

CU BOULDER'S ALUMNI MAGAZINE SUMMER 2026

Coloradoan



Microscopic to Cosmic

CU Boulder's enduring discoveries have broadened understanding and expanded horizons.



Now

April 10, 2026

This spring, the Hellems Arts and Sciences building on main campus reopened after a full interior renovation that began in summer 2023. The building's look includes a new floor plan, sleek modern systems, updated classroom and office spaces, and a new basement theater room. Students and faculty can also enjoy a new café, plenty of study spaces, improved accessibility and air conditioning.

Located in the building's courtyard, the Mary Rippon Outdoor Theatre — home to many Colorado Shakespeare Festival productions — also boasts an upgrade.

While the renovation prioritized modern finishes and features, designers took care to preserve the 105-year-old building's historic charm, reusing about 80% of the roof tiles and refinishing the original wood floors.

"Hellems is more than a building," said Daryl Maeda, former dean of the College of Arts and Sciences. "It's a symbol of CU Boulder's dedication to the liberal arts as the intellectual heart of the university."

Photo by Patrick Campbell



Editor’s Note

Last summer when my husband, **Levi Henry** (Math’12), and I moved our family from Westminster to Lafayette, Colorado, it was apparent we were in Buffs country.

CU flags, license plates, stickers and gear often decorate our neighborhood. University-related chats are common within the community.

While there’s a certain excitement about being in proximity to CU Boulder, nothing compares to finding other CU links far from here.

I’ll never forget the elation I experienced when I walked into an Airbnb in the tiny town of Kinsale, Ireland, and immediately spotted a poster of campus framed on the wall. It launched lively conversation and connection with my Irish hosts.

This issue can start talking points of your own. As we continue celebrating 150 years of CU Boulder, read about a few of the research innovations shaping our world, along with stories about the dance program, the beloved Hellem Arts and Sciences building, a visual evidence lab and sustainable grocery shopping.

Hopefully, this issue sparks memories from your time on campus — or the CU links you’ve created since you left. I’d love to hear about them!



Christie Henry
Editor

Contact me at
editor@colorado.edu

Contents

On the Cover

Highlighting 150 years of CU Boulder interdisciplinary research. Illustration by Mike McQuade.

↑ During the May commencement ceremony, 10,198 students earned degrees. The CU alumni network now totals over 380,000 Forever Buffs.

24 Research in Motion
A look at a few of CU Boulder’s inspiring scientific breakthroughs that have occurred since the early 1900s.

32 Is Seeing Always Believing?
Video evidence is flooding courts and the media. A new CU Boulder lab is working to help viewers make sense of it all.

38 The Silver Tsunami
As a wave of small business owners prepare to retire, a new kind of entrepreneur is stepping up to carry the Main Street torch.

6 Herd
Dance Is Magic

8 Fieldwork

10 Point of View
What Do We Call This Feeling?

12 Boulder Beat
The Boulder Cruiser Ride

16 Elevated
Notes on a Nightshade

18 Rundown

44 Buff Built

48 Origins
CU Boulder’s First Startup

52 Beyond Boulder

55 Waypoint
Legislation Inside

57 Alumni Updates

58 Class Notes



CU Appreciation

What a great issue featuring “Buff’s Who Build the Future”! “The opportunity to exchange error for truth” mentioned in the article “Does Free Speech Have Limits?” is what we do in my religion. That has bold, widespread and meaningful impacts.

My mom set up the Charles Russell Double engineering scholarship at CU Boulder in memory of my dad. He graduated in about 1928. Mom and I met the first student to receive the scholarship. I loved meeting with the man who visited me here in Medford, Oregon, on behalf of donor appreciation. I’m very interested in robotics and AI, so I eagerly follow what the Buffs are doing in those fields.

Lois Double Nobles
Medford, Oregon

Inspiration from Kara Goucher

Your message was so clear, **Tori Peglar** (MJour’00) [writer of the Spring 2026 feature

“Running at Life”]. When we tap into the physical skill of our body with our mind, integrity is the greatest reward. What an outstanding article. Joan Cavanaugh

Who Else Should We Add?

Here are a few of the names readers submitted as other outstanding Buffs in response to our Spring 2026 cover story, “Buff’s Who Build the Future”:

Steve Hatchel (Advert’70), Football
● **Joseph W. Cohen**, Philosophy
● **Hazel Barnes**, Philosophy
● **Sox Walseth** (PE’48; MEdu’53), Basketball
● **Eddie Crowder**, Athletics
● **Bill Toomey** (Advert’62), Track & Field
● **Hale Irwin** (Mktg’67), Football and Golf

Stay Curious

Thanks for doing an article on **Pat LaMoe** (HomeEcon’48). I belong to a travel group, Friendship Force, with Pat. We can only

We want to hear from you!
Send photos, feedback and recommendations to **editor@colorado.edu** or University of Colorado Boulder, 552 UCB, Boulder, CO 80309

Letters edited for length and clarity.

Follow @CUBoulderAlumni on Facebook, X, Instagram and LinkedIn

➤ Read more at **colorado.edu/coloradan**

hope that we all age as gracefully as Pat and keep being curious.
Heidi McKelrath (IntlAf’87)
Littleton, Colorado

Pen-and-Ink Correction

Spring 2026, page 5 shows “Pen-and-ink drawing of campus.” Are you sure? Looks like Pearl Street Mall to me.

Mary Byers-Grose (A&S’66)
Portland, Oregon

[Editor’s Note: Thanks to all of you who wrote in — you are correct that the drawing in the magazine is of Pearl Street. Visit **colorado.edu/coloradan** to see **Karin Herold Leonard’s** (EPOBio’84) campus drawing. We regret the error.]

1979 BolderBoulder

The article about the BolderBoulder brought back some great memories. I was one of the 1979 finishers, and I still have the T-shirt!

Gary W. Allen (Comm’77; MTeleCom’78)
Europe

Campus Buffalo Snapshots

In the Spring 2026 “Look” article, we asked to see some of your favorite buffalo statue photos. Here are a few responses:

① Reading the magazine is one of my favorite weekend activities.

Randy Royther (Econ’88)
King of Prussia, Pennsylvania

② I just got my *Coloradan* (which I love!) and thought you might like some photos of Ralphie that have been important to my family. The first is of my daughter’s wedding. Most of the wedding party — 10 folks (including my daughter) — graduated

from CU. Emily met her husband at CU, and they married at the Koenig Alumni Center in 2014.

Maribeth Hite (CommThtr’73)
Boulder

③ Every year, we plan out a Sheltie picture that can be used for our Christmas card or Canine Corps yearly calendar. Since my whole family has degrees from CU, I wanted a buffalo background. We picked a nice quiet Sunday, and my wife posed with dog cookies. I snapped a dozen or so pics with them looking in different directions — they got their cookies, and we all went home happy.

Albert Pollack (Art’71)
Boulder

Feedback Loop



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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.

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Design and Art Direction
Pentagram Austin



Dance Is Magic

At CU Boulder, dance takes many forms.

By **Christie Sounart**

For students in CU Boulder’s dance program — which enrolled nearly 50 undergraduate and graduate students and 74 minors this spring — the lessons learned within the department extend beyond the stage. The program prepares students for jobs both in and out of the dance industry, and allows them to grow in many ways individually.

“Dance cultivates radical aliveness and connection, which are increasingly important to an R1 research institution and a liberal arts education,” said assistant dance professor Anya Cloud.

Take **Tyreis Hunte** (MDance’26), pictured above, for instance. After three years in CU’s dance MFA program, they will begin a new role as a tenure-track assistant dance professor at Western Michigan University this fall. Hunte believes the dance practice they have cultivated within the department has had a wide-ranging impact.

“Dance and movement teach me the most about this existence and are my eternal medium to learn and make an impact in my creativity and livelihood,” said Hunte.

Among a rigorous performing schedule, Hunte taught classes rooted in the Africana aesthetic, served as a teaching assistant for the popular West African dance course

and as a research fellow for the Center for African and African American Studies, and became the dance department’s costume liaison. They also were crowned the inaugural Samba King of Colorado in 2024.

The work of CU dance students also often receives national attention, said Cloud.

This year, Hunte and fellow student **Elizabeth Ervin** (Dance, IntPhys’26) each performed their original choreography and represented CU Boulder at the American College Dance Association in Long Beach, California.

“Putting that kind of intimacy on stage felt like standing before an audience without armor, so the vulnerability and nerves were real,” said Ervin, the only creative arts major to receive the College of Arts and Sciences’ prestigious Jacob Van Ek Award this year. “But it wasn’t catharsis; it was integration. It was a sense that the expression had found a rightful place outside of me.”

As Ervin prepares for her own career advancing her choreography and craft, she holds true to a guiding philosophy: “To me,” she said, “dance is magic.” 🦋

CU Athletics Receives \$6 Million to Elevate Student Experience, Campus Excellence

A major philanthropic investment from longtime donors **Jeff Crawford** (DistSt’90) and his wife, Orsi Crawford, is set to strengthen CU Boulder’s athletics program and amplify its impact across the university.

“A strong, visible athletics program enhances our ability to attract talented students, elevate our national profile and strengthen the overall vitality of our campus,” said Chancellor Justin Schwartz. “This investment in CU Athletics reflects a broader commitment to excellence across CU Boulder.”

Half of the Crawford Family Foundation’s \$6 million gift will go toward the Crawford Family WHOLE Student-Athlete Program, which was launched in 2021 to support student-athletes’ physical, psychological, academic, leadership and career well-being. The remainder will provide flexible support for CU Athletics through the George Family Athletic Director’s Fund, renamed to honor the legacy of Athletic Director Emeritus Rick George.

“My hope is that this gift inspires others to give,” said Jeff Crawford. “In this new era, we need a village to compete, and that will take donations from many CU supporters at all levels.”

➤ Read more stories or give at colorado.edu/advancement



Fieldwork

Music As Connection

Interview by **Christie Sounart**

Last year, professor Shanti Simon joined CU Boulder's College of Music from the University of Oklahoma as director of bands, where she oversees the band program, leads the wind conducting program and teaches undergraduate conducting. Previously, she served as flight commander and associate conductor with both the United States Air Force Academy Band in Colorado Springs and the United States Air Force Band in Washington, D.C. Her leadership at CU is guided by music's power to bring people together, an insight she credits to her global travels.

What performance with the U.S. Air Force Band stands out to you? Among the most memorable performances I did with the Air Force are the full honors fu-

↑ **Shanti Simon, here in Macky Auditorium, is CU Boulder's director of bands.**

nerals at Arlington National Cemetery. There are bands of all services out there 365 days a year honoring our fallen heroes. Allowing families a space to feel emotions during a fragile time of their lives is really meaningful.

When deployed to the Middle East, what were your main duties? I was deployed in 2016 for six months. My job was leading a band for the Air Force Central Command, and I worked closely with the public affairs officer to determine where the band could be most helpful to meet the Air Force commander's priorities. We were stationed in Qatar and went to Jordan, United Arab Emirates, Afghanistan, Kuwait and Egypt.

Before I left, I wondered about the purpose of military bands in the region. It didn't take long for me to understand. The mission was twofold: first, to support the troops and bring a taste of home to the forward operating bases, and, second, to build relationships with our host nations and allies in the region. Every day, music was able to open doors to conversations and connections between people.

Can you give an example? One time, we went to a NATO base in Kabul, Afghanistan, to perform for the troops. We were instructed to go to the Afghan side of the base. We had to get armored up and travel in an armored vehicle from one side of the base to the other. We set up in a hangar to create an atmosphere where the NATO and Afghan troops could share time together.

When we first started the concert, the troops kept to different sides and didn't talk to each other. But by the end of the hour, people had gone to the other side and were having conversations. We gave them a chance to get to know each other as people through music.

Was there something about CU Boulder that inspired you and your family to move to Colorado? The College of Music has a mission to develop its students as universal musicians. This resonated with me because, after my professional experience with the Air Force bands, I saw a disconnect between what I learned in my studies and what I ended up doing with the Air Force. Now, I want to try to bridge that gap so that we're preparing our students the best we can for the professional jobs that exist beyond CU.

What else should we know about your work here? I'm thinking about crafting seamless concert experiences through innovative audience engagement. I want people to come to the concert hall and have something happen in the space that makes them want to come back. I've been exploring all kinds of things, from video to lighting to memorized performances where we take away chairs and stands.

What do you do when you're not conducting? I have a wonderful husband, Jebodiah, who supports my career and everything I do, and two young kids. A lot of my time and joy is spending time with my family. I still serve in the Oklahoma Air National Guard as a public affairs officer. I also love hiking. I'm really excited that this will be my first full summer in this area. 🌲

What Do We Call This Feeling?

By **Pedro DiNezio**,
associate research professor,
ATLAS Institute



For those of us old enough to remember a different climate, the feeling is one of loss: the summers of childhood, the winters that arrived on time.

For younger people, the feeling may be different, but no less real. It's closer to dread — a sense, even without personal memories of a better time, that things are accelerating toward the unknown.

I grew up near the coast in Argentina, where people spent all year waiting for summer: the beach, warm nights, relief from winter. Now, many people I know are apprehensive about its arrival. These months increasingly bring long stretches of brutal heat that feel like a warning.

Japan recently gave that feeling a name. In April 2026, Japan's Meteorological Agency officially adopted the term “kokushobi” to describe days when temperatures reach 40°C or higher — a threshold now frequent enough to require its own word. The character “koku” carries moral weight in Japa-

nese: harsh, merciless, cruel. It was the first time the agency introduced a new weather term since 2007, when “mōshobi” — “extremely hot day” — was coined for days over 35°C. The fact that the language had to be updated again, within a single generation, says something statistics alone cannot.

In Colorado, this anxiety takes a different shape. It's not scorching summers so much as uncertain winters — whether there will be enough snow and water to sustain the rhythms of life as we know it. In 2021, a destructive wintertime wildfire in Boulder County became part of a growing trend of fire activity extending well beyond the summer. That detail — fire in winter — also captures something data doesn't: the old categories no longer hold.

What we do with our grief — our older generation's loss, our younger generation's dread — is the only climate question that matters now. The science is settled. The feeling is not. 🐼

Illustration by **Kara Fellows**

Back to the Moon

How CU is shaping the mission to return humans to the moon.

By **Sara Pratt**

As NASA prepares to land astronauts on the moon for the first time in more than half a century, CU Boulder's Laboratory for Atmospheric and Space Physics (LASP) is contributing to the Artemis program's success.

