

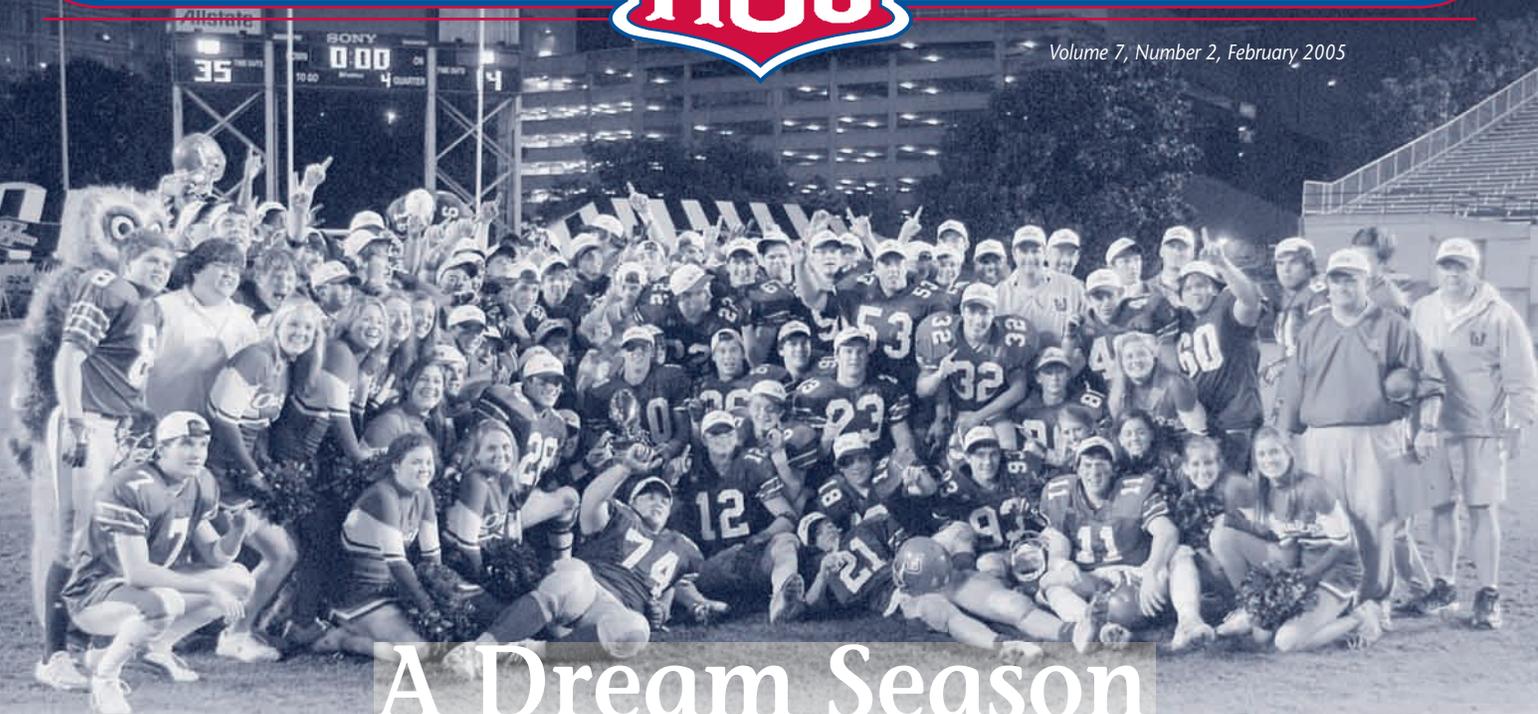
INSIDE

News from MEMPHIS UNIVERSITY SCHOOL



VERITAS • HONORQUE • FOUNDED 1893

Volume 7, Number 2, February 2005



A Dream Season

by Phillip Flinn

A nineteen-year drought of winning a football state championship ended Tuesday, November 23, when the MUS football team defeated Brentwood Academy 35-14 at Vanderbilt Stadium. The Owls captured the Division 2-AAA state title for the first time since the inception of the Super 7 league in 1997. The underrated squad grew together as a family and team to be recognized as one of the premier teams in the state.

After strenuous drill and weight-lifting sessions and seven-on-seven scrimmages with other area teams during the summer, the players were eager to suit up in pads to release some testosterone and to begin their collective quest to bring home a gold trophy. It was evident coming into the summer workouts that the football team was loaded with talent at the skill positions and at linemen. In order to maximize the abundance of ability on the team, the coaches implemented the platoon system where roughly half of the squad is designated as an offensive or defensive player. Throughout the August practices a competitive rivalry developed between the "O-Show" and "D-Unit" that upped each player's level of preparation. Yet senior captains **Kane Alber**, **Joey Friend**, and **Warren Grimm** kept the team focused on reaching the championship game and on creating a team bond that would become unbreakable.

The football Owls got their first test of the season at the Bridges Kickoff Classic against the East High Mustangs at the Liberty Bowl. On what was to become a common occurrence during the year, quarterback **Rob Park** hit **J.D. Lawhorn** for two touchdown receptions in the first quarter. The defense, sporting its new 3-5-3 look, forced four turnovers and held the high-powered Mustangs to a stingy eight points. The combination of a talented offense, a hard-nosed, fast defense, and a superb coaching staff led by **Coach Bobby Alston** would prove to be unstoppable throughout the year.

Noticeably present was an energetic student fan section that had been missing the previous year. Many students attended the East game, and their rowdiness contributed to the overwhelming victory. The fans continued their liveliness for the entire season. In whatever venue the football team played, MUS had vigorous support from students, cheerleaders, family, and alumni. Many guys traveled on student buses to root for the Owls in victories at Jackson Prep and Father Ryan. The squad knew it had unconditional support of its followers when at least two hundred people made the six-hour journey to Chattanooga to encourage the players in their only loss of the year to the Baylor School. In home

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Inside the Huddle

by Bobby Alston, Director of Athletics

This is my fourth attempt at writing this article. My first three efforts had all started very promising, but had not gotten a first down. I was just about to play conservatively and punt the assignment back to the editor when providentially I picked up a copy of the latest *Owl's Hoot*. Suddenly, as I read through the articles by the boys about our football season, I felt confident enough to take the risk and go for it on fourth down.

There can be no better feeling for a parent than to see your child grasp one of the great lessons in life you have tried to teach him. Sure, it is fun to see him hit the game-winning shot or goal, but that is just either luck or taking advantage of a technical skill. It has very little to do with what is really important. I believe we have sports in our school because we can teach those life lessons that help fulfill the school's mission. Our mission at MUS is a very lofty one because we have the most gifted young men in our city. When we fail, we do not just fail the individual boy but also hundreds, perhaps thousands, of others in years to come. As happy as I was when we won the state championship game, reading that newspaper meant much more. The headline, to me, was not "Owls Dominate Brentwood at Clinic Bowl," but "Hey, Coach, I think we understand what you were trying to teach us."

