

Coloradan

Alumni Magazine Fall 2024

Building MOMENTUM

CU Boulder's 12th chancellor
ushers in a new era.



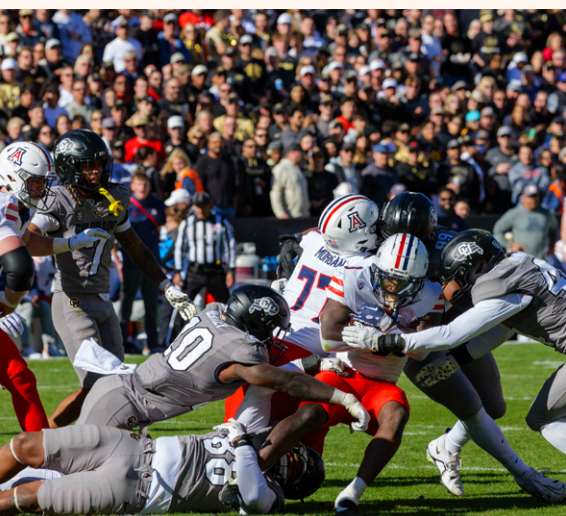
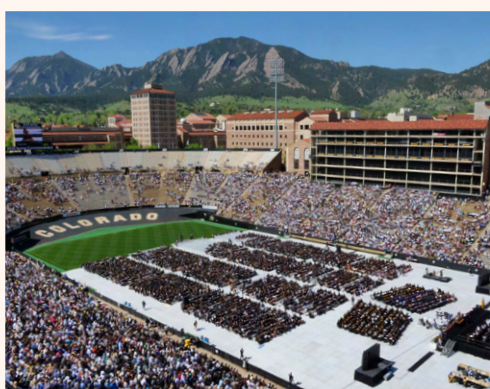
Be Boulder.



Alumni Association
UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO BOULDER

NOW

A glimpse of CU Boulder life today — graduation at Folsom, a snowball fight at Farrand Field, a crowd around Dalton Trumbo fountain outside of the UMC, the Buffaloes playing their hearts out against Arizona. As a university, we are always changing, evolving, growing. But one thing remains the same: Buffs are innovative and creative leaders who know how to balance working and playing in the Colorado sunshine.





COVER CU Boulder Chancellor Justin Schwartz soaks in views from Boulder’s Crown Rock Trail. As an inventor, triathlete and engineer, Schwartz is passionate about tackling campus issues from multiple angles and engaging with fresh perspectives. Photo by Glenn Asakawa.

ABOVE Travis Hunter makes the game-sealing play at the Buffaloes 2024 homecoming game against Baylor.

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EDITOR’S NOTE

Forever Buffs, your numbers are always growing. CU hit record enrollment this fall — 38,428 students from all 50 U.S. states and 40+ countries.

Every class is a fresh mosaic of perspectives, interests and talents shaped by its own experiences — but the Forever Buffs spirit is constant. Homecoming 2024 (photo at left) brought together generations of Buffs to celebrate our shared history and experiences — anchored in the creativity, impact and entrepreneurial endeavors of Buffs everywhere.

The year 2024 has been a year marked by tremendous change. A new chancellor stands at the helm for the first time in 15 years. The university is sharpening its focus on diversity, inclusion and sustainability. Quantum physics research is making headlines, and the Buffs are back in the Big 12. CU is growing, evolving and pushing the boundaries of innovation.

This issue spotlights inspiring changes across CU, and we’re just getting started.

Maria Kuntz

CONTACT THE EDITOR AT
EDITOR@COLORADO.EDU



Full STEM Ahead

In the midst of a national growing need for engineers, Dean **Keith Molenaar** (ArchEngr'90; MCivEngr'95; PhD'97) has led faculty, staff and students in the co-creation of a new strategic vision for the College of Engineering and Applied Science, committing to expanding its role in the high-tech economy and further emphasizing a goal of gender parity in the college.

Dean
Molenaar
speaking
to Kiewit
Design-Build
Scholars.

How is the College of Engineering and Applied Science changing at CU? This is a time of disruption for higher ed across the nation. Some universities are struggling with enrollment, and people are questioning the value of a four-year degree. But our record here is stronger than it's ever been. For the second year in a row, we welcomed the largest classes of both undergraduate and PhD students ever.

You've put a major emphasis on recruiting more female engineers. Why is this important for the college? Historically, the engineering profession has been male-dominated, and that puts us at risk of creating solutions to problems that don't represent our broader society. Inclusion is a pillar of everything we do and integral to our impact. We need a more diverse workforce to solve the complex technological and infrastructure challenges of today's world.

Where do gender parity efforts start at CU? It starts early. The current vision builds on long-standing efforts by CU Boulder and national groups to expand access

in science and math for girls in K-12. By showing up in early education, we're giving students confidence that they can make an impact on society by being an engineer. And it's paying off. Last year, 41 percent of our first-year engineering undergraduates were women, putting us #1 in the nation in terms of gender parity among 167 public colleges of engineering, according to the American Society for Engineering Education.

You've been focused on fusing engineering with business. What impact has that had? We're beyond the traditional metrics of publishing papers as a primary metric for success. Patents are important. Economic impact is important. We need to focus on the implications and implementations of our work, not just the work itself. It's inspiring the next generation of graduates and PhD students to be entrepreneurs. CU launched 35 companies last fiscal year through the Venture Partners program, placing us second among all universities over the last decade.

You recently created a new position within the college: Assistant Dean

of Innovation and Entrepreneurship. And we quickly selected Wil Srubar for the position. He's a crucial addition to our college. He has both fundamental engineering and applied business experience — he's started three companies already. The new position is helping us with translational work, moving things out of the lab and into companies through patents or startups.

The college is dramatically scaling up its economic impact for Colorado, with a particular focus on translating research into business success. In a time of disruption, we need leaders. CU is a flagship of Colorado's success — and the college of engineering is an economic driver in all that. There's something special going on in Boulder. There have always been pockets of innovation and entrepreneurship in the college, but we're evolving to focus more on economic impact. We have a responsibility to help the state grow in a sustainable and equitable manner.

In 2021, CU built the Rustandy Building, connecting the Engineering Center



and the Koelbel Building, home to the Leeds School of Business. What was the thinking behind this fusion? Our partnership [with Leeds] is paramount, and the connection between business and engineering on campus is both an idea and a physical reality. We're scaling up. The donor-supported project physically joined the buildings, adding 45,000 square feet of new classroom and collaboration spaces.

How do you measure success for the college? We compete with universities across the

nation and continue to come out at the top. But while it has been great to climb in the rankings, we don't chase that. People are seeing what we're doing here. We're leaders in AI, aerospace, sustainability, etc. We contribute to national defense and national security. Our faculty are highly sought after for leadership positions across the U.S. and participate in national conversations that shape the future of technology. Those are the indicators I look at.

How does engineering fit in with the rest of the campus? Our rankings and na-

tional reputation come because we're part of a comprehensive university — it's one of our key advantages. We're educating holistic engineers. They need to understand historic, political and business aspects of their work. To serve society well as engineers, we must have deep partnerships with the other colleges, schools and institutes across campus. We are fortunate to be part of a comprehensive campus, and we strive to contribute to our campus mission every day. INTERVIEW BY JEFF ZEHNDRER, CONDENSED AND EDITED FOR CLARITY.

Wearable Gelatin

Wear it, then recycle it: CU engineers and designers make dissolvable textiles that could help fight fast textile waste.

Approximately 92 million tons of textile waste is generated globally per year, according to research. CU researchers envision a different future for fashion.

A team led by **Eldy Lázaro Vásquez** (PhDCTD'25), a doctoral student in the ATLAS Institute, is busy developing methods to make recyclable clothes from gelatin, the common foodstuff in products like Jell-O and marshmallows.

The team developed a DIY machine that spins textile fibers made from gelatin. These “biofibers” feel a bit like flax fiber and dissolve in hot water within a few minutes to an hour.

“When you don’t want these textiles anymore, you can dissolve them and recycle the gelatin to make more fibers,” said Michael Rivera, a co-author of the research and assistant professor in the ATLAS Institute and Department of Computer Science.

The machine, which is small enough to fit on a desk and costs just \$560 to build, heats up the gelatin and uses a plastic syringe to squeeze out droplets of the mixture. Two sets of rollers in the machine then tug on the gelatin, stretching it out into long, skinny fibers — not unlike a spider spinning a web from silk.

“With this kind of prototyping machine, anyone can make fibers,” Lázaro Vásquez said. “You don’t need the big machines that are only in university chemistry departments.”

She added that across the U.S., meat producers often discard gelatin that doesn’t meet quality control standards. Lázaro Vásquez bought her own gelatin, which comes as a powder, from a local butcher shop.

Lázaro Vásquez envisions that designers could tweak the chemistry of the fibers to make them a little more resilient — you wouldn’t want your jacket to disappear in the rain. They could also experiment with spinning similar fibers from other abundant natural materials like chitin, a component of crab shells, or agar-agar, which comes from algae.

“We’re trying to think about the whole lifecycle of our textiles,” said Lázaro Vásquez. “That begins with where the material is coming from. Can we get it from something that normally goes to waste?” **BY DAN STRAIN**



Biofibers made from gelatin in a rainbow of colors.

Utility Research Lab

Sights Set on Boulder



Karen and Charlie Reid in Colorado in 1989.

When my husband, **Charlie Reid** (PhDMech-Engr'89), and I were grad students at CU, leaving Colorado was definitely not on our to-do list. But after graduation, new job opportunities drew us eastward. Our plan was always to return to Boulder, but what started out as an anticipated five-year stint in New Jersey stretched to 10 and continued across multiple states as our careers progressed.

Now, after three decades, we’ve finally moved back. And while we were expanding our horizons, growing professionally and raising a family, Boulder was growing, too. We kept an eye on our town from afar, but now we have the opportunity to see and experience the changes firsthand.

The university’s campus has grown both in size and reputation: CU has doubled down on research, now boasting five Nobel laureates, and has gained

international recognition. Students have so many more options for courses, programs and opportunities. The number of buildings, dorms and parking structures has also grown exponentially, and what were once empty fields filled with prairie dogs is now the thriving research hub of East Campus. Other notable changes include the expansion of Folsom Field and the shifting of school colors from sky blue and gold to a more sophisticated palette of gold, black and gray. Even the journalism school (where I studied) has been reincarnated as CMCI.

Things off campus have changed, too. The town of Boulder has put itself on the map. It consistently ranks as one of the nation’s top college towns, is a hotbed for entrepreneurial and innovative endeavors, and is currently in contention to host the Sundance Film Festival.

While change is inevitable, it’s bittersweet to see some of the transformations: Friday Afternoon Club (FAC) events at the Harvest House hotel are no more, Tulagi’s on The Hill is gone, the Kinetic Sculpture Challenge race folded, Crossroads Commons has been razed and reconceived as the 29th Street Mall, and the Pearl Street Mall no longer boasts many of our old haunts.

That being said, the myriad of new restaurants, experiences and shops to explore seem boundless, and old favorites like Peppercorn, Trident Book-sellers and Café, and Into the Wind remain. Mike’s Camera is still nearby, and The Sink is as vibrant as ever!

Daily, I meet fascinating people, motivated students and inspiring colleagues. Boulder is bikeable and walkable — and who can deny the spectacular view? Even when things seem unfamiliar, all I need to do is glance at my beloved Flatirons and I am reminded that, while evolution is unstoppable, some things never change. Boulder will always be vibrant, beautiful and, quite simply, home to me.

Reid works for CU Boulder RIO as a marketing and communications specialist and teaches public speaking as a lecturer in the CMCI communication department.

Ancient Viruses, Modern Medicine

CU researchers discover the critical link between ancient viral DNA and cancer cells.

Peek inside the human genome and, among the 20,000 or so genes that serve as building blocks of life, you'll find flecks of DNA left behind by viruses that infected our primate ancestors tens of millions of years ago.

Scientists have long considered these ancient hitchhikers, known as endogenous retroviruses, as inert or "junk" DNA that were rendered harmless millennia ago. But new CU research shows that, when reawakened, they can play a critical role in helping cancer survive and thrive.

The study also suggests that silencing certain endogenous retroviruses can make cancer treatments work better.

"Our study shows that diseases today can be significantly influenced by these ancient viral infections that, until recently, very few researchers were paying attention to," said Edward Chuong, an assistant professor of molecular, cellular and developmental biology at CU Boulder's BioFrontiers Institute.

After slipping into the cells of our primate ancestors, these invaders coaxed their unknowing hosts into copying and carrying their genetic material — passing their DNA on to future generations.

While endogenous retroviruses can no longer sicken their hosts or spread like live viruses, they can act as switches that turn on nearby genes, with both good and bad results.

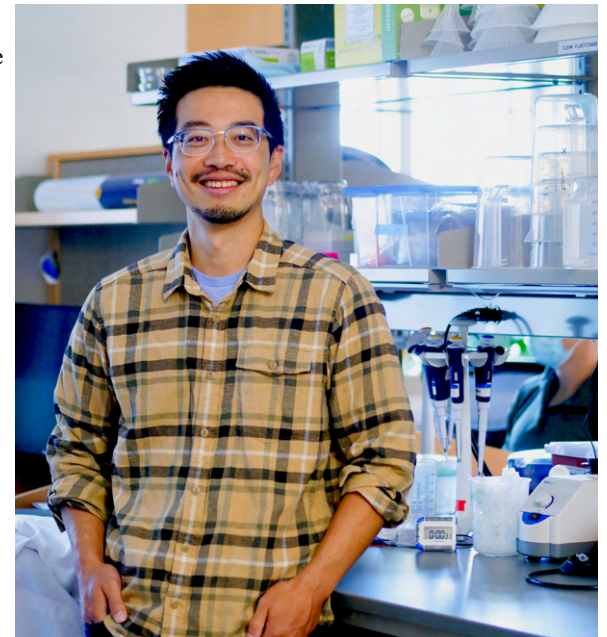
On the plus side, they contributed to the development of the placenta, a critical milestone in human evolution. Chuong's research also shows they can switch on genes that help us fight infection.

However, endogenous retroviruses have a dark side.

Chuong's latest study found that a lineage known as LTR10 is remarkably active in about a third of colon cancer tumors, where it appears to fire up genes that inflame cancer.

The good news: When those viral relics are silenced, the cancer-promoting genes go dark too, and tumor-shrinking treatments become more effective.

As a leading researcher in the burgeoning field, Chuong hopes that by better understanding these oft-neglected bits of the genome, scientists can come up with new ways to treat modern-day illnesses. **BY LISA MARSHALL**



CU Researcher Edward Chuong, pictured above, heads the Chuong lab under the BioFrontiers Institute.

New Buffs Are '06 Babies

This fall, the class of 2028 moved in, charged their laptops and downloaded syllabi via smartphones. Here are the stories that were shaping the world in 2006, the year many of these first-year students were born.

POLITICS

Democrats win control of both the House and Senate in midterms.

Samuel Alito is sworn in to the Supreme Court as an associate justice.

The War in Iraq continues into its third year.

TECH

Twitter, now known as X, launches and co-founder Jack Dorsey posts first-ever tweet: "just setting up my twttr."

Google purchases YouTube for \$1.65 billion.

The PlayStation 3 and the Nintendo Wii hit consumer markets.

SCIENCE & CLIMATE

Pluto is downgraded to a dwarf planet by the International Astronomical Union.

NASA's Stardust mission ends, making it the first spacecraft to bring samples from a comet to Earth.

California passes the Global Warming Solutions Act.

CULTURE

High School Musical airs for the first time on Disney Channel.

NSYNC's Lance Bass comes out as gay in a *People* magazine cover story.