NASA has appointed LASP planetary scientist Paul Hayne to the Artemis lunar surface geology team. Hayne, also an associate professor in CU's astrophysical and planetary sciences department, will help guide future astronauts as they explore the moon's south polar region.

Hayne is the principal investigator of the L-CIRIS instrument, an infrared imaging system slated for launch in 2027 on an Artemis-supported mission to map potential lunar ice deposits. His expertise in volatile ices and the evolution of the moon's surface will inform everything from landing site selection to the search for water ice trapped in permanently shadowed craters. Understanding these resources could help

future missions harvest lunar water for life support and fuel.

LASP's IMPACT lab is tackling one of the moon's most persistent hazards: lunar dust. Xu Wang, senior LASP researcher and lecturer in CU's physics department, studies the abrasive, electrostatically charged grains that cling to spacesuits and degrade equipment. The lab has developed electrostatic cleaning techniques to help protect instruments, habitats and astronaut health during long-duration missions.

One of Wang's innovations, the DUSTER instrument suite, will be deployed by Artemis astronauts at the lunar South Pole. DUSTER will capture the most detailed measurements ever taken of dust and plasma conditions in this region, directly supporting astronaut safety and long-term exploration.

The lab also operates the instruments aboard NASA's Interstellar Mapping and Acceleration Probe, stationed a million miles from Earth. Its I-ALiRT system provides real-time data on solar particles and radiation, offering critical space-weather warnings for astronauts traveling beyond Earth's protective magnetic shield.

Together, these efforts highlight how CU Boulder is helping lead the way back to the moon. And, following LASP tradition, some of the instruments could feature engravings of CU Boulder's mascot, Ralphie, ensuring that when we take the next giant leap for humankind, the Buffs will be along for the journey. 🐼



← CU's LASP is contributing to the success of the Artemis program.



Boulder Beat

The Boulder Cruiser Ride

By **Gabriel Shahrouzi**

If you find yourself in Boulder on a Thursday night, just after the sun slips behind the Flatirons, listen closely. The town will start to hum with bells, laughter and music stitched together on two wheels.

This is the Boulder Cruiser Ride.

The Ride began in the 1990s when a handful of Boulder’s Sports Garage employees started pedaling around after work to see where the night might take them. Somewhere along the way, a rider showed up with blue velvet fur on their bike. Themes and costumes emerged soon thereafter.

This year marks the ride’s 33rd anniversary, and it remains one of Boulder’s best-kept traditions.

I came into it sideways on a mid-summer night in 2008. I’m still here — now as one of its stewards. My role is

simple: guide people from point A to point B with my lightsaber and custom music trailer by my side.

Growing up in Boulder, I was not an archetypal outdoorsy kid, and I was usually the last one picked in gym class. But when I stumbled onto the Ride, I found something: a space where I could belong, contribute and grow into who I am today.

It happened in the details: a tandem bike rolling past a kid on a hand-me-down cruiser; a glowing parade of glow-stick-covered spokes; someone hauling a portable system like cargo. The ride moves like a mobile carnival, winding from Pearl Street toward the outskirts of town.

And then, as if by instinct, the Ride pauses at a park, a parking lot or an open field. A dance floor appears under battery-powered neon lights. People share grilled cheese from bike-mounted grills. Someone jumps on top of a trampoline bike (yes, really). Strangers become neighbors, if only for an hour.

Boulder has changed a lot since I was a kid. Some of its stranger edges have softened. But the Ride still carries a spark of that old frequency — the one that reminds you that community isn’t something you find, it’s something you make.

And if you ask me, that’s about as close to magic as this town gets.

Hernan Cortez

Herd

Heating Up Athletics

In collaboration with CU athletics staff and a Denver architect, track-and-field student-athlete **James Overberg** (MechEngr’26) designed and developed a custom sauna for the university’s endurance athletes to support recovery after intense training. The sauna, installed in the Endurance Lab at the Ford Indoor Practice Facility on campus, now serves as a permanent training resource for CU teams.

Fresh Campus Housing

This fall, CU Boulder will open its first new residence hall since 2019. Located at Athens and 19th Street, Code Talker Hall will house about 330 returning CU students in apartment-style units with all-electric kitchens. The university also aims to plant about 600 trees and

shrubs around the exterior of the 129,000-square-foot building.

On the opposite side of campus, the Williams Village East residence hall is now named Onizuka Hall to honor NASA astronaut **Ellison Sajo Onizuka** (Aero’69; MS’69; HonDoc Sci’03), who died in the 1986 Challenger space shuttle explosion.

Buff Named to Colorado Supreme Court

In February, Governor Jared Polis appointed **Susan Blanco** (Law’03) to the Colorado Supreme Court. Blanco, a former chief judge in the 8th Judicial District, has been recognized for her leadership in expanding access to justice and developing innovative court programs. She succeeds Justice Melissa Hart on the state’s highest court.

Campus Talk



“I want a world-class center: a beacon of hope, a sanctuary, a powerful and beloved community.”

— **Reiland Rabaka**, director of the Center for African & African American Studies (CAAAS), in February after CU Boulder Chancellor Justin Schwartz and CU President Todd Saliman announced a \$2 million investment over five years for the center.

Photo by **Glenn Asakawa**

Digits

CU and the Peace Corps

2nd

→ Consecutive year CU Boulder ranked No. 2 in the nation for graduates serving as Peace Corps volunteers

53

→ Alumni serving around the world today

32

→ Countries with current Peace Corps Buffs

2,653

→ Total CU Boulder Peace Corps volunteers from 1961 to 2025

2018

→ Year the university launched the Peace Corps Prep undergraduate certificate program

➤ Learn more at colorado.edu/peacecorps



①



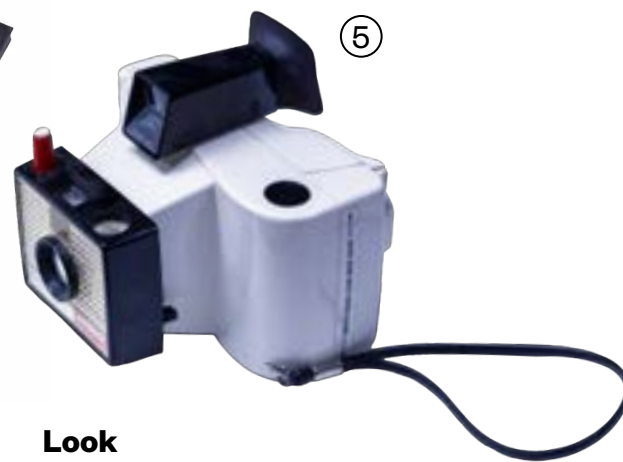
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⑧

Look

Working Tech of Olde

1 VTL Computron (1980)

2 Kodak Moviedeck
435 Projector (1970s)

3 Sony Walkman
(began release in 1979)

4 Sony Digital
Mavica (1997)

5 Polaroid Model 20
"Swinger" (1965-1970)

6 Nintendo Game,
Donkey Kong (1982)

7 Blip. The Digital
Game (1977)

8 Sony PlayStation
(1995 North America)

More than 12,500 functioning technology artifacts can be found in the basement of a historic house-turned-campus building on Grandview Avenue: CU Boulder's Media Archaeology Lab (MAL).

The MAL sees up to 2,000 visitors annually. Some stop by to tap on typewriters or play a nostalgic round of The Oregon Trail, while others seek assistance accessing files from their 1990s floppy disks.

The lab, founded by media studies professor Lori Emerson in 2009, is supported by CU donors, along with the College of Communication, Media, Design and Information and the College of Arts and Sciences.

"The MAL is important because it not only offers the opportunity to interact with technological history in a concrete, hands-on way but also offers a space to re-imagine our relationships to the technology of the present," said **libi rose striegl** (Film'07; PhDIntMedArt'20), managing director of the lab. "Making something new — a work of art, a piece of research, a personal experience — with something old is a way to connect with history, but also a way to assert some agency over the present and, maybe, the future."

Physalis heterophylla

→ Native

One of the four native Boulder tomatillos: *heterophylla*, *hederifolia*, *longifolia* and *virginiana*.

→ Clammy

Called “clammy” because of the sticky hairs on its stems and leaves.



Elevated

Notes on a Nightshade

To ecology and evolutionary biology professor Stacey D. Smith, the research subjects she has dedicated 25 years of her life to studying are completely adorable. And, after hearing her eagerly discuss her work on tomatillos in the Solanaceae family — commonly known as nightshades — passersby may find the diminutive plants irresistible, too.

Smith is one of only a handful of scientists to study the wild members of this plant family, which includes over 300 species in the tomatillo tribe. Her lab studies the evolutionary changes of the plants’ flowers and fruits, including how and why their colors and shapes have changed over time, and her work with the tomatillo plants’ smallest details, from their minuscule stem hairs to their fruits’ sticky residue, might someday help in the creation of natural pesticides.

“I want to understand why plants do the things they do, and why they live the way they do,” Smith said.

← Habitat

Can be found on hiking trails along the Front Range: Sanitas Valley, Saddle Rock, Skunk Canyon and the Shanahan Ridge Water Tank.

Tomatillo Facts

☹ Toxic
The plants are toxic, but some of their fruits are edible to humans.

🌿 Nightshades
The plants are part of the nightshade family, Solanaceae, which has about 2,700 species.

🏠 Greenhouse Plants
About 100 tomatillos and their relatives are growing in CU Boulder’s main campus greenhouses.

🪴 Difficult Cultivation
The plants are hard to cultivate, but grow well in the wild.

🌱 Delicate in Nature
The plants don’t recover well when mowed over and are easily overrun by non-native plants.

Physalis heterophylla Fruit

Lanterns
When fruit forms, the plant creates a lantern around it to protect it from insects.

Ground Cherries
The edible fruits, referred to as “ground cherries,” are orange and high in vitamin A.



Rundown

All for the Team

Bufs finished runner-up in the NCAA Skiing Championships.

By **Andrew Daigle**

→ Alpine skier Louison Accambray joined CU in 2024 from Europe.

After a dominant 2026 season, All-American alpine skier **Louison Accambray** (PolSci'26) knows “it’s all for the team.”

The 2026 NCAA Skiing Championships came down to the final lap of the final race as Colorado chased rival Utah. The Buffs needed to overcome a 7.5-point deficit in the men’s 20K freestyle Nordic race, but the Utes ultimately pulled away.

“We all went down to the track to cheer for the last race. It was sad to lose, but we win together and lose together. We all fought for it,” said Accambray.

Accambray finished 2026 with 15 podiums, a single-season all-time best for Col-

orado’s ski program. The only race she didn’t podium was the one she didn’t finish.

After skiing professionally in Europe and on the French National Team, Accambray joined CU in 2024. She was looking for a team atmosphere.

“In Europe, when you win, it means the other skiers on your team didn’t. There isn’t much celebrating together,” said Accambray. “At Colorado, we compete as a team. It’s more fun.”

Fittingly, Accambray’s favorite memory from 2026 recalls her teammates.

“At RMISA Championships, as soon as I crossed the finish line in giant slalom, my teammates were all around me. We didn’t know my result [first place] yet, but everyone was already hugging each other and so happy.” 🐾

Buff Bits

Lacrosse (16-4; 4-1 Big 12) won the Big 12 Tournament on May 2. The Buffs, led by four All-Americans, then advanced to the quarterfinals of the NCAA Women’s Lacrosse Tournament for the first time in program history before losing to No. 1 seed Northwestern 13-12 in double overtime on May 14. ● In women’s track and field, **Abbey Nechanicky** (IntPhys’27) set the CU record in the 10,000m (32:23.93), while **Avery Pearson** (Soc’27) ran CU’s all-time second-fastest 800m (2:00.91). For the men, **Kole Mathison** (IntPhys’27) ran CU’s third-fastest 3,000m

steeplechase (8:32.42). ● Quarterback **Dominique Ponder** (MediaSt’26), who died March 1 in a single-car accident, was awarded a posthumous degree on May 3. Football’s 2026 jerseys will feature a “DP 7” in his honor. ● Tennis’s **Aya El Sayed** (Fin’24; MBus Ana’25) was named second-team All-Big 12 on April 30. She is the sixth Buff to earn all-conference in three different seasons. ● Men’s and women’s golf earned trips to NCAA Regionals. The men’s team reached regionals for the third time in four years, while the women made their first appearance in eight years.

■ Coach Talk

“We want to see guys fight for what they want in life. Everything is earned.”

— **Deion “Coach Prime” Sanders** in the final week of spring practices. Colorado football opens the 2026 season Sept. 3 at Georgia Tech.

Scores

7

→

Big 12 Goalkeeper of the Week honors for **Elena Oh** (MechEng’27) in 2026. Oh also earned Big 12 Goalkeeper of the Year.

24

→

Podiums, most all-time for a CU men’s alpine skier, after six-time All-American **Filip Wahlqvist** (Fin’26) completed his CU career at NCAAs.

17th

→

NCAA Tournament appearance for women’s basketball when they earned a 10-seed before falling to Illinois in a first-round matchup.

42

→

Spring 2026 student-athlete graduates.

50 yrs

→

After being drafted in the NFL’s first round by the New England Patriots, **Pete Brock** (Bio ex’76; DistSt’26) received his degree at the spring commencement.





← Volleyball's Ana Burilović, pin attacker and All-American.

Rundown

Attack Everything

All-American pin attacker **Ana Burilović** (Psych'27) helped lead CU volleyball to the 2025 NCAA Tournament. As she heads into her senior season, she reflects on high expectations, love for her teammates and relentlessly attacking the ball.

Interview by **Andrew Daigle**

What are you most excited about as you head into your senior year? This has been on my mind a lot. I lived with two seniors this spring, and I saw what they went through as they figured out how to move on. I want to enjoy every remaining moment on and off the court with my friends and teammates. We have big expectations for this season. We'll need to stay on the same page and work hard.

What did it mean to you to be named All-America last year? I'm honestly still surprised by it. All-America was my goal for the season, but I didn't share that with anyone because I thought it was too ambitious. I found a new level of love for volleyball and matured so much.

CU Athletics

What was it like playing volleyball in your hometown of Split, Croatia? I started playing for Volleyball Club Split when I was 11 or 12, and I stayed in the club until I went away for college. That experience is rare. The team felt like a family. All of the girls in the club went to the same high school, and most of us played for the national team. The coaches really saw us grow up.

How did you hear about CU, and what drew you to come here? An older Croatian player I knew went to UC Berkeley and was coached by our associate head coach, Lee Maes. She was still in touch with Lee and had so much respect for him. I wanted to play college volleyball in the

States — I thought it would be a great way to get my degree and play at a high level. I sent Lee one of my matches, and he loved it. We got on a Zoom call with the coaching staff, and I fell in love with the Colorado program. I pretty much committed on the spot.

