States for treating HCM.

“We had hoped that the best outcome could be that the disease progression was slowed, but what cardiologists are telling us is that they are actually seeing a reversal in some patients,” says Leinwand.

Leinwand is not one to get emotional in public. But she can’t help but choke up a bit when asked how this makes her feel.

“It has been the most amazing thing to hear patients say things like, ‘I can now walk up a flight of steps again. I am no longer bedridden. I can get out of my house.’ It feels great.”

Paying it forward

Leinwand has no plans to retire anytime soon. The BioFrontiers Institute, which she and her colleagues dreamed up in the early 2000s, is now a thriving intellectual melting pot, bringing hundreds of physicists, engineers, biologists, chemists, geneticists and computer scientists from around the world together under one roof to improve human health.

Today, her Python Project, another

way-outside-the-box idea she came up with in 2006, persists, enabling undergraduate researchers to study Burmese pythons as a means of better understanding what healthy versus. unhealthy heart growth looks like.

Pythons can go 6–12 months without eating and then swallow animals as big as they are in one bite, prompting their heart to balloon 40 percent in just 48 hours. In the python’s case, this growth is healthy, much like a well-trained athlete’s heart that grows larger with conditioning.

By understanding how pythons can grow and reverse a larger healthy heart so quickly, Leinwand and her team hope to someday develop therapies that could help people strengthen or shrink their heart muscle, according to need.

Dedicated to her research, she was undeterred when told that the reptile breeder in Oklahoma City could not ship live pythons to Colorado due to interstate shipping guidelines. Instead, every year, her students drive 20 hours roundtrip to buy them and bring them to her lab on campus.

“I know how to

get stuff done”

Leinwand continues to mentor students and travel the country giving lectures on leadership, paying forward the gift she got from the professor in North Carolina who encouraged her pursuit of science. She prioritizes her own health too, carving out time to pedal 12 miles each night on her indoor recumbent bicycle while watching cooking shows to inspire the gourmet meals she prepares for friends.

When asked how she gets it all done (a question she hears a lot), she offers this singular piece of advice:

“Pick your battles, and don’t pick battles you cannot win,” says Leinwand. “I know how to get stuff done,” she adds with a modest shrug. “I’m happiest when I’m doing five things at once.”

How international cycling's best-kept secret learned to lead from behind.

By Kelsey Simpkins

IN THE BREAKAWAY



When Sepp Kuss (Advert'17) made his move and broke away from a group of fellow cyclists, gaining a significant lead on day six of the three-week-long Vuelta a España last September, his competitors weren't concerned.

They should have been.

Kuss didn't just win that day's stage — he gave it his all to maintain his lead every day over the next two weeks — up and down steep mountain climbs, across long flat sprints and through all-out time trials.

When he crossed the finish line first in Madrid, Kuss not only won his first Grand Tour, he also made history three times over: as the first American cyclist in 10 years to win a Grand Tour; the second American to win the Vuelta a España; and the first cyclist in over 65 years to ride all

three, three-week-long Grand Tours and win one in the same season. His team, Jumbo-Visma, swept the podium and became the first in history to win all three Grand Tours in a single season.

"I'm living the dream today," Kuss said to *Velo* after the race. "Usually, I'm on the other side. I'm often on the winning teams, but to be the one wearing the jersey is just incredible."

In multi-stage cycling races, the winning cyclist is the rider who achieves the fastest total time when each day's times are added together. The strategy that drives cycling teams is that by working together instead of individually, a group of support riders can give one pre-chosen leader the best chance to make the best overall time.

Kuss has long been a dedicated support rider — and his team's secret sauce for success. But this year, for the first time in his career, he will ride as the team lead in several one-week races,

as a key team player alongside recent two-time champion and teammate Jonas Vingegaard in the Tour de France, and to defend his title in Spain.

Originally from Durango, Colorado, Kuss began mountain biking in 6th grade. Kuss' childhood trainer has described him as a "natural explorer" who also tried skiing, running and ice hockey. Compared to his peers, he wasn't a stand-out on two wheels, but things started to change after he joined the CU Boulder cycling community.

During his time as a Buff, he won several Collegiate National Championships in mountain biking and road racing — finally committing to professional road cycling before graduation, signing his first WorldTour contract.

Since joining his current international team in 2018, he has become one of the most beloved cyclists in the sport; his persistent, hard-working, humble nature

is the common denominator in his team's seven victorious Grand Tours.

Kuss will compete in the Tour de France for the fifth time this summer on (now-titled) "Team Visma Lease a Bike."

"I've realized that I am capable of leading a Grand Tour and being very consistent on almost every stage, but now I know more than ever how hard it is to be a team leader," Kuss said in a post-Vuelta a España interview.

Leading a cycling team is about commitment, consistency and the ability to perform under continual pressure. Last fall, Kuss proved his ability — leveraging the element of surprise. This year, his competitors won't be so keen to let him break away.

But Kuss still has something up his sleeve that no one else can beat: the many years he has dedicated to supporting his teammates. When he is asked to lead, not only will he be ready, they'll be ready to ride for him.

COOKING WITH KINDNESS

BRUCE BROMBERG AND HIS BROTHER ERIC

FOUNDED **BLUE RIBBON RESTAURANTS** IN 1992



AND *prioritized* LEADING THEIR EMPLOYEES IN A **PRODUCTIVE** *and* **WELCOMING** ENVIRONMENT.

SOME STAFF MEMBERS REMAIN WITH THEM

more than **30** *years later.*

by SARAH KUTA

REALITY TV SHOWS OFTEN DEPICT chefs as cruel, heartless tyrants, willing to make their staff cry in pursuit of the perfect bite. But it doesn't have to be this way. Just ask **Bruce Bromberg** (Anth'88). For the last three decades, he's led a team of extraordinarily loyal staffers at Blue Ribbon Restaurants, the growing restaurant group he co-founded with his older brother Eric Bromberg in 1992.

Blue Ribbon started with one intimate eatery at the edge of New York City's SoHo neighborhood. Since then, the company has expanded into different concepts — from sushi to bowling — and opened more than 20 locations nationwide.

Through it all, intentional leadership has been paramount to the team's success.

"We wanted to create an environment where people flourished and wanted to come to work and wanted to learn, not just punch the clock," said Bromberg. "We found that once we had that environment in place, everyone excelled."

The results speak for themselves. Diners keep coming back to Blue Ribbon night after night — and so do its employees. Eleven of the 14 staffers who worked the restaurant's opening night are still with the company more than 30 years later. Now, they're all part-owners, too.

"[Eric and I] both worked in France in very oppressive and abusive kitchens," said Bromberg. "They exist in America, they exist everywhere. But it was the last thing we wanted to have happen in our kitchens. There's a better way."

Bromberg's own culinary journey started in his hometown of Morristown, New Jersey, where he grew up in a "very food-centric household."



Bruce, Eric and members of the original Blue Ribbon staff in the first SoHo restaurant.

"Whether it was my grandmother and her traditional cooking or my father's obsession with everything French, food

was a really strong element in our childhood," he said. "My father had a home in the south of France, and we would travel there in the summer and he would take us on day trips to every restaurant he could think of."

Though many of his peers attended East Coast colleges and universities, Bromberg decided to head west. He enrolled at CU Boulder and majored in anthropology. When he graduated in 1988,

"WE WANTED TO CREATE AN ENVIRONMENT WHERE PEOPLE *flourished.*"

he didn't know exactly what he wanted to do next — only that he didn't want a desk job — so he moved back to the East Coast. His brother, meanwhile, had studied at Le Cordon Bleu, the famed cooking school in Paris, and was running a restaurant in the Hamptons.

One evening, a chef where his brother was working called in sick, so Bromberg offered to pitch in and help.

"That was really it," Bromberg said. "I spent that first night in the kitchen with Eric and was instantly enamored by the whole process."

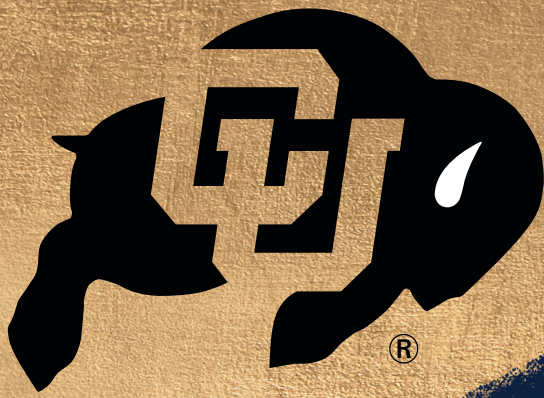
Bromberg followed his brother's footsteps and headed to France to study at Le Cordon Bleu. When he returned, they went into business together and opened the first Blue Ribbon, a 48-seat "little hole in the wall," he said. The name is a nod to their culinary training: Le Cordon Bleu means "the blue ribbon" in French.

The eatery was an overnight success, partly because it was open until 4 a.m. each day, attracting musicians, chefs, servers and other people who worked in hospitality and entertainment. The food, of course, was also a big draw.

Over 30 years later, Blue Ribbon's sweeping success has only bolstered the brothers' commitment to their people-first leadership approach.

"As a chef, I am a teacher. I'm constantly teaching. You have to be patient and respect every single individual in your environment until the last moment."

For more information on Blue Ribbon Restaurants visit BlueRibbonRestaurants.com.



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SHEDEUR SANDERS

TRAVIS HUNTER

2024 **COLORADO** FOOTBALL
 HOME GAMES



VS. NORTH DAKOTA STATE
STRIPE OUT BLACK & WHITE
 THURSDAY, AUGUST 29



VS. BAYLOR
BUFFS WEAR WHITE HOMECOMING
 SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 21



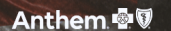
VS. KANSAS STATE
GOLD RUSH
 SATURDAY, OCTOBER 12



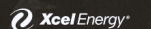
VS. CINCINNATI
BUFFS WEAR BLACK FAMILY WEEKEND
 SATURDAY, OCTOBER 26



VS. UTAH
SALUTE TO SERVICE
 SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 16



VS. OKLAHOMA STATE
SENIOR DAY
 FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 29



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Celebrating the Legacy of Forever Buffs

CU's annual Alumni Awards shine a spotlight on high-achieving Buffs who demonstrate excellence, from professional achievements to philanthropic generosity and innovative research.

Each year, a volunteer committee and the Alumni Association review nominations submitted by alumni, faculty, staff, students and community members to select winners for the six award categories.

"Winning this award is not just a personal honor, but a powerful reminder of the enduring impact of community and education on individual success," said **Stephen Hatfield** (Bus'96), winner of the 2023 Leanne Skupa-Lee Award and a leader in the Boulder Forever Buffs chapter.

