Logan Craghead faced one of the worst dilemmas a pet owner might encounter: another animal had attacked his dog. Quick action led Ace, a black Labrador mix, to the Veterinary Health Center at Kansas State University, where emergency surgery was needed for injuries to his neck.

Craghead had recently moved to Manhattan, Kansas, where he started a new job as coordinator of partnership services for K-State Sports Properties. Ace had been living temporarily at his parents’ home outside of Alma, Kansas, while Craghead was getting settled into his apartment.

One cold evening in January, after arriving home from work and calling for the family’s four dogs, Craghead’s mother discovered that Ace was hobbling and was covered in blood. A local veterinarian determined the dog had been attacked and had a very bad bite wound to his throat.

Ace was taken to emergency services at the Veterinary Health Center, where he was seen by interns and emergency clinicians who then called in Dr. Megan Wilson, a small animal surgery resident.

“[Ace] had some injuries that made us suspicious he had a torn trachea,” Dr. Wilson recalled. “We elected to anesthetize him and explore the wounds he had on his neck to see if we could find the tracheal tear. We sutured the area around the tear and sewed him back up and put some drains in.”

Ace was kept in the Veterinary Health Center’s Intensive Care Unit (ICU) to recover, where he received around-the-

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Tracheal Surgery Saves Ace
Suspected wildlife attack necessitates emergency treatment

Fourth-year student Valerie Head sits with Ace in the ICU at the Veterinary Health Center. Ace required multiple surgeries to repair a severe tear in his trachea.

Dr. Timothy Musch in distinguished company

Congratulations to the CVM’s Dr. Timothy Musch who joins a distinguished group of faculty both in the college and across campus. Kansas State University honored five professors this year as university distinguished professors, a lifetime title that is the highest honor the university bestows on its faculty members.

The distinguished professors are appointed following a universitywide nomination and evaluation process conducted by the provost. All five faculty members will receive a personalized plaque and medallion at the university’s fall 2017 commencement ceremonies.

Dr. Musch is a faculty member in the departments of kinesiology as well as anatomy and physiology. He is the co-director of the College of Veterinary Medicine’s Cardiorespiratory Exercise Physiology Research Laboratory. His research interests include the mechanisms associated with exercise performance in health and disease focusing on chronic heart failure.
CVM faculty and staff earn recognition at All-University Awards

Provost April Mason and President Richard B. Myers hosted the All-University Awards Ceremony and reception Monday, May 1, in the K-State Alumni Center Ballroom.

Awardees were recognized at the ceremony include the Coffman Chair for Distinguished Teaching Scholars; K-State Mentoring awards; Presidential Awards for Teaching, Advising and Department Head; Big 12 Faculty Fellowships; Excellence in Engagement; Putting Students First; and other awards from the president’s and provost’s offices.

From the CVM, Lisa Duer received the President’s Award of Excellence for Unclassified Professionals; Dr. Sally Davis received a Big 12 Faculty Fellowship Award; Dr. Jessica Meekins and Dr. Kathryn Reif (not pictured) received the K-State Mentoring Fellowship; and Dr. Brad Crauer receives the K-State Excellence in Engagement Award.

Dr. Lacey Robinson, Livestock Services intern at the Veterinary Health Center, was one of only five recipients chosen for a 2017 Dr. W. Bruce Wren Food Animal Incentive Award.

The award is named after the longtime food animal program manager of the Western Veterinary Conference. The award includes expense paid travel to attend the conference and a stipend of $1,000.

Dr. Wren is a Kansas State University graduate with a Doctor of Veterinary Medicine in 1958, a master’s degree in veterinary pathology in 1962 and a doctorate in veterinary pathology in 1965.

“Ultimately my mission as a food animal practitioner is to serve as a valued resource for producers in reaching their production and animal health goals,” said Dr. Robinson, who received her DVM at K-State in 2016. “I am extremely excited to have the opportunity to provide farmers and ranchers in this region with cutting-edge services and solutions as part of the progressive team here at Kansas State University.”

Dr. Elizabeth Davis new Clinical Sciences Head

A longtime faculty member is the new head of the College of Veterinary Medicine’s clinical sciences department at Kansas State University.

Dr. Elizabeth Davis, professor of equine internal medicine, replaces Bonnie Rush, who was earlier appointed executive associate dean for the veterinary college. Dr. Davis had been serving as interim head of the clinical sciences department.

“Dr. Davis has provided leadership to this department over the last several months in the interim role and will continue to provide leadership and expertise to the position through her past experiences as professor and section head for equine medicine and surgery,” said Tammy Beckham, dean of the college. “She has served on numerous college committees and represented the College of Veterinary Medicine on the K-State Faculty Senate. She recently led the design, construction and opening of our new Equine Performance Testing Center. I am thrilled to have Dr. Davis in this role.”