What is a favorite memory of yours from playing for the Buffaloes? It may sound strange, but sometimes before games we'll hang out in the locker room, play the video game Just Dance and all dance together. That gives us so much energy and so much hype. We go out and kill it every time.

As a pin attacker, you've had as many as 32 kills in a match. How do you avoid blockers and know where to hit the ball? There's so much to think about when attacking. It's being able to adapt to any ball, being ready for everything and always being aggressive. Every time I go up, I want to score the ball, and I'm going to find a way to do it. I don't worry if it wasn't a perfect ball. After each point, I settle myself and make sure I'm ready for the next one.

Can you share an important lesson you've learned from head coach Jesse Mahoney? He's taught me to be mindful and anticipate the play. I'm always thinking a couple steps ahead about how to create options and make it easier for our team.

How have you navigated balancing academics and athletics at CU? It's very hard, especially in season. But we have a team culture that's very proud of our GPAs, so we motivate each other. And our professors are flexible and help keep us on track. The most important thing is finding a time of day when you can relax and reset.

What is something you like to do in your free time? We have a bunch of puzzles in our house. We'll take a 1,000-piece puzzle and all do it on the kitchen table together. Spending time with my roommates and talking — that's what recharges my batteries. 🧠

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Research

CU Boulder fuels scientific discovery through interdisciplinary research that reshapes knowledge and drives innovation.

in

Written by
**Julia MacLean and
Christie Sounart**

Illustration by
Mike McQuade

Motion

For 150 years, CU Boulder has embraced an interdisciplinary philosophy that has led to groundbreaking science discoveries that continually change our understanding of the world.

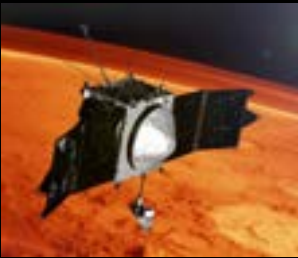
The impact of this work on humanity extends from the tiniest microbes to our knowledge of time. The university's research is a catalyst for innovation, transcending traditional methods and reaching new realms of possibility.

This list highlights a few of these breakthroughs →

1940s

Space

CU Boulder's Laboratory for Atmospheric and Space Physics (LASP) plays an integral role in advancing planetary discoveries across the solar system. Since its founding in 1948 to study the sun, LASP has become the world's only academic research institute to send instruments to all eight planets, Pluto and beyond. Recent milestones include the oversight of the MAVEN mission to study Mars' upper atmosphere, sending CU student-built instruments on the New Horizons spacecraft to fly by Pluto and explore the Kuiper Belt, and developing instruments aboard Europa Clipper, NASA's flagship mission to Jupiter's icy moon Europa.



LASP

1910s

Botany

In 1910, a red sunflower growing wild in Boulder caught the attention of Wilmatte Porter Cockerell and her CU professor husband, Theodore Dru Alison Cockerell. Drawing on their scientific training, they cultivated and cross-pollinated the plant, stabilizing its unusual color and introducing it to seed companies. What began as a local discovery became a globally distributed plant. Today, the university continues this legacy through the University Libraries' One Seed Program, which shares the red sunflower seeds with the campus' local community.



1960s

Environmental Science

Early collaboration between CU Boulder and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, made possible through the Cooperative Institute for Research in Environmental Sciences, helped transform global environmental science. Beginning in the late 1960s, the partnership advanced early climate monitoring and atmospheric chemistry research, including new methods to measure trace gases that eventually laid the groundwork for modern environmental observation systems. Over time, the work grew into large-scale Earth systems science, atmospheric monitoring and ocean mapping, which led to a massive effort to chart the U.S. extended continental shelf.

EXPLANATION
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1950s

Engineering

In 1956, CU Boulder students and faculty developed the Rhovac typewriter system, designed for quadriplegic individuals. The system, which used a board with lights that moved across letters and symbols, allowed users to select characters through small movements of the mouth, eyelids or fingers. The Polio Foundation provided and supervised use of the typewriter, which reflected mid-20th-century efforts to apply emerging technologies to practical human needs.

Environmental Science

A keeper of long-standing and continuous environmental records, the Mountain Research Station in Nederland, Colorado, is a global leader in climate science. Since the 1950s, CU researchers have collected data across mountain ecosystems, producing some of the longest high-altitude climate records in North America and the world. These decades of measurements, tracking atmospheric conditions, snow-pack and temperature, provide critical insight into climate change over time and have made the station a hub for high-altitude environmental research.

1970s

Archaeology

In 1978, CU Boulder's **Payson Sheets** (Anth'67; MA'69) led the discovery and long-term excavation of Joya de Cerén in El Salvador, a Maya village preserved by volcanic ash around 590 A.D. Often called the "New World Pompeii," the site revealed evidence of daily life among ordinary people, reshaping understanding of ancient societies, resilience and human responses to sudden environmental disasters. Sheets' work also helped to advance standard archaeological methods, including the use of remote sensing to locate and analyze buried sites.



1980s

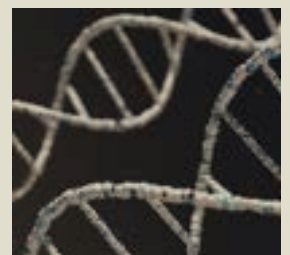
Biology

The rise of modern microbiome science was driven by techniques that allowed scientists to identify and analyze entire microbial communities without culturing them in a lab. At CU, biochemist Norman Pace created genetic sequencing methods that revealed vast unseen biodiversity and

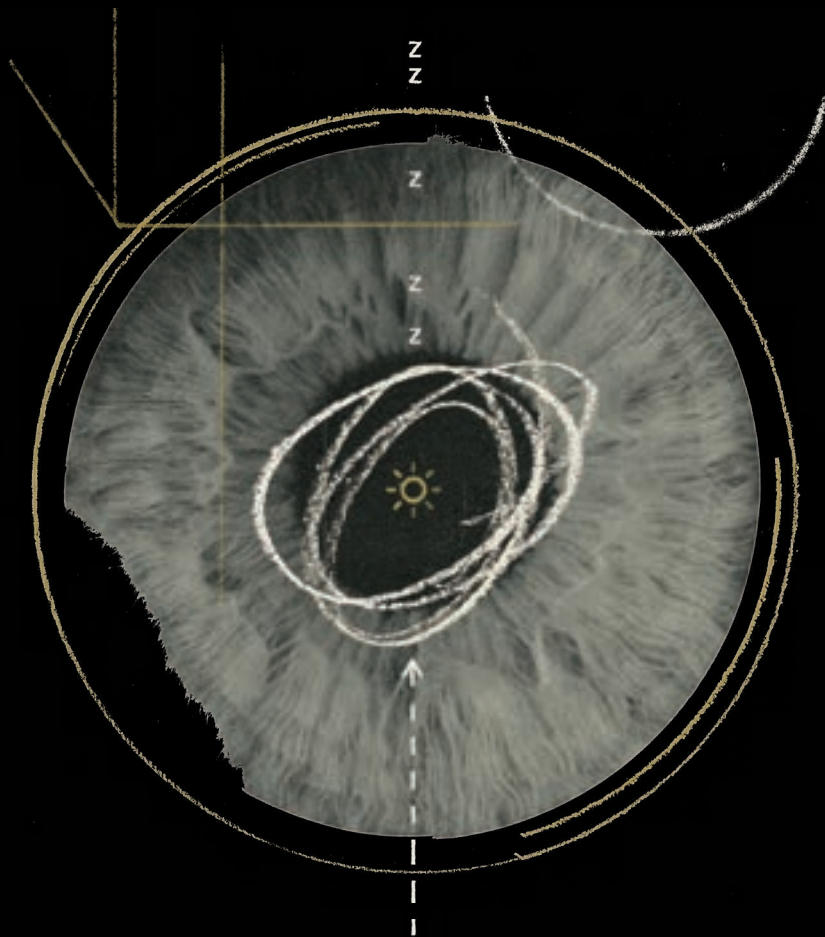
reshaped the tree of life. Building on that foundation in the 2000s, CU microbiologist Rob Knight developed computational tools to analyze microbial ecosystems at scale. Together, these innovations changed microbiome research into a data-driven field, showing how microbes shape human health and the environment.

Biotechnology

CU Boulder biochemist **Marvin Caruthers** (HonDoc Sci'24) pioneered chemical methods for synthesizing DNA and RNA, reducing a process that once took months to just hours. His work laid the foundation for genome research while his patents in custom DNA production helped launch the biotechnology industry. Caruthers co-founded Amgen in addition to Applied Biosystems, which brought automated DNA synthesis tools into laboratories worldwide.



2010s



Integrative Physiology

CU Boulder researcher Monique LeBourgeois uncovered how light exposure affects children's sleep health. In particular, her work found that young children are uniquely sensitive to evening light exposure, especially blue light emitted by screens. In a landmark experiment, her team found that just one hour of bright light before bed suppressed preschoolers' melatonin levels by nearly 90%, with effects lasting long after the lights were turned off. This research became a driver in pediatric sleep science, translating lab discoveries into guidance for families.

Geography

Data-driven wildfire science at CU Boulder reshapes how communities understand and respond to fire risk in a warming climate. Jennifer Balch led this work through Earth Lab, integrating satellite data and field research to track fire patterns, forest loss and ecosystem recovery. Her work produced new tools for analyzing wildfire behavior and assessing risk across the Western U.S., helping communities better anticipate and adapt to a rapidly changing fire landscape.

1990s

Quantum Physics

The creation of the first Bose-Einstein condensate in 1995 marked a breakthrough in quantum physics, revealing a new state of matter in which atoms cooled to near absolute zero behave as a single quantum entity. Achieved by Eric Cornell and Carl Wieman at CU Boulder's JILA, a joint institute with the National Institute of Standards and Technology, the discovery won them the 2001 Nobel Prize in Physics and launched the field of ultracold atomic research, with far-reaching implications for quantum technologies.



2000s

Physics

Ultra-precise atomic clocks are pushing the limits of how we measure time. At CU Boulder, **Jun Ye** (PhD-Phys'97) has led the development of optical atomic clocks with extreme precision and accuracy, using lasers to measure the vibrations of atoms trapped in optical fields. His lab's clocks will not gain or lose a second over billions of years. This work enables a wide range of applications, including more precise tests of fundamental physics.



2020s

Public Health

The discovery that COVID-19 spreads through airborne aerosols and not solely large droplets greatly impacted public health guidance and indoor safety. At CU Boulder, Shelly Miller and José-Luis Jimenez helped demonstrate how virus particles linger in indoor air, highlighting the critical role of ventilation and filtration. Miller's research on how respiratory aerosols are generated during activities such as singing and playing musical instruments also informed safer guidance for schools and performance settings. Their work helped reshape global understanding of disease transmission and accelerate innovations to improve indoor air quality.

Artificial Intelligence

Decades of foundational work at CU Boulder in natural language processing, machine learning and ethical AI helped establish the university as a leader in the field. Research by CU faculty, including Martha Palmer and James Martin, advanced how machines interpret human language and analyze complex data. Building on that legacy, CU's new master of science in artificial intelligence, launched in 2025, expands access to advanced AI education.

Chris Monroe; G.E. Marti/JILA



150 Years of Research
and Creativity at CU Boulder

See the Exhibition on Campus

Opening in the university's Museum of Natural History this August, the exhibition celebrates CU innovation while highlighting its deep connection to the state of Colorado.

An aerial, high-angle photograph of a street scene at night. A dark-colored SUV is parked on the left side of the road. A person in a light-colored jacket and dark pants stands near the front of the car, holding a camera up to take a picture. Two police officers in tactical gear are standing in the middle of the street. One officer is pointing towards the car. A black police car with "POLICE" written on its side is parked on the right. A person in a dark vest and light pants stands on the sidewalk in the upper left, holding a phone. A fire hydrant is visible on the sidewalk. A street light pole with multiple cameras is on the right. The overall scene is dimly lit, with some light reflecting off the car and the pavement.

IS SEEING ALWAYS BELIEVING?

VIDEO EVIDENCE IS FLOODING COURTS
AND THE MEDIA. A NEW CU BOULDER
LAB IS WORKING TO HELP VIEWERS MAKE
SENSE OF IT ALL.

WRITTEN BY
LISA MARSHALL

ILLUSTRATION BY
MAX GUTHER

WHEN SANDRA RISTOVSKA FIRST WATCHED A FEDERAL AGENT SHOOT AND KILL PROTESTER RENEE GOOD ON A MINNEAPOLIS STREET ON JAN. 7

she — like millions of others who hit “play” that day — felt a sense of shock and horror.

But as a scholar of visual evidence, she also had a

question: What will the other videos show?

“Video can be an incredibly powerful piece of evidence,” said Ristovska, an associate professor of media studies with a courtesy appointment at Colorado Law. “But no single video can speak for itself.”

From police body cams and surveillance cameras to neighborhood Ring cameras and bystander cellphone footage, hardly a moment escapes capture these days, and a single incident often generates reams of footage from different perspectives. That footage has begun inundating courtrooms — an estimated 80% of legal cases now hinge to some degree on video evidence, according to the U.S. Department of Justice.

It’s shaping public opinion even faster, with graphic clips swiftly dominating news cycles and TikTok feeds, often with little context. Some videos are now altered or created entirely by artificial intelligence, leaving judges, jurors and scrollers questioning what, if anything, they can believe.

All this concerns Ristovska.

“Courts in the United States, both at the state and federal levels, lack clear guidelines for the use of video as evidence in general, and this picture is only going to get more complicated with the

rise of AI and deepfakes,” said Ristovska, who founded CU Boulder’s Visual Evidence Lab in 2025 to confront these challenges. “Something needed to be done.”

THE PROMISE AND PERIL OF VIDEO

Ristovska, who grew up in Macedonia, vividly remembers the wartime videos that interrupted her morning cartoons on state TV during the collapse of the former Yugoslavia in the 1990s.

As cameras rolled, refugees in Bosnia and Herzegovina fled. Hospitals were bombed. Firing squads carried out a bloody genocide.

“You’d see the footage and the worried looks on your parents’ faces,” she recalled. “I came to learn the power of video at an early age.”

After a stint as a documentary filmmaker, she turned her attention to studying how video is used in pursuit of justice.

She pegs the start of video’s rise in the courtroom to 1991, when a bystander with a camcorder captured footage of four Los Angeles police officers savagely beating a 25-year-old Black man named Rodney King. Millions saw the footage on TV, and the 81-second clip was central to the court case. When the officers were initially acquitted, historic riots ensued. Two officers were later indicted in a federal trial.