Pop star Britney Spears and then-husband Kevin Federline file for divorce.

TOP MUSIC & FILM

"Bad Day"
Daniel Powter
"Temperature"
Sean Paul
"Promiscuous"
Nelly Furtado and Timbaland
"You're Beautiful"
James Blunt

Pirates of the Caribbean: Dead Man's Chest, *Cars*, *X-Men: The Last Stand*

CAMPUSnews

DIGITS

Firefly Fly Away

In a project that blends tech with natural history, CU computer scientist Orit Peleg has spent seven summers traveling across the state documenting the rare sight of Colorado fireflies.

2018

First summer Peleg's lab spent traveling across the state in search of fireflies.

360°

Type of cameras used to observe the insects, including the patterns they make with their flashes.

2,000

Species of fireflies that can be found across the globe.

Five

Genera of fireflies found in Colorado.

19

Colorado counties where fireflies have been spotted.

3-4

Weeks that Colorado fireflies are active per year.

Out in Orbit

As part of a crew of four, Sarah Gillis (AeroEng'17) flew on SpaceX's Polaris Dawn mission for a total of five days. While in orbit, they soared to altitudes higher than any human has traveled since the 1970s, completed the first-ever commercial spacewalk, and conducted about 40 experiments from 20 partner research institutions.



Wiggling Flowers

Sunflower seedlings don't just shoot straight up — they spin in circles and twist into corkscrews. Researchers at CU Boulder and Tel Aviv University have discovered these movements help plants find where the best light is coming from, then grow in that direction. The findings could one day help farmers create more efficient crop arrangements.



Heard Around Campus

"If you want to know about a dance, you have to know what was happening politically, economically and socially at [that] moment."

— Rennie Harris, co-director of Hip-hop Studies at CU Boulder, on KUNC

Document It

In August, CU's Center for Documentary and Ethnographic Media hosted the fifth Mimesis Documentary Festival. The in-person and virtual event spanned five days, showcased over 60 documentaries, and featured community screenings, installation-based art, performances, workshops and filmmaker conversations.

Philanthropy for the Future

In September, CU announced a \$15 million donation from philanthropist Michael Klump (PolSci'87) to revolutionize real estate education and support student wellness. With \$13 million to enhance the newly renamed Michael A. Klump Center for Real Estate and \$2 million for student wellness programs, the gift paves the way for improved education and opportunities for students.

ARTIFACT WAA Pin



Design

Prior to the 1930s, the university was typically referred to as UC.

Origins

Wilma Howard Garrison (A&S'35) earned this pin as a wing player in field hockey.

Debut

In 1905 on Gamble Field, CU women competed in athletics for the first time, playing field hockey against the University of Denver.

Playing for Keeps

In 1933, Wilma Howard Garrison (A&S'35) helped the CU women's field hockey team win the junior class championship — an accomplishment that gained her praise for an excellent play, and the likely reason why she acquired this laurel wreath pin from the Women's Athletic Association (WAA).

Established by women students passionate about athletics, the WAA strove to promote interest in women's sports. Membership was based on points, which were earned by participating and competing in the association's sports. Members could then acquire accolades such as pins, letters and sweaters.

From its inception in 1905 to Garrison's membership in the early 1930s, the organi-

zation experienced hard-earned growth. It expanded the variety of sports in which CU women could participate, adding options like volleyball, baseball, swimming and dance to the roster.

The association also helped CU women obtain a designated spot for their athletics. In 1912, women began using a space located on The Hill as an athletic facility (before this, they were required to schedule time at the Men's Gymnasium). In 1928, the university built a dedicated Women's Gymnasium.

Awards like Garrison's pin reflect the history of CU women's athletics and tell the story of women pursuing something greater. **BY JESSICA WINTER**



A Legacy of Volunteering

Last year, CU Boulder ranked No. 4 on the list of all-time top Peace Corps volunteer-producing universities in the nation. These photos are just a few glimpses into the experiences of 2,100+ CU Boulder alumni who have served abroad since the agency's founding in 1961.

Clockwise, from upper left: **Julia Leone** (IntlAf'22) currently works in Madagascar as a health volunteer; **Lee Belstock** (A&S'63; Law'66) volunteered in Peru doing community economic development; **Page Weil** (CivEngr'05; MS'15) helped design and construct local water systems in the Philippines; **Pamela Civins** (Engl'86) served in Nepal as an education volunteer; **Ryan Van Duzer** (Jour'03) worked in youth development in Honduras.



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Be Boulder.



Back to the Big 12

After 13 years in the Pac-12, the CU Boulder Buffaloes have returned to the historic Big 12 conference.

For the last 13 years, every CU Boulder graduate who has cheered on the Buffs has done so under the banner of the Pac-12 athletic conference.

But why? Perched where the Great Plains meet the Rocky Mountains, Boulder is easily the easternmost school consistently playing against the likes of USC, Stanford, Oregon and other historic teams that make up the traditionally West Coast grouping.

Let's rewind. In 1947 — the early days of modern conference play — Colorado held its own as a chartering member of the Big Eight. The historic sports conference was composed of geographically contiguous Oklahoma, Oklahoma State, Nebraska, Missouri, Colorado, Kansas, Kansas State and Iowa State. But in 1996, the conference realigned and expanded southward to form the Big 12, adding in Texas schools like Baylor and UT Austin.

At the time, the energy around the Big 12 was electric. "It was an iconic combination of Midwest grit and southern resilience," said former women's basketball captain Kami Snyder (Psych, Jour'01). "It might

be 15 degrees with snow flurries, but there was a game to play, and it was time to ball."

However, in 2011, on the heels of a shaky Big 12 and shifting revenue priorities, the Buffs were ready to head west, accepting a Pac-10 invitation alongside Utah — creating the Pac-12.

Now, 13 years later, it's time to come home. In 2023, the board of regents at CU voted unanimously to approve the conference switch back to the Big 12, effective for the 2024–25 season.

This decision, which followed the announcement that UCLA and USC were leaving the Pac-12, was designed to create future stability for the Buffs, with the added bonus that student-athletes will enjoy better time slots and shorter travel for some road games.

And while the switch comes with a hefty projected annual television revenue package for CU, former chancellor Philip DiStefano and athletic director Rick George maintained after the announcement that money wasn't the only factor in the decision.

"The national exposure that joining the Big 12 provides will shine a spotlight not only on our incredible student-athletes, but also on our groundbreaking research that really changes the world," said DiStefano.

Online, the Big 12 celebrated CU's return with a two-word statement released through Commissioner Brett Yormark: "They're back."

BY DAKOTA PALOMO

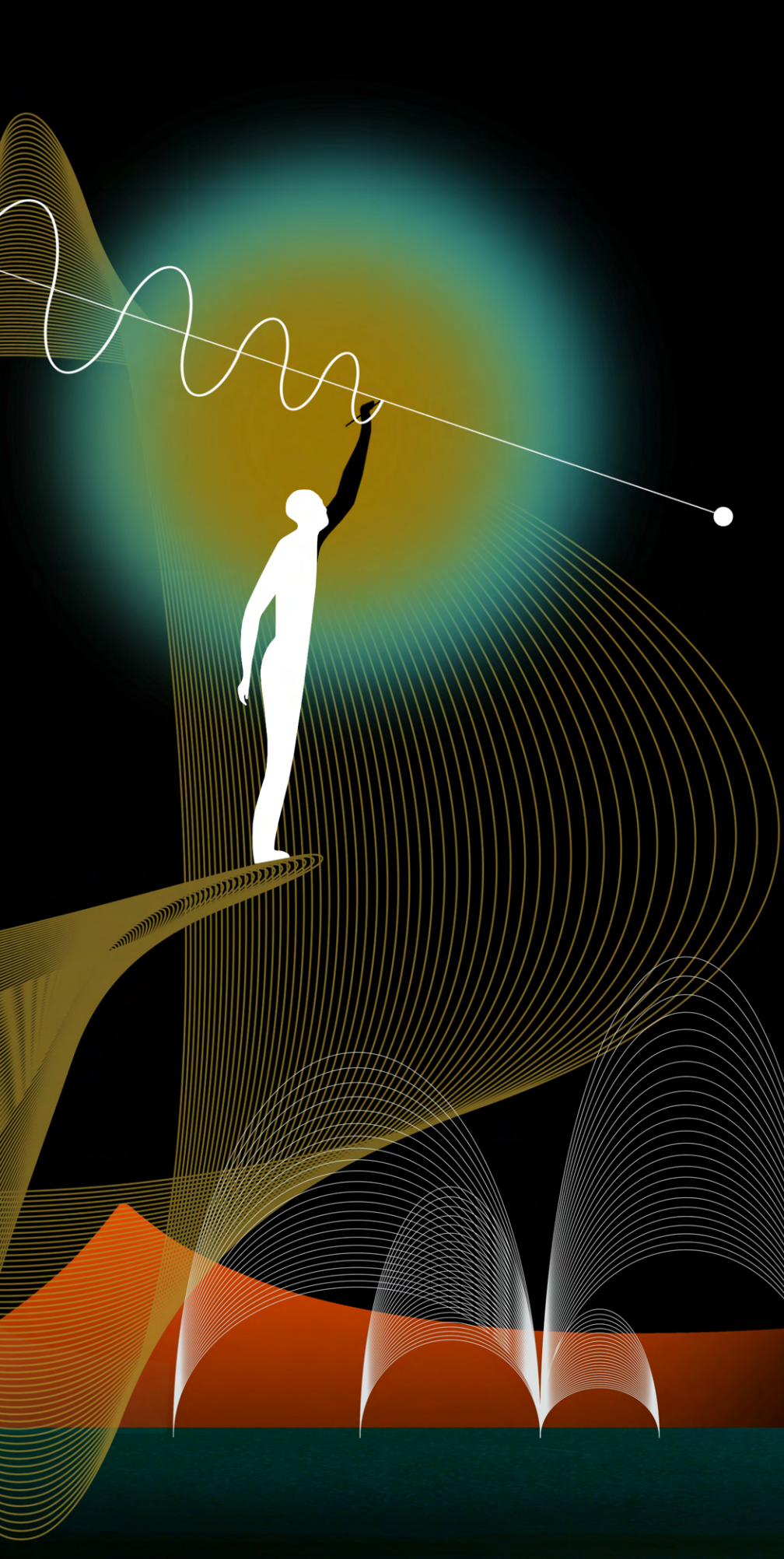
Bobby Pesavento holds the 2001 Big 12 Championship Trophy.



Future FORWARD

The Future of
CU Boulder Is **Now**

A new chancellor, quantum
funding and a host of new
majors are helping to fuel the
university's momentum.



Colorado's

QUANTUM

Valley

BY DAN STRAIN

Boulder is at the nexus of international research and innovation.

Qizhong Liang (PhDPhys'25) squeezes around a worktable tucked into the back corner of a CU physics lab. Spread out in front of him is an intricate arrangement of mirrors, lenses and tubes. But what draws Liang's attention is what seems to be an empty plastic bag.

"Want to guess what it is?" asks Liang, a doctoral student at JILA, a joint research institute between CU Boulder and the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST).

The bag isn't, in fact, empty but contains something almost precious: breath. Researchers at Children's Hospital Colorado collected the sample from a child hospitalized with pneumonia. Liang's tabletop apparatus will generate a powerful laser, known as a frequency comb, to scan the breath sample and identify the unique chemical fingerprints of the molecules floating inside.

Ultimately, Liang and his colleagues hope the laser can serve as a tool to diagnose children with asthma and pneumonia.

But he and his advisor, **Jun Ye** (PhD-Phys'97), aren't medical professionals. They're researchers working at the forefront of a field called quantum physics, or the study of matter and energy at its most fundamental level, which deals in the bizarre behavior of things like atoms and electrons.

"This is brand new stuff," said Liang. He notes that transforming such fundamental science into new technologies is thrilling, but also lonely. "You don't have many [other experts] to talk to," he said.

Yet the discipline may soon be a lot less lonely. Across the country, and particularly in Colorado, the momentum around quan-

tum physics is gathering speed. Scientists and engineers are channeling their understanding of the field into technologies that could improve people's lives.

"It's a natural progression of the revolution that's been ongoing since the 1960s," said Ye, a JILA and NIST fellow and a professor adjoint of physics. "We are just getting faster."

In Colorado alone, quantum technology companies employ roughly 3,000 people, a number that may jump to more than 10,000 across the Mountain West over the next decade, according to one estimate. Sitting at the center of this revolution is CU Boulder, where researchers have spent decades trying to lasso the quantum realm — earning four Nobel Prizes in physics in the process. The university has launched a suite of programs to turn quantum advancements into real-world technologies. CU is also nearly unmatched among public universities when it comes to training students to become the next generation of quantum workers.

"The reason the state of Colorado has been so successful in quantum has been CU Boulder," said **Heather Lewandowski** (PhDPhys'02), a JILA fellow and professor in the Department of Physics. "It goes back to our foundational research and to our training and preparation of students."

Colorado's quantum future

This year marked a milestone for CU Boulder and the Mountain West in the global race for quantum innovation and leadership. In July, the coalition Elevate Quantum unlocked more than \$127 million in federal and state funding for quantum advancements.

Elevate Quantum is a consortium of

120 organizations across Colorado, New Mexico and Wyoming (CU Boulder is the powerhouse partner), with the mission of growing the Mountain West's prowess as a global leader in the quantum industry.

After applying to the U.S. Economic Development Administration's (EDA) Tech Hubs program, the coalition gained its official Tech Hub designation in 2023. Only 31 out of nearly 200 consortia were awarded the designation and could proceed to the program's second phase: competing for implementation grants. In July, the federal government named Elevate Quantum one of the 12 Tech Hubs that would be awarded funding.

"It's been a wild year," said Scott Sternberg, executive director of the CUbit Quantum Initiative, which "convenes, coordinates and catalyzes" the quantum activities on campus. "The challenge is now to continue the fundamental discovery while also engineering quantum products and solutions for economic gain."

The potential applications are vast. Ye, for example, leads a \$25 million effort funded by the National Science Foundation called Quantum Systems through Entangled Science and Engineering (Q-SEnSE). The bread and butter of his lab are atomic clocks — devices that tell time not with gears and hands, but by tracking the natural behavior of electrons. They're so precise they can measure the change in gravity if you lift them up by just a fraction of a millimeter. One day, he envisions that scientists could use similar quantum devices to, for example, track magma flow deep below Yellowstone National Park, the site of a supervolcano.

Recently, he and his colleagues made groundbreaking work on a type of atomic clock known as a nuclear clock. It uses lasers to trigger, then measure, extremely small shifts in energy occurring within the nuclei of thorium atoms.

Another team of engineers at CU is using frequency comb lasers, similar to those in Ye's lab, to detect methane leaks above oil and gas operations. Still others are using quantum sensors to map out the activity of the human brain and even search for elusive dark matter — the seemingly invisible substance that binds the universe together.

Quantum work is now expanding on CU Boulder's East Campus as well, in an initiative funded by the NSF and led by CU's Scott Diddams, professor of electrical, computer and energy engineering. The \$20 million grant will launch a new facility, the National Quantum Nano-

fab, where researchers and quantum specialists from Colorado and around the country can prototype and build new quantum technology.

The university is also helping to bring something else to Colorado: the next generation of quantum experts.

Quantum leaders of tomorrow

Denali Jah (EngrPhys'25), a senior studying engineering physics and applied math, found his way to physics in high school. He was having a hard time at home, and his physics teacher noticed and made a point of showing Jah how exciting science could be.

"I really appreciated his approach to life in general — it was one of curiosity," Jah said.