The 2024 winners, announced in May, include **Paul Beddie** (IntlAf'89) and **Penny E. Patterson** (Geol'76; MS'81; PhD'90) for the Alumni Recognition Award, **Benny Shendo Jr.** (OrgMgmt'87) and **Tanya Mares Kelly-Bowry** (IntlAf'93) for the George Norlin Award, **Joseph Arora** (Mgmt'12) for the Kalpana Chawla Outstanding Recent Graduate Award, **D.B. Wilson** (Hist, Mktg'75) for the Leanne Skupa-Lee Award, and Chancellor **Phil DiStefano**, Reiland **Rabaka** and **Christopher Pacheco** (Bio'88; MEdu'16) for the Robert L. Stearns Award.

2023 Alumni Award nominees, winners and supporters celebrate the CU legacy.



The awards highlight that alumni can continue their Buff legacy long after graduation. Hatfield continued: "It reaffirms my commitment to uphold and advance the values that define our shared experiences and aspirations at the University of Colorado."

The recognition culminates with the Alumni Awards ceremony and dinner during Homecoming. It's an evening of inspiring stories, shared accomplishments, community connection and CU pride.

"We honor outstanding individuals in our Forever Buffs family. I am always awestruck by the impressive accomplishments and character of our award winners. It is a night that makes you proud to be a Buff!" said **Ryan Chreist** (Kines'96; MPubAd'09), assistant vice chancellor of Alumni and Constituent Engagement and executive director of the Alumni Association.

Visit www.colorado.edu/homecoming to register for the celebration. **BY APRIL DRIVER**



Making Homecoming Happen



Forever Buffs are the heart of Homecoming — in the stands, on the stage and behind the scenes.

According to **Leia Atas**, Alumni Association program manager for volunteer engagement, alumni volunteers are a pivotal force behind signature events like the Alumni Awards and Buffs on Tap.

These volunteer roles lead to old and new connections with fellow Forever Buffs.

"Being a Buff who gives back during this weekend is a great way to connect with other alumni," Atas said.

This year, Homecoming takes place September 19–21, which marks CU Boulder's return to the Big 12 conference as the Buffs take on the Baylor Bears at Folsom Field.

"Homecoming is one of our biggest weekends of the year and would not be possible without the help of volunteers," said Atas.

Sign up to volunteer by emailing alumnivolunteers@colorado.edu.

FOREVER BUFFS NETWORK MENTORSHIP PROGRAM

This fall marks the fifth year of the CASE award-winning Forever Buffs Network Mentorship Program. Designed to build meaningful relationships between CU Boulder alumni and students, this program provides a community for professional and personal development beyond CU. To sign up as a mentor or mentee for the '24-'25 school year, visit foreverbuffsnetwork.com by Sept. 1, 2024.

HERD LEADERSHIP COUNCIL VOLUNTEERS

The Herd Leadership Council (HLC), a student leadership branch of the Alumni Association, plays a vital role in bridging the gap between current

students and alumni, fostering a sense of community and philanthropy on the University of Colorado Boulder campus. "Our mission is to connect students to campus and get them excited about being Forever Buffs!" said HLC's Philanthropy Chair, **Zoe Disler** (Psych'26). To get involved and support HLC, contact herd@colorado.edu.

HOMECOMING REUNION EVENTS

Reconnect with other Forever Buffs during Homecoming at the Reunion Tailgate or 40- and 50-year Reunion and Golden Anniversary Club celebration. Head to www.colorado.edu/homecoming to start planning your Homecoming weekend celebrations.

2025 TRIPS

Finland: Arctic Magnificence
Jan. 16–24



Wild Baja Escape: The Whales of Magdalena Bay
Feb. 5–10



The Panama Canal and Costa Rica
Feb. 21–March 1



Kiwi and Kangaroo Coasts, Australia and New Zealand
Feb. 24–March 10



Intriguing India
Feb. 28–March 14



For more information about the Roaming Buffs travel program, email roamingbuffstravel@colorado.edu, call 303-492-8484 or visit www.colorado.edu/alumni/roamingbuffs.



Amping up Radio 1190

Radio 1190 KVCU, CU Boulder's volunteer-based student radio station, has been broadcasting on campus since November 1998. Recently, it's been gaining attention on a national scale.

In less than two years, **Jack Armstrong** (StComm'25), news director for Radio 1190, has grown the student radio team from three people to 40 active volunteers, amping up the broadcast from weekly to daily. The station now features daily news programming, in addition to shows, music and podcasts.

"I had a drive to make something much larger than what we currently had at the station," said Armstrong, who will be a senior in the fall.

In March, the Intercollegiate Broadcasting System honored the radio

station with two national awards: Best Public Affairs Program and the 2024 Best News Director.

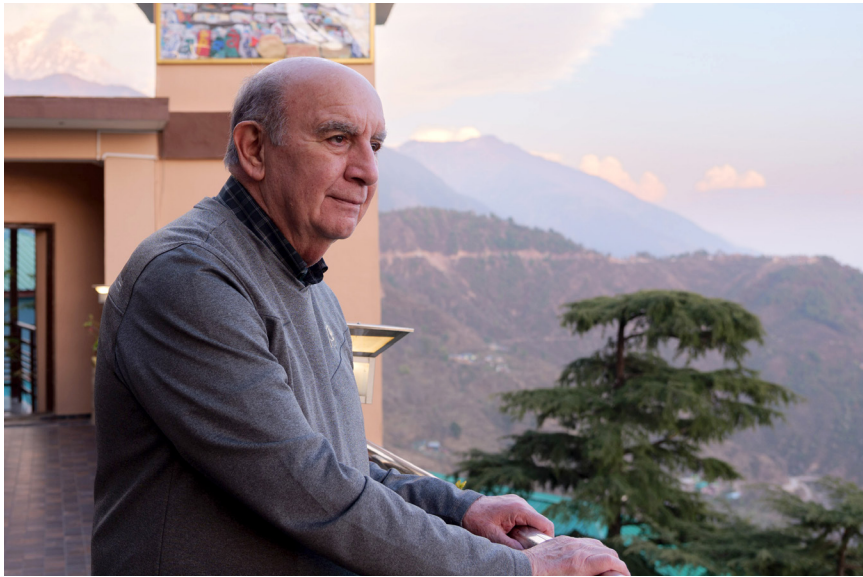
"It was validating that the program I put together worked," Armstrong said. "I want working for Radio 1190 to be a coveted learning experience for students — and one that employers will see and value."

When he graduates, Armstrong plans to continue in a new capacity with the station, which is located in the University Memorial Center on campus.

"I will consult with the second news director to make sure they're beginning on the right path," he said. "After that, I'm choosing to promote myself to the role of listener."

Listen to the station at 1190 AM or at 1190.radio. BY CHRISTIE SOUNART (JOUR'12)

Jack Armstrong (StComm'25) has big plans for Radio 1190.



The Lifelong Practice of Leadership



Philip P.
DiStefano

In the months leading up to my retirement as chancellor of CU Boulder, I've had many occasions for retrospection.

The past 15 years leading this incredible campus have been among the most meaningful of my professional career. We have doubled our total research funding, awarded roughly 117,000 degrees, survived a global pandemic and made incredible strides in equity, innovation, athletics, sustainability, town-gown relationships and so much more. I leave this position confident about the state of the campus and optimistic for its future.

When I consider my background — a first-generation college student from a small steel town in Ohio — it's easy to feel like I arrived here through happenstance.

But what I've come to realize over my 50-year career at CU Boulder is that leadership is within each of us. Whether in higher education, business, government or community organizations, leadership is a daily practice that requires courage, compassion, discipline, flexibility and humility. If we're fortunate, it's a journey that we continue every day of our lives.

Throughout my career, I've been inspired by those who made a commitment to self-improvement and ethical leadership throughout their lives — people like Abraham Lincoln, Malala

Yousafzai and the Dalai Lama.

This spring, I had the honor of meeting His Holiness the Dalai Lama during a visit to Dharamshala, India, with the Renée Crown Wellness Institute and the Leeds School of Business. I traveled with students and young alumni in the Dalai Lama Fellows Program, a unique one-year fellowship that supports emerging social change-makers.

Through inspirational conversations, the Dalai Lama shared how compassion, connection and contemplation can break through societal barriers to create a more just and benevolent world.

At this stage of my life and career, I can think of no place more valuable to focus my attention than on developing compassion and ethics among the next generation of leaders. I'm excited to do that through my new role with the CU Boulder Center for Leadership starting this summer.

As the Dalai Lama reminded us, our world needs leaders of character who will bring integrity, intellect, empathy and open-mindedness to every challenge we face as a society.

May we all embrace and embody those characteristics in our lifelong practice of leadership.

PHILIP P. DISTEFANO IS THE 11TH CHANCELLOR OF CU BOULDER. HE IS THE QUIGG AND VIRGINIA S. NEWTON ENDOWED CHAIR IN LEADERSHIP, OVERSEEING CU BOULDER'S LEADERSHIP PROGRAMS.



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SPORTSnews

By **Andrew Daigle** (PhDEngl'16)



Shedeur Sanders Readies for Second Season

As Football's QB1 gears up for a second year leading the Buffs, he's focused on embracing change and building on a transcendent debut season.

On April 27, 2024, Buffaloes quarterback **Shedeur Sanders** (Soc'25) made a welcome return to Folsom Field for

Shedeur Sanders is set to lead the Buffs into the season opener against North Dakota State on August 29.

the team's annual Black and Gold Game. Sanders finished 10-14 for 116 yards and a touchdown in the rain-shortened scrimmage.

"We were comfortable, seeing everything eye-to-eye. Everybody got to showcase their talents today," said Sanders.

Sanders was one of 57 transfers to join the Buffs in 2023. While this off-season has had similar turnover with more than 40 transfers, the difference is elevated personnel.

"We have a plethora of receivers, and I cannot wait to see them work together this summer. Shedeur is going to be the happiest man in the building," said head coach Deion "Coach Prime" Sanders.

Four months stand between the Spring Game and August 29 opener against North Dakota State, giving Shedeur Sanders the opportunity to connect with new receivers and a revamped offensive line.

"I talk a lot to the receivers about the reads and progressions. I hang out with my offensive linemen. We go eat. We cook. We do everything together. That's where we build our bond," said Sanders.

Sanders, projected to be ranked as high as No. 1 in the 2025 NFL Draft after throwing for 3,230 yards and 27 touchdowns in 2023, is intent on improving his off-the-field leadership.

"I can become more vocal. On the field, they know what they're getting. But off the field, you need to let guys know they're always valued," said Sanders.

With Colorado returning to the Big 12 this season, Coach Prime has promised a talent overhaul and a bowl game to famed CU superfan **Peggy Coppom** (A&S'46).