Clint Cowan writes a great article about the game, not because he got the facts correct, but because he saw the truth about our team and summed it up so well in this quote: "From this moment on, the Owls held a firm grip on the game's momentum, a grasp made possible by the hard work and unity that has so aptly characterized the group this season." From a coach's viewpoint, that is a touchdown! On the next page is an article on leadership, written by **Price Edwards**, that will be a permanent part of our playbook. He said it so much better than I ever have. That is what a great English Department does for us! After two touchdowns, my heart was really racing. Then I turned the page and found another great article by **Preston Dennis** about the positive support shown to the team from the fans. Preston's final paragraph is too long for me to quote here, but he got it totally right.

Our school will always strive to have champions on the field as well as in the classroom, but we must never lose sight of our goal: that our boys have to be champions in life. While we might not always bring home the gold trophy in a sporting event, we must produce young men that will bring back many gold trophies as husbands, fathers, and community citizens during the next 50 years. We will not win 100 percent of the time in that quest, but MUS is—without a doubt—the best place in our area to pursue that goal.



Old Traditions Renewed and New Traditions Begun

There is something unique about this year's Student Council—something about the way they have inspired the students to a level of higher morale than in years past and the way they have tried to provide opportunities for student involvement all over campus. No one can deny that the spirit level this year has been much higher than years past and the excitement and positive attitude of the students are the main reasons. "**Andrew [Robinson]**, president of the Student Council] and I felt like our grade had the kind of leadership that could bring the spirit back—the kind of spirit that we saw while we were in the Lower School that made us love this school so much," said senior **Sloan Abernathy**, vice president of the Student Council. "Our main goal this year was to pick it up."

Lloyd Hoo?

The spirit began to pick up from the very beginning of the year with the re-introduction of the MUS Owl mascot. "The mascot had died off at some point, but we thought bringing it back would really help boost school spirit," said Abernathy. And it did. Abernathy and Robinson went to a costume shop and, thus, Lloyd the Owl was born. "We had a contest throughout the homerooms to name him," said Abernathy. There was a close race with Owlfred (another name option). But in the end, it just seemed destined to be Lloyd. Several students have played the Owl—who has made appearances at pep rallies, chapels, and football games—including **Ronny Khuri**, **Alex Guyton**, **Matt Farmer**, and **Hunter Adams**. Lloyd has gotten into a few scrapes, including a boxing match with the Chick-Fil-A chicken at a football game.



Let the Games Begin

The Übertrials—made popular last year as the Homecoming theme and a way to choose the most perfect specimen of man among all MUS students—began early in the school year and let students compete for their homerooms instead of individually. "We decided to put recreational games like horseshoes, washers, and Petanque [a game many students learn while staying at Dr. Reginald Dalle's chateau during MUS In Europe trips] in the amphitheater," said Abernathy. "In the cafeteria, we put checkers, Jenga, Guess Who, and other board games. People could play these games and earn points for their homeroom. After a few weeks of light competition, we started the 'Funanza,'" said Abernathy. The "Funanza" let people earn more points for

Smythe had the honor of emceeing this event, which included such competition as "Will It Float?" where contestants had to guess which items, when dropped in a tub of water, would float; and "Mutzi or Amsler?" where contestants were asked a question, and they had to determine if the person in question was **Mr. Vincent Mutzi** or **Mr. Guy Amsler**. The next competition was Challenge Torrey where competitors had to correctly answer MUS sports trivia questions asked by **Coach Dax Torrey**. This competition narrowed the field to only sophomore **Will Aldridge** and junior **Reid Wesson**. Two faculty members were chosen to compete in their place, "coincidentally" **Mr. Barry Ray** and **Mr. Loyal Murphy**, making the competition a disciplinary showdown. The two men competed with a Rock 'Em, Sock 'Em Robots boxing game, and Mr. Murphy emerged victorious allowing Wesson to continue in the competition. His final hurdle was a biscuit-eating contest against none other than Abernathy's 175-pound St. Bernard, Gracie, who, suffering from stage fright



their homeroom through a wider variety of games. In addition, students could earn points by participating in a number of Friday Organizational Period events, such as a milk chugging contest, a movie impersonation contest, an arm wrestling contest, and the Feats of Strength competition during Wednesday chapel.

For the Feats of Strength, a football player was chosen from each homeroom, and he had a chance to earn 60 points for his homeroom and 10 points for each homeroom in his grade. **Mr. Clay**

During heated competition in the Übertrials, faculty member Dax Torrey emcees the trivia contest as Reid Wesson (78) and Will Aldridge (73) try to win points for their homerooms.

in front of such a large crowd, did not eat anything. Wesson won the competition.

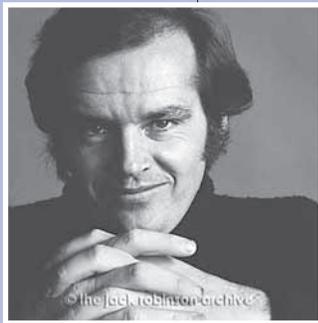
Despite Wesson's best efforts, **Coach Vincent Beck's** homeroom (not Wesson's) won the Übertrials and received car stickers, a lunch catered by Lenny's Sub Shop, and one of the animal heads that had previously hung in the McCaughan Science Center as a trophy.

A Lively Homecoming

Homecoming Week is always full of events to rally school spirit, and this year was no different. Each day the students dressed up in different themes ranging from Super Heroes to jerseys and, of course, the traditional Grub Day when students can wear anything they want. This group also carried on the tradition of the incredibly popular *Triple G, School Linebacker* series of movies and introduced the third film in the series during the Homecoming pep rally. In this episode, Triple G gains notoriety, but loses focus on his job and is demoted from his position. The school explores possible replacements, including **Dr. Reginald Dalle** as the French Enforcer, **Mr. Patrick McCarroll** as Obi Wan Kanobi, **Mr. John Olson** as the Chemical Crippler, and **Mr. Peter Bowman** as himself.

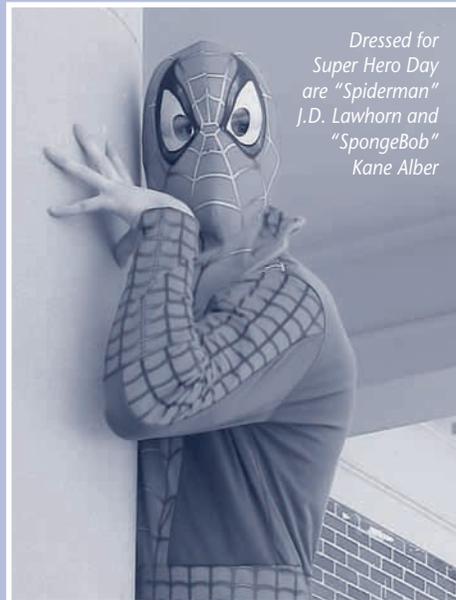
The pep rally got everyone in the spirit for the game that night against Brentwood Academy (which was a foreshadowing of MUS's victory over Brentwood in the state championship game). The week was capped off by the Saturday night Homecoming Dance.