In 2023, Jah joined the university's first-ever cohort of Quantum Scholars, one of several CU programs encouraging students to take an interest in quantum physics. As part of that program, Jah and fellow undergrad **Annaliese Cabra** (Math'23) helped to organize the university's first Quantum Hackathon, in which teams of students compete against each other to solve tricky problems in quantum computing.

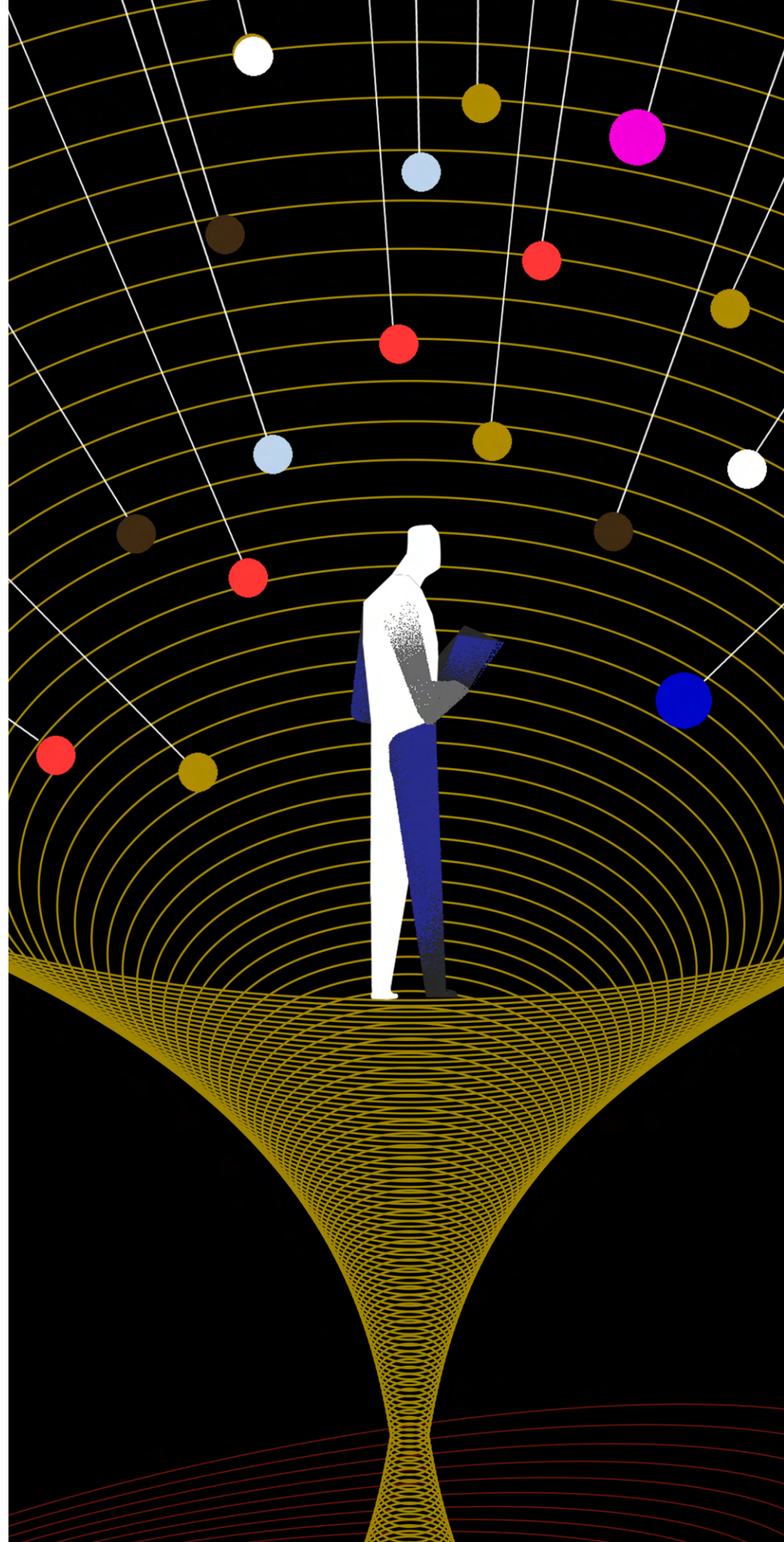
Another CU experience, the Quantum Forge, is a year-long course offered through the university's Department of Physics. It partners students with real quantum businesses in Colorado. Over the span of a year, the students lead a hands-on project for those businesses, such as designing components for an advanced cooling machine known as a "dilution refrigerator."

Lewandowski, a member of the university's Physics Education Research Group, noted that the quantum industry is in its infancy — companies are still trying to get a handle on what kind of employees they'll need. CU Boulder, she said, trains students to be flexible in the field.

"Students can still have their core engineering or physics degree, but you supplement that with a few quantum technology courses, and that can make you very employable," said Lewandowski.

Jah, for his part, wants to use his new skills to study quantum loop gravity, a trippy theory that seeks to explain how gravity works. He said that quantum physics takes a lot of work, but it's a path that anyone can follow — as long as they have enough wonder.

"I hope other people can engage in this exploratory process of: How does the world work? Let's see," Jah said.





In the LEAD

CU's chancellor is
setting a new pace.

INTERVIEWED
BY MARIA KUNTZ

Chancellor Justin Schwartz spoke with *Coloradan* editor Maria Kuntz about innovation, inclusion, sustainability and philanthropy as keys to CU's future.

You said the chancellor position is exactly what you were looking for. Can you say more about that? CU's emphasis on sustainability, inclusivity and innovation struck such a deep chord. These are things I've been working with at every stage of my career. There was such a strong, clear commitment to create a meaningful impact. I thought, "This is what's important to me. This is what I want for the next stage of my career."

You told the *CU Independent* that you've spent your entire career in large state universities because it's most meaningful to you. What is meaningful to you about the missions of these institutions? Large state universities were created to democratize access to information and give opportunities to all citizens. They are meant to advance individuals for their self-betterment and also to create knowledge for the betterment of others.

So they're empowered to discover, not just learn from what has been discovered? Yes. We're not teaching people what to think so much as how to think. Higher education has to be creative — it's about fueling a different kind of conversation that leads to something new.

You've recently launched a search for a new position: Vice Chancellor of Sustainability. Can you paint a picture of where CU will be in two, five and 10 years regarding sustainability? Our goal is to advance an integrated, holistic view of sustainability across campus internally and externally so that our students, researchers and campus can have even more impact. This means putting sustainability into our curriculum and programs and asking: What does society need graduates to know and do to advance sustainability? How do we activate that knowledge? Ten years from now, I'd like the world to say, "Wow. CU Boulder was the one that helped bring together all these constituents across the country and around the globe to address the issue."

You're an engineer, inventor and entrepreneur. How do these identities and experiences inform your approach as chancellor?

This is a very innovative and entrepreneurial campus. Sometimes, in academia, we can be hesitant and conservative to try new things — but I want us to remember that it's OK to fail. Many attempts at innovation don't work the first time. For the best outcome, you probably have to experiment and experience a few false starts before you strike gold.

You're open about your dedication to creating greater inclusion and belonging on campus. What are some of the next steps to growing and developing these areas as an institution and a community? It's a challenge of both culture and numbers. At many institutions, resources are poured into building numbers. However, what's often missed is the slow, hard work of building the culture and sense of belonging needed to support those who are being invited in. Without that, inclusion doesn't work.

We also need to reinforce the idea that inclusivity is truly including all. As a community of scholars, we should be dedicated to appreciating and giving credence to all views — which means all voices must be present and invited to speak.

I've heard you talk about life-work balance. What does that mean to you? I appreciate that you said life-work balance. I tell my staff that I want them to look forward to the weekend, and I want them to look forward to Monday. I don't want them to miss a moment with their loved ones because there's something at work they have to do. There's always a way around that. I have my daughter's volleyball camp on my calendar. I want to make sure we are present where we are and that we all are where we really want to be.

You've been an avid triathlete for a few years, and I've seen your Instagram photos on area trails. Any favorite places to get outside? There are so many great trails. I usually start on the Enchanted Mesa, then go around McClintock and the Mesa Trail. And there are so many more to explore.

You've jumped right into fundraising and engaging with Forever Buffs. Why is this important for CU's future, and how can people support the university? Beyond donations, spread the word. It's important because we have a critically important mission to Colorado, to the country, to our students and to the world. We have too



Chancellor Schwartz and spouse, Dr. Gina LaFrazza, meet Ralphie at a fundraising event.

many students who would become Forever Buffs but for lack of funding. I don't want students who belong at CU Boulder to not graduate because of finances. We also have amazing faculty doing incredible work, and breakthroughs rely on funding.

The other thing is the importance of alumni philanthropy. I want Forever Buffs to feel deeply and permanently connected to the campus. Some of the best moments in philanthropy are the connections between donors and beneficiaries. Sometimes, the stories bring tears.

You look touched. Something touched your heart just now, if you'll share it. I recently had a conversation with a student whose

parents were well-educated, but their degrees were not recognized in the U.S. They each worked two jobs so that their two daughters could go to college, but only had money to send one to college.

However, the older daughter received a scholarship to study computer science, and the resources that were supposed to go to her went to her sister. So they both went to school.

That shows the value — that cascade effect of philanthropy. This story happens over and over again, every week.

When I talk about Forever Buffs being permanently connected with CU, it's about remembering what got them where they are today. I've met so many successful alums who say: "I grew up low [socioeconomic status], and I wouldn't be where I am in life if it weren't for CU Boulder."

It's crucial to help alumni remember what it was like to be at the beginning of their journey. And that moment, when they see the impact of passing it on, is profound.

How do you envision continuing to build strong ties with communities across Colorado? We are Colorado's flagship institution. That means we're the ship with the flag up high so that others can follow. CU needs to be more proactive in bringing CU Boulder across the state. We need to connect with and understand Colorado's communities. And we need to partner with more institutions across the state and get more Coloradans excited to be CU Boulder students, alumni and supporters.



We need to reinforce the idea that inclusivity is truly including all.

MAJOR

CU unveils five
fresh degrees for a
changing world.

BY KELSEY
YANDURA



CHANGE

Did Greta Gerwig's Barbie film boost Birkenstock sales? Does a high-fat diet increase anxiousness? How are business leaders addressing "Zoom

fatigue" among employees? Can a jellyfish-inspired robot track climate change?

The questions facing industry professionals today can range from complex to straight out of a science fiction novel. To keep up with and prepare students for the ever-evolving times, academic institutions need to constantly reevaluate course content and degree offerings.

CU Boulder's leadership strategically approaches the challenges of continuous modernization in higher education by examining both what and how students learn. This allows the university to remain on the leading edge of education while empowering students to navigate a fast-changing world.

"Our degrees don't focus on a finite set of competencies, but on teaching students how to learn and lead," said Katherine Eggert, vice chancellor for academic planning and assessment at CU Boulder. "What our graduates learn today may be outdated by tomorrow. They'll need to acquire new skills quickly from the moment they start their careers."

The university's academic strategy is centered on equipping students with adaptable, real-world skills in programs that embrace multidisciplinary approaches, foster collaboration and generate creative solutions to complex problems.

Here are five of the latest undergraduate and graduate degree paths CU Boulder has unveiled over the past four years.

Corporate Communication (MA) CU Boulder Online

When **Kiana Junior** (MCorpComm'25) graduated from the University of Wyoming in 2021 with a bachelor's degree in nutrition, job prospects in her field of study were dire.

"I took the first job I could, which happened to be in the real estate industry," said Junior. Three years later, she's bounding ahead on a totally new path: working as a brand communicator and pursuing her master's in corporate communication at CU, a fully online degree program introduced in 2020.

In the field of corporate communication, professionals study the way companies and organizations communicate with internal and external audiences to share information and manage brand perception.

"It's the practice and art of distilling information with integrity and consistency," said Junior. "Consumers and employees expect transparency and social responsibility from corporations, now more than ever — especially when it comes to social responsibility, environmental compliance and diversity."

The curriculum is designed to be student-centric. "The students learn from a mix of university faculty and current and distinguished practitioners who are working in the field," said Tobias Hopp, director of the program. "It's a dynamic educational experience."

The results speak for themselves.

"I could read something in class one day and take it to work the next day," said Junior. "It's directly applicable every single week."

Business Analytics (BS) Leeds School of Business

Businesses have access to more data than ever — but it's what they do with this data that provides value. Streaming site subscriptions, airline loyalty memberships, coffee shop sales and nail salon customer reviews — each of these datasets can provide a wealth of information for the respective businesses.

That's where business analytics comes in: using data to glean insights, inform strategic decisions and recommend meaningful changes within a business. This fast-growing field of study became a new undergraduate focus within the Leeds School of Business in 2022.

"It's about critical thinking with data," said Kai R. Larsen, professor of information systems at Leeds. "Datasets are only getting bigger. We tried to imagine what a major would look like so that students could really understand the story behind the numbers."

Business analytics students learn how to translate and distill hard numbers into helpful information. It is designed to be paired with another area of emphasis within the business school, such as marketing, finance or accounting.

"The beauty comes from how to put all these parts together," said Larsen. "Not only understand the problem, but be able to analyze and also distill the information into something that's valuable."

Public Health (BA) College of Arts and Sciences

After wildfires in California in 2008, Colleen Reid, an associate professor of geography at

CU Boulder, began studies to understand how wildfire smoke affects population health. Recently, she has been collecting data to understand how wildfire smoke gets into homes and schools and may affect children's health in the Denver metro area. Reid hopes school districts can use the findings from her work to protect children from future high air pollution events, such as wildfires. Her work demonstrates the importance of careers in public health.

Starting in the fall of 2025, CU students will have the opportunity to pursue similar lines of work through the new public health major (BA) — a discipline focused on protecting and improving the health and well-being of communities and people. The field examines the underlying determinants of health within populations. For this new major at CU, students will learn about public health through courses within many different disciplines, including biology, statistics, geography, physiology, sociology, psychology and more.

"Public health goes beyond just individual bodies," said Reid. "Seat belts are public health. Parks are public health. Climate change policy is public health. Food safety inspections at restaurants are public health."

CU's public health program plans to equip students with the tools to address the needs of today's world — making strides to not only solve health problems, but also prevent them.

Biomedical Engineering (BS, MS, PhD) College of Engineering and Applied Science

Earlier this year, a CU Boulder-led team made strides in the quest to develop naturalistic materials that can repair and replace human tissue. Their breakthrough focused on creating a "Band-Aid for the heart," and the process consisted of 3D printing adhesive, elastic materials that are strong enough to support tissue mechanically.

This work, which can lead to revolutionary uses such as internal bandages and cartilage patches, demonstrates the innovative possibilities in biomedical engineering. By connecting engineering principles to the fields of medicine and biology, professionals in this discipline create enhancements to health care.

"A biomedical engineer on a team can form a crucial bridge between the

clinicians and the engineers," said Jessica McLaughlin, a teaching assistant professor in CU's biomedical engineering (BME) department. "It's critical to have someone at the table who can speak both languages."

Since 2020, students at CU Boulder have had this professional pathway open to them through undergraduate and graduate biomedical engineering degrees. The multidisciplinary major teaches students how to create technology to address complex health problems.

"Anyone who cares about human health should be interested in this," said Corey Nue, a biomedical professor at CU Boulder. "As engineers, we're really uniquely positioned to impact the field through new devices, diagnostics and therapeutics."

Robotics (MA, PhD) College of Engineering and Applied Science

Perhaps the most futuristic major on the list is CU's new graduate program in robotics, which kicked off in the fall of 2023. The program combines coursework and research from a variety of engineering fields, bridging the gaps between science, engineering and artificial intelligence.