"[We have] another caliber of player, a player that truly expects to go to the next level," Coach Prime said. "They want the physicality, they want all the smoke. But the offseason is far from over."

"This summer is definitely going to be a grind," said Sanders.

Buff's Win NCAA
Colorado staged a historic comeback to claim its 21st National Ski Championship on March 9, 2024, at the NCAA Championships in Steamboat Springs, Colo.

The Buffaloes were down 51 points to four-time defending champion Utah with only the men's and women's 20-kilometer classic Nordic races remaining. Led by **Hanna Abrahamsson** (EnvEng'25), the women took 4th, 5th and 9th, cutting the deficit to 17 points.

Led by **Magnus Boe** (CivEng'24), three CU men finished 1st, 3rd and 11th to upend Utah 569.5 to 567.5 in the closest coed skiing championship finish in NCAA history. Boe won his 16th collegiate race — his first this season.

"It's one thing to be capable of doing it, it's another to go out and do it," said Boe. "As a team, we mobilized."

Colorado snapped a nine-year national championship drought. The Buffs claimed four individual titles: Boe in classical, **Filip Wahlqvist** (Bus'27) in slalom, and **Magdalena Luczak** (Grmn'26) in giant slalom and slalom.

"That was very close, and very nerve racking. Everybody did what we had to do," said head coach **Jana Weinberger** (IAFS'06).

Buff's Bits

Coach Talk

"IT FEELS SURREAL."

— Jana Weinberger, skiing head coach, after Colorado won the NCAA Ski Championship in a thrilling comeback on March 9.

Women's basketball (24-10, 11-7 Pac-12) advanced to the NCAA Tournament's Sweet 16 for the second season before losing to eventual national runner-up Iowa 89-68 on March 30. The Buffs were led by All-America Honorable Mention and Pac-12 WBB Scholar Athlete of the Year **Jaylyn Sherrod** (Soc'22, MORGmt'23), Pac-12 All-Conference **Aaronette Vonleh** (Soc'25) and All-Conference Honorable Mentions **Frida Formann** (EnvSt'24) and **Quay Miller** (Soc'23, MSOL'24).

... Men's basketball (26-11, 13-7 Pac-12) came up short against Marquette 81-77 on March 24 in the second round of the NCAA Tournament. **KJ Simpson** (LeadCommEngmt'25) earned All-District and All-Pac-12 First Team honors; **Tristan da Silva** (Fin'24) was named All-Pac-12 Second Team. A collegiate coach for the past 18 years, Manning was the NCAA National Player of the Year in 1988 at Kansas, the first pick of the 1988 NBA Draft, and a two-time NBA All-Star. ... Lacrosse (13-6, 5-2 Pac-12) reached the Pac-12 Championship game before being eliminated by No. 16 Stanford 11-8 on May 4. First Team Pac-12 All-Conference **Madeline Pisani** (Lead'24) finished 2024 with 67 goals and a team record 3.53 goals/game.

STATS

2

Buff's in Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame when **Chauncey Billups** (Soc ex'99) is inducted August 16-17.

4-2

Tennis lost to Tulsa in the NIT as **Aya El Sayed** (Fin'24) and **Mila Stanojevic** (Bio-Chem'25) finished All-Pac-12 Second Team and Honorable Mention.

15th

Golfer **Justin Biber's** (Acct, Fin'25) finish at the Pac-12 Championships, earning him a spot in the NCAA Men's Golf Regional for the third straight year.

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Women's track's **Bailey Hertenstein's** (MInt-Phys'24) first place 10,000m time May 10 at the Pac-12 Track and Field Championships.

59

Colorado student-athletes named to Pac-12 2024 Winter Academic Honor Roll on April 29.



All About the Players

Anthony Pham was named Colorado tennis associate head coach in February 2021 and head coach just five months later. Since then, the team has seen a remarkable program turnaround, and they've become like family.

What attracted you to Colorado? We were living in Madison, Wisconsin, and it was the thick of COVID. We were trying to figure out where to live long term. The opportunity at CU was fate. My wife is a CU graduate. When she heard about the coach opening, she said we needed to jump at it. I've never met anyone who went to CU and had a negative experience. And with the tennis program, there was so much potential.

Quickly after arriving, you became the seventh head coach

in program history. How did that change your responsibilities and relationships? I was previously a head coach at a small Division 1 school. Coaching at a mid-major compared to a Power 5 school, budgets and responsibilities are different, but that job prepared me a lot. You have to gain the players' trust, and they have to know you always have their best interests in mind. Getting the opportunity to become head coach is something I don't take lightly. As head coach, you're scheduling, recruiting, doing every-

thing an assistant coach does, but it's tenfold. The number-one priority doesn't change. It's all about the players.

How do you find good people, not just good players?

We try to be as thorough as possible. The team is an extended part of my family. We spend so much time with these players. On a small team, one person can upset the balance. In terms of recruiting, we visit with them and their family. We talk to their coaches and other coaches. There are a lot of good tennis

players, but there aren't as many tennis players who are also good people and good students.

What goes into building a competitive Power 5 conference tennis program? We focus on development. We find people for whom the best tennis is still ahead. Kids start playing tennis early, and sometimes they burn out. We want student-athletes who want to keep improving, to be part of a program that is making headway and doing things that haven't been done before.

How would you describe your leadership style? I empower players to know that when they play, they are prepared. They are going

to compete in a first-class manner. We want to win like crazy, but it's not all about winning. It's about doing the right things every day. You can't really control winning and losing, but you can control a lot of variables that go into winning. Obviously, if we don't have success, we reassess some things and try again.

Can you coach players during matches?

If you go to a normal junior tournament as a coach, you're not allowed to coach at all. You can only cheer. But with college, it's completely different. We can sit on the sideline with our players and talk to them at every changeover. You have to know when to talk, which buttons to push and when to keep your mouth shut if your player is rolling.

How are the fall and spring seasons different? Spring is the championship season. It's when we play our dual and conference matches. Fall is shorter. It's our developmental season. We bring a player in, and we will make some minor adjustments to their game. We start setting our standards, creating expectations with players, building the bond within the team. In the fall, we're giving them two or three things to focus on. And the hope is when the spring season comes around, those things that were uncomfortable in the fall are now strengths.

What stands out to you about CU Athletics?

It starts at the top. Rick George is the most personal athletic director I've been around. At matches, he's fired up, he knows all the players, and all the players know him. And we have great academic support, nutrition, trainers, an amazing strength coach. CU offers the best of three worlds: great location, great academics, top-notch athletics.

Can you speak to what college tennis offers that differs from training academies or private coaching? Tennis is a very individual sport.

Growing up, if you're playing a tournament, it's usually you and your coach or a parent. College is completely different. You're on a team, and everyone is committed. The more you improve as individuals, the more it helps the team. When we play a match, there's energy from court to court. Your teammates are pumping you up, supporting you. When you're playing a tournament by yourself, whether you win or lose affects maybe a couple people. With college tennis, there are so many others affected.

What's something you like to do off the court?

I love spending time with my wife and son. They come to all our matches, they're great supporters. Whether I'm with our team here or my family at home, that's where I find the most enjoyment. INTERVIEW BY ANDREW DAIGLE.



LET THE GOOD TIMES

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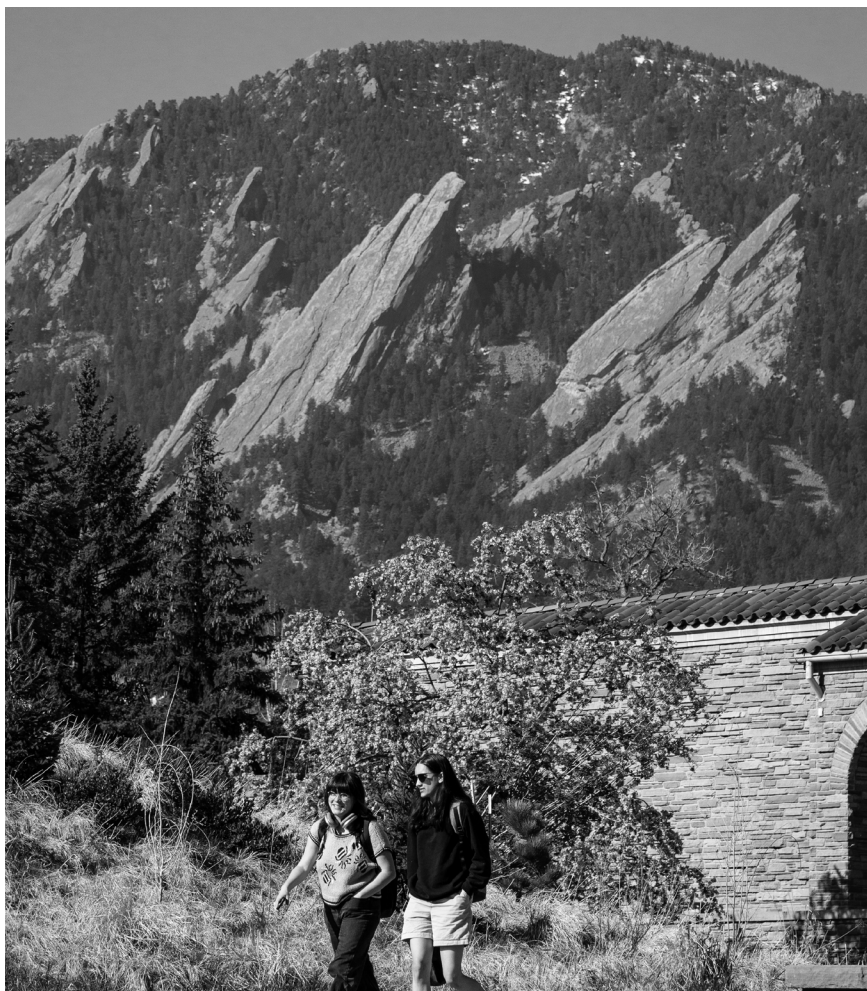
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CLASSnotes



On campus, the iconic Flatirons are always on display.

'64 Bill Wilson (A&S'64) has lived in Colorado since 1977. In 2022, he moved from the Denver metroplex to Grand Junction. He recently self-published a new collection of short stories, *Escape in 1948*. The lead story is about a group escaping the Iron Curtain from Czechoslovakia. The remaining stories outline experiences in Wilson's life.

READ THE OTHER DECADES OF CLASS NOTES ONLINE AT [COLORADO.EDU/COLORADAN](https://colorado.edu/coloradan)

'70 James Navratil (Chem'70; MS'72; PhD'75) is a professor emeritus of environmental engineering and science at Clemson University. Navratil, who resides in Nederland, Colorado, has recently published two novels, *Bare Essentials* and *Bear Hugs*. Both novels partially take place on the CU Boulder campus.