Restoring the Past



Junior **Collier Calandrucchio** had an interesting summer job. Together with Dan Oppenheimer, a prominent figure in the Memphis arts scene and in the restoration of the South Main Art District, Calandrucchio spent several months restoring the photography of noted photojournalist Jack Robinson. Robinson was an imminent photographer in the 1960s and 1970s and was well known for his work with *Vogue* magazine and celebrity photography.

Photos pictured above are of Lauren Hutton, Jack Nicholson, and The Who. The restoration process was slow and consisted of resleeving the negatives, scanning them, re-exposing the negatives, and then reprinting the pictures. The public had never seen many of the photographs, including some of The Beatles and Elton John. After the restorative work was finished, the photos were displayed at the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York and the National Gallery in London.



Dressed for Super Hero Day are "Spiderman" J.D. Lawhorn and "SpongeBob" Kane Alber



The Red vs. The Blue

by Andrew Dudas and Aaron Markowitz

The newly-founded MUS Republicans and MUS Democrats clubs, formed before the Presidential campaign, supported their candidates at school during the national election. The two groups worked on several projects, both inside and outside of school.

On October 27, the groups sponsored the first-ever student debate held at MUS. Two students representing each political party were well-prepared to present their candidate's platform, arguing valid points on issues ranging from the war in Iraq to Social Security reform. Both clubs also sponsored a mock election, in which all students at MUS were encouraged to vote during their lunch period for their preferred presidential candidate.

The MUS Democrats began the campaign season distributing Kerry/Edwards bumper stickers and yard signs, as well as a list of volunteer opportunities from the Shelby County Democratic headquarters. On Election Day, more than 15 members from the club volunteered to work at polling stations or to hold signs at busy intersections in East Memphis.

The MUS Republicans took an active role in the Shelby County Teen Republican Rally held the Thursday before the presidential election. The purpose of this rally was to encourage young people to

get involved in politics and to vote in the election. Several schools in the Shelby County area were represented at the rally, including MUS, Hutchison, St. Mary's, White Station, and ECS. The teens who attended also had the privilege of meeting Kemp Conrad, the chairman of the Shelby County Republican Party, and **Brian Kelsey '96**, a newly-elected Tennessee State Representative. In the spring semester, the MUS Republicans will work closely with the Shelby County Teen Republicans.

The MUS community can expect to see both groups remain active in the Memphis political arena. The hope is that teenagers will become more interested and involved in politics and that they will be a greater influence on government in the next few years.

Extending a Helping Hand

Since 2002, MUS students have used Parents' Back to School Day as a chance to give back to the community while their parents attend school for a day. This year, 54 students (picture right) spent the morning at Cherokee Elementary tutoring children in kindergarten through the fifth grade.

Davis-Kidd Partnership

In September, MUS partnered with Davis-Kidd Booksellers to raise money for the New Hope Christian Academy Library. Students, parents, faculty members, friends, grandparents, and anyone else who chose to buy items from Davis-Kidd that day turned in a coupon that gave MUS 20 percent of the profits earned from the purchases. More than \$2,500 worth of merchandise was purchased, and from that MUS raised \$455.33 to donate to New Hope. "According to the staff at Davis-Kidd, this amount was the most sales ever for this type of event at their store," said **Ellen McDonell**, director of the Hyde Library Learning Center. While the amount is impressive, the real results were astonishing. According to Mrs. McDonell, "With this money, Lori Clark [the librarian at New Hope] selected 55 new books. A number of them went to support a new

New Editor Has the Inside Scoop

We are proud to announce that **Caitlin Goodrich** has joined the Communications Department as Director of Public Relations, where she is the editor of *Inside MUS* and manages the website and media relations. Ms. Goodrich, formerly assistant editor of *Justine Magazine*, is a graduate of Rhodes College with a bachelor's degree in English. A past intern in MUS's Communications Department, she is no stranger to the school, and an internship in event marketing at St. Jude Children's Research Hospital provided additional experience. At Rhodes, Ms. Goodrich was a member of several honor societies and received the Allen Tate Creative Writing Award for Fiction.



I am so excited to take over as director of public relations and editor of Inside MUS. While I plan to immerse myself in the life of the school in order to highlight the activities and accomplishments of MUS's amazing students, I need your help in staying current with your sons' achievements both inside and outside the world of academia. We want to publish stories about the things that matter to you, the things you're most proud of—no news is too small to share. Thank you in advance for all your help. I look forward to hearing from you!

— Caitlin Goodrich, Editor of *Inside MUS*
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project on Lewis and Clark." When the books arrived, Ms. Clark called to say the kids were very excited. "They never have new books," she said.

MUS Races for the Cure

by Nick Skefos, MUS Race for the Cure coordinator

This was MUS's second year of participation in the Memphis Race for the Cure, held October 23. Proceeds from the local race benefit the Memphis-MidSouth affiliate of the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation, which awards grants to area organizations with programs dedicated to breast-health education, screening, and treatment programs. Since the first race

in 1983 in Dallas, the Komen Race for the Cure Series has grown from one local race with 800 participants to a national series of more than 100 races with approximately 1.5 million participants.

This year, MUS raised nearly \$2,000, with its female faculty and administrative staff increasing their participation from last year by 600 percent! Congratulations also go to the grade "Recruiting Captains" who volunteered to help register students and friends, with special thanks to **Greg Jones**, **Neale Hicks**, and **David Shochat**, and especially to eighth-grader **Drew Cornaghi**, who recruited 13 people.

Following in His Father's Footsteps

Like his dad, MUS English teacher **Mr. Lin Askew**, senior **Charles Askew** has shown some early writing prowess, and the National Council of Teachers of English (NCTE) honored him for his work this year. The NCTE honored 689 high school seniors for writing excellence based on samples of the students' best prose or verse and on impromptu themes written under supervision.



Askew's portfolio of work is impressive, including his impromptu piece written as a *Rolling Stone* columnist, defending the plight of many artists and record companies against the evils of downloading music from the Internet. His pre-prepared pieces include some humorous glimpses into his childhood as he discusses his bouts with a fiery temper and a foul mouth and the anticipation he feels as he gets in the car to visit his grandparents on their North Carolina farm.

Working the Holidays

Members of Beg To Differ, MUS's award-winning *a cappella* singing group, wrapped up their fall semester and ushered in the holiday season at the school's annual winter choral concert on Thursday, December 9. The St. Mary's Episcopal School Chamber Ensemble, under the direction of Ms. Julie Millen, also performed as special guests at the concert.

Mr. John Hiltonsmith and student director **Walter Klyce** led Beg To Differ in such holiday favorites as "Please Come Home for Christmas," "Carol of the Bells," and "Jingle Bell Rock." In addition, the performance showcased a variety of tunes ranging from "You're A Mean One, Mr. Grinch" (from the classic Dr. Seuss tale *How the Grinch Stole Christmas*) to "Walking in Memphis" and "The Lion Sleeps Tonight," among others.