"Robotics takes everything from computer science to mechanical engineering to electrical engineering," said Sean Humbert, professor of mechanical engineering and director of the Robotics Program at CU Boulder. "These are the types of students we want to be getting — folks that want this multidisciplinary background to solve all sorts of problems."

From agriculture and health care to security and defense, the applications of a robotics degree are endless. Students enrolled in the program can choose from more than 40 different courses taught by experts in areas like field robotics, reasoning and assurance, smart materials, human-centered robotics and biomedical robotics.

When leading the charge to bring the robotics program to life, Humbert envisioned a department built on flexibility and an eye for developing trends.

"It's a rapidly changing field, and our terrific faculty span all of these different bins of research," said Humbert. "We'll be able to educate students and develop new classes as the new tools appear. It's really exciting."

F R O N T L I N E S

Journalist, photographer and filmmaker **Jordan Campbell** (Comm'91) is no stranger to the harshness of international conflict. He has reported from South Sudan, Libya and Iraq for publications like *National Geographic* and *Men's Journal*. He also founded Ramro Global, a film production company that documents the work of global health and humanitarian initiatives.

But his latest project, an upcoming documentary titled *Ukraine Under Fire*, is a personal labor — the origins and experiences of which are unlike anything he's ever undertaken.

INTERNATIONAL STORYTELLING

After graduating from CU, Campbell started working with outdoor company Marmot as a communications director. Always one to seek out new and interesting perspectives, he befriended a few of the company's international representatives, becoming close to his Ukrainian colleagues Iryna Karagan and Pavlo Vasianoych.

Over the course of the next decade, Campbell found himself drawn to bigger stories, fueled by his university training in storytelling, geopolitics and political science. His career segued into global journalism and film.

Still, he remained friends with Karagan and Vasianoych. And when Russia invaded Ukraine in February 2022, he quickly reached out to Karagan. Concerned, he asked if she would flee. Karagan's answer was resolved: Not only was she staying put, she was staying "to defend our country."

Her determination highlighted what Campbell saw as "the most incredible injustice, a David and Goliath story — of resistance, resilience and the quest for freedom, democracy and European integration."

DOCUMENTING CONFLICT

A month later, Campbell crossed the Polish border heading to Kiev, his camera in tow and post-apocalyptic sirens blaring. "It was a ghost town," he remembered. In areas near Bucha that Ukrainian soldiers had just liberated from Russia, he saw



ABOVE Campbell filming for *Ukraine Under Fire* in the liberated city of Borodianka, Ukraine.

evidence of violence alongside the burnt remains of tanks, buildings and cars.

He returned again that summer and embedded at a military hospital in Pokrovsk, a grisly scene of battered and injured soldiers. "It was a life-changing event," he said. Campbell decided that the footage he shot would become part of a film, *Ukraine Under Fire*, that documents Russia's invasion and Ukraine's resilience, and includes Karagan and Vasianoych as subjects.

Between visits, Campbell spoke up about what he had seen. At the U.S. Senate building, he presented before an audience of global politicians during the Parliamentary Intelligence Security Forum, speaking about Russia's use of cluster bombs on civilian targets and what he believed was evidence of war crimes and genocide.

"What he's doing by humanizing the conflict encourages people to take an

interest and support the cause of the Ukrainian people," said Dan Martinez, a retired Foreign Service Officer and Ramro Global advisory board member who facilitated Campbell's participation.

Despite the inherent risks, Campbell continued to return to Ukraine, mitigating the dangers by following a few simple rules: "Make the best decisions you can possibly make, given where you are and who you're with," and, "Pick the people you're going to be with very carefully."

One such person he shadowed was Peter Fouché, a South African combat medic. During a frigid morning in early 2023, the two men patrolled a quiet hamlet near the front line, peering up at the sky for incoming drones. Fouché, burly and hardened, a Rambo-like figure cradling an AK-47, emerged from the broken shell of a little stone house. Then, he broke into tears.

"The West will be remembered for what they have done or have not done in this war," Fouché said, staring directly into Campbell's lens.

CAPTURING REALITY

The summer of 2023 was Campbell's fifth visit to Ukraine — one he now describes as "disastrous." He was with Fouché at the time, and their nerves were shot from exhaustion, PTSD and a relentless, soggy heat. He didn't know it, but it would be the last time he'd see his friend.

As Campbell made plans to return, to embed with Fouché and his Ukrainian colleague Tatyana Millard, he learned that the two were killed near the frontlines. The duo were evacuating injured soldiers from the combat zone "like a superhero team," Campbell said.

"That's Peter's essence right there," Campbell remarked weeks after Fouché's death, while reflecting on the footage he captured of the heroic medic and his piercing statement about the West's role in the war. "That's the power of documentary film. It's that close."

Campbell's documentary Ukraine Under Fire is set to release in December 2024.



On a cold morning in December 2023, Joanna Lambert found herself surrounded by five gray wolves on Colorado's Western Slope. For most people, this sounds like the stuff of nightmares. But for Lambert, a professor who teaches animal ecology and conservation biology at CU Boulder, it was a dream come true.

"I was so close to the wolves, I could smell and hear them," Lambert said. "The whole experience was just extraordinary."

For the first time in over 75 years, gray wolves were about to set foot on Colorado soil, marking the first time an endangered and federally protected species was reintroduced to its native habitat by a democratic vote. And this historic occasion was due in no small part to Lambert's tireless — and often thankless — work advocating for this misunderstood apex predator.

The "Big Bad Wolf"

Lambert was elated as she watched the wolves bound across the snow-dusted field. But as the last wolf disappeared into the Coloradan wilderness, she couldn't help but feel a twinge of anxiety.

By Daniel Oberhaus

THE WOLF WELCOMING

After a decades-long career studying and advocating for endangered species worldwide, Lambert knew that releasing these wolves into the Rockies was just the beginning. The true test would be whether humans could learn how to co-exist with the wolves — and she had every reason to be worried.

Prior to the arrival of European settlers, North America was home to millions of gray wolves whose habitats stretched from modern Mexico into the Canadian north. The largest of any dog species — technically known as *Canis lupus* — gray wolves were despised by settlers, who viewed them as a threat to their livestock, big game, and personal safety.

“Western settlers brought all these myths and legends about the ‘big bad wolf,’” said Lambert. “There’s something about gray wolves that evokes more fear, dread and loathing than any other species I have ever worked with.”

Throughout the 19th and early 20th centuries, settlers systematically tried to exterminate gray wolves in the region. Their programs were devastatingly effective, and by the time gray wolves were officially listed as an endangered species in the mid-1970s, only a few hundred breeding pairs remained in the lower United States.

A Vote Decides

When Lambert arrived at CU in 2015, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service had recently delisted gray wolves as an endangered species in the Northern Rockies. This sparked controversy among conservationists, who argued that gray wolf populations were nowhere near the levels needed to justify delisting.

“Colorado is arguably the best place in the U.S. to reintroduce gray wolves,” Lambert said. “We have around 20 million acres of protected public lands, the most abundant elk population anywhere in the country, and a prime location to enable full latitudinal distribution.”

The lack of government support particularly troubled Mike Phillips, director of the Turner Endangered Species Fund, who was previously a state senator of Montana and former biologist with the National Park Service. When Lambert arrived in Boulder, Phillips was cooking up a plan to put the reintroduction of gray wolves in Colorado to a state vote.

Lambert jumped on board and spent the next five years working with a political campaign team of scientists, nonprofit partners, pollsters, lawyers and citizen volunteers known as the Rocky Mountain

Wolf Project (RMWP). By 2019, RMWP had enough signatures to get the initiative on the 2020 General Election ballot. Along with several RMWP colleagues, Lambert herself delivered those signatures to Colorado’s secretary of state.

She was also a spokesperson for the campaign. “Never in a million years would I have thought I’d be in television ads for a political campaign,” reflected Lambert. “I’m happiest in wild landscapes running around after animals, and there I was in the trenches of a campaign.”

The result was Proposition 114, which was voted into law by Coloradans in 2020. Beginning in 2023, it committed the state to releasing around ten gray wolves per year for the next three to five years.

Into the Wild

The initiative was a landmark moment for ecological conservation, and it passed by the narrowest of margins — 50.9% in favor. When considering why some would be opposed to the measure, Lambert says that a lot of the opposition stems from concerns about personal safety (though gray wolves al-

most never attack humans) and impact on livestock producers.

For Lambert, these concerns echo the fears that once nearly drove gray wolves to extinction.

“We’ve lived with wolves and other apex predators through virtually all of our evolutionary history,” said Lambert. “That’s one thing humans are very good at — we’ve got a big brain and the tools to cope. It will just take time to attenuate the inherent fear that many folks have about these predators and to relearn how to share a landscape with them.”

Today, one of Lambert’s major research initiatives is investigating the different evolutionary trajectories of gray wolves and coyotes, the closest living genetic relative to the gray wolf. Unlike gray wolves, coyotes are increasingly co-existing with humans in urban environments. The question for Lambert is why, and the answer may have a lot to teach conservationists about how to tilt the odds in favor of successfully reintroducing the gray wolf throughout the American West.

In the meantime, Lambert believes that Colorado taking the reintroduction of gray

wolves into its own hands bodes well for future conservation efforts in the state and across the nation. The journey, however, could be a long and winding one. In August, Colorado Parks and Wildlife officials announced that two of the gray wolves released last year — along with three of their pups — would be relocated following a spate of attacks on livestock that local ranchers blamed on wolves.

While Lambert acknowledges this was a blow, she doesn’t see the relocation as a setback and says it’s important to keep sight of the bigger picture.

She says fewer than 0.01% of cattle in the northern Rockies are attacked by gray wolves, and that cattle are far more likely to die from eating larkspur weeds or even being struck by lightning than a wolf attack. And the majority of the reintroduced wolves, she says, are not causing any problems.

“The fundamental reality is that we are living through the sixth extinction crisis and we must learn how to live with wildlife,” said Lambert. “We are turning into a state that represents an alternative way of thinking about how to manage wildlife, and this should be a source of hope for everyone.”





Two CU songbirds are inducted
into the Colorado Music Hall of Fame.
By Helen Olsson

High Hitting the Notes

In June, two renowned opera singers from CU were inducted into the Colorado Music Hall of Fame. **Cynthia Lawrence** (Mus'83; MM'87) studied music at CU and went on to share the stage with Italian tenor Luciano Pavarotti more than 70 times. **Keith Miller** (Art'97), on the other hand, was a star football player who pivoted to opera after graduation. They have both performed stints as principal artists at the Metropolitan Opera in New York.

Soprano, equestrian, stuntwoman

"When I heard about [the Hall of Fame induction], I couldn't believe it," Lawrence said. "To be recognized is beyond an honor." But the honor is no surprise to those in the singer's orbit. Lawrence has performed with virtually every opera company in Colorado and worldwide, from Paris to Prague, with legendary performers like Plácido Domingo and Mirella Freni.

"Cynthia has a world-class voice. People say she was kissed in the throat," said acclaimed tenor **Mark Calkins** (MMus'87), who met Lawrence at CU. (They married in 1985.) "She won the Metropolitan Opera contest in 1984 at age 23 — a stunning achievement."

Lawrence credits her success, in part, to her time at CU. "It's a great school with great facilities. Barbara Doscher was one of the best voice teachers in the world," said Lawrence. She also points to her background as a competitive equestrian. "If you're nervous on horseback, that horse may dump you in the dirt," she said. "In opera, you also have to keep your nerves underneath you. That discipline, concentration and preparation made me a better performer on stage."

In addition to jumping horses, Lawrence credits childhood time on the trampoline with her ability to perform dramatic free-flying leaps in Puccini's "Tosca." Lawrence, who insisted on doing her own stunts, perfected numerous daring feats on stage. She frequently plummeted backward (into a hidden foam pit), and her most notable stunt was a 26-foot forward jump at Royal Albert Hall.

Bass-baritone, athlete, thespian

Keith Miller grew up on a beet farm in Ovid, Colorado, a town so small that its high school football team consisted of six players

and there was no school choir. A football scholarship recipient and three-year starter as a fullback, Miller played opera music in the locker room and sang in the shower.

He was inspired by varsity players singing the CU fight song on the sidelines. "These guys, my idols, were singing like they were warrior poets," he said. Not long after the 1994 Michigan game, when CU made one of the greatest comebacks in Buff history, Miller took his then-girlfriend to see "Phantom of the Opera" in Denver. "I felt the same emotion at the opera that I had during the Michigan game," he said.

In 2001, while working out with the Denver Broncos at North Dakota State University, Miller took refuge from a snowstorm in a music practice room. "I started singing along to 'Don Giovanni' — and someone knocked on the door." He was offered a scholarship on the spot. He declined, but decided it was time to start following the music. On the way out, he saw a flier for the Pine Mountain Music Festival in Minneapolis and decided to audition. Suddenly, Miller had a dozen job offers to sing and decided to pursue singing full-time.

The next fall, Miller enrolled at the prestigious Academy of Vocal Arts in Philadelphia and, after graduation in 2006, auditioned for the Met in New York. He made his debut at the opera's opening-night gala. At the reception, he bumped into someone who remarked, "Wonderful performance," in a familiar Scottish accent. It was Sean Connery.

Beyond the hall of fame

Today, the inductees are still showing off their versatility. Miller serves as founder and CEO of CedoHealth and has recently moved back to Colorado to re-engage with the Crested Butte Music Festival (CBMF). (For six years, he served as director of opera and oversaw the CBMF's Opera Young Artists Program.) He also has his sights set on film acting. "There are things out there creatively I want to do," he said. "My journey's not done."

Meanwhile, Lawrence works as the endowed chair professor for voice and opera at the University of Kentucky, where she's teaching the next generation of opera singers. "I love teaching. When students have that 'Aha' moment, when they finally get it — that's the prize."

Missions Across the Cosmos

CU's Laboratory for Atmospheric and Space Physics (LASP) is the university's first and highest-budget research institute — and the only organization of its kind to have sent scientific instruments to every planet in our solar system, plus the Sun and a host of moons.

Founded in 1948 as a collaboration between the U.S. Air Force and the university's physics department, LASP's initial experiments included launching instruments

mounted on captured German V-2 rockets in order to study the sun. Today, over 75 years later, the institute is made up of more than 100 research scientists who specialize in designing, building and operating spacecraft and spacecraft instruments.

As LASP looks ahead to the next 75 years, its dedication to innovation keeps it at the leading edge of space science. Here are just a few of the many missions LASP has helped propel forward.

SUN¹



2010–30
LASP instrument on NASA Solar Dynamics Observatory

Examines variations in the extreme UV light over time.

Recorded enormous solar “tornadoes,” ultra-hot plasma plumes swirling above the surface.

VENUS³



1978–92
LASP spectrometer on NASA Pioneer Venus Orbiter

Identified sulfur dioxide in the clouds, indicating potential volcanic activity.

Pinpointed the highest point on Venus — Maxwell Montes stands at 10.8 kilometers high.

MOON⁵



2013–14
LASP instrument on NASA LADEE

Gathered and analyzed lunar dust particles.

Revealed that tiny meteoroids deliver water to the Moon's exosphere.

JUPITER⁷



1989–2003
LASP Spectrometer on NASA Galileo

Observed the impacts of Comet Shoemaker-Levy 9 fragments on Jupiter.

Found evidence of a sub-surface ocean on Jupiter's moon Europa.

URANUS⁹



1977–Current
LASP instrument on NASA Voyager 2

Discovered Uranus' rings are younger than the solar system.

Identified an irregular magnetic field, highly tilted from Uranus' spin axis.

PLUTO¹¹



2006–Current
LASP's Venetia Burney Student Dust Counter on NASA's New Horizons

First student-designed instrument to launch on an interplanetary mission.