Since then, eyewitness videos have exposed everything from chemical weapons attacks in Syria and international war

crimes in Yugoslavia to police brutality on American streets.

With the advent of smartphones, groups like the nonprofit WITNESS now train activists to film suspected human rights violations in a way that will hold up in court.

One recent ProPublica investigation found that while more than 300 protesters or bystanders were arrested during the U.S. immigration sweeps of early 2026, more than a third of those cases were dismissed when video footage debunked statements made by arresting officers.

In the case of Good, news outlets developed frame-by-frame analyses using video from multiple bystanders, her wife and Jonathan Ross, the ICE agent who shot her. While federal officials asserted that Good ran Ross over and he acted in self-defense, *The New York Times* concluded that “the visual evidence shows no indication that

the agent who fired the shots, Jonathan Ross, had been run over.”

Good’s last recorded words, according to Ross’ footage, were: “I’m not mad at you.”

Roxanne Bailin, former chief judge of the 20th Judicial District in Boulder and an advisory board member with CU’s Visual Evidence Lab, said that oftentimes, video can provide what eyewitnesses cannot.

“People who relate what they saw at trial are influenced by their own biases; by their own need to put themselves in the best light, or even lie if the stakes are high; and by their own inaccurate memories,” she said. “Videos are more likely to show what really happened.”

But are those videos always what they say they are? And even if they are authentic, does simply watching them reveal the truth?

Not necessarily, said Ristovska.

THE RISE OF DEEPFAKES

On Sept. 9, 2025, a judge in Alameda County, California, threw out a civil case after determining that a videotaped witness testimony allegedly submitted by the plaintiff’s landlord was not real. A lack of facial expressions and odd glitches in the video feed alerted the judge that the clips were likely “deepfakes.”

● **GOOD’S LAST
RECORDED WORDS,
ACCORDING TO ROSS’
FOOTAGE, WERE: “I’M
NOT MAD AT YOU.”**





The case was among the first known in which an AI-generated video was deliberately used in the courtroom. But Ristovska, whose team is gathering case studies for a forthcoming report, expects more to come as new video generation platforms make it easier to create deepfakes.

She points to one social media post, made shortly after Open AI's Sora 2 launched last fall, in which a journalist reported that he had instructed the video generator to make "body cam footage of cops arresting a dark-skinned man in a department store." It took less than a minute, and the video was eerily believable. (Open AI discontinued Sora 2 earlier this year. But numerous, similar platforms now exist.)

"AI-generated videos are becoming misleadingly persuasive, and they can be exploited to incriminate and further marginalize racial and ethnic minorities," said Ristovska.

She also worries about the "deepfake defense," in which attorneys paint real footage as fake.

For instance, in 2023, a family sued Tesla Inc. after their loved one died when his car crashed while using the self-driving feature. The company's defense counsel attempted, unsuccessfully, to dismiss

● **FACIAL RECOGNITION:**
OFTEN USED IN TANDEM
WITH VIDEO FOOTAGE,
THE SOFTWARE HAS
REPEATEDLY BEEN SHOWN
TO BE LESS ACCURATE
WHEN THE SUBJECTS ARE
PEOPLE OF COLOR.

a video of Elon Musk exaggerating the capabilities of the autopilot feature. Musk's lawyers argued that it could be a deepfake.

"If this continues, jurors will accord little or no weight to authentic footage that they really should be paying attention to," Ristovska said.

Then there's facial recognition software.

Often used in tandem with video footage to match crime suspects with larger ID databases, the software has repeatedly been shown to be less accurate when the subjects are people of color.

"As of right now, there are at least 15 documented instances of people being wrongfully arrested and spending time

● **"VIDEO DOES NOT PROVIDE ONE UNIFIED, OBJECTIVE WINDOW ONTO THE TRUTH."**

– SANDRA RISTOVSKA,
ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR
OF MEDIA STUDIES

in jail, anywhere from one night to 17 months," due to facial recognition software mismatches, said Ristovska.

PERCEPTIONS SHAPE WHAT IS SEEN

Ristovska noted that things like who shot a video, from what angle and at what speed it is played can all strongly influence the conclusions viewers draw about what happened.

For instance, studies show that when video is played in slow motion, people

tend to more harshly judge the intentions of the person doing the action. (That's why watching a slow-motion replay of a football penalty seems to make the act seem more deliberate and egregious.)

Research also shows that viewers of body camera footage, which shows an incident from the officer's point of view, are less likely to judge the officer as having acted intentionally than those who watch the same incident captured on a dashboard camera with a wider angle.

Racial and socioeconomic backgrounds and personal biases also shape what people focus on in a video — and what they overlook.

Contrary to popular belief, said Ristovska, "Video does not provide one unified, objective window onto the truth."

Yet judges are often unaware of these biases, jurors are seldom warned of them, and few guidelines exist for assuring that video evidence serves, rather than sabotages, the pursuit of justice, said Bailin.

The new lab would like to change that. ●



The Silver Tsunami

As an unprecedented wave of small business owners prepare to retire, a new kind of entrepreneur is stepping up to carry the Main Street torch.

By Kelsey Yandura
Illustration by Josh Cochran



When **Spencer Rogers** (MBA'25) went back to business school

after a decade working in technology, ETA — MBA-speak for “entrepreneurship through acquisition” — wasn’t really on his radar.

An entrepreneurship model that came out of Stanford University in the 1980s, ETA formalized a structure through which business owners can pass the entrepreneurial torch to another single owner or small team instead of closing up shop or selling to a larger firm. New owners get to skip the tricky start-up phase, and the business itself gets a fresh sense of momentum. Over time, the ETA ecosystem has evolved to include a range of approaches and financing structures that have made business ownership more accessible to entrepreneurs from a variety of backgrounds.

“ETA isn’t one-size-fits all,” said **Peggy Fasano** (MBA'17), an ETA investor with PROX Search Capital. “Different entrepreneurs have different goals. Some raise capital for the search while others pursue a more self-funded path using tools like government-backed financing to give them more flexibility and ownership.”

However, Rogers, who moonlighted as a bartender throughout his 20s, was hellbent on making waves in hospitality, an industry largely too risky to be considered by ETA investors. Since his pursuit was driven as much by passion and community impact as it was financial return, he knew he’d have to get creative.

“I started thinking about it in a slightly different way. ... I realized I could adapt the parts of ETA I really liked — preserving an existing business, building community and creating long-term impact — into the hospitality world.”

Thanks to mentorship from faculty and a budding ETA program at CU that focuses less on convention and more on creativity, Rogers followed that intuition. He explored alternative acquisition structures and financing options that ultimately helped make the deal possible.

In 2025, one whirlwind year later, a deal went through, and Rogers stepped into co-ownership of Lady Jane, a beloved cocktail bar in Denver’s buzzing LoHi neighborhood. His goal is to not only preserve the original owner’s vision but amplify its impact as a welcoming space where locals can build community outside of work and home. This year, Lady Jane received the James Beard outstanding bar nomination, which went to only 20 bars in the country.

“Creating and maintaining a sense of community really matters to me,” said Rogers. “That’s effectively what I get to do with this type of ETA — I can take this bar that I know and love and make sure that it keeps being independent, successful and thriving. That’s really impactful for me.”

Care for Communities

ETA deals like these — stacked with relational ties and personal passion — are what **Erick Mueller** (MBA'99), executive director of the Deming Center for Entrepreneurship, calls “transitioning with soul,” a process rooted in both good business sense and community care. As the next decade of business transitions unfurl, these kinds of handovers have the potential to fundamentally alter the small business landscape in the United States.

Today, small business ownership stands at a tipping point. Over half of all privately held businesses in the U.S. (which generate 43% of the national

GDP and employ over 60 million Americans) are currently owned by people over the age of 55 — and over 48% lack a successor.

In other words, an impending “silver tsunami” of retirements brings with it one giant question: What will happen to Main Street (or Walnut Street, or Pearl Street)?

“The stakes are higher than most people realize,” said Shannon Jones, creator and instructor of the ETA courses at Leeds. “If this generation of owner-operators does not find good stewards, much of Main Street will disappear or be rolled up by financial buyers whose goals are not always aligned with the communities those businesses serve.”

This, he said, is where ETA comes in: “Done well, ETA is a way to keep great small businesses in the hands of committed owners who will reinvest in employees, customers and towns.”

Riding the Wave

Though the ETA model has been around for decades, its pertinence has reached a watershed moment in recent years as the silver tsunami begins to swell. CU Boulder, with one of the earlier business schools in the nation to focus on self-funded search in its ETA curriculum, is riding the wave.

Mueller remembers when ETA first came onto his radar. About three years ago, a handful of MBA students started “bugging” him about ETA. Rogers was one of them.

“Spencer was literally chasing me down the halls,” Mueller laughed. “He was like: ‘Erick, what about that ETA thing?’ We listened.” When faculty approved the initial course, taught by Jones, enrollment filled to the brim.

“It was one of the top-enrolled MBA courses,” said Mueller. “The students were flocking to us. We thought: ‘Maybe this is something that’s really valuable.’ Quite frankly, we’ve been hanging onto the bumper with our pinky since we launched.”

Another course was added, and last year the Deming Center hosted the inaugural Rocky Mountain ETA Conference, bringing together anyone interested in ETA — entrepreneurs, investors, students, faculty and more. Other offerings — including an executive education program and ETA certificate — are also in the works.

“The energy is real, and it’s compounding,” said Jones. “The classroom is the tip of the iceberg.”

Students with Soul

Besides providing an immediate, hands-on path to entrepreneurship (Jones calls ETA “entrepreneurship with the training wheels off, but a seat already under you”), he sees CU students flocking to ETA for reasons beyond the ladder to quick success.

“The stereotype of the MBA student seeking a shortcut to the CEO desk does not match the people I actually teach,” said Jones. “My students tend to ask harder questions: ‘What kind of parent do I want to be? What kind of company do I want to own? What do I owe the community I’m buying into?’

“On some campuses, that’s super weird. But on CU’s campus, it never has been. You have these really interesting, thoughtful, smart people who want to do big things, but they’re also trying to align those big things with their personal values.”

Recent Leeds graduate **Satya Pushadapu** (MBA'26), who is now looking into pursuing his first deal, said CU’s ETA program provided a sense of clarity — and community — beyond the classroom.

“My family bought a business a few years back, but we didn’t have these tools or knowledge. It took us a long time to reach our goals,” he said. “What’s going on at CU is rare. You have access to ETA courses and tools, but also a support system. That makes all the difference.”

“If this generation of owner-operators does not find good stewards, much of Main Street will disappear...”

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A New Way to Grocery Shop

Through sustainable grocery market Nude Foods, Rachel Irons is reimagining how Coloradans shop, eat and reduce waste.

By **Julia MacLean**

In a strip mall near Boulder's 30th and Walnut Streets, it's common to spot shoppers ferrying totes filled with glass jars to and from Nude Foods Market. The jars, brimming with locally sourced produce, pantry staples and pre-made meals, are a major part of the zero-waste market's mis-

sion. In an effort to help eliminate single-use packaging and elevate sustainable sourcing, shoppers can either bring their own containers or rent them from the store and return when empty.

At the center of Nude Foods' ethos is co-founder **Rachel Irons** (EBio, Env St'15), an entrepreneur whose path from CU student to local entrepreneur reflects her curiosity and sense of urgency when it comes to environmental sustainability.

The idea first took shape far from Colorado, while Irons was hiking the Pacific Crest Trail in 2016. On the trail, she began thinking about how difficult it is for everyday consumers to make environmentally responsible choices.

"I had been vegetarian since I was 15, so I was trying to think about how companies and consumers could source and use meat sustainably," she said. "There are a lot of solutions out there to our en-

↑ Rachel Irons, left, and her business partner, Verity Noble, on *Shark Tank* in March 2026.

vironmental problems and how that relates to our food system, but they can be really hard to find. They're spread out everywhere."

Irons' time at CU played a critical role in shaping this perspective. As a double major in ecology and evolutionary biology and environmental studies, she was exposed to both the scale of environmental challenges and the potential for actionable solutions. A marine biology-focused study abroad program in the Caribbean introduced her to the idea that communities can help manage invasive species by incorporating them into the local diet, a concept that later became central to Nude Foods' offerings.

When Irons and her business partner, Verity Noble, co-launched Nude Foods in 2020, along with Matt Arnold and Jimmy Uvodich, it focused solely on the delivery of pre-filled jars during the COVID-19 pandemic. The Boulder store opened in 2021 and continued to offer goods in pre-

Courtesy Rachel Irons

filled jars, rather than following a traditional bulk food model.

"It's a lot more accessible," Irons said. "Customers can shop just like they're at any other store. The only difference is they bring back the containers when they're done, and then we wash them and refill them."

This model allowed Nude Foods to expand its offerings, ranging from pantry staples like nuts and pasta to a weekly fresh meal menu that features dishes such as pad thai and Buddha bowls. Today, about 20% of the store's products are made onsite by a full-time chef who prepares the meals and other items, like sauces or juices.

Among the most talked-about items is one that reflects Irons' original inspiration: wild boar. Because wild boar is an invasive species, featuring it in their food offerings aligns with the store's sustainability mission, while also offering customers something unique.

"We do a lot with it — burritos, jerky, sausages," Irons said. "People love it. Finding feasible solutions that are easy and actually make sense is exciting."

For longtime customer Bob Bernier, who saw the "zero-waste" sign when the market was under construction, Nude Foods has become a staple in his life.

"I was there the week it opened. I had to learn more," said Bernier, who shops at the store multiple times a week.

Beyond the products, he credits Irons' hands-on approach for building trust with customers.

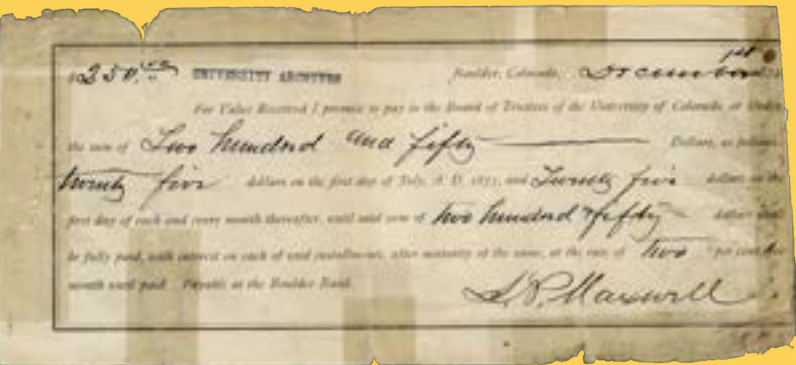
"I don't have to worry about where the food comes from, or the quality," he said. "Rachel goes to the farms herself to see how they grow their vegetables and treat their animals."