Tuxedo-clad Beg To Differ performed at Les Passes' Caberet Party.

The performance has become an eagerly anticipated event at MUS and a highlight of the school year for many. Beg To Differ performs for various groups and events in Memphis throughout the year. The group will tour Paris and the Loire Valley this summer, performing at legendary landmarks like Chartres Cathedral and Notre Dame. This will be the third time the students have made the performance trip to Europe. The group has also released three CD's—the first, "Beg To Differ," in 1999; the second, "Shifting Gears," in 2002; and the third, "Singing Greetings," a holiday album in 2003.

Fall Fest, a Jousting Good Time

On Saturday, November 13, the Student Council upheld the time-honored tradition of Fall Fest. As usual, the day was filled with sports, music, and games to entertain all the students who came. Following a week of almost constant rain, the weather was nice enough to give the guys a fantastic day of sun and fall winds.



Whit Cox takes aim at Hugh Francis to knock him off his perch.

According to **Mr. Manning Weir**, the following list contains the top ten comments overheard during Fall Fest 2004:

- 10 "It's not every day you see a Ping-Pong table, a Foosball table, and three Play Station 2s on the soccer field."
- 9 "Is it just me, or do you think **Worth [Morgan]** and **Charles [Askew]** seem to enjoy beating freshmen at five-on-five football just a bit too much?"
- 8 "Uh, I think we may have purchased a cheap volleyball net. It looks like toilet paper strung from two tiki torches."
- 7 "Next year, let's put the Young Republicans in charge of the music, instead."
- 6 "[**Trevor**] **Skelley's** almost out of goldfish. **Skelley's** almost out of goldfish."
- 5 "For all of those taking part in today's Ultimate Frisbee game on the lacrosse field, you may want to change into your swimsuit before you head down there."
- 4 "**Mr. Olson**, I'm confused. Is that your dog or your cat?"
- 3 "Shoes, watches, and folding chairs are not allowed on the giant inflatables."
- 2 "Can I have everyone's attention please...the Hutchison vs. MUS six-on-six soccer game is about to begin...okay, but we can't start until everyone stops laughing at the players."

And the number one thing overheard at the 2004 Fall Fest:

- 1 "We need more gasoline for the dancing game."

Peer Mentoring Prep8 Eighth-graders for Upper School Life

by John Taylor

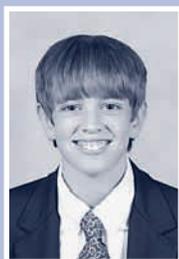
Mr. Manning Weir, director of student life, created the MUS Peer Mentoring program five years ago. In the program, groups of ten eighth-graders are paired with two or three mentors, student leaders from the eleventh- or twelfth-grade. The main purpose of Peer Mentoring is to prepare the eighth-grade students for life in the Upper School next year. The groups meet for 30 minutes at a time on one or two Fridays each month.

The student mentors lead discussions and participate in activities based on a different topic each time they meet. While one session might deal with relationships with girls, the next session might deal with preparing for exams. The relaxed and confidential environment of each group makes it possible for a student to ask a mentor any question without fear of embarrassment.

The mentors for the 2004-05 school year include **Kane Alber, Charles Askew, Rob Baird, Cody Curtis, Andrew Dudas, Price Edwards, Josh Evensky, Alex Guyton, Ben Katz, Michael McCulloch, Wilson McManus, Worth Morgan, Andrew Robinson, Warner Russell, Matt Sights, John Taylor, Eric Wilson, Hunter Adams, Shea Conaway, Phillip Debardeleben, Andrew Gordon, Daniel Harriman, Jesse Mahautmr, Zach Matthews, Garrott McClintock, Russell Nenon, Hayden Pendergrass, Will Pickens, David Shochat, Alex Snyder, Will Thornton, and Peter Zanca.**

D-U-F-F-L-E-Y

Eighth-grader **Robert Duffley** won both Lower School spelling bees on October 27 and November 10 to become MUS's spelling champion for 2004-05. Duffley represented MUS at the Memphis-Shelby County Spelling Bee at the University of Memphis on February 19.



In the first spelling bee, Duffley won by correctly spelling *junction* and *insignia*. Eighth-grader **Mathew Jehl** placed second, and eighth-grader **Rahul Kumar** placed third. In the second of the two bees, Duffley correctly spelled *indigenous* and *gargantuan*. Kumar placed second and eighth-grader **Amro Amro** came in third. The bees were conducted by English teachers **Jim Russell, Terry Shelton, and Dax Torrey.**

Duffley played Ariel in this fall's MUS production of Shakespeare's *Tempest* and is a member of the Latin Club, the Spanish Club, and the Junior Beta Club. He is also on the Honor Roll and participated in the Duke Talent Identification Program.

College Board Taps 52 AP Scholars

In 2004, as in years past, MUS students performed extremely well on Advanced Placement examinations. Last spring, 139 students took 245 exams in 28 subjects. Of these students, 56 took two or more exams, and 92 percent had grades of three or higher. In recognition of their exceptional achievements, the College Board named 52 students as AP Scholars. Their award designations are as follows:

One student, **Austin Chu '04**, qualified for the *AP State Scholar Award*. This award is granted to one male and one female student in each U.S. state and the District of Columbia with grades of 3 or higher on the greatest number of AP Exams, and then the highest average grade (at least 3.5) on all AP Exams taken.

Three students qualified for the *AP National Scholar Award* by earning an average grade of 4 or higher on all AP Exams taken and grades of 4 or higher on five or more of these exams: **Austin Chu '04, Sean Curran '04, and Parth Sheth.**

Twenty-three students qualified for the *AP Scholar with Distinction Award* by earning an average grade of at least 3.5 on all AP Exams taken and grades of 3 or higher on five or more of these exams. They were:

**Brandon Arrindell '04
Tom Billings '04
Brent Boswell '04
Timothy Chen '04
Alex Chinn
Austin Chu '04
Sean Curran '04
John Daniel
Noah Feder
Tyler Fisher '04
Andrew Hooser '04
Lee Hoyle '04**

**Peter Jones '04
Adam Kaplan '04
Ben Kastan '04
Sunny Majumdar '04
Aaron Markowitz
Cash McCracken '04
Lyle Muller '04
Parth Sheth
Edward Taylor '04
Eric Wilson
Hank Wynn**

Fifteen students qualified for the *AP Scholar with Honor Award* by earning an average grade of at least 3.25 on all AP Exams taken and grades of 3 or higher on four or more of these exams. They were:

**Clint Cowan
Jordan Crawford
Chad Donahue '04
Price Edwards
Michael Fong
Chris Freeman
Will Hickman
Andrew Hoff '04**

**Jack Louie '04
Andrew Manugian
Brent Phillips
Matt Rutherford '04
Warren Stafford
Aaron Struminger
Kevin Wang**

Fourteen students qualified for the *AP Scholar Award* by earning grades of 3 or higher on three or more AP Exams. They were:

**Charles Askew
Ben Bleustein
Andrew Dudas
Michael Haas
Evan Herrera '04
Todd Jean-Pierre '04
Sashank Karri**

**Cody Mayer
Michael McCulloch
John McGreger '04
Scott McLeod
Paul Moinester '04
Warner Russell
Mike Schaeffer**

Major Players in the United Nations



Left: Parth Sheth (center) served as president of the Security Council with Noah Feder, Warner Russell, and Paul Yacoubian acting as vice presidents of the General Assembly and Kevin Wang as a justice on the ICJ.

the U.S. involving a couple of German citizens who were not allowed to contact their embassy upon their arrest for murder in Arizona, in violation of an international agreement.