Discovered the largest known glacier in the solar system.

MERCURY²



2004–15
LASP-built instrument on NASA MESSENGER

First detected magnesium in Mercury's exosphere.

Confirmed the presence of water-ice deposits in permanently shadowed craters at Mercury's poles.

EARTH⁴



Scheduled 2027
LASP's Libera

Records how much energy leaves our planet's atmosphere, providing information about how Earth's climate is evolving over time.

MARS⁶



2013–14
LASP instrument on NASA MAVEN

Discovered an aurora caused by proton precipitation in the atmosphere.

Solar winds have stripped the atmosphere, altering its climate from warm and wet to cold and dry.

SATURN⁸



1997–2017
LASP instrument on NASA Cassini

Measured emissions from gases emitted by volcanoes on Jupiter's moon Io.

Detected an icy plume of salt-rich organic chemicals erupting from Saturn's moon Enceladus.

NEPTUNE¹⁰



1977–Current
LASP instrument on NASA Voyager 2

Found Neptune's rings are incomplete circles created by dust knocked off tiny moons.

Performed the first mission to fly past Neptune and detect its irregular magnetic field.

AND BEYOND...

LASP has been involved in missions beyond our solar system, including operations for NASA's exoplanet-hunting Kepler mission and the IXPE mission, which studies extreme space environments.

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Bufs Mentoring Bufs



Shimamoto and Penalosa smile for the camera during a mentoring meetup.

When Karen Shimamoto (Bio'07) first heard about the Forever Bufs Network (FBN) Mentorship Program, she knew it would be a wonderful opportunity to give back and support a fellow Buff. The program offers a unique opportunity to connect with other Bufs through a guided mentor-mentee relationship. Shimamoto was paired with Gennah Penalosa (Fin'23), a recent graduate who joined the program looking for help in navigating her new career.

"The program was the perfect opportunity to guide me," said Penalosa. "In looking through the various alumni profiles, I was astonished to see the diversity of ethnicities, careers, interests and other identities across the community." For Shimamoto and Penalosa, one of the biggest benefits of the mentorship program has been the opportunity to see the world through each other's eyes. "She has taught me so much. Her approaches to professional and personal situations have helped me widen my perspectives and find ways to be more inclusive," said Shimamoto. The FBN Mentorship Program offers participants prompts and guided activities to help make the meetings more comfortable and intentional. For example, one prompt that Shimamoto and Penalosa had was to do a learning activity together. They chose to listen to a podcast episode on leadership in the professional setting which focused on women of color. After listening, they discussed their shared experiences as women of color and the different ways in which they approach leadership. The activity helped them learn about each other and deepen their relationship. "It's truly an honor to understand how a recent graduate is experiencing and navigating the workforce," said Shimamoto. "She is also helping me understand how I can advocate, encourage and uplift women of color professionals." Whether as a mentor or mentee, you can expand your knowledge and grow with a fellow Buff. Learn more about how to apply for the mentorship program at colorado.edu/alumni/communities/forever-buffs-network/mentorship. **BY APRIL DRIVER**

📷 Karen Shimamoto and Gennah Penalosa

CU BOULDER Alumni Association

Investing in CU's Future



Want to give back as a CU alum? Join the Forever Bufs Advisory Board (FBAB), a group of alumni who help set the strategic direction for the Alumni Association. FBAB members spend a three-year term working to advance the Alumni Association's mission. Volunteers are selected to reflect the diversity of Forever Bufs, representing over 320,000 alumni from various geographic locations, degrees, ethnicities and professions. The board's past key achievements include promoting the Forever Bufs dues-free model, revitalizing homecoming alumni events, advocating for the annexation of CU Boulder South, successfully launching the Forever Bufs Network and enhancing the Alumni Awards program. Applications to join the board open in January. Learn more at colorado.edu/alumniboard.

ALUMNI AWARDS NOMINATIONS
Join us in celebrating the best of CU Boulder for the 96th Annual Alumni Awards. Submit nominations to recognize outstanding alumni who have made remarkable contributions to our Forever Bufs community. Nominate your fellow Bufs by Jan. 31, 2025, at colorado.edu/homecoming/nominate.

FOREVER BUFs BOOK CLUB
CU Boulder alumni can share their published books with the Forever Bufs Book Club, a vibrant community of Forever Bufs that gathers quarterly to dive into insightful stories and perspectives shared by talented alumni authors. If you'd like to submit your book for

consideration, visit colorado.edu/coloradan/books-alums.
FOREVER BUFs NETWORK BUSINESS DIRECTORY
Boost your business by joining the Forever Bufs Network (FBN) and showcasing your enterprise in our exclusive Bufs Business Directory. This summer, the FBN Business Directory highlighted "Bard Cards: The Authentic Shakespearean Quote Game" by David Overton (PhDThtr'06). The Colorado Shakespeare Festival featured the game in Shakespeare-themed trivia between performances, offering attendees opportunities to win prizes. Learn more and join the Bufs Business Directory at foreverbuffsnetwork.com.

2025 TRIPS

Cruising the Italian Riviera
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July 26-Aug. 1



Easy Company: England to the Eagle's Nest
Sept. 8-20



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Sept. 21-Oct. 6



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Like the panels below on the Center for Innovation and Creativity, the East Campus solar array will be a crucial part of advancing CU's Climate Action Plan.



Solar Power Move

Colorado is famous for generous levels of sunshine — and CU is looking for ways to harness those rays for more than just vitamin D. In one of the latest steps by campus leadership to drive down emissions and increase energy efficiency, the university is scheduled to begin construction next summer on the East Campus solar array, a two-acre, ground-based panel system with a \$7.8 million price tag. The project will be the largest of CU Boulder's 16 existing solar arrays, all of which are located on Main Campus buildings.

"We're aiming to source about 10 percent of our electrical usage from renewables," said **Chris Ewing** (EnvDes'10), vice chancellor for infrastructure and sustainability at CU Boulder. "This project will get

us up there closer to 4 or 5 percent, halfway to our goal."

The 1.1 megawatt ground-mounted solar array is projected to offset 1.4 million kilowatt hours annually, amounting to about 1.3 percent of CU Boulder's annual electricity usage.

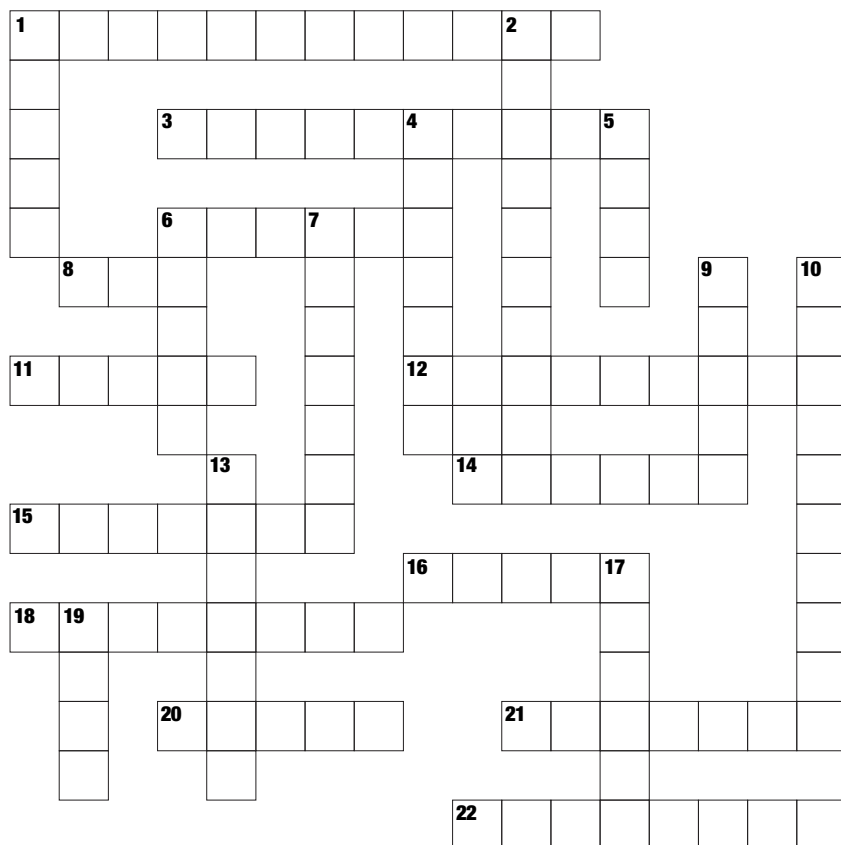
The project supports CU's Climate Action Plan, which aims to reduce campus emissions 50 percent by 2030 and completely decarbonize by 2050.

"We're in the midst of a climate crisis, and we need to do our part to reduce our carbon emissions," said Ewing. "The other part of the argument is that it makes good business sense. If we invest in solar panels now, that's 1.1 megawatts of power that we don't have to worry about month after month. It will pay for itself after 20 years."

The new array will be the largest of 17 on campus, generating 1.4 million KW hours annually.

Coloradan

COVER TO COVER CROSSWORD FALL 2024



ACROSS

1. Field focused on the well-being of communities
3. Yormark's welcome message to the Buffs
6. Penalosa in relation to Shimamoto
8. Fought for women's sports on campus
11. CU physics department boasts four
12. Chancellor's sport
14. Football quarterback of volleyball
15. Ye's clock
16. Da Silva's new basketball team
18. Business and engineering connector
20. Owner of a silver pin
21. Keith Miller's pro team
22. Number of leaders on the CU women's volleyball team

DOWN

1. See 9 down, second word
2. Lawrence's practice arena for free-flying leaps
4. Coalition of quantum forces
5. Capital of Ukraine
6. NASA mission on Mars
7. Social media platform founded in 2006
9. Building block of East Campus array (with 1 down)
10. Wolf, formally
13. Possible new fabric material
17. Closest living genetic relative of the gray wolf
19. LASP co-creator, for short

BY KELSEY YANDURA

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SPORTSnews

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



Extraordinary Offseason

The tireless Buffaloes made headlines this summer: three NBA draft picks, an NBA Championship, Olympic gold and more.

After men's basketball made a postseason run that included the program's first back-to-back NCAA Tournament wins since 1955, the Buffaloes made headlines this summer: Three Forever Buffs were drafted to the NBA, **Derrick White** (Mgmt'17) earned an NBA Championship and Olympic gold, and two hoops legends joined Colorado's coaching staff.

On June 26, for the first time in Buffs history, two CU Boulder players were chosen during the NBA Draft's first round. **Cody Williams** (IntPhys ex'27) went No. 10 to the Utah Jazz and **Tristan da Silva** (Fin'24) went No. 18 to the Orlando Magic. In the second round, **KJ Simpson** (LeadCommEngmt'25) was drafted at No. 12 (42nd pick overall) — giving the Buffs their highest-ever ranked draft class.

"You want to help kids achieve their dreams," said head coach Tad Boyle, who attended the draft. "That's what college basketball is about."

Four days later, 2017 first round pick Derrick White kept the Buffs in the headlines when he agreed to a four-year, \$125.9 million contract extension, just two weeks after winning the NBA Championship with the Boston Celtics. Soon after, he was named to the U.S. Olympic team, earning a gold medal when the U.S. defeated France 98-87 in the Paris Games.

Following a summer of accolades for past Buffs, Colorado's 2024-25 squad is reloading in its return to the Big 12 with a

coaching staff bolstered by NCAA champion and NBA All-Star Danny Manning and former "Mayor of Boulder" **Evan Battey** (Jour'21, MSOL'23).

"I'll bring the energy, the emotion, the experience," Battey said.

From top:
Cody Williams,
KJ Simpson
and Tristan da Silva
at the 2024 NBA draft.



Bufs Win NCAA

Sean Carlson was named director of the cross country and the track and field programs on July 25, marking a new era for CU Boulder's storied running programs.

Carlson comes to Boulder from the University of Tennessee, where he was director and head coach of cross country for two years.

"I didn't really have any intentions of leaving, but this is the pinnacle of our sport," said Carlson. "Historically, this has been the best job in distance running."

Prior to Tennessee, Carlson coached at Notre Dame for 10 years. Overall, he has coached 36 All-Americans and four NCAA individual champions.

Carlson succeeds Mark Wetmore, head coach since 1995. CU won eight cross country NCAA team championships under Wetmore, but after a disappointing 2023 — the women finished 19th and men 25th at nationals — and an investigation into the program's body composition testing, Wetmore's contract was not renewed.

Combined with recent recruiting challenges, Carlson is entering an uncharacteristic rebuild. However, his efforts will be bolstered by the NCAA's July 26 decision to increase runner scholarship spots by 50 percent.

"We can get it going quickly, because people

want to come here," said Carlson. "We just have to go recruit."

Bufs Bits

Shyra James (MediaSt'24) recorded a hat trick in soccer's 5-1 victory over Wyoming on Aug. 22, giving her 44 career goals and breaking CU's career goal record. ... **Austin Daniels**, CU's first-ever soccer head coach and the university's second African American head coach, passed away on July 15 at age 64. ... **Jaylyn Sherrod** (Soc'22, MOrgMgmt'23) signed a rest-of-season contract with the WNBA's New York Liberty on Aug. 24. ... **Morgan Pearson** (Econ, Math'16) earned a silver medal at the 2024 Paris Olympics on Aug. 5 in the triathlon mixed relay. Each of the four team members completed a 300-meter swim, 7-kilometer bike ride, and 1.8-kilometer run. ... **Shedeur Sanders** (Soc'25) completed 26 passes for 445 yards and four touchdowns in the Buffs' season-opening 31-26 victory over North Dakota State. ... **Bailey Hertenstein** (MInt-Phys'24) and **Ella Baran** (MEnvEngr'24) earned College Sports Communicators Women's Track and Field/Cross Country 2023-24 First-Team Academic All-America honors on July 9.

STATS

1st

Assist by a CU goalkeeper since **Jordan Nytes** (Soc'26) assisted **Shyra James** (MediaSt'24) header in a 1-0 win at UNC Greensboro in 2018.

6th

Charles Robertson's (Int-Phys, Psych'25) finish in the 5K to lead the Buffs at the Wyoming Invite on Aug. 30 in Cheyenne, Wyoming.

3

Career-high touchdown receptions by **Travis Hunter** (Psych'26) in the Buffs' football season-opening victory over North Dakota State.

3.182

Student-athletes' spring 2024 semester GPA, an all-time high semester GPA.

8th

Preseason doubles ranking of **Aya El Sayed** (Fin'24) and **Pia Rebec** (BioChem'27), the highest singles or doubles rankings ever for CU tennis.

2,000th

Career assist from **Taylor Simpson** (Fin'25) in volleyball's season-opening win over North Texas on Aug. 30.

Coach Talk

"Getting to coach some of the best players in our sport was truly special and such a privilege."

— Lacrosse head coach Ann Elliott Whidden, assistant coach of Team USA at the 2024 World Lacrosse Women's U20 Championship, after winning gold on Aug. 24.

Setting Up Success

Taylor Simpson (Fin'25) is in her final season as setter for CU women's volleyball. While she calls the plays and touches the ball on nearly every point, Simpson says she is only one of "19 leaders on the team," and that life after graduation might have to include some volleyball.

As a senior, how do you lead and mentor your teammates?

Communication is key. We have a high standard of holding each other accountable, whether it's something we want to celebrate or something to improve. We have 19 leaders on the team — a freshman or sophomore can hold a senior accountable. Leadership is cyclical. We're all kind of leaders, all with different roles and strengths.

Off the court, what helps the team to gel together? We like to spend as much time together off the court as possible. We eat every meal together — seriously, I've eaten every meal in the last three years with my teammates. We appreciate each other as friends, whether that's hanging out, going to the pool, watching a movie, whatever.