The connection also extends beyond transactions. "When I'm in there, I feel like a part of a community," Bernier said. "We all chat about stuff — it's a very friendly group of people."

As Nude Foods continues to grow — the company opened a Denver location in 2024 and appeared on an episode of *Shark Tank* this spring — Irons is focused on scaling the model without compromising its values. Her vision includes a centralized production facility that could support multiple storefronts across Colorado and, eventually, beyond.

"We're really trying to create a new food system that's based on health and sustainability and regenerating the environment," she said. "We're trying to make it the norm." 🐾

Pledging CU's Future



In December 1874, Boulder businessman and politician James P. Maxwell pledged \$250 to the University of Colorado Board of Trustees to help establish a university in Boulder. As designated on a promissory note (pictured), the money would come monthly in \$25 increments.

Maxwell, who moved to Boulder in 1870, was one of 104 individuals and organizations who donated money to create the state's flagship university. The Territory of Colorado (statehood was still two years away) offered a \$15,000 match to citizen contributions. In all, Boulder residents — including bankers, mine owners, ranchers, watchmakers, butchers,

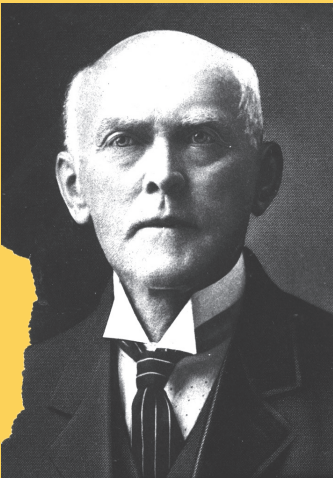
teachers and even a grave digger — contributed more than \$16,650, equivalent to roughly \$482,000 today.

In June 1875, the trustees chose architect Erastus H. Dimick's design for the university's first building: a four-story stone and brick structure with ample windows, Gothic details and spires, a slate tile roof and a bell tower. During his short stint in Boulder, he also designed several local homes, a school and the original First Baptist Church before moving to Leadville, Colorado.

Old Main was completed in 1876, the year of CU's official founding. Students climbed its stone steps for their first classes the following fall.

← \$31,656 raised for the University of Colorado (roughly \$917,000 today).

↙ Architect Erastus H. Dimick's design for Old Main, CU's first building.

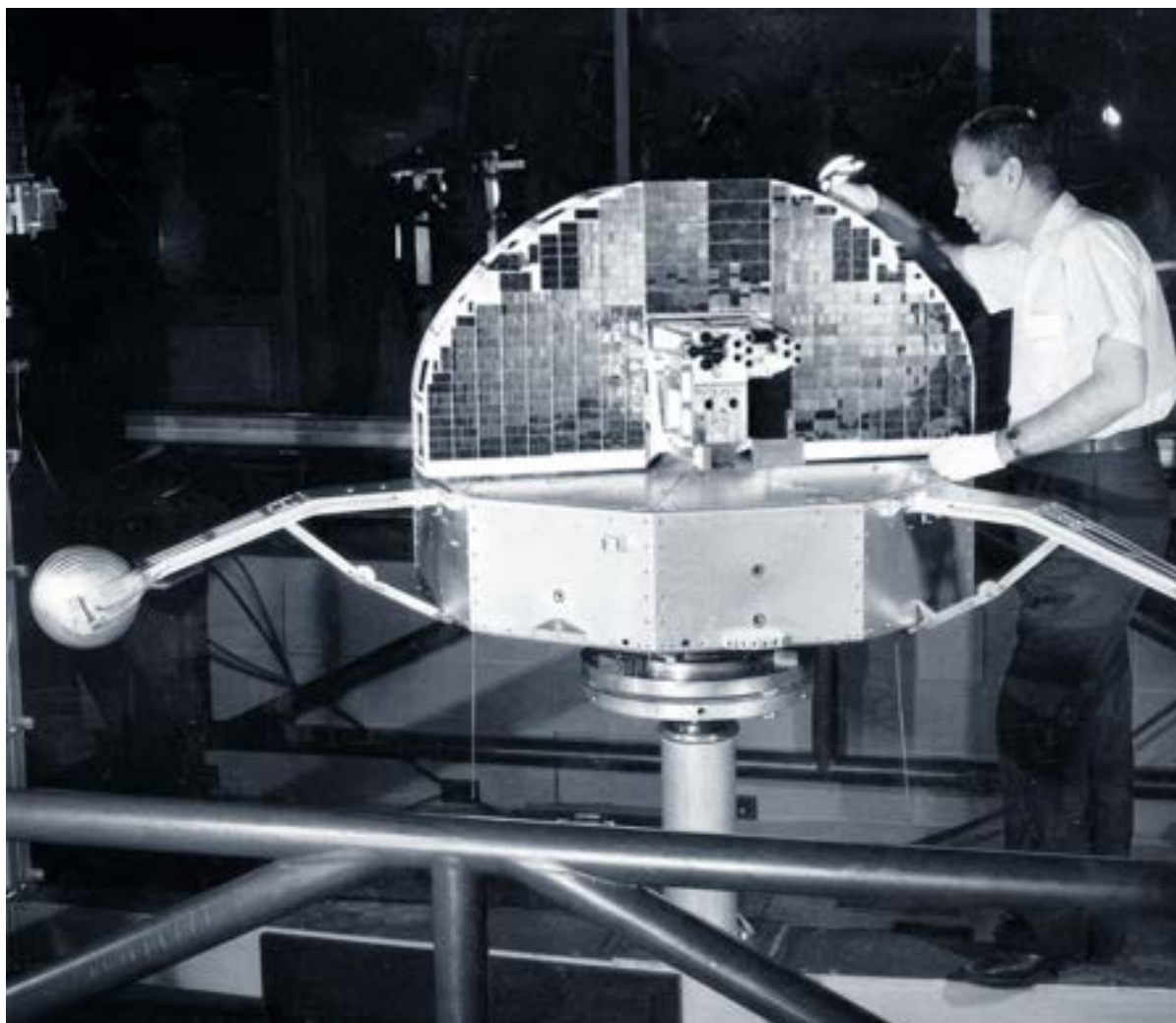


↑ James P. Maxwell

Constructed and operated a wagon road from Boulder to Black Hawk.

Co-operated a water mill along South Boulder Creek.

Elected to represent Boulder legislature in 1872, elected to Colorado's first state senate in 1876 and served as Boulder mayor from 1878 to 1880.



→ Ball Brothers staff check a rocket-pointing control unit in 1965.



→ In 1953, the Upper Air Laboratory, now LASP, launched the first rocket to observe the sun's ultraviolet radiation above Earth's atmosphere.



← Ball Brothers Orbiting Solar Observatory in the early 1960s.

Origins

CU Boulder's First Startup

CU Boulder's first spin-out, Ball Brothers Research Corporation, placed the city at the center of the nation's aerospace and engineering industry.

By **Heather Hansen**

CU Boulder and Ball Aerospace (now BAE Systems) have been collaborating for decades to explore the mysteries of deep space.

The relationship was forged at a unique moment in history: the "space race" was heating up in the 1950s, and post-World War II optimism was driving exciting technological innovation at the university as Edmund Ball, head of the Indiana-based Ball Brothers Company, was looking to expand beyond their famous glass jars and move into research and development. At the same time, CU Boulder physicists were working around the clock on a first-of-its-kind suborbital program to study the sun. Their so-called Rocket Project retrofitted WWII munitions with pointing control systems that would take the most advanced spectrographic measurements of the sun to date.

"That was the beginning of the development of the science of how to use aero-

space platforms, technologies, aircraft and spacecraft to do really cool science," said **Chris Muldrow** (AeroEngr'03; MEngr Mgmt'10), executive director of the Colorado Quantum Incubator and former director of CU Boulder's top 10-ranked Ann and H.J. Smead Department of Aerospace Engineering Sciences.

Soon the Rocket Project leaders joined Ball in forming CU Boulder's first spin-out, Ball Brothers Research Corporation. The new company moved into a building on Arapahoe Road in Boulder, placing the city at the center of the nation's aerospace science and engineering industry.

Despite lucrative contracts in those early days, innovation was expensive, and the nascent company's profitability faltered. That's when they brought in **Ruel "Merc" Mercure** (A&S'51; MPhys'55; PhD'57) to help write the next chapter. He had designed the instrument that photographed the sun and ultimately helped connect the

company's scientific roots to a growing commercial future.

Over time, the company became known for building spacecraft systems, instruments and advanced optical technologies for major space missions, including the James Webb Space Telescope. In 2024, BAE Systems acquired Ball Aerospace and named its new unit Space & Mission Systems. The company is currently headquartered in Broomfield, Colorado, and is a major employer of CU Boulder engineers.

Since the pioneering early days of Ball Aerospace and tech commercialization at CU, Colorado is now home to more than 500 space-related companies and suppliers, including several of the nation's top aerospace enterprises.

"We actually have the largest aerospace population per capital in the nation," said Muldrow, "and CU Boulder continues to be a key player both regionally and internationally." 🐼

Boulder Historical Society (left, top right); LASP (bottom right).



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Beyond Boulder

Building Colorado's Classrooms

Inside CU Boulder's lasting impact on K-12 education.

By **Patricia Kaowthumrong**

On a summer day in Boulder in the early 1900s, students and teachers traveled from across the state to gather on the University of Colorado campus. For many of those students, this event, “High School Day,” marked the first time they had ever set foot on a college campus. Teachers attended lessons and lectures, students embarked on campus tours, and a sense of excitement stretched far beyond the foothills.

This festive gathering was part of a much larger university-led effort to build a first-of-its-kind primary education system and expand the availability of college preparation across the region. When Colorado became a state in 1876, access to schooling past the primary grades was limited and uneven.

“There were no more than a handful of high schools — possibly just two,” said David Meens, CU Boulder’s assistant vice chancellor for Public and Community-Engaged Scholarship (PACES).

Through its Extension program — now the Division of Continuing Education — CU Boulder connected communities to

the university while helping lay the foundation for Colorado’s high school system.

“The university was seen as the head of the public school system, and they felt responsible for the quality and accessibility of the entire K-12 education system,” Meens said.

Building the System

That vision of connection between schools and the university was shaped by James Baker, CU’s president at the turn of the 20th century. Before his leadership role at the university, Baker spent 17 years as principal of Denver High School.

In the 1890s, he joined national leaders — including Harvard president Charles Eliot — on the Committee of Ten, a group tasked by the National Educational Associ-

↑ Science Discovery brings STEM learning to K-12 students.

ation with standardizing the American school system. Their 1894 report outlined a familiar structure: eight years of primary education followed by four years of high school, all designed to prepare students for college.

Baker carried that framework back to CU, where his “fondest dream” came true in 1912 with the creation of CU Extension. The division connected Colorado’s growing secondary education system to the university’s broader public mission: to broaden access to CU Boulder’s resources and provide learning opportunities

“The university was seen as the head of the public school system, and they felt responsible for the quality and accessibility of the entire K-12 education system.”

— **David Meens**, assistant vice chancellor, Public and Community-Engaged Scholarship (PACES)



Beyond Boulder

beyond traditional degree paths. By the 1920s, Colorado high schools numbered in the hundreds, according to reporting and archives reviewed by Meens.

Through its high school visitation and accreditation program, the university sent faculty and staff to cities throughout Colorado to evaluate schools and determine whether their graduates were prepared for college. Accreditation meant students could matriculate to CU Boulder, giving communities a strong incentive to establish and improve their schools. In the 1923–24 academic year alone, Extension staff traveled over 10,000 miles to visit 210 high schools in all 64 Colorado counties.

That growth was made possible in part by Congress’s 1875 Enabling Act, which used public lands to fund the university and Colorado’s “common schools” — though, as Meens notes, those lands had been taken from Indigenous communities. “It was this collaboration between communities and the university that laid the foundations for the educational systems we all take for granted today,” Meens said. “While the state and the university can be tremendously proud of our school system and its successes, we should never lose sight of the fact that this was made possible by some very profound injustices.”

Expanding Access

By the mid-20th century, the statewide system was firmly in place, thanks in large part to the university. But the structure of CU’s outreach was evolving too — shifting from building Colorado’s educational infrastructure to widening participation within it.

As CU Boulder’s reach grew, Extension was renamed the Division of Continuing Education in the 1970s. The name changed, but the mission endured as the university continued extending its resources to communities from the Front Range to rural Colorado.

One example is the High School ACCESS program, which allows high school students to take CU Boulder courses. Through advanced coursework in subjects like math, science and foreign languages, these students can begin to envision a college future. This reflects what Suzanne Claussen, assistant dean for strategic engagement in Continuing Education, de-

scribes as a broader mission to serve those “outside the box” of a traditional university path — students who may not otherwise see a place for themselves at CU.

High School ACCESS serves a wide range of learners, including students from traditional, homeschooled and marginalized backgrounds. And the results are visible: Of the 158 participants over the last three years, 25% were first-generation students, 30 of whom were accepted to CU Boulder. As Claussen said, the goal is to ensure that “not just wealthy kids come to CU Boulder. ... We’re trying to open up opportunities for any student.”

Continuing the Legacy

Across Colorado, programs now connect students and teachers to CU Boulder in ways that echo the original goals of Extension. Among them is Science Discovery, a 43-year-old program that brings hands-on STEM learning to K-12 students and educators. Through summer camps, after-school programs and classroom partnerships, the program serves 8,000 to 10,000 students each year statewide.