Finally, students campaigned and voted to elect officers for next year's Model UN conference, and

MUS claimed four winners. They were **Jesse Mahautmr**—president of the Security Council; **Shea Conaway** and **Frank Jemison**—vice presidents of the General Assembly; and **Mike Montesi**—General Assembly Liaison.

The work of **Mr. John Olson** and **Mrs. Bonnie Barnes**, who gave up their weekend to chaperone was greatly appreciated, as was the work of **Mrs. Ellen Mc-**

Donell and her staff, who give our team the added advantage of top-notch library assistance.

In November 85 students and 3 teachers attended the 22nd annual YMCA Model United Nations in Nashville. They were part of approximately 400 students, representing 16 high schools from across the state. Our students were divided into delegations which role-played 29 different member nations of the UN. The Model UN has three components. Most of the students are part of the General Assembly, presenting and debating resolutions on various topics from disarmament and security to social problems and economics and finance. Others participated in the Security Council, the only part of the UN with the authority to use military force or economic pressure to enforce its decisions. Finally, others participated as justices or lawyers in a simulation of the International Court of Justice.

Five MUS students held leadership positions as officers. These young men were impressive and, from the comments of the YMCA's state directors, represented the school superbly. **Parth Sheth** was the president of the Security Council; **Noah Feder**, **Warner Russell**, and **Paul Yacoubian** served as vice presidents of the General Assembly; and **Kevin Wang** served as a justice on the ICJ. Additionally, we were well represented on the Security Council, with **Aaron Markowitz** (United Kingdom), **Alex Chinn** (Germany), and **Jesse Mahautmr** (Philippines).

At the closing ceremony, awards were given. Eleven students were recognized as Outstanding Delegates, and three were from MUS: **Frank Jemison** of the United Kingdom, **Hayden Pendergrass** of Iceland, and **Wilson Castleman** of Israel. One of the four Best General Assembly Resolution awards went to the German delegation of **Clint Cowan**, **Worth Morgan**, and **Scott McLeod**, for a resolution proposing the formation of a new UN agency to investigate, report, and publicize acts of genocide to allow for a quicker international response. The one Outstanding Security Council Resolution award went to **Jesse Mahautmr** of the Philippines, for a resolution proposing a detailed solution to the impasse between India and Pakistan over the area of Kashmir. In the International Court of Justice, an award went to **Clint Cowan** and **Worth Morgan** of the German delegation for the Best Written Memorial (which is like a legal brief) in a case versus

Knowledge Masters Claim First and Second in Tennessee

On December 8, MUS again fielded a team for the KnowledgeMasters Open. The KMO is an academic team competition open to high schools from across the United States and several foreign countries. The competition involves answering 200 multiple-choice, multi-discipline questions from topics such as literature, physical science, and current events. Points are accumulated for correctness as well as quickness.

Upper School team coach, **Mr. Darin Clifft**, enthused, "These guys have continually increased their standing in the competition from our first entry four years ago, and their hard work paid off. For the first time they beat out all 23 participants from Tennessee to claim first place in the state and their score placed them in the 97th percentile of all participants." The team placed 24th out of 881 participating schools beating out all teams from 33 participating states as well as the teams from China, Costa Rica, South Korea, and the Philippines.

The Lower School also did an excellent job in this year's competition. They placed second in the state and 130th of 839 participating middle schools.

Upper School team members were **Jonathan Barnes**, **Wilson Castleman**, **Tom Chiu**, **Jordan Crawford**, **John Daniel**, **Noah Feder**, **Chris Freeman**, **Jesse Mahautmr**, **Bruce Mathews**, **Chris McDonald**, **Chris Mullins**, **Jayshal Patel**, **Hayden Pendergrass**, **Parth Sheth**, **Samir Sheth**, **Warren Stafford**, **Aaron Struminger**, **Hunter Swain**, **Kevin Wang**, and **Jonathan Yeung**.

Lower School team members were **Amro Amro**, **Jimmy Ball**, **Robert Duffley**, **Josh Feler**, **Edward Fu**, **Coleman Kimbrough**, **Brandon Parrish**, **Wesley Shannon**, and **William Shows**.

Facing History and Ourselves

On October 28, the first Co-Edge Facing History and Ourselves seminar took place at the Hutchison School. MUS eighth-graders and Hutchison seventh- and eighth-graders are participating in this first-ever collaborative program with Facing History and Ourselves, consisting of five, three-hour sessions throughout the school year. The curriculum will focus on helping each student better understand his identity and his role in helping define the future. MUS and Hutchison students are exploring together issues of peer pressure, scapegoating, and the individual's role in a democratic society.

In their first meeting, His Excellency Dr. Zac Nsenga (pictured right), Rwandan Ambassador to the United States, addressed the students. Dr. Nsenga spoke passionately about his country and the serious problems that have plagued Rwanda during the twentieth century.

He focused on the beauty of his homeland and the bright future that is yet to come. He discussed the recent genocide that occurred in which the Tutsi and Hutu peoples, fighting for control of that nation since it won its independence in 1962, slaughtered 500,000 fellow Rwandans between April and June of 1994. The Rwandan post-genocide government has implemented a system of *gacaca* in which war criminals confess their crimes in front of a committee of their peers. These criminals are not sentenced to jail or executed for their atrocities. *Gacaca* instead is about the public confession and apology for wrong-doings and not about continuing the bloodshed that has inundated Rwanda. Dr. Nsenga urged the students to speak to their political leaders, both local and national, and ask these officials not to turn a blind eye to atrocities in other parts of the world.

Facing History is a Memphis-based organization that helps students find meaning in the past, recognize the need for participation and responsible decision-making by studying examples from history, and understand that each person has the power to make a difference in his or her community.



Jared Davis of MUS and Lele Riggins of Hutchison participate in the Co-Edge Facing History program.