What stands out to you about this year's team? We are so close. We have 19 girls who are best friends, and that's hard to come by. We have a lot of fun. We're here to work, but we don't forget our personalities. Last spring, our head coach Jesse Mahoney started "task Tuesdays." We would get a paper with three tasks on it. Two

would be volleyball related and one would be funny. One time, the third task was "Start dancing after you get a kill." That stuff helps the team stay close.

Why did you choose CU Boulder?

An initial reason was CU being in the Pac-12, because I grew up on the West Coast. But honestly, I could totally see myself here when I came to visit. It's so beautiful. Plus, the team culture has made it a home away from home. And now, with the move to the Big 12, I am excited to see new places. The conference switch has been great for the university.

What is something you've learned from coach Mahoney?

It's hard to pick one. Coach Jesse is one of the most patient people I've met. Being patient is something that I've struggled with. He's calm and collected. That attitude reflects onto the players. That's helped me a lot in games when I'm frustrated or not playing my best.

How does the setter position work? People compare the setter to a football quarterback. You run the court. You're the one controlling everything. Ideally, you touch the ball every play. I find

the best hitters to set the ball to and hope we can get a kill.

How do you communicate plays to your teammates? My coaches pretty much give me free rein with play calls. We have about 20 plays, each with a different hand signal. I call them before serving. If it's a chaotic situation, the hitters adjust to something simpler. We also watch a lot of film on our opponents — if they're weak at blocking on the outside, we'll set the outside as much as possible. Same if we see weaknesses in other areas.

In a match, you might have to set the ball up to 100 times. What kind of training program do you follow to sustain your health and strength? We're doing strength, cardio, circuits, power lifts, jumping. Working all parts of our bodies helps keep us in top condition. Nothing is getting too stiff. Nothing is getting weak. Communication with our trainers is so important. If I do something 100 times and it feels off once, I'm communicating that. Recovery and treatment are key as well.

What is your favorite part about playing volleyball? I love the

Simpson during the opening CU volleyball practice in August.



sport. It's awesome how rapidly it's growing. I met all my best friends through volleyball. I'm so grateful for this opportunity. I started playing when I was 9, and it's hard to imagine my life without it.

How does your team maintain such positive energy on the court? Staying positive and supportive is one of the hardest skills to learn, even though it's not physical.

It's something a lot of us have worked on. We do team workshops with our sports psychology staff to learn how to be better teammates. We are truly a family. These are my sisters. We want the best for each other.

What do you like to do off the court? I love the ocean. The beach is my escape, my happy place. And I love to laugh with friends. It's super important to joke and have fun.

Do you have plans for after graduation?

I have a wealth management internship. I'll be taking exams once I graduate to get my financial planner license and my financial advisor license, along with a few others. Right now, that's my plan. But I could see more volleyball in my future. I don't know if I'll be ready to give it up. Ask me in six months. **INTERVIEW BY ANDREW DAIGLE**



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CLASSnotes



Boulder Theater's iconic marquee welcomed back the Buffs during Fall Welcome 2024.

'52 Since his retirement in 1984 from Sandia National Laboratories in New Mexico, **Roscoe L. Champion** (MechEngr'52) has written and published his own poetry work that explores themes like life experiences, memories, love and grief. A few of his works, some of which he published earlier this year, include *Perceptions, Reflections, Vignettes, Wandering and*

Wondering, and Flakes of Time. Champion has also published a children's book, *Chrys Caterpillar's Dream*, with illustrator Sharon Higgins.

'62 Tracy Novinger (A&S'62) became a Forever Buff at the age of 19, graduating from CU Boulder with honors and a bachelor's degree. Her fluency in four languages, as well as a basic command of two additional languages, has enabled Novinger to live and work in a variety of places and experience an array of cultures throughout her

lifetime. She plans to pen a memoir soon.

'64 College of Arts and Sciences alumni **Marty Coffin Evans** (A&S'64) and **Donna Lyons** (Art'64) launched a creative blog in 2023: *Multicolored Reflections*. The duo collaborate on monthly entries for the blog, with Evans contributing the written content and Lyons supplying the imagery via one of her plein air watercolor paintings. Their blog submissions will continue through the rest of this year and into 2025.

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'66 Los Angeles resident **Philip Hart** (Soc'66) is producing a four-part docuseries titled *Game (Changers) of the Century*, which sheds light on how college football became racially integrated. The series pays tribute to the schools that led the way to desegregating college football, and it features the Buffs' 1962 Orange Bowl experience. In partnership with McCool Creative in Denver, the docuseries project is currently in the production and fundraising stages. Hart is one of CU Boulder's Distinguished Alumni, inducted into the gallery in 1995.

'68 Randy McIntire (AeroEngr, Fin'68), a retired aerodynamic consultant, has written numerous technical articles — including the series "Confessions of an Aerodynamicist." His latest written work, *The Outlook of a Happy Fella*, is a book that shares his observations and principles to develop a positive outlook. McIntire lives in Lake Forest, California, with his wife, Diane.

'69 Silvia Veith Pettem (A&S'69) has expanded on her book *Separate Lives: The Story of Mary Rippon*, originally published in 1999. With the addition of two new chapters that include Mary Rippon's posthumous honorary degree and the scholarship endowed in her name, Pettem's book was

republished in August and was retitled *Separate Lives: Uncovering the Hidden Family of Victorian Professor Mary Rippon*. Pettem credits many CU Boulder community members for their assistance with the book's completion.

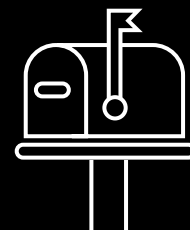
'70 Jan Check Gunia (Jour'70), along with co-author J.v.L. Bell, wrote *Women of the Colorado Gold Rush Era*. Published in 2023, the book explores the lives of 10 women who called Colorado home during the Pikes Peak Gold Rush. The two authors' work won the 2024 Colorado Book Award for History and was honored as a 2024 WILLA Literary Award Finalist in Scholarly Nonfiction by Women Writing the West. Gunia resides in Broomfield, Colorado, with her husband, **Earl** (ElEngr'71).

'72 Michael Kuller (Mktg, Pharm'72) recently sold his fourth business, Allstar Medical Supply. Allstar is a medical and mobility equipment retail store located in Walnut Creek, California. Kuller has also written two books, *The Next Step: Retail Home Medical Equipment* and *The Lucky Audiophile*.

'74 After a 30-year career as a Denver judge, **Morris Hoffman** (Math'74; Law'77) retired in 2021 and has since penned a baseball novel: *Pinch Hitting*. Published this

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year, his debut novel is about a baseball phenom and takes place in the period after World War II. Hoffman is a member of the MacArthur Foundation's Research Network on Law and Neuroscience, has written and co-authored numerous articles, and has previously taught courses at the CU Law School. He and his wife, **Kate** (Law'82), live in Denver.

'75 A lifelong member of the CU Boulder community, **D.B. Wilson** (Hist, Mktg'75) received this year's Leanne Skupa-Lee Award — one of CU Boulder's annual Alumni Awards. Wilson is a fourth-generation Coloradan and his great-grandfather helped build Macky Auditorium. During Wilson's own time at CU Boulder, he formed lasting friendships through his fraternity, Sigma Nu, and also met his wife, **Cindy** (PE'79). After retiring from a successful career in real estate, Wilson shifted his focus to

working with the Alumni Association. He has served on the Forever Buffs Advisory Board since 2016 and is currently chair of the board.

'76 Penny E. Patterson (Geol'76; MS'81; PhD'90) received one of this year's Alumni Recognition Awards, an award that acknowledges extraordinary leadership and service to CU Boulder. Since retiring from a successful career at ExxonMobil and later forming a geoscience studies consulting company, Patterson has been using her skills and expertise to give back to CU Boulder. She serves on the university's Geology Advisory Board and was elected board chair in 2022, the first woman to hold the position. Patterson also serves as a mentor for CU Boulder students, has enhanced student research through funding, and regularly hosts alumni gatherings.

'77 As a retired nurse, Nancy Glenn Johnson (Span'77) has spent time writing Christian inspirational stories. Her latest book, *Just One Good Thing: A Faith-Inspired Recipe for Optimism*, was published this year. Johnson is also the author of *95 Animals of the Bible* and *44 Animals of the Bible*. She resides in Mesa, Arizona, with her husband.

'80 Since her retirement as chairperson of Mexican American studies at California

State University—Los Angeles, **Irene I. Blea** (PhDSoc'80) has spent time writing and publishing an autobiography, poetry and works of fiction. Blea, a Chicana civil rights activist, also served as chairperson of Chicano studies at Metropolitan State University of Denver. Her interdisciplinary subjects included race and gender relations, and she was among the first to publish textbooks for courses in Chicano studies. Blea resides in her home state of New Mexico.

Lucien Dhooge (Hist'80) retired from full-time academia at the Georgia Institute of Technology and moved to Gig Harbor, Washington. In addition to enjoying the beauty that is the Pacific Northwest, Dhooge continues to write business law textbooks and teaches part-time at the University of Washington.

'81 Jack D. Calvert (EngrPhys'60) is the author and artist of his recently published poetry collections, *Aerospace Softball* and *Aerospace Softball 47*. The collections honor the co-ed slow-pitch softball team that he formerly captained. Calvert retired in 1995 from a career as a system analyst at Aeronutronic Corp. in Newport Beach, California.

An author and international speaker, **Janet Bornschlegel Marks** (Edu'81) writes for those desiring spiritual growth and healing. Her latest work, *Inhale: Breathe Deeply, Restore Your Soul*, is a Christian-living

book and was published last year. Marks published her first book, *Three Little Decisions: How to Move Beyond the Bruises of Life*, in 2018.

'87 Benny Shendo Jr. (OrgMgmt'87) recently received one of CU Boulder's 2024 George Norlin Awards, recognizing his dedicated service to diverse communities nationwide. A New Mexico native, Shendo's career has included positions in lawmaking, higher education administration and tribal leadership. He currently represents Senate District 22 and prioritizes community building and collaborative efforts to address pressing issues across New Mexico. Shendo's leadership extends to national boards and organizations, including his role as associate vice chancellor for Native American affairs at CU Boulder.

'89 Paul Beddie (IntlAf'89) won one of this year's Alumni Recognition Awards, highlighting his successful international career and focus on global citizenship. Currently vice president at Capgemini, Beddie also serves as a global ambassador for CU Boulder and has expanded the university's international network, particularly in Japan. In addition to hosting alumni events, he volunteers as a mentor for students in International Affairs and has participated on the university's International Affairs Program (IAFS) Advisory Board since 2021.

FIVE QUESTIONS



Anchored in Excellence

Admiral Stephen T. “Web” Koehler (Phys'86) has dedicated his life to the U.S. Navy. Inspired by his father's career as a Navy pilot, Koehler began his own career in naval aviation upon graduating from CU, where he was commissioned through the Naval Reserve Officer Training Corps (NROTC). After nearly 40 years as a naval aviator, he assumed command of the U.S. Pacific Fleet in April 2024.

How did your education at CU Boulder prepare you for a career in the Navy? My studies in physics made me a more competitive recruit when I joined the CU Navy ROTC. This was especially beneficial when I attended the Navy's Nuclear Power School later in my career, ultimately enabling me to command a nuclear-powered aircraft carrier.

What leadership principles do you prioritize when commanding a team, both in combat and in peacetime? Whether in war or peace, operating well requires every individual to maintain a constant pursuit of excellence and a mastery of their

area of expertise. A highly skilled team is able to make the extremely difficult look routine. Cooperation and teamwork are non-negotiable standards in any mission.

Reflecting on your roles in major operations, such as Operation Desert Storm, Southern Watch and Iraqi Freedom, what do you want the next generation of military leaders to know? Every generation of leaders faces new challenges. Our success, however, depends on compassion, care, standards and true leadership of those who work for and with you. Only with a shared understanding of service and a common purpose will you succeed as a team.

What do you see as the biggest challenges for the U.S. Navy in the coming years? Since the end of World War II, the U.S. Navy has preserved and promoted a rules-based international order with relative peace and prosperity. In the years ahead, we must continue to strengthen our ability to maintain this peace and prosperity with cutting-edge technologies, the innovation of our warfighters, and enduring coordination with our allies and partners — and we always do so with honor, courage and commitment.

Can you share your favorite memory from your time at CU Boulder? It is hard to pick a single memory. It varies from hiking and climbing in Chautauqua Park and Eldorado Canyon to the CU football win over Nebraska in the fall of 1986. I still remember that win, because there is nothing like the taste of victory. INTERVIEW BY ERIKA HANES

CLASSnotes



Boulder Theater welcomed back the Buffs for Fall Welcome 2024.

'90 A research associate at the Denver Museum of Nature & Science, **David Steinmann** (Phys'90) was recently able to name a new species of pseudoscorpion. Steinmann and his family were hiking near the Flatirons and searching for invertebrates in 2008 when he found the cave-dwelling species of *Larca*, and a pseudoscorpion expert in Australia

later helped determine that this species was the first of its kind to be discovered. Steinmann chose to honor the city of Boulder by naming the species *Larca boulderica*. Currently only found in Boulder, the *Larca boulderica* is about the size of a sesame seed and survives in dry and dusty habitats.

'92 Cindy Trowbridge (Kines'92) was recently inducted into the Southwest Athletic Trainers' Association Hall of Fame. Trowbridge has

been a certified athletic trainer for more than 30 years and has worked in clinical, educational and research settings. She currently serves as an associate professor for the master's in athletic training program at the University of Texas–Arlington. In addition to speaking at local, national and international forums, Trowbridge co-authored the 8th edition of *Pfeiffer and Mangus's Concepts of Athletic Training*. She has also worked with USA Basketball and has been an athletic trainer with Olympic-level sports.

'93 Tanya Mares Kelly-Bowry (IntlAf'93) received one of CU Boulder's 2024 George Norlin Awards and was recently granted the title of vice president emerita by CU's Board of Regents. Having led CU's state and federal government relations efforts for more than 22 years, Kelly-Bowry was the youngest and first Hispanic woman to become a vice president in the university's history. She helped secure nearly \$1 billion in state and federal funding during her tenure, played an integral role in the creation of the CU Anschutz Medical Campus, and advanced diversity and inclusion. Kelly-Bowry serves as president and owner of Policy Matters, a Denver-based advocacy firm, and is a regional council member of El Pomar Foundation.

The Jones Walker law firm welcomed **Greg Schafer** (Anth'93) to its New Orleans office as a new special counsel in the Litigation Practice Group and as a member of the Healthcare Industry Team. Schafer is an experienced trial and appellate attorney who represents individuals, corporations and healthcare providers. He has argued on behalf of clients in jury and bench trials, filed dozens of briefs and motions, conducted hundreds of depositions and successfully obtained favorable decisions on appeals before the Louisiana Supreme Court and federal and state appellate courts.

'95 Currently working at Utah State University as distinguished professor of political geography, **Colin Flint** (PhDGeog'95) recently had another book published: *Near and Far Waters: The Geopolitics of Seapower*. His book highlights the geography of seapower as a continual struggle to gain control of near waters and project force into far waters. Flint, whose research interests include geopolitics and peacebuilding, is a geographer by training and editor emeritus of the journal *Geopolitics*. He has authored and co-authored three other works, and his books have been translated into Spanish, Polish, Korean, Mandarin, Japanese and Farsi.