'74 Mariko Tatsumoto (Psych'74; Law'77) immigrated to the U.S. from Japan when she was 8 years old

and became the first Asian woman attorney to be admitted to the Colorado Bar before becoming a novelist. Tatsumoto recently published a historical fiction novel, *Blossoms on a Poisoned Sea*, through Northampton House Press. Set in Japan, the book is based on the true events of one of history's most shocking corporate betrayals and industrial disasters. Tatsumoto explains: "*Blossoms* is about environmental pollution, politics, corporate cover-up, social injustice

and ethics, along with romance and murders."

'76 Seth Rosenman (EnvDes'76) was the architect for the Major General Maurice Rose Monument in Denver's Lincoln-Veterans Memorial Park, across the street from the State Capitol. General Rose, a Denver native, was the highest-ranking American soldier killed by enemy gunfire in World War II. Rosenman's project involved the design of the site and pedestal for the 10-foot-high bronze statue by noted sculptor George Lundeen. Rosenman was also the designer of the Colorado Fallen Heroes Memorial, located in the same park.

'77 Gregory Hinton (PerMgmt'77) wrote *A Sissy in Wyoming*, a play about Larry Goodwin, a notable Wyoming resident who dressed in feminine clothing and faced discrimination for his self-expression. The play tells the story of his life and the trials he faced throughout it. Hinton's work has earned three national awards for diversity, excellence and fine art.

'82 Karen Gilleland (Engl'82) has lived in Boulder since 1965. She recently published the third mystery novel in her series *Diamond-Dennison Mysteries*. The book, *Diamond and the French Blue*, is recommended for those

seeking a combination of mystery and personal revelations.

John Bayard Tweedy Jr. (Engl'82), **Beret Elizabeth Strong** (Engl'83) and **Katrina Washington Miller** (Jour'07) helped direct and produce the documentary film *This is [Not] Who We Are*, which explores the history of Boulder and the sometimes painful experiences of Boulder's Black community. The film has screened in 40 film festivals nationally and internationally, won nearly 20 awards and sold out at its Colorado Chautauqua Auditorium screening. The film is now available for programming to 350 PBS stations nationwide and is free to every K-12 school in Boulder County.

'84 Geary Larrick (PhDMus'84) has played solo marimba programs for Women's History Month for 20 years. Larrick plays out of his home in Glenview, Illinois. On March 4, 2024, Larrick played his original piece, "My Lydia," composed at CU Boulder. He also played a piece his daughter wrote in a gifted and talented class as a sixth grader.

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Write the editors at Koenig Alumni Center, Boulder, CO 80309, or editor@colorado.edu.



Corey Lofdahl (EIEngr'84; PhDPol Sci'97) participated in the NASTAR 2024 Alpine Ski Racing Championships in Snowmass, Colorado, winning his age group and a gold medal in the bronze division. When not racing or training, Lofdahl works as a research scientist for Leidos Corp. in Carlisle, Massachusetts.

'86 David Bagby (Mktg'86) founded Alliance Memory Inc., a memory technology company, in 2006. Today he is the president and CEO. With over three decades of experience in the memory marketing industry,

COREY LOFDAHL (ELENGR'84; PHDPOLSCI'97) PARTICIPATED IN THE NASTAR 2024 ALPINE SKI RACING CHAMPIONSHIPS IN SNOWMASS, COLORADO, WINNING HIS AGE GROUP AND A GOLD MEDAL IN THE BRONZE DIVISION.

Bagby continues to drive positive change and stand out as a market leader in the evolving technology landscape. His daughter, **Courtney Bagby** (Advert'15), is a fellow CU alum.

Stephen Koehler (Phys'86) assumed command of the U.S. Pacific Fleet in April 2024. Koehler was commissioned in 1986 after graduating from CU Boulder, became a designated naval aviator in 1989 and has logged more than 3,900 flight hours in F-14 Tomcat and F-18 E/F/G Super Hornets. He previously served as the commanding officer of the amphibious assault ship Bataan, aircraft carrier Dwight D. Eisenhower and Carrier Strike Group 9 and was the executive officer of aircraft carrier Carl Vinson.

'87 W.E. O'Neil Construction has promoted **Todd Guthrie** (CivEngr'87) from the company's Colorado president to regional president. "My goal was to provide a strong foundation for the business that the next generation could leverage into even more success, far surpassing what we have accomplished to date. I hope that I can help the Tennessee and Arizona offices thrive like the Colorado team," said Guthrie.

'89 **Scott Moore** (Econ'89) is a feature film writer and director best known for contributing to films *The Hangover* and *Bad Moms*. Moore co-wrote *The Hangover*, which won the

2010 Golden Globe for Best Comedy and earned more than \$275 million domestically, making it the highest-grossing R-rated comedy of all time. The script earned Moore a nomination for Best Original Screenplay from the Writers Guild of America (WGA) and the British Academy of Film and Television Arts (BAFTA). Additionally, another of Moore's co-written films, *Bad Moms*, earned more than \$180 million worldwide, making it the highest-grossing R-rated comedy of the year. The film also won the People's Choice Award for Best Comedy of 2016. In addition to these films, Moore is credited on films starring celebrities such as Reese Witherspoon and Ryan Reynolds.



CU Boulder conferred more than 9,400 degrees in May at a cloudy yet joyous event.

FIVE QUESTIONS



Shining Moments

Marsha Ivings (AeroEngr'73) is a retired astronaut who has participated in five missions to space. Over the course of her career, Ivings spent a total of 55 days in space handling various responsibilities, from monitoring systems as a flight engineer to managing photography. This year, she was selected as a 2024 inductee for the U.S. Astronaut Hall of Fame, one of the highest honors in the industry.

As a child, did you imagine life as an astronaut? I have wanted to work in the space business in some capacity since I was 10 years old. Imagining opens the door to trying, and trying is step one in achieving. I wasn't solely focused on just flying in space, although of course that was a dream.

Everyone I knew, family, teachers and friends said it could never happen.

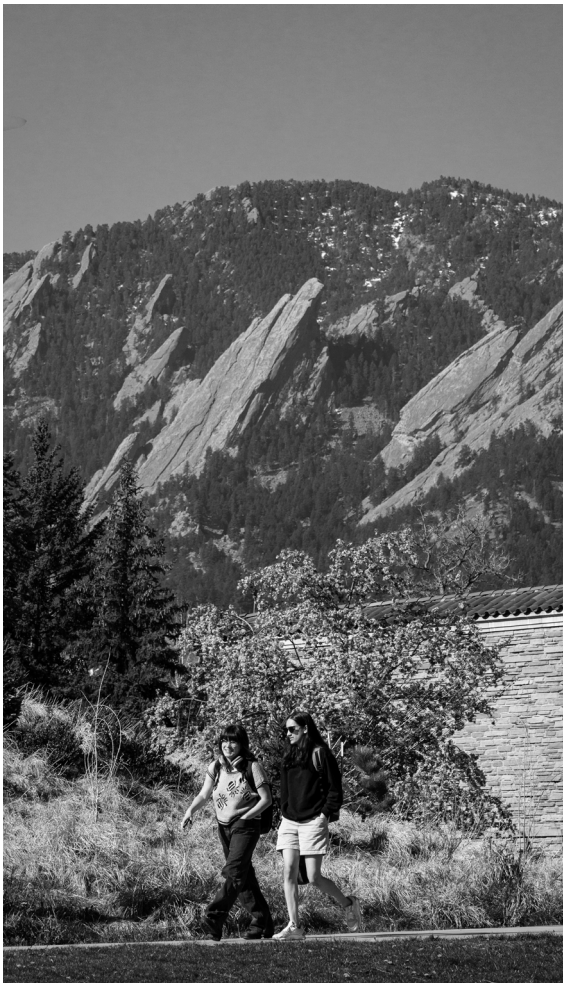
Of your career missions, are there any that you feel especially passionate about or regard as your favorite? There is no such thing as a bad spaceflight. They all had shining moments for me.

Can you describe the feeling of looking out at the Earth for the first time from space? I cannot adequately express the visceral feeling of realizing you are no longer on the planet. What you see is only a sliver of the feeling.

What were some of your career goals when you were studying aerospace engineering at CU Boulder? NASA was not hiring astronauts when I graduated from college. I applied as an engineer to the Johnson Space Center (JSC), but 1974 was a severe downtime for aerospace engineers in all industries. I also applied for 27 other jobs around the country that were not hiring at the time. I was offered and accepted a job with Abbott Laboratories, and shortly after I got a call from the JSC saying I'd been offered an engineering position in a new class — which I then accepted.

How does it feel to be selected for the Astronaut Hall of Fame? I am honored to have been considered and selected for induction. There have been 106 men and women inducted into the AHOF since 1990, covering the Mercury, Gemini, Apollo, Skylab and Space Shuttle programs. It is overseen by the Astronaut Scholarship Fund which, to date, has given over \$8M in scholarships to more than 790 students in STEM fields at partner universities across the country.
INTERVIEW BY JESSICA SACHS (JOUR, POLSCI'26)

CLASSnotes



On campus, the iconic Flatirons are always on display.

'91 D. Eric Maikranz (Russ'91) and **Marcos Perez** (Psych'97) recently finished the narrative non-fiction book *The Next Good Thing: A True Story of Positivity and Transformation in 10 Lessons*. It tells the true story of a man whose life is transformed when he takes an unlikely caretaking job for a disabled 87-year-old man who is more than he seems.

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'93 Carl Quintanilla (PolSci'93), co-anchor of CNBC's *Squawk on the Street* and *Money Movers*, stepped back on campus to speak at this year's Conference on World Affairs in April. The same weekend, he hosted the CNBC special "Cities of Success: Denver and Boulder," where he highlighted the growing spectrum of industries in the Mountain West.

'95 Rodney Lie (MusEdu'95; MA'99) began a new

position as district manager in Fort Collins for Vector Marketing Corp. He will be reopening the district office that has been closed since the pandemic and will build a new sales team to cover the entire Northern Colorado region.

Julie Marshall (MJour'95) initiated a ballot measure for the state of Colorado to end trophy hunting of mountain lions and fur trapping of bobcats. The effort now has the endorsement of more than 80 organizations, including the Colorado Sierra Club. As a homegrown journalist, Marshall has covered this issue for 30 years, including as a former opinion editor for the *Boulder Daily Camera*. She recently won first place for her lion columns from the Colorado Press Association. The campaign is called "Cats Aren't Trophies," and the website is www.catsarentrophies.org. She encourages everyone to sign up and volunteer. Colorado voters will decide on the issue during the upcoming November election. Marshall is a public relations director for Animal Wellness Action and the Center for a Humane Economy, based in Washington, D.C.