ANNOUNCING:

New Cultural Enrichment Trip for MUS Sophomores

Fall Break 2005 (October 12-17)
Exploring the New England Mindset, 1620-1850

From the deck of his ship *Arabella*, John Winthrop articulated the Puritans' dreams for themselves in the new world when he stated, "For we must consider that we shall be as a city upon a hill... The eyes of all the world are upon us." With this fantastic vision in mind, Winthrop and his group established the Massachusetts Bay Colony, the English settlement that would become Boston.



English teacher **Elizabeth Crosby** is planning a trip during Fall Break 2005 for MUS sophomores, who study both American literature and American history. On this five-day trip, students will explore New England culture and its focus on spiritual, intellectual, and political freedom, from the arrival of the Pilgrims at Plymouth, Salem, and Boston through their expansion inland to Concord. Students will visit places significant to our country's intellectual and cultural history, studying the words of our greatest freedom fighters along the way.

Among the sites to be visited are:

Plymouth – Plimoth Plantation, *Mayflower II*, Wampanoag Homesite

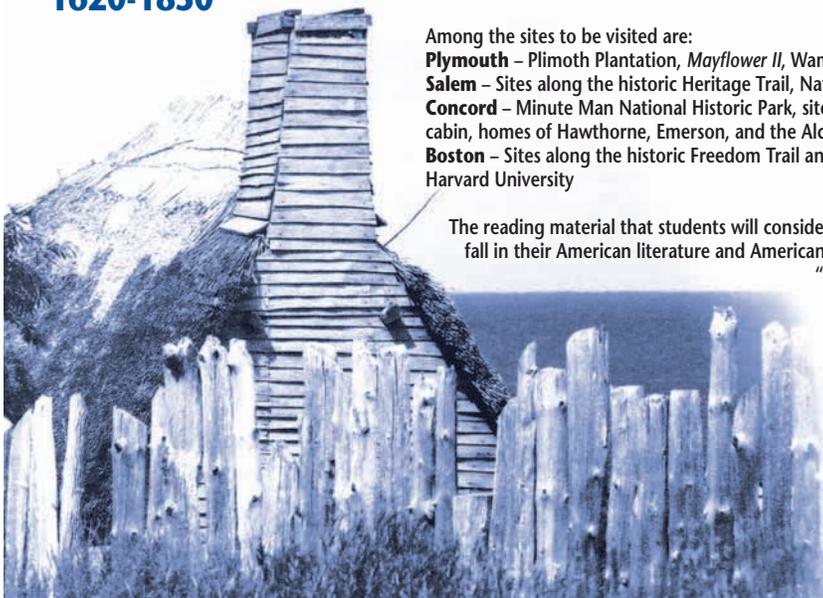
Salem – Sites along the historic Heritage Trail, Nathaniel Hawthorne's birthplace, "The House of Green Gables"

Concord – Minute Man National Historic Park, sites along the historic Battle Road, Old North Bridge, Walden Pond, Thoreau's cabin, homes of Hawthorne, Emerson, and the Alcotts

Boston – Sites along the historic Freedom Trail and Black Heritage Trail, *USS Constitution* ("Old Ironsides"), Cambridge and Harvard University

The reading material that students will consider while traveling is a reinforcement of the work they will have done that fall in their American literature and American history classes: William Bradford's *Of Plymouth Plantation*, John Winthrop's "A Model of Christian Charity," Henry David Thoreau's *Walden*, Henry David Thoreau's "Resistance to Civil Government," Ralph Waldo Emerson's "Self-Reliance," Ben Franklin's *Autobiography*, and Frederick Douglass' *Narrative in the Life of a Slave*.

- This trip is for students who will be sophomores in the fall of 2005 (current freshmen).
- Space is limited – plans will be finalized this spring.
- If you are interested in more information, contact Elizabeth Crosby at elizabeth.crosby@musowls.org.



Lower School Students Recognized for Outstanding Qualities

Each semester, Hull Lower School students who have demonstrated worthy character, strong mentality, leadership, and academic achievement are invited to join the MUS chapter of the Junior Beta Club. In October, 15 eighth-graders were inducted in front of their classmates, parents, and school administration.

The newest Junior Beta Club members are pictured below:

(front row) **Barret Folk, Phillip Russell**, (middle row) **William Shows, Thomas Ivy, Cliff Jones, Mustafa Motiwala, Wesley Shannon, Colin McDonald**, (back row) **Amro Amro, Jordan Brown, Matt Grisham, Dylan Cunningham, Rahul Kumar, Mark Beanblossom**, and (not pictured) **Robert Peterson**.



Will Benton swears in Rahul Kumar, Colin McDonald, and Cliff Jones to the Junior Beta Club.

Dean's Scholars

2004-05, First Semester

GRADE 12

Scott McLeod
Andrew Olinger

GRADE 11

Shea Conaway
Zachary Kisber
Walter Klyce
Jesse Mahautmr

GRADE 10

Andrew Jehl
Ed Porter
Erim Sarinoglu
John Stokes
Hobbie Turley

GRADE 9

Roger Chu
Scott Edwards
Watson George
Teddy Klug
Mark McLeod
Jack Montgomery
Peter Travis
Joshua Vieira
Blair Wright
Luke Wynn

GRADE 8

Will Benton
John Carson
Michael Edwards
Lowell Hays
Taylor Reed
Will Stokes
Walt Wepfer

GRADE 7

Robert Cartwright
Andrew Chinn
Conner Davis
Josh Feler
Louis Jackson
Christian Kauffman
Wade Laycook
Evans McCaul
Wilson Orr
Jake Rudolph
Reid Sanders

Dean's List

2004-05, First Semester

GRADE 12

Kane Alber
Paul Anderson
Charles Askew
Rob Baird
Ben Bleustein
Alex Chinn
Clint Cowan
Cody Curtis
John Daniel
Preston Dennis
Andrew Dudas
Noah Feder
Phillip Flinn
Michael Fong
Ryan Freebing
Joey Friend
Wills Gardner
Robert Goff
Alex Guyton
Michael Haas
Josh Hall
Rob Heflin
Sashank Karri
Benjamin Katz
Bo Ladyman
Andrew Manugian
Cody Mayer
Harry Mayfield
Michael McCulloch
Kyle Mullen
Stephen Nease
Randall Noel
McLean Palmer
Brent Phillips
Mark Scales
Mike Schaeffer
Parth Sheth
Matt Sights
Wes Spiro
Warren Stafford
Aaron Struminger
Hunter Swain
Ben Tacker
John Taylor
Kevin Wang
Jacob Weinstein
Eric Wilson
Hank Wynn

GRADE 11

Andrew Alexander
Benjamin Ashley
Doug Boyer
Collier Calandruccio
Jim Carter
Tom Chiu
Jonathan Davenport
Phillip DeBardeleben
Adrian Doggrell
Matt Dowling
Brian Evans
Zach Glover
Andrew Gordon
Oliver Green
Daniel Harriman
Thomas Harvell
Spencer Heflin
Bryce Hendry
Frank Jemison
Matt Johnson
Greg Jones
Blake Karban
Patrick Kimberlin
Parker Long
Zach Matthews
Donald McClure
Keith Parsons
Rob Peeler
Hayden Pendergrass
Will Pickens
Alex Rainer
Grayson Sharpe
David Shochat
Nicholas Skefos
Derek Steiner
Christopher Thomas
Will Thornton
Gerald Wade
David Wilcox
Paul Yacoubian
Peter Zanca