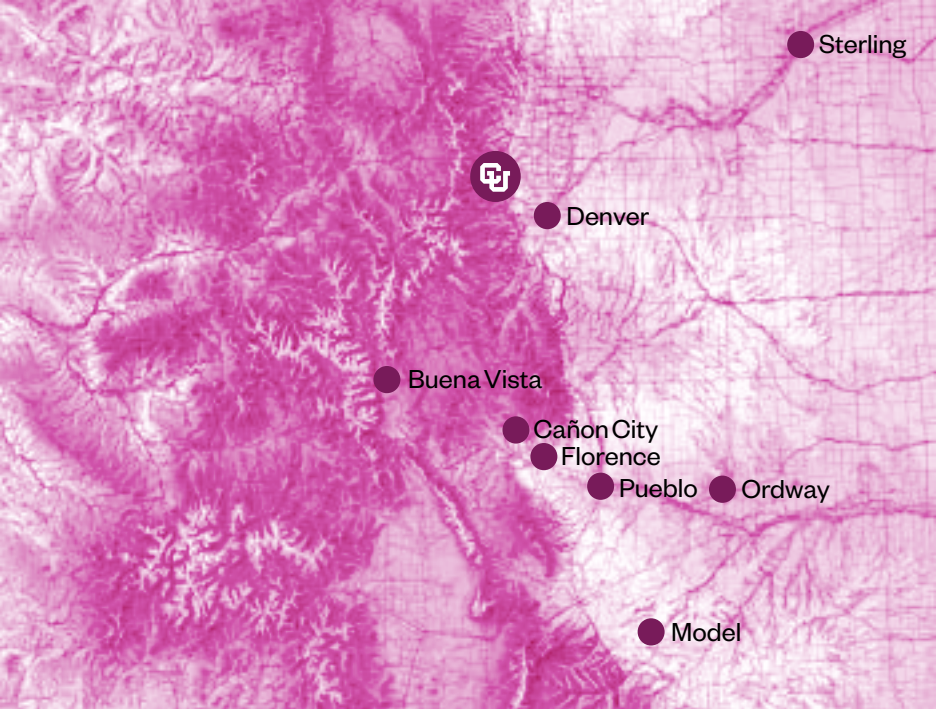
“We really see ourselves as a connector, helping STEM professionals share the current science, math and engineering they’re working on with the community,” said Stacey Forsyth, director of Science Discovery.

The program, which works to overcome geographic barriers, particularly in rural communities, supports educators through professional development, classroom resources and access to new technologies that can be difficult for schools to provide on their own.

“Not everybody is able to get here to campus,” Forsyth said, “so [we’re] trying to bring resources from campus out to schools and communities.”

As CU Boulder continues to push for an increasingly innovative future when it comes to research, technology, arts and humanities, a sharp focus on student success remains foundational. Now 150 years later, the original vision of access and excellence in education remains integral to its mission.

“We see ourselves as a capacity-building partner that helps communities realize their own ambitions through the kinds of resources we can bring to bear,” Meens said. “So that model from the 1910s is still the model that we operate on today.”



Waypoint

Legislation Inside

↑ Thirteen correctional facilities in eight Colorado cities take part in Legislation Inside.

At 19 years old, David Carrillo was incarcerated with a life sentence, a reality shaped by solitary confinement, violence and gangs.

But eight years into his sentence, something shifted. Through college courses offered inside the facility, Carrillo began to find new purpose. He earned an associate’s degree in paralegal studies, then a bachelor’s in business and an MBA through Adams State University, based in Alamosa, Colorado. Adams State soon hired him to teach other incarcerated people.

“I became the first incarcerated college professor in the nation,” Carrillo said.

In January 2024, Colorado Gov. Jared Polis granted him clemency for his work, and he was released after more than 30 years in prison.

Today, Carrillo is a full-time staff member of the Korey Wise Innocence Project (KWIP), housed at the CU Law School, and serves as the lead facilitator for Legislation Inside, a first-of-its-kind program. Legislation Inside — started in 2021 by KWIP attorneys Jamie Ray and Jeanne Segil — gives incarcerated



David Carrillo
Full-time staff member of the Korey Wise Innocence Project (KWIP)

“I became the first incarcerated college professor in the nation.”

individuals the opportunity to advocate for causes important to them. Some of the causes are brought as bills to the state legislature.

Carrillo holds a weekly Zoom call with about 40 incarcerated people from 13 Colorado correctional facilities. Participants talk through potential bills, discuss criminal justice litigation and hear from attorneys. Last year, the group helped pass a bill to write the Legislation Inside program into law.

“We are going to help bring about a perspective that too often has been overlooked,” Carrillo said.



CU Boulder's Wayback Machine

Reexperience the best of campus and beyond Sept. 30–Oct. 3.

By **Amélie Peccoud**

↑ Phil Caragol, known at CU games as “Buffalo Phil.”

Phil Caragol (Comm’75) has attended Homecoming Weekend annually since 2010. He has no plans to break the streak. “Homecoming is CU alumni’s wayback machine,” said Caragol, who is known to CU fans as “Buffalo Phil” and is never seen at a Buffs game without his signature buffalo helmet and black-and-gold getup. The promise of reliving college memories — and making new ones — brings him back to campus year after year. He especially loves catching up with friends and meeting CU Boulder’s newest alumni. This fall, homecoming festivities kick off on Wednesday, Sept. 30, during Boulder’s sixth-annual Culture Crawl through more than 20 of the campus’s arts centers, heritage collections and cultural hubs. Midweek celebrations continue with live performances on the Norlin Quad by students, ranging from instrumental music to stand-up comedy.

Advancement Marketing and Communications

The festivities build into the weekend with Buffs on Tap, where alumni brewers and vintners will showcase their craft beer and wine. From there, the celebration will spill onto the Pearl Street Mall as the Golden Buffalo Marching Band leads the Stampede and Homecoming Parade. On Saturday, Oct. 3, the CU football team will take on the Texas Tech Red Raiders. Alumni can gather beforehand at the 150th Anniversary Tailgate Celebration, host to several reunions, including a celebration of the School of Pharmacy’s 50th anniversary and cultural community gatherings for Black, Latinx, Indigenous and veteran alumni. For **Julann Andersen** (Mktg’85), CU Boulder Alumni Association interim executive director, Homecoming is about more than any single moment. “Homecoming weekend,” she said, “is where we celebrate the spirit of being a Buff, which is particularly relevant this year as we honor CU Boulder’s sesquicentennial anniversary.” 🐾

➤ Register for Homecoming or find more information at colorado.edu/homecoming

Event Update



Away-Game Buffs Bashes: Join Us Three Hours Prior to Kickoff

The CU Boulder Alumni Association will be at every away game this season. Join in on the excitement starting Sept. 3 when the Buffs take on Georgia Tech. Other Buffs Bashes will occur before the games versus Northwestern (Sept. 19), Baylor (Sept. 26), Oklahoma State (Oct. 24), Arizona State (Nov. 7) and Cincinnati (Nov. 21). Buffs Bashes start three hours prior to kickoff and are free. They will include performances by the CU Spirit Squad, trivia, games, giveaways and appearances by CU leadership. Food and drinks will be available for purchase.

➤ Register for Buffs Bashes at cubuffs.org/buffsbash

Mentors Needed
Foster a meaningful relationship with a CU student or young alum and guide them toward future success. The Forever Buffs Network Mentorship Program launches a new cycle this October. Apply for the program by Sept. 30.

Student Scholarships
This spring, the CU Boulder Alumni Association offered more than 100 incoming and current students scholarships for the 2026–27 academic year. The awards totaled about \$300,000. More than 200 volunteers reviewed the nearly 2,000 scholarship applications.

Volunteer Opportunities
Host a group of Buffs for a night out, a game-watch party or a reunion. Or spend the day serving in your community or networking over career experiences. Volunteers are needed locally and regionally.

CU Baseball Events
Join other alumni at CU at the Rockies Aug. 21 in Denver or attend a Forever Buffs community gathering Aug. 7 to watch the Padres in San Diego or Aug. 26 to watch the Nationals in Washington, D.C.

➤ Learn more at colorado.edu/alumni

Class Notes



Throwback

Fiske You Were Here

By **Christie Sounart**

When Boulder residents Drew Simon and Ron Marks have free weekend time, they know where they'll be: Fiske Planetarium.

More than five years ago, the friends began attending planetarium shows on CU Boulder's campus and now have seen more than 40 of them. They've experienced everything from energetic laser displays featuring music from the Grateful Dead or Jimi Hendrix to immersive scientific programs about black holes and galaxies.

Sometimes they'll see eight shows in a day during the annual Dome Fest West festival in April, which the planetarium hosts and features short films and utilizes immersive media.

"At its heart, Fiske isn't just about astronomy or music — it's an immersive experience," Simon said in a *Colo-*

rado Arts and Sciences Magazine profile. "It's an art form that's still finding its full expression."

Fiske Planetarium opened in 1975 as the largest planetarium between Los Angeles and Chicago, a title it still retains with a 65-foot dome and 200-seat capacity. Its first show was about supernovae and their influence on Earth's life.

Each year, the planetarium has held more than 700 public shows, not including field trips for K-12 students, CU classes and other special events. More than 60,000 visitors come to the planetarium annually, said Carla Johns, the planetarium's community relations and engagement manager.

"Over the last 50 years, we estimate over a million people have seen a talk or a show at Fiske," she said.

The planetarium's best-selling shows range from topics like stars and planets to a Taylor Swift-themed laser show.

"Surprisingly," said Johns, "Pink Floyd's Dark Side of the Moon laser show has become a planetarium classic and is as popular now as it was back in the '70s." 🎧

➤ What shows do you remember seeing at Fiske? Email us at editor@colorado.edu

↑ Fiske Planetarium opened on campus in 1975.

Courtesy Fiske Planetarium

'62 After graduating from CU Boulder, **Tencha Avila-Friedenberg** (Comm'62) served as a school teacher, foreign service officer in Vietnam, staff member of the U.S. Civil Rights Commission and press aide for the Congressional Hispanic Caucus. After getting married while in Vietnam, she and her husband lived and worked in five countries throughout their careers — the United Kingdom, Mexico, Vietnam, China and the United States. At the age of 53, Tencha returned to school to study theater, earning her MFA at Ohio University in 1995. She has since written multiple plays that have garnered national and international acclaim, and have been produced in New York, Cleveland, Manitou Springs, Santa Fe, Seattle and Puerto Vallarta. Now, at age 86, she resides in Santa Fe and continues to work in theater and civic projects with the Unitarian Universalist Congregation. Tencha has six grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren.

Roberta Rosen Waldbaum (Ital'63; MA'78) is an emerita teaching professor of Italian at the University of Denver, where she taught Italian language, literature, cinema and culture and held the Anna Maglione-Sie Endowed Professorship in Italian Culture. Elected to membership in the Denver Woman's Press Club in 2025, she released her debut historical novel, *The Color of the Dreams: An Umbrian Tale*, in 2024.

'66 A longtime Loveland attorney and community leader, **Richard W. Ball** (A&S'66; Law'69) clerked for a U.S. District Court judge, spent over 25 years with the Ball, Easley, Wabeke & Brummet firm and later served eight years on the Loveland City Council. He continues to practice law from his home on Lake Loveland. He is the son of **Conrad L. Ball** (Law'30), a prominent Loveland

'63 **Joanne Birska** (MusEdu'63) is known through the sound of her accordion playing at Denver's Oktoberfest festival or Christkindlmarkt. She picked up the accordion at age 10 in her Slovenian community in Leadville, Colorado, and her portfolio includes a wealth of traditional Central and Eastern European music, including polkas and classical accordion tunes. In May, the *Leadville Herald Democrat* newspaper profiled Joanne's life. A Denver resident, she still plays and teaches music lessons.

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attorney and judge who served nearly 20 years on the Larimer County bench and died in 1990 at age 83.

'69 91-year-old **Jean De Servien-Kenwood** (MFren'69; PhD'26) earned his PhD in French from CU Boulder this spring. He completed his dissertation after 60 years to fulfill a promise to his late wife, **Madeleine De Servien-Kenwood** (MFren'69), and honor the coursework he'd already completed for the degree. Degree in hand, Jean now is focused on writing his fourth book, *The Countess of Monte Cristo*.

'74 Clinical professor emeritus at CU Denver, **Nancy L. Commins** (Fren'74; PhDEdu'86) is an expert in teaching and supporting multilingual learners. She co-authored *Humanizing Pedagogies with Multilingual Learners: Transforming Teaching in the Content Classroom*, which offers educators tools and strategies to create relational, meaningful and equity-focused learning environments.

'75 Attorney and author **Bradley K. Ross** (PolSci'75) bridges history and law with his three published novels. *Fighting for Justice in San Diego*, a two-part thriller series, fictionalizes Brad's lived experience as a California lawyer questioning the legal system's ethics. His most recent book, *The Boys From the South Side*, follows two volunteer bomber pilots during World War II.

→ Read a more detailed version of this Q&A at colorado.edu/coloradan

→ Read the other class notes at colorado.edu/coloradan



mals, reptiles and amphibians. As a 6-year-old, I told him, ‘The route should be changed!’ It wasn’t. Watching this destructive process had a lifelong influence on my passion to then protect the Tijuana Estuary.

Why was preserving the estuary important? Coastal wetlands connect riparian corridors to the marine ecosystem globally. Over 90% of California’s coastal wetlands have been destroyed. The ecosystem services they provide are numerous for humans and wildlife. We have come to realize that it is critically important to protect and restore these systems.

Who were the players in preserving this estuary? From 1970 to 1980, through negotiations with agencies, elected officials and the public, Patricia and I worked to protect the Tijuana Estuary from development and privatization. With the Undersecretary of Interior’s advice, we worked with Congress and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

The Tijuana Estuary became protected in perpetuity when it was designated the Tijuana Slough National Wildlife Refuge in 1980. Other designations followed from 1982 to 2010, including its inclusion in the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration’s National Estuarine Research Reserve system, its designation as a Ramsar wetland of international importance and its status as part of a State Marine Conservation Area.

What’s your next challenge? We must come together and resolve our differences to protect the planet, other species and ourselves by solving the big issues impacting all of us. I am looking forward to continuing to be a part of this process. 🐾

Hayne Palmour IV

Protecting, Preserving and Restoring Nature’s Systems

By **Marty Coffin Evans**

Fifty-five years ago, **Mike McCoy** (A&S’64) served as a veterinarian in Imperial Beach, California, while also volunteering with his wife, Patricia, to work to protect the Tijuana River Estuary in southern California from development. Their years as dedicated coastal conservationists resulted in the naming of the McCoy Trail around the estuary in their honor.

How did growing up in Boulder influence your desire to protect marshes and wetlands? The City of Boulder hired my dad to put a water pipeline connection from the Boulder Reservoir to Boulder through a wildlife-vibrant marsh, killing or displacing birds, mam-

’76 Retired teacher, author and illustrator **Denise Theobald** (Edu’76) spent her career teaching students, designing curricula and mentoring educators, earning recognitions like Colorado Elementary Teacher of the Year for citizenship education. She is also the author and illustrator of the historical-fiction children’s books *Toliver in Time for the Fourth of July* and *Toliver in Time for a Journey West*. In retirement, Denise enjoys pursuing educational and artistic projects.