Intern receives WVC FA Incentive Award

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VHC successfully performs Operation Gelding

The equine and anesthesia sections of the Veterinary Health Center joined forces April 14 and 21 to organize Operation Gelding, which is sponsored by the Unwanted Horse Coalition. Operation Gelding provides funds and materials that help organizations host low-cost or free castration clinics.

“It was a great experience for our veterinary students,” Dr. Chris Blevins said. “We castrated 24 horses total. The clients really loved it also.”

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clock care. He became very popular and well-known with veterinary students and staff during his stay, but his recovery was tentative.

“He did okay for a few days, but then unfortunately like a lot of bite wounds do, it declared itself,” Dr. Wilson said. “We didn’t see the full extent of the damage the first day – and it got worse.”

Dr. Wilson said another procedure was necessary. “We actually took out part of his trachea and sutured it back together,” she said. “Then we had to manage his wounds open. After several days, we are able to go back in and close all the wounds for him.”

Craghead had originally thought that leaving Ace with parents would be completely safe.

“I’ve had Ace since he was a puppy,” Craghead said. “He’s been with me close to six years. He’s been with me through thick and thin and [we] always come back for family reunions and [he] comes with me to Thanksgiving, which is a big holiday at our house. He’s definitely part of the family.”

Despite Ace’s familiarity with the family, Craghead admits there may have been some unforeseen risks at the family farm.

“We’ve seen coyotes run around,” Craghead said. “They try to chase down cattle and lure dogs out, so there’s definitely plenty of wildlife in the area that could have done this.”

Charlie Lee, wildlife control specialist with K-State Research and Extension, said that coyotes are well-known for attacking pets. He said there are three cases that lead coyotes to attack domestic pets. One is when looking for food, another is when they protect their young, and the other situation is when they are in competition.

Fortunately for Ace, his injuries were treated in time. After a long recovery, he has finally been able to move back in with his owner.

“Now he’s full of energy and back to his normal self,” Craghead said. “He’s getting a little ornery, but he’s doing well. My friend asked if I would care if he set up a ‘Gofundme’ account for him. I said, ‘Sure, any help would be great,’ so all of a sudden it was shared about 300 times, and we raised about $2,200 in less than a week. So I was just blown away by how quickly it took off and I’m so thankful for friends who are pet lovers.”
Dr. Sabarish Indran was recently elected as a full member of the Kansas State University chapter of Sigma Xi – the Scientific Research Honor Society, on April 4, during their 90th annual spring initiation ceremony. Dr. Indran is a postdoctoral fellow in the lab of Dr. Jürgen Richt, Regents Professor and Director of the Center of Excellence for Emerging and Zoonotic Animal Diseases. His work involves studies on mechanisms of pathogenesis of Rift Valley Fever (RVF) and also in vaccine development for Rift Valley Fever. I am from India and holds a DVM, a master’s degree in veterinary microbiology and a Ph.D. in microbiology from the University of Alabama at Birmingham, Alabama.

Intrigue in the nation’s capital is usually the stuff of spy novels. In this instance, a dynamic veterinary student duo from Kansas State University elicited intrigue from the state’s U.S. legislators while taking advantage of a special learning opportunity.

Third-year student Sohaila Jafarian, Manhattan, and second-year student Samantha Boyajian, Gardner, Kansas, joined the American Veterinary Medical Association’s ninth annual Legislative Fly-in, which took place from April 23 to April 25. They joined 70 veterinary students and 20 veterinarians in Washington, D.C., to advocate on behalf of the veterinary profession. Over the course of this three-day event, attendees heard from veterinary policy experts and met with members of Congress and their staffs.

The CVM hosted its 2017 Alumni Fellow, Dr. Jerry Jaax, DVM class of 1972, retired associate vice president for research compliance at Kansas State University, who gave an All-College Seminar April 20.

While at KSU, Dr. Jaax was the PI on a multimillion dollar research project, and has authored numerous articles, book and encyclopedia chapters on diverse topics including laboratory animal medicine; human subjects’ research compliance, and emerging infectious disease and response. He was heavily involved in the effort to build the Biosecurity Research Institute and bring the National Bio and Agro-defense Facility to Manhattan. While assigned to U.S. Army Medical Research Institute of Infectious Diseases at Ft. Detrick, he was a key participant in the Reston Ebola virus outbreak, in Reston, Virginia – described in the No. 1 NY Times bestseller, “The Hot Zone” by Richard Preston, which he spoke about during his seminar.

Dean Tammy Beckham shakes hands with Fuh-Sheng Shieu, president of National Chung Hsing University in Taiwan.

The U.S.-China Center for Animal Health in has signed an agreement with National Chung Hsing University in Taiwan for a pre-veterinary studies program that will bring Taiwanese students to Kansas State University. The agreement was signed recently in conjunction with the 8th Joint Symposium of Veterinary Research among Universities of Veterinary Medicine in East Asia and Pacific, which was at the National Chung Hsing campus in Taichung.

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Sohaila Jafarian and Samantha Boyajian join 70 students representing 30 veterinary colleges in Washington, D.C., for an annual fly-in event.