'96 Cultural anthropologist Laura DeLuca (MAnth'96; PhD'02), founder of impact travel venture Discover with DeLuca, has collaborated with fellow alum **Brian Ash** (Econ'13), co-founder

of African eco-lodge Bomanoma, to plan and lead a "travel like an anthropologist" safari through Narok, Kenya, and Maasai Mara this summer. The trip will be an immersive cultural experience to support the surrounding communities and to teach about Maasai culture, for an overall safari venture centered on fun, global fluency and making a difference.

'99 Chandler Smith (Mktg'99) was named executive director of the Grand Valley Outdoor Recreation Coalition, based in Grand Junction, Colorado. The organization plays an integral role in fostering a sustainable and inclusive outdoor recreation industry across the Western Slope. Smith lives with his wife and daughters in Grand Junction and remains a principal with The Ride Collective, which produces the road cycling events Copper Triangle, Tour of the Moon, Tour de Vineyards and the Enchanted Circle Bicycle Tour.

'00 W.E. O'Neil Construction promoted **Matt Hoster** (CivEngr'00) to the company's president in Colorado. He will lead the Denver and Colorado Springs offices.

Rebecca Lange (PolSci'00) once said, "The only reason I want to be a colonel is to return to Boulder." Now, Lange's wish is coming true as she

moves back with her husband, a fellow Buff, and son. Lange will command the Air Force ROTC detachment at CU Boulder and serve as a professor of aerospace studies. Throughout her career, Lange has met CU cheerleaders in Iraq, flown CU flags in combat zones and cheered on CU alumni who serve the United States.

'01 Christine Peck (EPOBio'01) co-founded St Hildie's, an award-winning, zero-sugar spiked tonic composed of botanical ingredients, attracting partnerships with major retailers like Whole Foods and Erewhon. The venture aligns with Peck's passion for health and wellness. Peck credits her time at CU studying biology as the inspiration for her journey into entrepreneurship. "The choices we are making for St Hildie's are aligned with my interests in health, the human body and environmentalism," she said.

'02 Ian Cohen (Jour'02) is an executive producer of *The Barber of Little Rock*, a short documentary film recently nominated for an Academy Award. Cohen's film is a provocative and emotional conversation starter about the racial wealth gap in America. It is available to stream for free on both YouTube and *The New Yorker* website.

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Boulder, CO 80309, or
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'03 Jeff Parker (MAeroEngr'03; PhD'07) and **Bradley Cheetham** (MAeroEngr'11) co-founded Advanced Space, a startup that develops technology to enable sustainable exploration, development and settlement of space. In 2022, it launched the successful CAPSTONE satellite, which orbits the Moon.

"We love what we do, and Advanced Space lets us do it," Parker said. "We have fully intended this company to be multigenerational: something that will outlast anyone here. How often do you get the opportunity to help define interplanetary missions, test out new navigation technologies, and inspire engineers all at the same time?"

'05 Aba Arthur (Thtr'05) plays Abena in the new musical adaptation of Alice Walker's famed Pulitzer-winning novel, *The Color Purple*. Arthur received personal coaching from

Oprah Winfrey while working on set. Arthur is based in Los Angeles and Atlanta, and serves on the Dean's Advisory Council for CU's College of Arts and Sciences.

Darren Mueller (Mus'05) has just published his book *At the Vanguard of Vinyl: A Cultural History of the Long-Playing Record in Jazz*. Mueller's work examines how musicians such as Louis Armstrong, Miles Davis, Duke Ellington and Charles Mingus leveraged the jazz industry's adoption of the long-playing record (LP) to redefine the uneven power relations of the heavily segregated music business.

'06 Patrick L. Hamilton (PhDEngl'06) is a professor of English at Misericordia University and recently published *George Pérez*, a biography of the legendary Bronze Age of Comics comic book creator who contributed to classic titles such as *Fantastic Four* and *The Avengers*. Hamilton's book, published by the University Press of Mississippi, examines why Pérez's contributions to comic art and history have not been fully acknowledged, analyzing Pérez's work for its representations of race, disability and gender.

Mary Wagner (PolSci'06) was appointed to the Tennessee Supreme Court by the governor of Tennessee, Bill Lee. Previously a circuit court judge, Wagner begins serving on Sept. 1, 2024.

ABA ARTHUR (THTR'05) PLAYS ABENA IN THE NEW MUSICAL ADAPTATION OF ALICE WALKER'S FAMED PULITZER-WINNING NOVEL, THE COLOR PURPLE. ARTHUR RECEIVED PERSONAL COACHING FROM OPRAH WINFREY WHILE WORKING ON SET.

'07 Ryan Connolly (PolSci'07) started clothing company Grassroots California more than 15 years ago. Today, the company's clients include celebrities like Jerry Garcia, Pink Floyd, Method Man and Cheech and Chong, plus local Colorado companies like Great Divide Brewery and Rosenberg's Bagels & Delicatessen. Connolly is proud of his company's success. "I started the company with one hat on the Venice Beach Boardwalk, and we are now sold in 300 stores in 25 countries," he said.

Katrina Washington Miller (Jour'07), **Beret Elizabeth Strong** (Engl'83) and **John Bayard Tweedy Jr.** (Engl'82) helped direct and produce the documentary film *This is [Not] Who We Are*, which explores the history of Boulder and the sometimes painful experiences of Boulder's Black community. The film has screened in 40 film festivals nationally and internationally, won nearly 20 awards and sold out at its Colorado Chautauqua Auditorium screening. The film is now available for programming to 350 PBS stations nationwide

and is free to every K-12 school in Boulder County.

Crystal Rosenthal (MClass'07) was awarded the Arthur Ross Rome Prize in ancient studies by the American Academy in Rome. The highly competitive Rome Prize fellowships support advanced independent work and research in the arts and humanities. Rosenthal will receive a stipend, workspace, and room and board at the academy's 11-acre campus in Rome, starting this September.

'09 Diego Baca (Acct'09; MS'09) is an assurance senior manager and certified public accountant (CPA) at EY. Baca's inspiration to become a CPA came from one of his CU Boulder professors, a public accountant with a PhD in psychology. Through this professor, Baca learned that by applying careful thought and analysis of the underlying factors, he could help create more compelling business perspectives supported by data. He has also made his mark helping young Latino professionals pursue their passions by exploring the possibility of a career in accounting.

FIVE QUESTIONS



Recycling Flowers, Spreading Joy

Flowers have the power to improve your physical and mental well-being — even more so if they are fragrant, according to peer-reviewed research. That's part of what **Jamie Seward** (PolSci'97) was after when, late last year, she revived Repeat Roses, a zero-waste solution for event florals that closed its doors during the COVID-19 pandemic. Past clients include the Super Bowl and Duchess of Sussex Meghan Markle.

Mainly located in Southern California, Arizona and on the East Coast, Repeat Roses transports flowers from events such as weddings and corporate events, rearranges them into smaller bouquets and delivers them to nonprofits like homeless shelters, hospitals or nursing homes. Later, a team picks up the flowers for composting and her clients receive a receipt for their charitable donation.

Seward, a Navy veteran and former attorney, also serves as senior associate director of alumni relations for Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine in Baltimore.

What inspired you to take over Repeat Roses? I have a passion for people, I have a passion for the planet and I want to leave the

world a little better than I found it.

What's the status of your business? It's what I like to call a 'restart-up'

— it was a start-up and we've restarted it. We are up and running, we can operate anywhere in the U.S., and we're hoping to get the word out. It takes time for word to spread that we're back in business.

What's it like when you deliver flowers? There's nothing quite like seeing the faces of the people in a homeless shelter, both the staff and the residents, and the joy on their faces when they see flowers — which are considered a luxury — brighten up their space. They're worried about the basics, and to have something beautiful and joyful, it elevates everyone's mood, it makes everyone feel better and it brightens up their environment.

Why do you compost the flowers? It's more advantageous for the environment for flowers to decompose naturally, versus putting them in a plastic bag in a landfill.

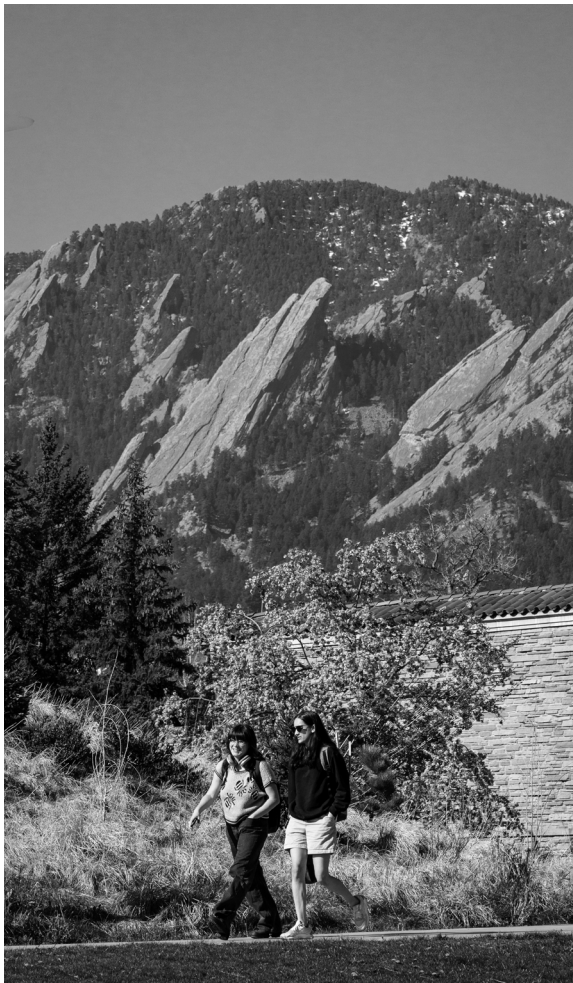
Did anything from your CU Boulder experience guide you into doing this type of work?

I was in the Kappa Alpha Theta sorority at CU, and there was often a philanthropic aspect to our activities. So, it was ingrained in me very early that helping people is something I wanted to do in as many aspects of my life as possible.

Learn more about Repeat Roses at @REPEATROSES on social media or at repeatroses.com

INTERVIEW BY TOM KERTSCHER

CLASSnotes



On campus, the iconic Flatirons are always on display.

'10 Stephanie May Wilson (Jour'10) hosts the podcast *Girls Night*, which has over seven million downloads. And, Wilson has written a new book: *Create a Life You Love: How to Quiet Outside Voices So You Can Finally Hear Your Own*, which dives into the period that she calls the “Everything Era” — the weird, wonderful and wildly difficult span

of years for women in their 20s and 30s. In the coming months, Wilson plans to move to Spain with her husband and twin toddlers.

'11 Bradley Cheetham (MAeroEngr'11) and **Jeff Parker** (MAeroEngr'03; PhD'07) co-founded Advanced Space, a startup that develops technology to enable sustainable exploration, development and settlement of space. In 2022, it launched the successful CAPSTONE satellite, which orbits the Moon.