GRADE 10

Alex Addington
Tyler Anthony
West Askew
Marshall Bartlett
Richard Blount
Stephen Bowie
John Catmur
Stephen Counce
Blake Cowan
Khang Dang
Miles DeBardeleben
Jay Edwards
Ryan Foley
Ben Goldstein
Stewart Gray
Ken Haltom
Drew Hammond
William Harris
Philip Heppel
Noah Ketler
Neely Mallory
Chris McDonald
Lee Moore
Austin Nauert
Clement Oigbokie
Ragan Pitner
Zach Scott
Miles Tamboli
Byron Tyler
Ben Waller
Jeffrey Webb
Jeffrey Wright
Jonathan Yeung

GRADE 9

Andrew Amos
Morgan Arant
Sayle Atkinson
Xander Batey
Austin Beckford
Alan Blount
Conor Bolich
Michael Cross
David Curran
Asad Dilawari
Matthew Edwards
Travis Hamm
Rob Hartmann
Robert Hoehn
Barrett Huggins
Nathaniel Kastan
Kenny Krzyzkowski
Stephen Maroda
Tyler Massey
William McGehee
Andrew Millen
Benjamin Pelz
Will Pryor
Corey Scheinblum
Michael Shoptaw
Jay Snyder
Michael Sousoulas
Kyle Wherry

GRADE 8

Mark Beanblossom
Devin Brooks
Jordan Brown
Thomas Castleman
Drew Cornaghie
Robert Cowan
Dylan Cunningham
Robert Duffley
Barret Folk
Drew Frisby
Matt Grisham
Thomas Ivy
Mathew Jehl
Cliff Jones
Coleman Kimbrough
Rahul Kumar
Evan Mah
Andrew Maroda
Colin McDonald
Mustafa Motiwala
William Paxton
Robert Peterson
Harrison Rea
John Riggins
Phillip Russell
John Rutledge
Wesley Shannon
Matthew Shelton
Jack Steffner

GRADE 7

Joseph Amagliani
James Arnold
Evan Baker
Bobby Bell
Will Carruthers
Edward Cates
Cameron Crawford
Brian Davidoff
Zak Eissler
Will Evans
Sam Ferguson
Ted Fockler
Trip Freeburg
Alex Garner
Bo Hale
Sam Harris
Hank Hill
Amir Khan
Franklin Martin
Kevin Martin
Buck Morris
Phillips Morrison
Christopher Nyberg
Brad Ringel
Brian Son
Rocky Stone
Colin Thomas
George Utkov
Eli Wilder
Matt Williams

A Dream Season, *from page 1*

victories against Wooddale and rivals Evangelical Christian School and Briarcrest, Rowdy Club leaders **Chris Levy** and **Walker Pritchard** and their boisterous members like junior **Hunter Adams** led such chants as "I Believe" to stimulate the players and coaches to success. The pep band consisting of **Sloan Abernathy**, **Cody Curtis**, **Josh Evensky**, and **Ethan Knight** pumped up the student section. When students could yell no more, they blew air horns and waved Owl Towels to inspire their football brethren. Students like **Noah Feder**, **Chris Freeman**, and **Aaron Struminger** painted "MUS" on their blue bodies, and new mascot Lloyd the Owl, played primarily by **Alex Guyton** and **Ronny Khuri**, was a regular appearance on the sidelines.

Football team members would walk through the Owl Tunnel to the cheer of parents, motivated by the chanting of "Get fired up" by the MUS boys. Undoubtedly, the last five games would not have been won if the players had not had the backing as they did. The fans' motivation of the team was enough to help them earn hard-fought victories against Brentwood Academy, Montgomery Bell Academy (twice), and Christian Brothers High School. The pinnacle of fan support was reached at the state championship game against Brentwood, where MUS aficionados actually outnumbered the local team's fans.

MUS parents were equally as enthusiastic as the kids. The dads ended three-a-days with a delicious assortment of food and passed the torch of zeal to the mothers. Led by adept planners such as **Mrs. Lanier Grimm**, **Mrs. Julie Ann Doan**, and **Mrs. Laine Park**, the moms created a buzz around the program. Whether it was writing on players' cars, filling the locker room with balloons, hosting parties, creating personalized buttons, or praying before games, they were ready to do anything to help the team.

Along with the parents and relatives, the alumni got caught up in the excitement. The team received encouraging e-mails weekly from past players urging them to keep focus on our goal of winning state. The Alumni Association purchased state championship t-shirts and distributed them to all students for free.



It was exciting to hear that alumni came from all around the nation to watch the final game. The faculty backed the football team with **Mr. [Ellis] Haguewood's** fifteen snappy rahs, **Mr. [William] Matthews' f**ervor, and **Mr. [Loyal] Murphy's** organizing of a faculty bus to the title game.

The cheerleaders were the best squad in recent memory. With talent to match their beauty, they displayed their enthusiasm by leading the fans in cheers, flipping on the sidelines, and performing their dance routine at halftime. **Ms. [Claire] Farmer**, along with captains **Brokke Simpson** and **Maggie Fesmire**, coordinated the girls well and made them an invaluable part of the football success.

All of the aspects of the football team—its players, coaches, teamwork, and fan support—reflect what is going on at MUS this school year. School spirit is not only talked about, but also felt. The Senior Class has leaders in all aspects of the school and has been determined to make the 2004 year memorable not only for them, but also for underclassmen, teachers, and the city. The football team

was a microcosm of the good things going on at school, and its success makes it great to be an MUS Owl.



John Riggins, Will Nease, Walt Wepfer, and Michael Brennan show their "MUS!" spirit at the state playoffs.

Mr. Football Finalist

Senior receiver **J.D. Lawhorn** has electrified MUS crowds with his play all season, and apparently some other people around the state noticed his talent also. Lawhorn was named a finalist in the American General Mr. Football Awards which were presented to

the top 14 backs and linemen in the seven classifications of the Tennessee Secondary School Athletic Association (TSSAA). Unfortunately, Lawhorn lost the award to Lee Hilt of the McCallie School, but his recognition

throughout Tennessee is very impressive.

High school head coaches and members of the media nominated the finalists, and a committee of sports writers from across the state selected a winner based on his 2004 regular season performance. Academic performance and character were also considered in the selection process. Lawhorn will continue his football career at the University of Mississippi next year.



Coaches Bobby Alston and Orlando McKay congratulate J.D. Lawhorn (center) upon receiving his finalist plaque.

MUS Golfers Finish Another Great Season

Hudson Wins Individual State Title



The MUS varsity golf team finished another winning season by placing second in the Division II State Tournament held September 28-29, 2004, at the Bear Trace Golf Course at Cumberland Mountain State Park in Crossville, Tennessee.