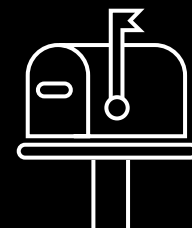
'00 Phil Boice (Psych'00), director of operations for the U.S. Navy, was deployed this year on the Navy aircraft carrier *USS Theodore Roosevelt* along with two other CU alumni: **Captain Chad Heirigs** (IntlAf'00) and Commander **Scott Welles** (Span'03). Heirigs serves as deputy commander of Carrier Air Wing 11, and Welles is air boss for the *Theodore Roosevelt*. In September, the carrier wrapped up its deployment, leaving the Middle East and journeying back to California. **Jonathan Pray** (Econ'00; Law'05) became the first chief legal officer at Brownstein Hyatt Farber Schreck this year. As chief legal officer, Pray provides strategic advice to the firm's executive committee on legal transactions and risk management, manages business and reputational risks, and oversees the firm's information security program with the chief operating officer. With clients in the real estate and construction industries, Pray works across all facets of the development and building sectors.

'02 A Paralympic bronze medal-

Melissa Stockwell (Comm'02) recently competed in Paris for her fourth Paralympic Games. Stockwell has also received a Purple Heart and a Bronze Star for her service as a second lieutenant in the U.S. Army.

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ist, **Melissa Stockwell** (Comm'02) recently competed in Paris for her fourth Paralympic Games. After becoming the first female American soldier to lose a limb in active combat when she was serving in Iraq, Stockwell was determined to not let it slow her down — and she qualified for the Paralympics four years later. She has since competed in swimming in Beijing and in triathlons in Rio, Tokyo and Paris. Stockwell has also received a Purple Heart and a Bronze Star for her service as a Second Lieutenant in the U.S. Army, and she serves on the USA Triathlon Board of Trustees, the board of directors for the Wounded

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Valerie Ringland's (Law'09) book *Healing through Indigenous Wisdom* is a guide to integrating Indigenous science into everyday life, whether someone identifies as Indigenous or not.

the governor's CARE Court initiative.

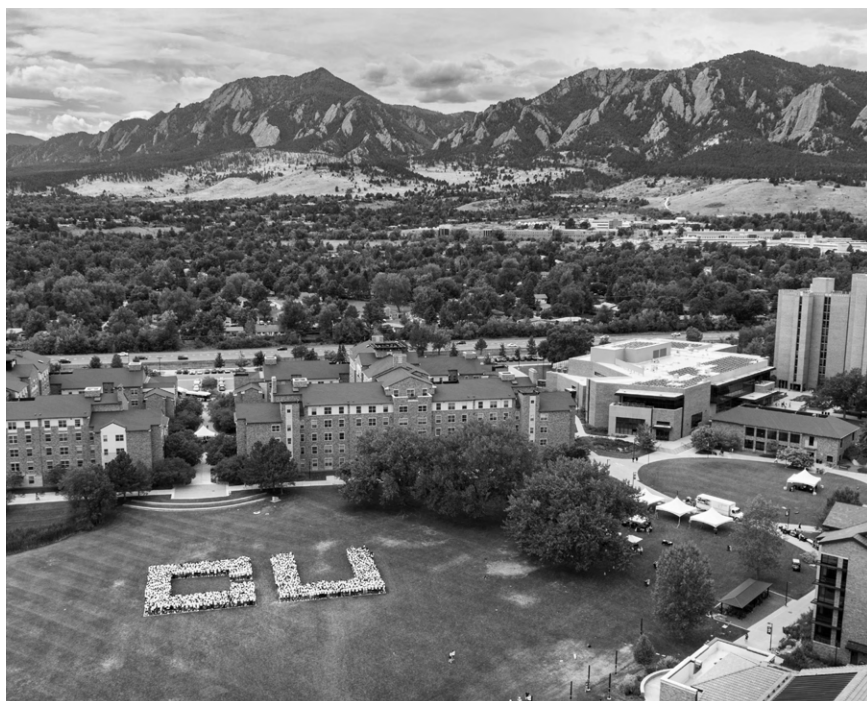
Published this year, **Valerie Ringland's (Law'09)** book *Healing through Indigenous Wisdom* is a guide to integrating Indigenous science into everyday life, whether someone identifies as Indigenous or not. The book provides a 52-week journey of reflections, practical exercises, Indigenous storytelling and knowledge-sharing to support readers as they respectfully connect with their own ancestors as well as ancestors of the lands where they live. It expands upon Ringland's doctorate in social work and her restorative justice work during and following law school. Currently living in Australia, Ringland is the first generation born off her traditional lands and has more than a decade of experience in healing work.

Warriors Project, and the USA Triathlon Women's Committee.

'09 Diego Baca (Acct, MS'09) has worked at the accounting firm EY for almost 15 years and was recently named an audit partner at the company. EY, commonly known as Ernst & Young Global Limited, is considered one of the world's Big Four auditing and consulting firms. Born and raised in Trinidad, Colorado, Baca is now one of the few Colorado natives to be made a partner at EY

in Denver, and he has been involved in recruiting at the Leeds School of Business since he graduated from CU Boulder.

This year, **Mike Kelly** (IntlAf'09) took command of the operational U-2 unit at Beale Air Force Base, the 99th Reconnaissance Squadron, located north of Sacramento, California. While at CU Boulder, Kelly received his officers commission through the Air Force ROTC and met his wife, **Kendra Shull Kelly** (Psych'09). Shull Kelly works for the California Department of Public Health, supporting



CU hit record enrollment this fall: 38,428, from every U.S. state and 40+ countries.

FIVE QUESTIONS



Breaking the News

In 2022, **Allison Sandza** (Jour'09) became the executive producer for the CBS News Streaming Network's coverage for Washington, D.C. She has also served as a senior producer for *Meet the Press*, the longest-running show in television history, after stints at PBS and CNN. Born and raised in the capital city, Sandza is committed to reaching an audience that increasingly turns to digital devices for their news.

What led you to journalism? I grew up in a news household: My parents met in a newsroom before my mom became a lawyer. I grew up with framed newspapers on the walls. So, to say politics and news is in my blood is probably an understatement. It is what I was meant to do.

How do you see streaming platforms evolving for political news coverage, especially in this election cycle? We are the live and breaking news arm of CBS News. We rush toward the stories, and in this news cycle — especially this political news cycle — it's just faster than ever.

How did your time at CU and in Boulder affect what you're doing now and what's happened in your career? In my last semester at CU, I took what ended up being my all-time favorite class: a media ethics course. I still think about that class. Every day, every single day, I think, "Is this fair? Is this sourced enough?"

We try to make sure that we are explaining the context and analysis of the whole picture, all while it's happening in real time. I learned those nuts and bolts in journalism school at CU.

How do you balance breaking timely political coverage with

the desire for, as you said, more nuanced, in-depth reporting on complex issues? Every day, it's a conversation and an internal struggle. I do think CBS News is unique in that it's a place that's known for taking a beat, for taking context into account with every story. It's the home of 60 Minutes. It's the home of in-depth reporting and analysis. So I think we're very careful — we admit in real time when we still don't know something. That is really the only way to operate. And I think it's authentic, which audiences now crave.

Any final thoughts? It's a privilege to be able to cover this election, to be able to really write this first draft of history. That's such a journalism cliché, but I think it's a cliché for a reason. **INTERVIEW BY CYNTHIA BARNES**

EDITOR'S NOTE: THIS INTERVIEW WAS CONDUCTED PRIOR TO THE NOVEMBER 5 ELECTION.

CLASSnotes



The iconic Boulder Theater welcomed back the Buffs during Fall Welcome 2024.

'12 Joey Arora (Mgmt'12) received the 2024 Kalpana Chawla Outstanding Recent Graduate Award, highlighting his post-graduation career achievements and societal impact both in the U.S. and abroad. Arora's accomplishments combine entrepreneurship, innovation and public service. An Air Force

veteran, he co-founded AFWERX (Air Force's innovation arm) to connect an ecosystem of entrepreneurs and innovators to accelerate results for Air Force culture change and technology adoption. He has received the Packard Award from the Department of Defense and the Federal 100 Award, as well as founded three companies. As current president at the Outpost, a consulting firm, he has helped over 250 companies secure more than \$300 million in government contracts.

'13 Emy Kane (IntlA'13) serves as the managing director of Lonely Whale, which recently wrapped up its Tom Ford Plastic Innovation Accelerator program — helping three companies scale their marine-safe, seaweed derived alternatives to traditional thin-film plastics. The non-profit Lonely Whale works to prevent plastic waste from entering the ocean and has spearheaded global movements to raise awareness and offer alternatives to problematic plastics. Kane and

Lonely Whale colleagues celebrated the program's close by bringing together the prize winners and their community partners at an event in New York that showcased the winners' innovations. One of the winning companies, Sway, put its prize money to use by partnering with Olympic surfer John John Florence's outdoor gear brand on the use of seaweed polybags in the brand's packaging.

Kristen Puma (Comm'13) released her debut children's book this year: *Abby and Liam and the Bedtime Adventure*. Puma collaborated with illustrator Aaron R. to create this first-of-its-series book, which helps transform the mundane and often challenging task of getting kids ready for bed. The story highlights a strong family bond and details a captivating imaginary adventure for children. Puma is a wife and mother of two kids, and her mission is to spark a love for reading in children and inspire them to dream big through the magical world of books.

Having previously worked at Brownstein Hyatt Farber Schreck as an associate attorney, **Michael Zehner** (PolSci'13; Law'17) recently rejoined the firm as a shareholder in their Denver office. Zehner, who grew up working for his father's heavy civil construction company, works in the firm's construction practice. In his litigation-focused practice, he exercises skills like drafting agreements, motions,

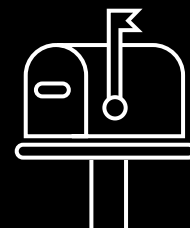
briefs and pleadings. In addition to his position at the firm, Zehner is the 2024 chair of the Colorado Contractors Association's Associates Council and teaches a graduate course on legal aspects of construction at CU Boulder's College of Engineering and Applied Science.

'15 Michael Male (Comm'15) is Transamerica's new regional vice president for Colorado and Montana. As regional vice president, Male will spearhead retirement plan sales in Colorado and Montana, partnering with financial advisors and third-party administrators to sell 401(k) and 403(b) plans. He brings over 10 years of experience to the role. Based in Colorado's Highlands Ranch, Male lives with his wife, Sara, and daughter, Kacey.

'17 Adam Lee (Jour'17), a special agent of the Diplomatic Security Service, experienced a dream come true this year: serving as a security liaison for Team USA Climbing at the Paris 2024 Summer Olympics. When Lee was an undergraduate in

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Boulder he would climb occasionally, but he began to really pick up the sport when he was in the Army. He became a qualified rappel master after earning his certification in the Army and assisted in some rappel demonstrations at the military and veteran appreciation game at Vanderbilt University. While in Paris for the Olympics, Lee found some down time to go climbing.

'22 Through their Colorado-based startup, Goodie Bag, **Eddy Connors** (Bus'21) and **Luke Siegert** (Film'22) are tackling food waste by offering surplus food from local businesses at a significant discount. First launched

Through their Colorado-based startup, Goodie Bag, Eddy Connors (Bus'21) and Luke Siegert (Film'22) are tackling food waste by offering surplus food from local businesses.

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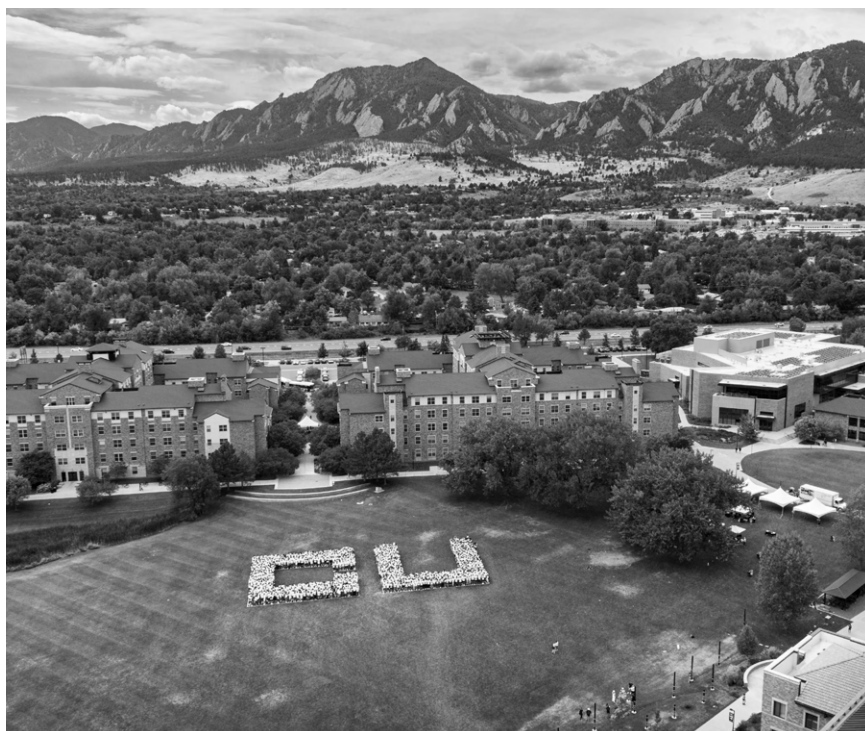
in Boulder in 2023, their company has expanded to a handful of cities and just began operating in Charleston, South Carolina, in September. Goodie Bag is a free mobile application in which users select their market, peruse a list of local participating shops, and purchase a discounted goodie bag on a first-come, first-served basis. Connors and Siegert, who were college roommates at CU Boulder, came up with the idea during the Silicon Flatirons Startup Summer Program, a ten-week entrepreneurship course at CU.

Artist Amy Hoagland's (MFA'22) work is currently featured in the Boulder Museum of Contemporary Art's group show, "Smoke & Mirrors," which runs through January of next year. The show spotlights

eight Colorado artists who create optical illusions through reflective materials and unconventional techniques. In her work, Hoagland uses materials like glass, metal and projected light to create sculptural installations about the human relationship within nature. Inspired by an experience in the Arctic with the Arctic Circle Residency, she has been creating a series of artworks she hopes can instill change in its viewers and cultivate greater empathy for our planet. The residency, one of several that Hoagland has completed, centered on creating work about climate and was on a sailing vessel with 29 artists and scientists from around the world.

'24 Manasa Kolavennu (MDataSci'24) received

this year's Forever Buffs Student Award, highlighting her academic accomplishments, leadership roles and dedicated service to the CU Boulder community. Kolavennu is passionate about building an inclusive and empowering campus culture, especially for those facing unique challenges, such as international students and women of color. Through her efforts, she has aimed to amplify the voices and experiences of underrepresented groups on campus. Kolavennu is also passionate about sustainability and was involved with the Zero Waste team and Environmental Center Board. For her contributions, the Center for Inclusion and Social Change honored her as a "Women Who Make a Difference" recipient.



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FIVE QUESTIONS



Mining the Moon

Elizabeth Frank (PhDGeol'14) is helping pave the way for a new era of space exploration and commerce as the chief scientist at Interlune, a Seattle-based startup aiming to become the first private company to harvest the Moon's natural resources, namely the stable isotope helium-3.

This useful gas, while rare on Earth, is abundant on the Moon and sought after for its uses in medical imaging, nuclear fusion research, quantum computing and more. For the extraction and transportation of the isotope, Interlune plans to build a lunar harvester that the company would fly via spacecraft to the Moon.

What is the vision in terms of the future of space mining and space commerce? We are trying to find novel ways to leverage the commercial space sector for planetary exploration. What makes people excited about Interlune is that even though we have this vision that seems kind of sci-fi, we have actual customers on Earth in areas like quantum computing,

medical imaging and national security. There is an actual demand.