’83 This spring, **Jack Petersen** (ArchEngr’83; MCivEngr’92), principal at Martin/Martin, was one of five nationwide recipients of the 2026 Lifetime Achievement Award from the American Institute of Steel Construction. Recognized for decades of design work, industry leadership and service on AISC committees, Jack has shaped structural steel projects of all sizes and contributed extensively to advancing the profession.

’85 **Jim Packer** (Mktg’85) served as an executive producer for the documentary *No Hands: The Wild Ride of the Schwinn Bicycle Company*, which screened at the Boulder International Film Festival this spring. Narrated by Lance Armstrong, the film chronicles Schwinn’s 130-year history and the company’s impact on American culture.

’86 Longtime editor of the *Lafayette Journal & Courier* in Lafayette, Indiana, **Dave Bangert** (Jour’86) now runs *Based in Lafayette*, a local news publication. Dave has been a reporter and columnist for more than 30 years.

Steven Honig (Fin’86) serves as director of California sales for Honig Vineyard & Winery, his family’s winery in Napa Valley. Since its founding in 1964, the business has focused on sustainable farming and solar-powered operations for its all-female winemaking team. In March, the *San Francisco Chronicle* featured the winery on the front page of its Sunday edition in an article about the winery’s policy that allows employees to bring their babies to work.

’88 Several Buffs helped found the Beta Theta Achievement Foundation, a non-profit striving to promote financial literacy, bridge digital divides and foster healthier communities in underserved communities. Founding members include **Aswad Allen** (Psych’88), chief diversity officer at California State University San Marcos; **Kevin Corke** (Jour’88; MA’02), Fox News White House correspondent; **Cliff Dinwiddie** (Arch’96), chief marketing officer at the Uniti Group; **Michael Jones** (Soc’89), Virginia state senator; **Mickey Pruitt** (Comm’88), NFL player and Super Bowl champion; and **Solomon Wilcots** (Engl ex’87), former NFL player and Emmy-winning broadcaster.

’94 CU Boulder associate director of science storytelling **Lisa Marshall** (Jour, PolSci’94; MJour’22) has over three decades of experience reporting on health, medical science and the social sciences. She is editor of *Beyond*, a monthly LinkedIn newsletter that highlights CU Boulder research and big ideas making real-world impact.

’96 After serving as interim dean, **Mandar Dewoolkar** (PhDCivEngr’96) was appointed dean of the University of Vermont’s College of Engineering and Mathematical Sciences. A professor and researcher in civil and environmental engineering, he is known for his interdisciplinary work, commitment to student mentorship and focus on advancing innovation and sustainability.

’97 As president and COO of biochemistry company VM Agritech, **Mark Palamounit** (Fin’97) oversees operations, finance, logistics and IT. With over 25 years of experience in finance and strategic leadership, he brings a strong track record in scaling businesses.

’98 **Drew Goddard** (Engl, FilmSt’98) has built a standout career as a screenwriter and director. In a March *Interview* magazine article about the hit film *Project Hail*

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Mary, for which he wrote the screenplay, he said his approach is rooted in finding empathy in even the most unlikely characters and emphasized curiosity and learning as central to his work. Drew credits his time at CU Boulder — and a mentor who believed in him — with helping shape his creative path and voice. Drew also wrote the screenplay for the 2015 Oscar-nominated film *The Martian*.

'99 Executive recruiter and career strategist **Deepali Vyas** (Fin'99) serves as the global head of data and AI executive search at ZRG Partners. She advises Fortune 500 CEOs on executive hiring, leadership strategy and the future of AI in corporate spheres. Known as “The Elite Recruiter,” Deepali has amassed over 1 million social media followers for her direct and practical professional advice.

'00 **Jayme Ritchie** (Phil'00), director of pro bono and community impact at Brownstein Hyatt Farber Schreck, was appointed to the board of Denver Film, Colorado's only nonprofit theater. She is passionate about fostering creativity, community connection and cultural understanding through the power of film.

'03 NASA researcher **Jennifer Heldmann** (PhDPlanSci'03) explores the presence of

water and ice on Mars and the moon, and helps plan future human exploration missions, including NASA's Artemis program. She played key roles in major projects like the LCROSS mission, which confirmed water ice on the moon, and continues to lead research that advances our understanding of planetary habitability and space exploration.

Employment attorney **Christine Slattery** (Mgmt'03) was elected to the board of directors for the Artists Repertory Theatre (ART), a professional theater company in Portland, Oregon. Christine will aid the board in executive leadership appointments, budget management, strategic planning and fundraising.

'05 **Lauren Glendenning** (Jour'05) joined aerospace defense company Shield AI as senior manager of internal communications. She previously worked at Amazon Web Services as the head of artificial intelligence talent marketing and communications on Amazon's global employer brand team. She is based near Seattle.

Kimberly Gordy Turek (Soc'05) earned her master's of social work from the University of Denver in 2020 and now serves as director of human services for the town of Groton, Connecticut. She is dedicated to public service, social justice and leadership growth.

Franchise attorney **Brittany Johnson** (IntlAf'05) joined the

Miller and Nash LLP's franchise and distribution team. She will represent, assist and advise franchisors in general business and development matters. Prior to this role, Brittany provided legal support to more than 7,000 U.S.-licensed Starbucks stores and served as the primary counsel for the chain's Latin America and Caribbean region.

'06 Science fiction author and editor **Lyndsie Clark** (Ital, Ling'06; MLing'09) is co-founder of Machines of the Infinite Press, a small speculative fiction publishing collective. Last year, she debuted her novel *In Memoriam*. Beyond publishing, she is an active participant in the speculative fiction community, speaking on panels at regional science fiction and steampunk conventions and teaching writing workshops in her local community libraries.

'07 Bringing history into present-day conversation, reporter and author **Cody McDevitt** (Jour'07) published *Given No Choice: A History of Abortion Rights*. Drawing on archival research, court records and extensive interviews, Cody examines how abortion was policed before Roe v. Wade and how similar patterns are resurfacing today.

In February 2026, **Juli Sarris** (MLing'07; PhDedu'15) traveled to Kyzylorda, Kazakhstan, through a Fulbright Specialist award, where she spent a month teaching research methods at Korkyt Ata

Legend



Depth of Field

By **Sara Muderick**

Denver-based photographer and filmmaker **William Drumm**'s (EBio, Jour'08) lifelong fascination with the ocean has carried him from remote underwater expeditions to Hollywood studio shoots. In 2024, he shot the aquatic album art for singer Billie Eilish's third studio album, *Hit Me Hard and Soft*.

What piqued your interest first, photography or wildlife? I've always been obsessed with animals. I lived in Australia as a kid, and we were always at the beach in Melbourne. I fell in love with the ocean at an early age. My affinity for photography came later. At CU, I took **Kevin Moloney**'s (Advert'87; PhDTechMedSoc'15) introductory photojournalism course, and his passion for the field was contagious. CU provided access to high-quality equipment I could check out at any time, expanding my knowledge and skill level.

Are there moments that remind you why this work matters? Photographing tadpoles in British Columbia really stuck with me. Freshwater ecosystems are disappearing, and wetlands — critical for biodiversity and water resources — are increasingly be-

ing polluted or developed for human use. We were camped next to a lake with tens of thousands of tadpoles that were just full of life. Moments like that remind you how special these ecosystems are.

How have you spanned your work into so many areas? It's hard to make a living as a photographer, so I followed the opportunities. Early on, I had more success with video, so that's what I pursued. Working with a few scuba diving brands doing videography, I eventually began doing photography for them as well, but quickly noticed a gap in how they were using their content. I saw that as an opportunity to move into marketing, helping brands create and use visual media more effectively. That combination of skills became a turning point in my career.

How did shooting Billie Eilish's *Hit Me Hard and Soft* come together? Her team found my images of people swimming with humpback whales, and it matched their vision for the album cover. Billie and her team wanted photos that felt like the abyss, so I naturally assumed we'd be shooting out in the open ocean. Instead, they told me, 'We've rented a film studio in Hollywood with a pool, and we're going to shoot it there.' That experience was definitely a pinnacle moment. 🐡

William Drumm

University. The project built on her previous Fulbright U.S. Scholar award that sent her to the University of Pristina, Kosovo, where she taught applied linguistics courses and supervised the teaching practicums for graduate and undergraduate students in the department of English. In addition to teaching in several other countries, she has presented at international conferences. Her work highlights practical, sustainable approaches to teaching and research for universities and settings with limited resources.

'08 After teaching special education for eight years while also receiving his graduate degree at Texas Tech University in Lubbock, Texas, **Ryan Hisson** (Psych'08) moved to New Zealand in 2014 to work in early intensive intervention for people with developmental disabilities and autism. Upon completing his second master's degree at the University of Auckland, he became a registered psychologist and now serves as a commissioned officer and head of Navy psychology for the Royal New Zealand Navy.

Orthodontist **Jeffrey Pace** (IntPhys'08) opened Olinb Orthodontics in Boulder. He received his doctor of dental medicine degree at the University of Pennsylvania and his orthodontic residency at Oregon Health & Science University.

■ Callout

In May, **Sepp Kuss** (Advert'17) became the second American in history to win cycling stages in all three Grand Tours.

'10 In March 2026, **Jacy Rabold** (Comm'10) published *Carried*, a 100-day interactive journal for women who have experienced a complicated birth. The journal can be purchased at jacyrabold.com. Jacy lives in Lafayette, Colorado, with her husband, **Nathan Rabold** (Fin'11), and their three children.

After returning to the Boulder area after a decade in Los Angeles, director and creative producer **Mara Tasker** (Film'10) brought with her a focus on documentary filmmaking. For her latest project — *The River*, which explores the Colorado River crisis — she collaborated with a team that includes fellow CU cinema studies alumni. The film premiered at the Boulder International Film Festival in April.

'17 In May **Sepp Kuss** (Advert'17) won Stage 19 of the Giro d'Italia, his first Giro stage win. Sepp joined cyclist Tyler Farrar as the only Americans to win stages in all three Grand Tours (Giro d'Italia, Tour de France and Vuelta a España). His last Grand Tour stage win was

during the 2023 Vuelta a España. He won a Tour de France stage in 2021.

'18 During the 2025–26 season, **Sarah Seibold** (Mgmt'18; MBusAna'25) placed second overall in the Ice Cross World Cup, competing at the highest level of the sport worldwide. As ice cross gains global attention and awaits a potential vote on inclusion in the 2030 Olympic Games, Sarah represents both her sport and CU Boulder alumni on a rising stage. A former figure skater, Sarah began racing ice cross in 2023.

'21 Former CU cross-country star **Alec Hornecker** (Fin'21; MS'22) won the 2026 Colfax Marathon, posting the fastest time among 28,000 runners at 2:27:56. He works in customer support for Fidelity Investments.

Camila Villamil (Geol'21) is co-founder of Anomia, an award-winning olive oil company crafted in Toledo, Spain. The brand, which emphasizes early-harvest olives, rapid cold extraction and

sustainable practices, has earned international recognition, including top honors at the NYIOOC World Olive Oil Competition and features in the *Flos Olei 2026 Guide*. Anomia is now expanding into specialty retailers across the U.S. and global markets.

'22 Bentley Brown (PhDEmTechMedArt'22) is gaining recognition as an artist-scholar and filmmaker. His latest project, a short film trilogy co-directed with Tahir Ben Mahamat Zene, begins with *Biir Gardi* ("Guardian of the Well") and explores themes of climate change and Black/Arab identity in Chad's Batha region, where the filmmakers grew up. The second film, *Ephemeral River*, will be released later this year and has already screened at major international film festivals, including True/False, Clermont-Ferrand, Torino and Red Sea.

'25 The College of Communication, Media, Design and Information's information science department named **Kate Davis** (InfoSci'25; MS'26) a William W. White Outstanding Senior. She is interested in communicating information with an emotional and human-centered approach. As an art practices minor, Kate uses qualitative methods to gather data and stories, which she then incorporates into the texture, form and color of ceramic art.

'26 Paolo Chavez Calvadores (MEdu'26) received the CU Boulder School of Education's outstanding community engagement award for his commitments to teaching practices that cultivate compassion and dignity among his colleagues, students and the broader community. For a decade, he has been a science teacher in rural Northern Colorado, where he teaches physical science, biology, physics, chemistry, astronomy, zoology and forensics.

After completing his degree in three years and maintaining a 4.0 GPA throughout his time at CU Boulder, **Rocco Cieslak** (Fin'26) is set to begin his career in commercial real estate. He hopes to someday transition into real estate private equity and ultimately start his own firm.

This summer **Julia MacLean** (Jour'26) moved to Boston to begin a role as sales development representative for software company Datadog. She previously served as editorial assistant for the *Coloradan* magazine and held internships with the Colorado Division of Criminal Justice and the Boulder *Daily Camera* newspaper.

The CU Boulder College of Engineering and Applied Science awarded **Arianna McCarty** (ChemBioEng'26) the honor of outstanding undergraduate, along with an academic engagement award

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and a research award. Her research — which ranged from studying the respiratory microbiome to engineering heart tissue models — was conducted in three labs and published in four papers.

This fall, **Holly McMahon** (Mus'26) will pursue her master's degree at the University of Michigan. She graduated with her undergraduate degree this spring, where she was involved with the CU Boulder Early Music Ensemble, chamber groups and world music ensembles.

After experiencing a nontraditional collegiate experience, **Valeria Mendoza Frutos** (Span'26) graduated this spring. Valeria began her CU Boulder education in 2020 but took a break to prioritize her family. She came back to CU with the assistance of the Finish What You Started program, a federal support initiative administered by the Division of Continuing Education. The first-generation graduate hopes to pursue a law degree in the future.

Rico Nelson (CivEng'26) received the Milo S. Ketchum Award from the CU Boulder College of Engineering's civil, environmental and architectural engineering department this spring. He was recognized for his scholarship and mentorship as a Kiewit Design-Build Scholar, National Society of Black Engineers member and course assistant.



← Matan Coll credits his career success to his CU Athletics internships.

because I would get to 5 and be like, ‘Okay, now what do I do?’ I’ve always been someone who loves to let my work become an extension of who I am as a person; the pace of live sports necessitates that.

What were some of the roles you held at CU Boulder? I credit all the career success I’ve had to the internships I had with CU Athletics. During my freshman and sophomore years, I worked capturing photos and social content for CU’s varsity sports. As a junior, I worked with CU Athletics’ marketing and fan experience team. I took over @cubuffsskiing and grew the

account from 3,000 to 11,000 followers. After Coach Prime arrived, everyone relevant in sports was coming to Boulder. It was a networking gold mine.