READ THE OTHER DECADES OF CLASS NOTES ONLINE AT COLORADO.EDU/COLORADAN

'13 Brian Ash (Econ'13), co-founder of African eco-lodge Bomanoma, has teamed up with cultural anthropologist **Laura DeLuca** (MANth'96; PhD'02), founder of impact travel venture Discover with DeLuca, to plan and lead a “travel like an anthropologist” safari through Narok, Kenya, and Maasai Mara this summer. The trip will be an immersive cultural experience to support the surrounding communities and to teach about Maasai culture, for an overall safari venture centered on fun, global fluency and making a difference.

'15 Courtney Bagby Lupilin (Jour'15) is the CEO and founder of Little Red Management, a talent management firm for reality TV stars from shows on ABC, CBS, MTV and Netflix. Lupilin's firm represents stars from *The Bachelor* and its franchises *Big Brother*, *Love Is Blind* and *The Circle*. The firm has also secured partnerships with household brands such as Mattel, Disney and Amazon.

'16 Arielle I. Goren (Phil'16) is a new attorney at the law firm Leech Tishman. Based in Los Angeles, Goren is an associate in litigation practice at the firm, where she focuses on business litigation disputes, representing both public entities and private clients.

Ben Mousseau (ChemEngr'16), a global supply manager at Tesla, was awarded the 2024 Distinguished Alumni Mentor of the Year Award by CU Boulder's Department of Chemical and Biological Engineering. Inspired by the mentors who guided him, Mousseau has been giving back by mentoring students since 2019. “I am very thankful for this award,” Mousseau said. “I'm glad that I have been able to make an impact, and I'm always open to having discussions with other students.”

'18 Katherine Hupp (MPubAd'18) is an attorney at Lewis, Longman & Walker in West Palm Beach, Florida. Hupp practices environmental, natural resources and Native American law. Recently, Hupp co-authored a paper concerning Florida's 404 permitting program.

'19 Akshit Arora (MCompSci'19) and his data science colleagues at NVIDIA recently won the LIMMITS'24 challenge, an AI competition that asked contestants to create vocals in English or any of six languages spoken in India with the appropriate accent. The contest had competitors recreate a speaker's voice in real time, and the team's novel AI model only required a three-second speech sample to accomplish this task.

Brigitte Keslinke (MClass'19) was named

winner of the Samuel H. Kress Foundation/Donald and Maria Cox Rome Prize in the category of ancient studies by the American Academy in Rome. The highly competitive Rome Prize fellowships support advanced independent work and research in the arts and humanities. Keslinke will receive a stipend, workspace, and room and board at the academy's 11-acre campus in Rome, starting this September.

Megan Thiede (Mgmt'19) was named a Fulbright finalist for the 2024–25 academic year by the U.S. Department of State and the Fulbright Foreign Scholarship Board. Thiede graduated from the Leeds School of Business in 2019 and has since worked in strategy-focused roles across the outdoor retail, technology consulting, human-centered design and architecture industries.

She will pursue a master's degree in accessibility and diversity in digital services at Tampere University in Finland. Through research and collaboration with local nongovernmental organizations that partner with UNESCO learning cities, Thiede will explore how to co-design instructional practices for city residents to improve digital literacy.

'23 Bennett Black (Fin'23) was honored with the Entrepreneur of the Year award by About Boulder for his remarkable achievements in the

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digital marketing industry. Black founded Bold Slate, a digital marketing firm specializing in website design and online marketing services for home service businesses. The company focuses on local SEO, website design and targeted lead generation campaigns to help businesses expand their reach and thrive in a competitive digital landscape.

'24 Gabrielle Dunn (CivEngr'24) earned the 2024 Outstanding Undergraduate of the College award from the College of Engineering and Applied Science. Throughout her undergraduate career, Dunn maintained a part-time job as a course assistant and held leadership roles, most notably as CU Boulder's American Society of Civil Engineers student chapter president. Dunn is also a peer mentor with the BOLD Center and the Kiewit Design-Build Scholars Program. She's currently

on track to complete a master's in water resources engineering next spring through the Bachelor's–Accelerated Master's program.

Ariel Feucht (Intl Af'24) was named a Fulbright finalist for the 2024–25 academic year by the U.S. Department of State and the Fulbright Foreign Scholarship Board. In Taiwan, she will work as an English language teacher and be an ambassador on behalf of the U.S., helping facilitate international understanding and collaboration. In addition to teaching English, Feucht hopes to learn more about the local culture and history, improve her Mandarin speaking skills, and engage with her new community through service projects and by participating in local traditions and activities.

Grant Mannino (Neuro, Psych'24) was designated the College of Arts and Sciences 2024 Outstanding Undergraduate. Mannino contributed more than 1,500 hours of undergraduate research, co-authored two peer-reviewed manuscripts, is the first author of a manuscript under review, and has contributed to four other manuscripts and a book chapter.

“I've always had some natural interest in medicine but didn't realize that I wanted to pursue a career in science until I joined a laboratory here at CU,” said Mannino. “Biomedical research provides this unique intersection between medicine and preclinical research that I really enjoy. Spending as much time as I have in my lab has solidified my desire to pursue a career in science.”

Nic Tamayo (Fren, Jour'24) was named a Fulbright finalist for the 2024–25 academic year by the U.S. Department of State and the Fulbright Foreign Scholarship Board. They will serve as an English teaching assistant in Montpellier, France. While working with students, they hope to help amplify the voices of historically marginalized communities.

Stephanie Virts (Engl'24) was named a Fulbright finalist for the 2024–25 academic year by the U.S. Department of State and the Fulbright Foreign Scholarship Board. She will serve as an English teaching assistant in the Slovak Republic, where she hopes to act as a cultural liaison through student interactions while exploring the region's rich culture.



CU Boulder conferred more than 9,400 degrees in May at a cloudy yet joyous event.

FIVE QUESTIONS



Uncovering Nature in L.A.

A decade after graduating, **Michael Washington** (Jour'12) longed for the outdoor community he had found at CU Boulder. In 2022, he left his career in the music industry to become founder and CEO of Usal, a community-based program helping Los Angeles residents participate in unique outdoor activities, workshops and trips. Usal hosts about 20 to 30 events per month, including woodturning, astronomy, fly-fishing, foraging, surfing and cooking.

How did you come up with the idea for Usal?

I felt there was a missing link between people who wanted to get into outdoor hobbies and activities, and a place for them to go. A group setting didn't exist that felt safe, accessible and approachable, while also providing

resources and education on how to learn to do those types of outdoor activities and experiences.

Where does the name come from? It's a place near and dear to my heart: Usal Beach is a dispersed beach campground at the southern tip

of the coast in Northern California that I would go to from time to time. It inspired me a lot, especially when trying to figure out my next career move.

How did your time in Boulder influence Usal's creation?

Having those four years in Boulder was crucial. I was given the opportunity to explore and be curious — both in a social sense with meeting new people, and also adventuring in the foothills of the mountains. As I grew my career in Los Angeles, I began to lose my connection to nature. Thankfully, I made a point to find it again when I realized how important it was to me.

Where do you see Usal in five years?

The obvious thing I think about is growth. Growth to me is being able to offer what we do to more people and taking what we do here in Los Angeles and bringing that to another location.

Any final thoughts?

Before anything and everything else, this endeavor feels very true to the person I am and the person who I want to continue to be. I think stumbling over the past 10 years — coming out of college and trying to understand what that means — were important steps to feeling competent and learning what interests me, what excites me and what fulfills me. All those steps led me to eventually leave the music industry to start Usal at age 32. It's finally coming together.

INTERVIEW BY KIARA DEMARE (JOUR'24)

INmemoriam

To report a death, email advancement.data.management@cu.edu or write Data Management, 1800 Grant St., Suite 215, Denver, CO 80203. Please include date of death and other relevant information.

1940s

Jeannie Lees Cochran (A&S'47)
Gladys Garramone Dinwiddie (A&S'49)
John S. Drendel (Law'49)
Joseph W. Fountain (ArchEngr'41)
Dorothy Beeman Fuller (Comp-SciAp'47)
Catherine Curry Grinnan (Mktg'44)
Betty Robins Hamlin (A&S'48)
Marie S. Hinds (A&S'47)
Bill J. Humble (MHist'49)
Boyd R. McDonald (EIEngr'42)
David R. Milek (A&S'49)
Anita Chandler Nelson (Soc'47)
James W. Norris (Acct'49)

1950s

Donald S. Alderfer (Fin'55)
Betty Kildow Alexander (CompSciAp'52)
Max Appel (Soc'58)
Sheelagh H. Baily (Hist'50)
Richard H. Benton (CivEngr'52)
Bette Roy Berich (A&S'51)
Leroy Bernstein (A&S'59)
Betty Lindenschmit Blasdel (Bus'54)
David B. Bolen Sr. (Mktg'50; MS'50)
Jean Rutherford Bolyard (MEdu'54)
Richard C. Brauns (A&S'57)
Susan Locke Britigan (A&S'59)
Richard W. Burns (EIEngr'58; MS'59)
Lowell M. Campbell (Bus'69)
Vincent R. Ceriello (Psych'59)
James B. Connor (Mgmt'57)
Roger B. Corzine (MEdu'59)
Thomas J. Diesel (EngrPhys'56; MPhys'60)
Frank M. Dobbertien (AeroEngr'56)
Wayne J. Fowler (PolSci'55; Law'56)
Peter K. Freeman (PhDChem'58)
Harry K. Frontz III (Acct'56)
Shirley Davis Funk (CompSciAp'54)
Barbara Huntington Gillam (A&S'51)
Janet Nelson Haupt (Mus'57)
Jane Marshall Hecox (Edu'54)
Richard W. Hemingway (Mktg'50)
Konrad F. Herman (Mgmt'57)
Richard R. Hinshaw (EIEngr'57)
Jerry D. Howell (ElecEngr'50)
Robert J. Hunt (CivEngr'52)