Your PhD was in planetary geochemistry at CU. What led you to Boulder? There's an incredible space community in Boulder — a lot of interdisciplinary work among CU departments and organizations like LASP and the Southwest Research Institute. When I was touring CU, I was handed a list

of planetary scientists in Boulder that was upwards of 50 people. I thought, "Oh my gosh, there's just so much going on."

Your work seems to challenge the idea that industries exist in a silo. Can you talk more about your multidisciplinary approach? When you're a PhD student, you are expected to be a specialist. But I don't actually identify anymore as a specialist. I'm a generalist — I have a PhD in planetary geochemistry, but I've also worked in spacecraft engineering, mining consulting, business development and more. To move humanity forward, you need people like me to stitch the specialists' work together in new and exciting ways.

What topics in the field have been piquing your interest these days? Ethics and sustainability are really top of mind. The mining industry has a long legacy of harming both people and the environment. I think that we can learn from the mistakes of the past. We want to be intentional and thoughtful about how we use technology and extract space resources for human use.

Any thoughts or advice for recent graduates? I think PhD students and graduates should know that just because you got your degree in one topic, doesn't mean you have to stay in that field. You can redirect your career in unexpected and exciting ways. Stay open to opportunities and take them — you never know where they'll lead you.

INmemoriam

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Mary Ann Green Davis (Mktg'46)
James P. Sorensen
(MechEngr'47)
Barbara Williams Dieter
(Mktg'48)
Elaine Clow Larson (A&S'48)
Jack Lord (ElEngr'48)
Elizabeth Bergman Sparr
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Joanne Palmer Turnley (A&S'48)
Jacquelyn Williams Anderson
(A&S'49)
Kenneth W. Calkins
(ChemEngr'49)

1950s

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Claude E. Deering Jr.
(MechEngr'50)
Stanley M. Jolton (Mktg'50)
Jonas Kiken (Engl'50)
Henry Roath Jr. (Mktg'50;
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Greg Martin (Law'59)
Lynn R. McDougal (Law'59)
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Mary Jo Isett Quayle (A&S'59)
Robert A. Ruyle (Law'59)
Donald A. Weaver (IntlAf'59)
Richard Zinn (CivEngr'59)

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Mgmt'61)
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Leo R. Lujan (Acct'61)
John S. Place (A&S'61)

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Robert George Diener
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John W. McFarland (DistSt'62)
Tyree G. Minton (Btny'62)
Bonnie Stebbins Streeter
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Frank J. Cesario (A&S'63)
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(ArtHist'63)
Cyril E. Phillips (Fin'63)
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Jerald L. Rounds (CivEngr'65)
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Arthur R. Monteville Jr.
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John E. Spita (MPubAd'68)
Judith McClure Vappi (MEdu'68;
PhD'74)
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Russell A. Chadbourn (EdD'69)
Anthony Destefanis (MEcon'69)
Dennis M. Finnigan (DistSt'69)
Terrance C. Greenen (MEcon'69)
Herbert T. Nicholls Jr. (MPE'69)
Eugene A. Sevi (MCivEngr'69)
Richard P. Snyder (Hist'69)
Russel R. Speirn (Fin'69)
Gene H. Starbuck (A&S'69;
MSoc'71; PhD Soc'85)
Thomas C. Thornberry (Fin'69;
Law'72)
Grace Lohmann Tosaunt
(Edu'69)
Alan J. Waitkus (A&S'69)

1970s

James M. Barrows (Mgmt'70)
David H. Binkley (Acct,
ElEngr'70)
Noelle W. Kennedy (Art'70)
Robert L. Knous Jr. (A&S'70)
Roque R. Morales (Mgmt'70)
William G. Nye (Law'70)
Theresa Koontz Noland (Hist'70;
MEdu'77; EdD'85)
Ernest D. Pierce (Edu'70; MA'74)
Curt D. Rautenstrauss (Acct'70;
Law'73)
Vernon D. Stoner (PE'70)
Bruce S. Maxwell (MusEdu'71)
Kent S. McDonald (Law'71)
Nancy K. Murphy (MEdu'71)
Peter H. Weyl (MEngl'71)
Joan Anbuhl Bloom (Soc'72)
Leonard T. Burns (Edu'72)
Frank F. Drumm Jr. (Bio'72)
Anne E. Fischer (Edu'72)
Russell K. Franzen (Bus'72)
Gary R. Goodman (Soc'72)
Donald F. Oelrich (EngrPhys'72)
Alan L. Sulzenfuss (Law'72)
Rodney F. Brown (Hist'73)
Fredericka Cukjati (MEdu'73)
Sheila M. Fortune
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Lorne D. Matheson (Phys'73)

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Donald C. Meister (Acct'74)
Ronald M. Rodehorst
(PhDChem'74)
K. Lee Shropshire (PhDGeol'74)
Jill Woodman Sisson (Law'74)
Marc W. Weaver (Edu'74)
Richard O. Breese (Bio'75,
Geol'80)
Paula Krihak Christopoulos
(Bio'75)
Thomas A. Guttierrez (Span'75)
John F. Hamilton (Mktg'75)
June E. Kriewald (MEdu'75)
Karin Wyman Morgan (Psych'75)
Anita Cvitanovich Smith (Thtr'75)
Susan L. Turner (Soc'75; MA'91)
David L. Cornelius (Acct'76)
Sheila Fein (Art'76)
Gregory E. Thurow (MGeol'76)
Jay D. Burch (PhDPE'77)
Charles E. Castillo Sr.
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Nancy Crary Lavalleur (Hist'77)
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Boris J. Czernyk (Acct'78)
Andrew E. Farley (IntlAf'78)
Alice R. Gibson (Math'78)
Harry A. Heatley (PolSci'78)
Suzanne Weal Jaeger (Mktg'78)
Vicky Sameshima Krizan
(Soc'78)
James A. Mertz (MCompSci'78)
Wendy Fisher Oteham (Soc'78)
David T. Goens (Law'79)
Kip A. Katterhenry (IntlAf'79;
ElEngr'87)
William R. MacLay (Edu'79)
Jeffrey J. Tice (Engl'79)

1980s

James B. Ruben (Bio'80)
Beverly Hathaway (Acct'81)
Susan Hedlund Henderson
(MEdu'81)
Jeffrey C. Johnson (Hist'81)
Michael A. Petrella
(MechEngr'81)
Cindy Scott (Mktg'81)
Linda Montarone Jaron
(MechEngr'82)
Kathryn Hams Merchant
(Mktg'82)
Patrick M. Westfeldt Jr.
(ElEngr'82)
Karl D. Johnson (CivEngr'83)
Jerrold W. White (Jour'83)
Julia Latham Ward (CivEngr'84)
Barbara Zabreznik Engel (Mktg'85)
Janet E. Rogers (MCompSci'85;

MEcon'98; PhDEcon'00)
Gena L. Fischer (Jour'86)
Kristy Schloss (CivEngr'86)
Janice M. Colbert (MEdu'87)
Micheale Q. Landback
(Psych'87)
Amii Greenlee Rasmussen
(TranMgmt'87)
James B. Walton (PolSci'87)
Robert E. Watson (Law'88)

1990s

Elizabeth Garland Waters
(Comm'90)
Anita Patton Manning
(PhDEdu'92)
Matthew J. Curry
(Art, Engl'93)
Lisa M. Dinkel (OrgMgmt'93)
Sean C. Wood (MEIEngr'93)
Marshall Y. Allen (Engl'94)
Gregory K. Corns (Jour'94)
Elizabeth M. Kreider (MEngl'94)
Timothy J. Papich
(MCivEngr'94)
Michael G. Richters (Fin'94;
MFin'99)
Wendy L. Babcox (Art'96)
Terrence R. O'Connor (Kines'97)
Tina A. Strider (IntlAf'98)

2000s

Thomas L. DeVine Sr. (PolSci'00)
Steven M. Montgomery
(MEdu'01)
Tyson C. Hodge (Econ'03)
Steven D. Garnek (Fin'04)
Kathleen Ellen Gallagher
(EnvDes'05)
Jennifer L. Gannon (Phys'06)
Andrew C. Ford (CompSci'09)

2010s

Matthew J. Zappala (Engl'15)
Alec W. Parkin (Mgmt'16)
Kyle J. Rooney (CompSci'16)
Dominic B. Russell
(ChemEngr'17)

2020s

Hannah L. Kuhn-Gale
(MCDBio'21)
Lily S. Demuth (IntlAf'22)

Faculty, Staff and Friends

Bruce Neumann, Accounting
Marilyn Krysl, English
Douglas A. Burger, English
John S. "Stew" Woodward, Friend

FEEDback



"I am so happy to see [Radio 1190] growing again. We had a lot of pride for the station. I can see the station is in good hands."

— Gabe Romero (PolSci'09)

Radio 1190

I just got my alumni magazine in the mail today and I saw the article about Radio 1190. I was very active in the station and was a member of the air board during my stint there. I am so happy to see the station growing again. We had a lot of pride for the station, with shows like "Basementalism," and we had earned our 10th "Best of Westword" award my last year there. We had something really special, and I was sad to hear that the station all but died in the years since.

I can see the station is in good hands, and in this resurgence

of audio media and podcasts, I hope the station serves as a way to prepare a new group to entertain and inform new audiences.

Gabe Romero
(PolSci'09)
Golden

Staying Current

I appreciate receiving the magazine. The stories are informative, educational, and intriguing, and it warms my heart to be kept abreast of all that is taking place at CU. Kudos to the editorial team!

Nancy Pelander Johnson
(Span'77)
Mesa, Arizona

Class Material

Hello, I am a CU alumna and am now an adjunct faculty member at the University of Colorado Colorado Springs. I'm planning to use your article "Soft Skills," by Katy Hill, in my COMM 3150 Team Communication Course.

Alison Christofferson
(Engl'03; MComm'21)
Colorado Springs

Compassionate Pages

Just now collected my latest *Coloradan* with its

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

beautiful cover (kudos to Ben Kircher). I thumbed through the progressive, compassionate pages and felt so proud to be remembered in previous issues. I turned 70 last October. Brimming with new ideas, I truly feel decades younger, which I owe to sobriety and daily meditation with wonderful friends.

Thank you for the Summer 2024 *Coloradan*!

Gregory Hinton
(PerMgmt'77)
Los Angeles

His Holiness on Campus

Very nice photo with the Dalai Lama on page one. At UMass Boston, when my office was near the Boston Common, I was returning from lunch one spring day when I looked ahead of me and saw the Dalai Lama and his group walking toward me. I went up and introduced myself to him. He was in between meetings, so we agreed to sit on a park bench in the Common where we had an hour-long conversation. We had a wide ranging discussion before he had to move on to his next meeting. He was a very nice man, and I am pleased that a CU Boulder group was able to meet with him in India.

Philip S. Hart
(Soc'66)
Los Angeles

Gladstone Tidings

Wow, what timing! This past weekend, I found the perfect spot in my

living room to display "Gladstone, Colorado" by Muriel Sibell-Wolle, a gem I found at an estate sale recently. I could hardly believe it when I saw the photo with Sibell-Wolle and Gladstone in your final pages of the Summer 2024 issue. Thank you for a fun reminder of the small and beautiful world we live in as CU alumni. Acquiring Gladstone felt like receiving a long-overdue graduation present.

Anna Penry Walker
(RelSt'94)
Boulder

Summer (Issue) Fun

Thank you for the wonderful Summer 2024 edition of the *Coloradan*. It is always nice to catch up on art, science and athletics. I especially enjoyed the two music articles, the interview with the CU College of Music dean, and learning all about the New Orleans-style brass band in New York City. I also like the stunning photograph of Folsom

Field from this year's commencement. It reminds me of the times I played percussion in the CU summer band in the middle of the football field for Fourth of July concerts. Finally, I am happy that the CU Music Library has my books, articles and dissertation papers in collection. Thanks again for your excellent work!

Geary Larrick
(DMA'84)
Glenview, Illinois

Brass Queens

I opened my issue of the *Coloradan* today, and wow! "Black & Gold in Our Soul" turned out so perfectly. I absolutely LOVE the big, bold dynamic spread of the first two pages. Thank you all for taking the time to hear our story and for being so collaborative to make it just right.

Black & Gold in Our Soul forever!

Ally Chapel
(ArtHist'14)
New York City

Ally Chapel
(ArtHist'14)
and the rest of the "Brass Queens" displayed in our Summer 2024 issue.



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

Justin Schwartz

Vice Chancellor for Advancement

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Ryan Chreist (Kines'96; MPubAd'09)

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Design and Art Direction

Pentagram Austin

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Anna Penny Walker (RelSt'94) proudly displays a framed copy of "Gladstone, Colorado" by Muriel Sibell-Wolle.

Memories of Southwestern CO

Thanks for the "Then" tribute to Muriel Sibell-Wolle. I have, and still refer to, her *Stampede to Timberline* and *Timberline Tailings* after all these years, having jeeped many of the so-called "roads" she describes, mostly in the San Juans in southwestern Colorado — often being terrified on many of them.

There is little as soul-lifting as the lush fields of August's columbines nearing timberline in Yankee Boy Basin far above Ouray and enduring a mountain thunderstorm rolling down the canyon. Scattered there are the ashes of my beloved wife of 56+ years, and one day mine will join hers there.

Doug Irish

(Law'63)

Scottsdale, Arizona

Format Matters

Thank you for the work you all do to help create the *Coloradan*. My wife Barbara and I are long-time Alumni Association volunteers and appreciate how well

the publication keeps people informed about what's happening at CU.

I noticed something different in the summer issue that we just received: the "In Memoriam" section's listings were sorted by last name rather than graduation year. Although I always at least scanned that section, as I've gotten older I tend to check it out more carefully. While that might sound kind of morbid, I graduated 45 years ago and the reality is that more of my contemporaries may be on the list now.

Can the data management folks in Advancement change the listings back to a more user-friendly format?!

Ray Cooke

(Fin'79)

El Segundo, California

Editor's note: For the Fall 2024 issue, we have adjusted the magazine's "In Memoriam" section to once again be chronological by graduation year.

Shout Out

Thanks so much for mentioning Marcos

Perez (Psych'97) and me and *The Next Good Thing* book in the CU alumni magazine. We appreciate the mention and are proud to be listed with the other alumni. Go Buffs!

D. Eric Maikranz

(Russ'91)

Stuart, Florida

Always a Favorite

The *Coloradan* is always a favorite read of mine, and the Summer 2024 issue was especially personal for me. Mary Hanley Machacek (MBA'81) and I created an endowment for first-generation students at CU Leeds. As a result, we've had the opportunity to meet Phil and Yvonne DiStefano and learn about and be inspired by their actions as leaders and ambassadors of CU Boulder. We have increased our commitment as a result of their example of paying it forward. As a first-generation college student myself, the article about CU Boulder's Precollegiate Development Program reinforced the importance of creating gateways for young students to be barrier breakers — and our pride of being CU Buffs. Yvonne's ongoing work with the Guardian Scholars is exemplary, and we have no doubt that Phil will continue to improve our society and world at the Center for Leadership and the School of Education.

Larry Machacek

(MBA'81)

Ann Arbor, Michigan

Social Buffs



Ready for my first Homecoming!
@christie sounart



GO BUFFS!



@run. ralphie.run



Had the best weekend with our first @cubuffs football game of the season
@merry. with.mary

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THEN

As CU enters a new chapter, take a look at these snapshots from CU yearbooks past — clockwise, from the top: Pi Phi's between classes (1937), students relaxing on the UMC terrace (1955), a snowball fight described as “a friendly winter pastime for students living in the dormitories” (1955), the 1992 convocation, studying at the library (1941), Buffs playing at home against the Texas Longhorns (1941), roommates in Andrews Hall (1983). The heart of CU has always been shaped by students and the life they bring to campus.