How was your experience at the Olympics? The Olympics are such a special thing. There’s really nothing to compare it to. More happens in a single day than would normally happen over the course of a week. For those 16 days, the world is watching. You show up as an intern on day one, and within an hour, they start treating you like a full-time employee for the entire stretch.

What was your role at the Olympics? I worked as a runner with NBC Sports’ communications team, acting as a bit of a jack-of-all-trades and stepping in wherever I was needed. I helped coordinate talent interview access for external media, monitored live broadcasts and online chatter around NBC’s coverage, and even snuck in a few photo projects along the way. My mindset the whole time was simple: make myself as useful as possible — that’s something that’s carried through everything I’ve done. 🐾

Matan Coll

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Nonstop to the Olympics

Interview by **Julia MacLean**

For **Matan Coll** (Mgmt’25), early success in sports media came from saying “yes” to every opportunity. He turned a passion for photography and skiing into hands-on experience with CU Athletics and, ultimately, a role with NBC Sports at the 2026 Winter Olympics in Italy. In May, he joined the U.S. Ski & Snowboard team full-time as a production coordinator. From building social media audiences in Boulder to working behind the scenes with NBC Sports’ communications team, Coll’s career reflects the fast-paced, relationship-driven nature of the sports industry.

What aspect of sports media do you like best? The thing I love about sports is actually what a lot of people hate about it — the pace is nonstop. I don’t think I would be super happy working a traditional 9-to-5,

In Memoriam

1940s

John M. Richardson (Phys'42)
Edward J. Fox (EIEngr'46)
Ruth Bachmann Day (Art'48)
Anabel Biggs Denham
(MusEdu'48)
Peggy N. Douvres (Mus'49)
Mary Leslie Gutsche (Art'49)

1950s

Mary Cook Munger (DistSt'50)
James L. Berry (Bus'51)
Gene C. Brown (Mgmt'51)
Robert S. Brown (Acot'52)
Rhoda Levis Firth (Edu'52)
Susanne McMaster Fruehauf
(A&S'52)
Jeanne Roncka Grier (PE'52)
Frank W. Kiefer (Jour'52)
Harland L. Burge Jr.
(MechEngr'53)
Robert S. Heim (DistSt'53)
Fran Sickemberger Rominger
(Mus'53)
Virginia Goodheart Browne
(A&S'54)
Sheila Weimer Gorgal
(HomeEcon'54)
Diane Moon Nelson (Edu'54)
Betty McBride Pitts (Edu'54)
Susan Kidd Diacon (A&S ex'55)
Victor E. Favier (Zool'55)
Richard E. Dreith
(MechEngr'56)
Kurt B. Hagen (Geol'56)
Jane Orr Mansfield (MusEdu'56)
Sylvia Gorder Matson (Edu'56)
Howard R. Ray (Acot'56)
Case M. Sprenkle (Econ'56)
Julie Zinke Uhlmann (A&S'56;
MA'66; PhDAnth'73)
James B. Warner (Bus'56)
Eleanor Tilden Gardner
(Hist'57)
Donald E. Gordon (Acot'57)
Fred W. Kinsley Jr. (Geol'57)
Carol Hardy Walker
(MusEdu'57)
Betty Lueth Walter (Bus'57)
Donald G. Watkins (CivEngr'57)
Edwin L. Adams (EIEngr'58)
Ronald L. Barton (AeroEngr'58)
Frederick W. Eastom
(MechEngr'58)
Carl T. Edquist (AeroEngr'58)
Arlin D. Hubka (Mktg'58)
William E. Kuhn (Psych'58)
Roberta Brawner Stacey
(CommDisor'58)
Frederic M. Sullivan (Fin'58)

Gail N. Beaumont (Art'59)
Lonnie B. Eberhart
(MechEngr'59)
Frederick T. Hull (Mktg'59)
Byron P. Warner (EIEngr'59)
Matthew B. Wills (Law'59)

1960s

Larry E. Anderson (Fin'60)
Henry “Hank” F. Anton Jr.
(Acot'60)
Suzanne Sturgeon Anton
(Edu'60)
Arthur F. Bissell (EIEngr'60)
Joyce Jensen Brooks (Edu'60)
Robert I. Cohn (A&S'60; MA'64)
Frances Frank Hunter (A&S'60)
Larry C. Laurienti (Mgmt'60)
John W. Manos (A&S'60)
Salvatore S. Patti Jr.
(ApMath'60)
Barry M. Singer (ApMath'60)
Robert A. Christenson (Acot,
MechEngr'61)
Charles H. Cowperthwaite
(Law'61)
Robert E. Diehl (CivEngr'61)
Lawrence J. Drobnitch
(Phys'61)
Richard N. Ellis (Hist'61;
MA'63; PhD'67)
Mary Miles Good (A&S'61)
Jerry H. Hammar (EIEngr'61)
Victoria Statter Roser (Engl'61)
Richard S. Stevens (Math'61;
MA'63)
Loren K. Wagner (ApMath'61)
Charles J. Alexander
(MechEngr'62)
Mary Watkins Crane (Hist'62)
Peggy Proctor Dean (Edu'62)
John S. Grand (Mktg'62)
Allan I. Lipson
(A&S'62; Law'65)
Gary W. Biesemeier
(ChemEngr'63)
Clayton D. Carpenter (Fin'63)
Jerry J. Cashen (EIEngr'63)
Robert D. Culp (MAeroEngr'63;
PhD'66)
William F. Devine (Mktg'63)
Clay E. Hanlon (Law'63)
Lowell W. Hill (Phys'63)
Robert A. Klimek Jr. (EIEngr'63)
Harold W. Smith Jr. (DistSt'63)
Marilyn F. Swanson
(MedTech'63)
John R. Clark (CivEngr, Mgmt'64)
Yolanda Unakis Evert
(MSpochDr'64)
Donald R. Miklich (MA&S'64)

Thomas H. Patterson (Law'64)
Eleanor Crisp Phoenix (Engl'64)
Dwight E. Ryland (Edu'64)
Roberta Smith Shaw (Psych'64)
Alan D. Young (A&S'64)
David W. Zacheis (EIEngr'64;
MBA'70)
Naomi Jones Cole
(HomeEcon'65)
Ann Ruttum Fortune
(A&S'65; MEcon'74)
Richard H. Hart (Law'65)
Aldora Graf Lee (PhDPsych'65)
Philip B. Rose (MMath'65)
Joseph L. Sanchez Jr. (CivEngr,
Mgmt'65; MFin'67)
William A. Sandras Jr. (Stat'65;
MBA'71)
Robert J. Sukle (Engl'65)
Robert O. Engelke (PubAd'66)
Guy T. Gannon (Engl'66)
John A. Staniewski
(A&S'66; MD'71)
Ronald L. Stevens (CivEngr'66)
Sara Ginsberg Stoen (A&S'66)
Lee C. Witwer (MMus'66)
Janice Gualtieri Bond
(ArtHist'67)
Don M. Cassiday Jr.
(MMgmt'67)
Jean White Jorgensen
(Soc'67)
Sally Wills Smith (Edu'67)
Donald S. Buck Jr. (Mktg'68)
James R. Carlson (DistSt'68)
Lewis S. Frauenfelder
(EIEngr'68)
Thomas E. Halvorsen (Ital'68)
Peter E. Isaacson (Geol'68)
Elizabeth Lancaster Kuhns
(Engl'68)
Winfried K. Niemand
(IntlAf'68; Law'71)
Bruce W. Petersen
(PhDZool'68)
Janet Haglund Shaw (A&S'68)
Elizabeth Van Siclen
Townsend (Art'68)
Michael B. Wisenbaker
(ChemEngr'68)
Donald J. Bottoms (EIEngr'69)
Michael H. Bynum (Hist'69;
Law'71)
John A. Hofsetz (Edu'69)
Margaret F. Horan (Spoh'69)
William G. Kitto (Math'69)
Thomas C. McIntosh (A&S'69)
Clifford H. Muller (EngrPhys'69;
PhDPhys'76)
William J. Reddan (A&S'69)
Frederick J. Weber (Psych'69)
Hugh G. Wood (MHist'69; PhD'74)

→ **To report a death**

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Please include date of death and other relevant information.

1970s

Neal K. Kanda (Fin'70)
Pamela Todd Kuchler (Span'70)
Herbert S. Lawson (Acot'70)
Charles E. Reed (Mktg'70)
Allyn Bromley-Baron (MFA'71)
James T. Burrell (Fin'71)
Kathleen Dearden Fjetland
(Geol'71)
Lawrence M. Henry (Law'71)
Arthur E. Lee Jr. (Acot'71)
Arlene Lulejian Lukosky
(Span'71)
Julius S. Orsak Jr. (Bio'71)
Monika Hiland Rezmovits
(Art'71)
C. Eugene Settle (Zool'71)
Raymond W. Bieber
(PhDAnth'72)
James B. Fullerton (Mktg'72)
David J. Kramer (Fin'72)
David W. Okey (Chem'72)
Lauretta Kiernan Rudolph
(Hist'72)
George E. Veomett (PhDBio'72)
Ronald C. Westcott (MBA'72)
Robert H. Whiting (PhDEdu'72)
Kathleen Fisk Christiansen
(Jour'73)
Paul Gaudreau (A&S'73)
James F. Hassett (EPOBio'73)
Richard A. Jackson
(EPOBio'73)
Robert W. Kinne (PhDPhys'73)
William R. Larr (Law'73)
Richard D. Mauer (Jour'73)
Marilyn Sparks Severson
(PhDFren'73)
John W. Tesch (MChem'73;
PhD'77)
Gretchen Vanderwerf (Law'73)
Henry P. Burstyn (MCDBio'74)
Emily Meyer Dillman
(IntlBus'74)
Rudy M. Fernandez (Art'74)
Vicki L. Hanson
(CommDisor'74)
Daniel E. Schlesinger (Soc'74)
Jeffrey S. Stripling
(PhDPsych'74)
Elizabeth A. Wilt (Art'74)
Joyce Reno Fong (EPOBio'75)
Bruce B. Monroe (EnvDes'75)
Ellen C. Oler (Psych'75)
Aurelia Baca Schlenz (Rec,
Soc'75)
John C. Mackenzie (Acot'76)
James K. Macklin Jr. (Mktg'76)
Patricia Dehnert Pierson
(Engl'76)
Billy J. Chambers Jr. (EIEngr'77)

Colleen Stoker Harvey
(Fren'77)
Joseph P. Quinlan (CivEngr'77)
Dan E. MacArthur (Jour'78)
Ann J. McCauley (MDance'78)
David L. Johnson (MBio'78)
Michael D. Thiel (MechEngr'78)
Wayne L. Dicksteen (Advert'79)
Brian M. Miller (EIEngr'79)
Gina Swets Moore (Hist'79)

1980s

Evie L. Augustadt
(CommDisor'80)
Gary L. Gallawa (Math'81;
Law'85)
James G. Fitzgerald
(PhDEdu'82)
Seth S. Pollack (IntlAf'82)
David B. Stahl (Econ'82)
Susan Kraslow Dandes
(Psych'83)
Vivian S. Lamb (Jour'83)
Edward M. Leibowitz
(MCDBio'83; MTeleCom'87)
Thomas W. Peard (MA'83;
Law'86; PhDPhil'94)
Lisa Strevey Peters (Bus'83)
Christopher M. Billingslea
(EPOBio'84)
Mary Isaacson Rottman
(PhDEPOBio'84)
Juliet B. Sherwood (MJour'84)
Douglas A. Kesler (Psych'85)
John A. Noto (PolSci'85)
Harry A. Spivak (Mktg'85)
Donna G. Logan (MJour'86)
Alfred S. McLaren
(PhDGeog'86)
Kristin Borgeson Swanson
(MEdu'86)
Joyce Jetter Anderson
(Math'87)
Brian M. McGillicuddy (Hist'87)
Rita Kosi Winegardner
(PolSci'87)
Louann M. Lutter (PE'88;
MAcct'93)
Joseph L. Coleman (PolSci'89)

Kimberly R. Hunter (Math'92)
Elizabeth Fowler Robinson
(PhDEdu'92)
Ayn J. Smith (Art'92)
Elise Guest Kloosterman
(Span'93)
Timothy W. Weaver (MFA'93)
Robert M. Butler (RelEst'94)
Eve S. Munson (MJour'94)
Morris E. Denton (MJour'95)
Kenneth W. Davies (MMus'96)
Janet Eastburn Buhrmann
(PhDSoc'98)
David M. Gillilan (Law'98)
Jason P. Mueller (Engl'99)

2000s

Matthew B. Netting (Comm'01)
John Meade Purvis (AeroEngr'01;
MS'05)
Elizabeth A. Bonnecaze
(PolSci'02)
Stanley J. Ostrom
(MTeleCom'02)
Sean B. McNeill (Econ,
InfSys'03)
Michael R. Patterson (Math'03)
Douglas C. Farchmin (EnvSt'04)
Peter J. Schwinn (ApMath'06)
Carl A. Zoellner (PolSci'07)
Maurine A. Hobbs (DistSt'08)
Erin W. Crider (MMechEngr'09;
MEngrMgmt'19)
Kyle F. Kaltenbacher (Arch'11)

2010s

Neila Meyer Amore (Psych'15)
Trevor R. Arrasmith
(AeroEngr'17)
Mario Garcia Jr. (Geog'17)

2020s

Joel M. Carlson (MechEngr'22)
Daniel H. Potochnik (Comm'25)
Dominiq A. Ponder (MediaSt
ex'27)

Faculty, Staff and Friends

Joe R. Bourland, Friend
Margit A. Johansson, Design
and Planning
Thomas E. Johnson, Integrative
Physiology
David B. Larimore, Friend
Luzie Mason, Administration
Adam Munsterteiger, Friend
William Safran,
Political Science

Then

1921

As the first campus building designed in Charles Klauder's signature Tuscan vernacular style, the Hellems Arts and Sciences building has helped define CU's architectural identity since 1921. Hellems also serves as a cornerstone of CU's academic landscape, housing five primary departments through the College of Arts and Sciences, including the humanities departments and interdisciplinary programs, and is home to the Mary Rippon Outdoor Theatre in its courtyard.

Hellems' latest interior renovation, completed in April 2026, honors the building's historic and architectural legacy by keeping much of the original flooring, finishes and roof tiles.

"The revitalization of Hellems during CU's 150th year serves as a fitting tribute to the university's first and largest college as it looks forward to the next 150 years," said Mona Lambrecht, director and curator of history and collections for CU Boulder's Heritage Center.

CU Boulder Libraries Archives