Robert C. Ide (Fin'59)
Gary K. Joseph (PE'53; MMgmt'57)
Charlotte A. Kearney (A&S'51)
Sara Altick Keller (Edu'54)
Gretta Holder Kettelkamp (IntDes'51)
Joan Lott Kinney (A&S'51)
Dolores M. Koller (Edu'56)
Clyde W. Lagrone (AeroEngr'59)
Thomas S. Levison (Econ'59)
John E. Litz (Mgmt'59)
Manuel Lopez Jr. (CivEngr'51; MS'57)
Elinor Myers McGinn (MHist'50; PhD'90)
J. Neil McLagan (Fin, MechEngr'54)
Jean Nicholson (Bio'59)
Walter G. Oehlkers (CivEngr'59)
Paul E. Oliver (MechEngr'56)
Richard E. Olson (MechEngr'50)
Mark W. Paddock (A&S'52; MA'61)
Robert J. Pease (A&S'57)
Edward G. Perry (Fin'53)
Robert D. Quinn (AeroEngr'59)
Charla Baer Rudolph (Edu'58)
Harold D. Schmidt (Bus'58)
George M. Schneider (Law'51)
Dale G. Seymour (PE'53; MA&S'61)
Elwood K. Shelton (PE'53)
Rodney E. Slifer (Mktg'56)
Marianne Kinzie Skold (Mus'56)
Billy M. Stapleton (Bus'54)
Kenneth D. Sutterlin (A&S'51; Law'55)
Carolee J. Syres (Edu'55)
Everett C. Thalhamer (PE'52)
Mary Little Tyler (Edu'50)
Raymond E. Untrauer (MCivEngr'51)
Phillip R. Wickstrom (A&S'57; MA'62)
Robert R. Willhour (MGeol'58)
David G. Williams (Geol'57)
Amos O. Winsand (EIEngr'52)
Carolyn Kent Winterroth (A&S'50)
Tom C. Wray (Engr'89)

1960s

Robert F. Bell (Acct'69)
Larry A. Beran (Bus'68)
Lane C. Bickel (Stat'65)
Edward W. Blank (AeroEngr'60)
Thomas A. Bragg (Mktg'69)
Dale E. Buckendahl (Acct, EngrPhys'62)
Elmer J. Canady (A&S'67)
Marriner P. Cardon (Law'62)

Vincent H. Chase (A&S'64)
George Percy Connick (PhDHist'69)
Ronald G. Cornelius (TranMgmt'68)
John P. Cotton (AsianSt'68)
Elizabeth Crowder (A&S'62)
Patrick M. Daly (MBA'67)
Ronald R. Dean (Econ'62)
Charles A. Donaldson (Bus, EIEngr'62)
James H. Doud (Bus, ChemEngr'60)
Robert E. Dubke (EIEngr'68)
Charles K. Dunford (MA&S'63)
James C. Fattor (Law'60)
John F. Gulliksen (Geog'64)
Warren K. Gumeson (A&S'61)
John L. Hamil (A&S'63; Law'66)
Lucinda Sherman Hamlet (A&S'60)
James B. Hayhurst (MechEngr, Mktg'62)
William B. Heard (MMath'64)
Richard A. Hein (Mgmt'66)
Arthur R. Henry (A&S'63)
Craig J. Howard (Mgmt'69)
James W. Johnson (Psych'69)
George E. Kawamura (A&S'61)
James A. Ketz (PolSci'69)
Jeanette Cullinane Kinsella (Fren'61)
Leonard C. Knadle Jr. (Mktg'60)
Joseph C. Ksycewski (MAero-Engr'62)
Edwin E. Larson (PhDA&S'65)
Dianne Lassen (A&S'65)
William J. Linsky (Mktg'61)
Allyn O. Lockner (PhDEcon'60)
Stanley K. Mann (Mktg'64; Law'67)
Gianfranco L. Marcantonio (A&S'65; Mittal'68)
James P. Martin (EIEngr'67)
Vernon C. Matzen (CivEngr'66)
Richard C. McCullough (A&S'65; MA'66; PhDFren'66)
Betty R. McGee (A&S'62)
Leone McGlone (Edu'63)
Brian T. McManus (A&S'69)
Judy McPherson (A&S'67)
Beverly W. Miller (MusEdu'60)
Ellen Gail Miller (A&S'67)
James G. Miller (MPE'62)
Susanne Hauk Miller (Edu'62)
Wendell Franklin Moody (MMgmt'66)
George J. Morzinski (EIEngr'62)
Walter E. Musgrave (EIEngr'66)
Ernesto T. Norte (MPubAd'67)
Carlos G. Parra (Geog'69; MA'71)

Larry N. Pletcher (A&S'61)
Jonathan Porter (MA&S'63)
William E. Powell (MEngl'69)
Bruce Quantic (MEdu'63)
MacPherson R. Jr. (Engr'68)
Ann Ronning Roemer (A&S'61)
Katherine A. Roever (Edu'61)
Kenneth W. Ross (A&S'62)
Virginia A. Rubbright (MA&S'64)
Beverly Bailey Sanders (MEdu'61)
Harry H. Schanker Jr. (MEdu'60)
Dorothy R. Sease (MEdu'66; PhD'79)
Charles H. Senn (MMgmt'64)
Linda Schisler Shoupe (A&S'61)
Judith H. Sjoberg (Edu'65)
Alan F. Smith (DBA'68)
Frank H. Spiva (Acct'61)
James J. Sroga (MAstroPhys'69)
Vanderlynn Stow (Acct'66)
Gordon F. Swanson (Bus'62)
Franklin M. Walker Jr. (A&S'67)
Robert J. Weakley (A&S'61)
Stephen L. Weber (A&S'66)
Arthur H. Weed (Chem'64; Law'67)
Verle A. Williams (MechEng'60)
Darla Jackson Wilson (Mus'61)

1970s

Ilker Altinoglu (MMechEngr'73)
Douglas A. Bigelow (MPsych'70; PhD'75)
Linda Hunt Bunnell (MA&S'67; PhD'70)
Jacquelyn Roy Cacace (Bus'77)
David Custer (PhDCommDisor'71)
James E. Davis (Edd'73)
Lawrence D. Day (ApMath, Bus'71)
William E. Dionne Jr. (PolSci'73)
Karen C. Dugan (MSpan'79)
Thomas E. Dunn (RealEs'77)
Michael P. Edwards (EPOBio'77)
Edward A. Enemark (PhD-Phys'71)
Edna R. Ray Fiedler (MA&S'69; PhD'72)
W. Stuart Flohr (EIEngr'78)
Richard W. Fortune (MHist'73)
Joseph A. Gerardi (EPOBio'78)
Keith M. Gleason (AstroPhys'78)
James C. Gonzales (RealEs'76)
Judy J. Gordon (MA&S'70)
Michael L. Hahn (Mktg'70)
Barry L. Hicks (Span'73)
Steven P. Hollander (RealEs'79)
Stephanie A. Smith Hult (Hist'73)
Leon Goodman Jaffe (MEdu'71)
Vicki Kocan Johnson (MHist'76)
William M. Kemp III (Econ'76)

Teresa Sullivan Lutz (Edu'71)
Marilyn J. Matelski (MThtr'73; PhDComm'78)
Richard L. Moore (Fin'74)
Bruce G. Oliver (Mgmt'70)
Wayne J. Overbaugh (MBA'70)
Thomas A. Patterson (MPhys'71; PhD'74)
Tony Petruccione (Geol'77)
Robert L. Polzin (DistSt'72)
Robert A. Ravitz (Mktg'74)
Robert L. Rinker (Phys'72, PhD'83)
Geri L. Schanz (Jour'77)
Judith Schroeder Singleton (AsianSt'75)
Clark G. Shepard (EIEngr'79)
Sandra Myers Smith (Engr'70)
Eve Pocquet Sourian (PhD-Fren'71)
David J. Stauffacher (Art'74)
Zoe Brown Sternberg (Advert'70)
William R. Suhre (Acct'72)
Thomas J. Tomazin (RealEs'70)
Steven M. Walker (Rec'74)
David H. Weer (A&S'70; MHist'73)
Philip B. Whitcomb (Hist'73)
James H. Wilson III (ChemEngr'77)
Clarence J. Wisecup Jr. (Hist'63; MPubAd'73)
Sherrie M. Wolff (MHist'79)
John E. Wood (Engr'71)
John A. Verity (Econ'72)
Samuel J. Vialpando (Edu'73)

1980s

Mary K. Blue (EPOBio'89)
Kathleen A. Carson (ChemEngr'81)
Thomas R. Claman Jr. (PerMgmt'80)
Nancy Bublitz Dyer (Psych'82)
Bryan L. Ford (Phys'82)
Michael J. Golden (PolSci'87)
Scott A. Hallenbeck (ChemEngr'88)
Jeff P. Howenstein (Geog'87; MEdu'09)
Susan Gilmore Kirkpatrick (Fren'86)
Patty J. Masunaga-Goto (Edu'78; MA'86)
Margaret M. McKinney (MJour'87)
Kelly O'Dell (Psych'82)
Margaret E. O'Shaughnessy (IntlAf'86)
Marianne O'Shea (Engr'87)
Douglas N. Pemberton (Engr'84)
Carl E. Richard (Bus'82)

Stuart R. Skjerven (Engr'82)
David L. Spear (CivEngr'83)

1990s

Jeff de La Beaujardiere (PhDAstroPhys'90)
Patrick Bible (Law'99)
Kent J. Bozinski (Film'99)
Daniel R. Copeland (Engr'90)
Bonnie R. Danielson (MEngl'91)
Barbara S. Farnsworth (Indiv'94)
Pamela A. Gemery-Hill (Geol'93)
John D. Halepaska (Law'97)
John T. Hogle (PhDHist'92)
William C. Hugenberg Jr. (Law'93)
Matthew J. Kruse (Comm'94)
John M. Little II (Hist'90)
Lawrence J. McBride (Mktg'91)
Matthew B. McClelen (Fin'92)
Clarence E. McDonald (Arch'90)
James S. Pinkley (RelSt'94)
Ian N. Pipping (Hist'93)
Steven M. Posusta (MEngl'97)
Kathleen Schmid (Anth'92)
Joseph A. Snyder (Hist'96)
Christine M. Soderstrom (EnvCon'92)
Jerald E. White (PolSci'97)

2000s

Daniel J. Dewispelare (Engr'05)
Keith R. Homersham (EPOBio'00)
Katherine A. Kaufman (Comm'01)
Kristil Krug (ChemEngr'04)
Jonathan S. Moore (PolSci'08)
David J. Rice (Mus'05)
Jeff E. Richter (CompSci'03)
Venessa Sanchez (CivEng'04)
Deborah M. Sullivan (Mktg'07)

2010s

Michael E. Anderson (Psych'14)
Jordan Benjamin (EPOBio'11)
Clinton J. Davis (Fin'12)
Justin W. Heller (CivEngr'12)
Nicholas P. Samuels (Econ'18)
Skylar Raine Schambis (Psych'19)

2020s

Reeves Gauthreaux (Econ'21)

Faculty, Staff and Friends

William "Bill" J. Burns, Friend
Jennine A. Hall Camacho, Psychology
Susan Eikenbary, JILA
Manert H. Kennedy, Science
Edwin "Ed" Larson, Geology

FEEDback



“I WAS AMAZED AND THRILLED TO SEE THAT LARRY ZIMMER, THE LATE ANNOUNCER FOR THE COLORADO BUFFALOES, NAMED THE SEPT. 24, 1994, ‘MIRACLE IN MICHIGAN’ AS HIS FAVORITE FOOTBALL PLAY.”

– Jennifer L. Holmes (Edu’67)

recycle bin on trash day. I have great regard for it journalistically (said the retired journalist) and love the way it conjures up my CU recollections. Most of all I love the size. It’s so little and cute, which totally belies the quality within.

In the Spring 2024 edition, I was amazed and thrilled to see that Larry Zimmer, the late announcer for the Colorado Buffaloes, named the Sept. 24, 1994, “Miracle in Michigan” as his favorite football play out of the 486 CU football games he called over 42 years.

As one of the few CU alums screaming quite unpopularity amid a sea of maize ‘n’ blue Wolverine fans in Michigan Stadium that day, I witnessed that miraculous Hail Mary pass from Kordell Stewart to Michael Westbrook. I can never forget how the capacity crowd of more than 100,000 fans sat stock still, stunned, for at least 15 minutes after the game was over. Nobody moved, as if to will the scoreboard back to 26-21 Michigan, where it was six seconds prior to that touchdown.

Thanks for the memories, *Coloradan* staff.

Jennifer L. Holmes
(Edu’67)
Goodison, Michigan

Letters edited for length and clarity. Read more at colorado.edu/coloradan.

Coloradan vs. Coloradoan

Not at peace with “Coloradans!” I’m a native, born and raised and for 72 years. It’s always been “Coloradoans,” and for me it shall stay “Coloradoans.” I’m trying to cope with all the unrecognizable landscape that surrounds me; and since I can’t halt progress, I shall at least hang onto my Coloradoan roots.

Jennie Schrock

[Editor’s Note: The distinction between Coloradoan and Coloradan is one of our most common questions. We addressed the distinction in our Spring 2019 issue. You can read the digital version at <https://www.colorado.edu/coloradan/2019/05/12/origins-coloradan-or-coloradoan>.]

Rabbit Holes

Great content on what is one of my favorite rabbit holes to go down, western water.

David Martus
(Rec’88; MBA’97)
Boulder, Colorado

Cloud Seeding

I read with interest the article about cloud seeding in the latest issue of the *Coloradan*.

I wonder whether Professor Friedrich and the SNOWIE group have looked at the legal implications of their work. Grounds for an article or letter from a prof at the Law School?

Steven Bookshester
(A&S’72)
Annapolis, Maryland

A Historical Event

I enjoyed reading

about Professor Katja Friedrich and her cloud seeding work. Was 1946 really the year that cloud seeding was discovered? A historical event in San Diego in 1916 comes to mind.

There was a drought, so the City of San Diego hired Charles Hatfield, a former sewing machine salesman, to make rain. Mr. Hatfield built a tower, put a secret blend of chemicals on top and lit the concoction on fire. Fumes rose up into the clouds.

Unfortunately, Mr. Hatfield was too successful. Was it an El Niño year? There was a

major flood that killed 22 people in the small city. Mr. Hatfield wisely did not stay around to collect his \$10,000 fee.

Irene Eggers
(MusEdu’60)
Wheat Ridge, Colorado

Water in the West

I enjoyed reading your article about the challenges of providing water to communities in the Mountain West. As the president of the board of directors for the San Lorenzo Valley Water District in Boulder Creek, California, I have a keen appreciation for the complexities of water



CU Boulder’s Katja Friedrich works in cloud seeding, a process used to generate precipitation from existing clouds.

Fan of the Coloradan

I have wanted to tell you how great the last edition of the *Coloradan* is. I am an alumni of the class of 1964. I am very impressed with your editing and wanted you to know that and to tell several of the authors their articles were excellent. Lisa Marshall did a good job with her article “Secrets from the Grave,” interesting. All the articles about the problems with the supply of water

to the West were very informative. The short bios of those graduating were good. Elijah did a great job, and you can tell him if you like.

Bill Wilson (A&S’64)
Grand Junction, Colorado

Can’t Argue with Larry Zimmer!

The *Coloradan* is my favorite of all the magazines and newspapers that pile up around my recliner, and the last to be condemned to the

supply and distribution. Here on the California coast, we have many of the same issues you have in Colorado regarding water rights that in some cases go back to frontier times. Our water resource situation is very different, however. We are able to source our water from stream flow and wells in the local Santa Cruz Mountains, instead of relying upon distant rivers, large reservoirs and melting snow runoff from the Sierra Nevada.

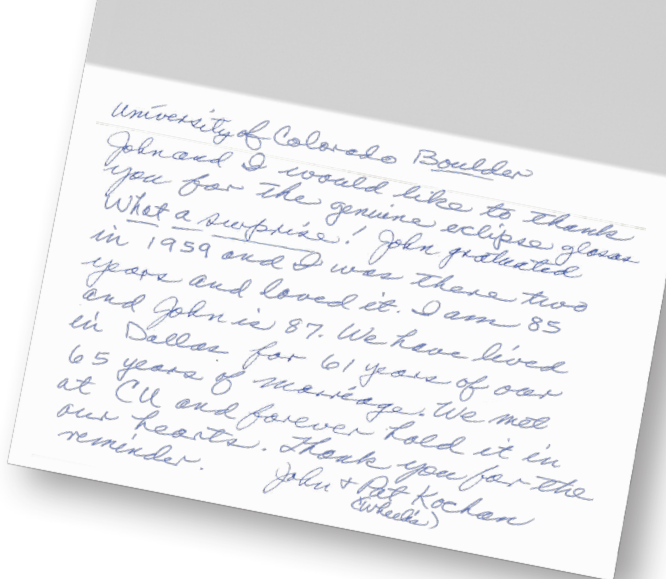
A few challenges we face — winter mudslides and washouts that damage collection points, pipelines and treatment facilities, damage from a major forest fire in 2020 that burned 7 miles of plastic raw-water collection piping in steep terrain, and aging distribution infrastructure. Parts of our system still rely upon old Redwood tanks for water storage, but not for much longer.

Jeff Hill (MBA'72)
Scotts Valley,
California

Solar Eclipse, CU Style

Grateful to the clouds for parting a bit for us to experience totality here in Austin. Incredible to see the street lights come on, animals quieted, and experience the moment with our neighbors. CU: Thanks for the glasses! #Eclipse2024 #SolarEclipse #ATX #ForeverBufs

Elizabeth Eger
(Comm, Engl'06;
PhDComm'18)
Austin, Texas



John Kochan (EIEngr'59) and Pat Wheelis Kochan (Art ex'61) wrote in after they received CU branded eclipse glasses.

Bennet's Brick Oven

I'm responding to **Earl Noe's** (Jour'66) comments in the Spring copy of the *Coloradan* regarding Bennet's Brick Oven. I definitely remember eating at this pizza restaurant many times during my four years at CU.

I was a freshman in the fall of 1966 and spent many a time on the Hill eating at the various eateries that were available back then. Bennet's was located diagonally across 13th St. from The Sink and a few doors up. I originally stumbled onto it and really enjoyed the thin crust pizza that they served. I have many fond memories of the variety of eats there were on the Hill and Bennet's was one of my favorites. I remember the gentlemanly owner who ran the place. Always had a smile on his face when I came in.

Jim Trotsky (Bus'70)
Englewood, Colorado

Los Seis de Boulder
Thank you for sharing

the beautiful sculpture by Jasmine Bates honoring Los Seis in the Spring *Coloradan*. I am a Class of '84 Journalism grad and had never heard the tragic story. Maybe the cold case will heat up now.

Tracy Lehr (Jour'84)
Oxnard, California

A Cosmic Surprise

John and I would like to thank you for the genuine eclipse glasses. What a surprise! John graduated in 1959, and I was there two years and loved it. I am 85 and John is 87. We have lived in Dallas for 61 years of our 65 years of marriage. We met at CU and forever hold it in our hearts. Thank you for the reminder.

John Kochan
(EIEngr'59) & **Pat Wheelis Kochan**
(Art ex'61)
Dallas, Texas

Correction: In the sports section of the Spring issue, we incorrectly stated that the women's soccer team made it to the NCAA tournament for the first time in 13 years. It was the first time since 2020.

Social Buffs



Chancellor's Annual Summit: Talked the future of leadership, tech, innovation, and what's next.

@zayminorr

Who would have thought we would have met up with a fellow Buff while cycling across Japan!

@bicycle touring withkids

Excited to see what the future holds for all of us 🎓✅
@willplantz

STAFFBOX

Coloradan

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Coloradan aims to inform, inspire and foster community among alumni, friends and admirers of the University of Colorado Boulder, and to engage them in the life of the university. We strive to practice inclusive storytelling in every aspect of the publication. Our goal is to uplift and share stories that represent a wide range of CU Boulder experiences while working to develop a deeper sense of belonging for all involved with the university.

How to Reach Us
editor@colorado.edu; 303-492-8484
Koenig Alumni Center, University of Colorado, Boulder, CO 80309-0459

Update Your Address
advancement.datamanagement@cu.edu

Chancellor
Philip P. DiStefano

Vice Chancellor for Advancement
Katy Herbert Kotlarczyk

Assistant Vice Chancellor and Executive Director, Alumni Association
Ryan Christ (Kines'96;
MPubAd'09)

Executive Director, Advancement Marketing and Communications
Taylor Jarvis

Editor
Maria Kuntz

Managing Editor
Christie Sounart (Jour'12)

Assistant Editors
Jessica Winter, Kelsey Yandura

Editorial Assistants
Kiara Demare (Jour'24)
Jessica Sachs (Jour, PolSci'26)

Copy Editors
Michelle Starika Asakawa (Jour, Mktg'87), Kelsey Perry

Contributors
Keelyn Arnold, Glenn Asakawa (Jour'86), Patrick Campbell (EnvDes'11), Casey A. Cass, Ally Dever (StComm'19), April Driver, Jessi Green, Erika Hanes, Mona Lambrecht, Lisa Marshall (Jour, PolSci'94), Tom Needy, Dakota Palomo, Julie Poppen (Engl'88), Hannah Savic, Thomas Sloan, Daniel Strain, Anna Tolette

Design and Art Direction
Pentagram Austin

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THEN

1942

When Muriel Sibell-Wolle traded the East Coast for the foothills of Boulder in 1926, she was immediately spellbound by the region's rich natural beauty, declaring she planned to stay "until they kick me out." She began teaching fine art at CU Boulder and went on to lead the department for nearly 20 years.

One of the first and most prolific ghost town guidebook writers in the nation, Sibell-Wolle visited and sketched over a thousand mining towns in the American West. Here, Sibell-Wolle is pictured with her lithograph "Gladstone, Colorado," which is now part of the CU Art Museum collection.