Although the Owls knew they had a tough challenge entering the tournament, they responded well as they posted a nine-stroke lead after the first day with some incredible individual scores.

Junior **Bobby Hudson** led the team and the tournament with an outstanding 70, tying him for



State winner Bobby Hudson and Coach Greg King

excited. I felt really good today coming out," said Hudson, who became only the third MUS individual state champion.

However, despite the consistent play of the whole team, the Owls fell just short as Baylor's day-two score of 291 bested MUS by two strokes. The team's runner-up finish culminated an incredibly successful year for the squad, led by first-year **Coach Greg King**, as they posted a 22-3 overall record. Brown, Dale, Hudson, Snyder, Varma, and White were joined by senior **Clint Cowan**, junior **Bowers Clement**, sophomore **Adam Bomar**, and eighth-grader **Drew Frisby** on this year's varsity roster. The season was highlighted by regular-season wins over Briarcrest, SBEC, and CBHS as the Owls steamrolled their competition much of the year. They started out with a 15-0 record before suffering their first loss but even then, they had the most dominant squad in the area throughout the season.

The Owls rounded into postseason form with their performance at the regional tournament, held at Orgill Park Golf Course, as they posted a 292, four strokes behind SBEC and three ahead of ECS. Alex Snyder finished fifth with a 72. The Owls then rode their regional performance to the outstanding state finish. Though the three seniors will be missed, the core of this squad will return next year and look to finish one place higher at the state tournament.



Alex Snyder



Richard White



Daniel Brown

first with Father Ryan's Jonathan Martin after the first day. Also contributing to the Owls' day-one lead were junior **Alex Snyder's** 73, senior **Richard White's** 77, sophomore **Daniel Brown's** 80, and sophomore **Dev Varma's** 85.

While the team felt good with their first-day lead, they also knew that defending champion Baylor would not relinquish its title easily, so the Owls would need another outstanding effort to bring home their first state golf title since 1998.

On day two, Hudson continued his dominant play, shooting another 70 and winning the individual state title by six strokes. Snyder contributed with a 78, as did White, while Brown shot a 76, improving by four strokes. And senior **Peter Dale** rounded out the scoring with an 86.

Last season's individual champion, Seth Brandon of Baylor, challenged Hudson on the second day but was no match for the junior's consistency and fine play. Hudson was supremely confident and looked forward to the state challenge. "I'm really

BEST OF THE PREPS FALL 2004

The following MUS students have been named to *The Commercial Appeal's* 2004 Best of the Preps (BOP) All-Metro Private Schools Boys division in their respective sports:

CROSS COUNTRY

Hunter Adams
Stephen Counce
Ken Haltom
Donald McClure
Peter Zanca

FOOTBALL

Joey Friend
Mason George
Warren Grimm
J.D. Lawhorn
Mason Mosby
Rob Park
Will Pickens

GOLF

Bobby Hudson—
Finalist for Golfer of the Year
Daniel Brown
Richard White
Alex Snyder

Coach Bobby Alston was named Football Coach of the Year, and in his first year, **Coach Greg King** was named Golf Coach of the Year.

Cross Country Owls Close Season with a Bright Future



After finishing fifth in the state meet, held at the Percy Warner Steeplechase Course in Nashville in early November, the MUS cross country runners now can look back on what was a great season.

Continuing a tradition of prominence in West Tennessee, the squad won the Division II West Regional Meet for the fifth straight year. Retaining this title was one of many highlights of the season, which included a second-place finish in the Chickasaw Trails Invitational, a third-place showing at the Tennessee Classic, and a runner-up finish at the Frank Horton Invitational.

Throughout the season, the Owls were carried by a consistent starting seven: juniors **Hunter Adams, Donald McClure, Peter Zanca, Oliver Green,** and



Hunter Adams, Donald McClure, and Peter Zanca will be among the returning runners for MUS next year.

Courtesy of The Commercial Appeal

Matt Dowling and sophomores **Ken Haltom** and **Stephen Counce**. The coaching staff was pleased with how the runners performed this year as they competed in some challenging meets.

Next season, the Owls will face high expectations as all of the first seven return. With another year of experience, they should challenge in every meet, including the state.

Looking back on the ending to this season, **Coach Joe Tyler** remarked, "The level of competition and commitment at the state level is unparalleled." Looking forward to next season, Tyler says, "It's all about June and July," referring to the preseason training that dedicated runners pay attention to.

Assistant Coach Kyle Smith expanded on the preparation for next season by saying, "If our guys follow the training system we've mapped out, there's no reason we shouldn't have a chance in the state competition next year."

VARSITY BASEBALL SCHEDULE

Mar. 14	Millington at MUS	5:00 PM
Mar. 19	Magnolia Heights, MS at MUS	11:00 AM
	MUS vs Central Christian, AR at St. Benedict	3:30 PM
Mar. 21	ECS at MUS*	5:00 PM

SCENIC CITY CLASSIC in Chattanooga, TN

Mar. 25	MUS vs Germantown at Engel Stadium	1:00 PM
	MUS vs Riverdale at McCallie	4:00 PM
Mar. 26	MUS vs Ringgold at Engel Stadium	10:00 AM
	MUS at McCallie	4:00 PM
	CHAMPIONSHIP at Engel Stadium	7:00 PM

LEWIS HARRIS MEMORIAL TOURNAMENT

Mar. 28	MUS vs White Station at Germantown	4:00 PM
Mar. 29	MUS vs Millington at USA Stadium	7:00 PM
Mar. 31	MUS at Bolton	7:00 PM
Apr. 1	MUS vs Magnolia Heights at Senatobia, MS	4:00 PM
Apr. 2	Munford at MUS	2:00 PM

Apr. 2	Horn Lake at MUS	5:30 PM
Apr. 5	St. Benedict at MUS*	7:00 PM

BEST OF THE WEST

Apr. 7	MUS vs Jackson Northside at Munford	3:30 PM
	MUS at Munford	5:45 PM
Apr. 8	MUS vs Dyer County at Covington	5:45 PM
Apr. 9	MUS vs Dyersburg at Covington	5:15 PM
Apr. 12	MUS at St. Benedict*	5:00 PM

2005 PEPSI CHALLENGE

Apr. 14	Jackson Christian at MUS	7:00 PM
Apr. 15	White Station at MUS	3:30 PM
	Covington at MUS	8:00 PM
Apr. 16	CHAMPIONSHIP ROUND at MUS	TBD

Take Me Out To The Ballgame!

MUS vs. CBHS
at AutoZone Park
Sunday, April 24
5:00 p.m.



Join MUS families, alumni, and friends for a day at AutoZone Park. Tickets are \$6.50 and also provide admission to the Memphis Redbirds vs. Omaha Royals game at 2:00 p.m. Tickets must be purchased in the MUS Business Office (or from an MUS student when available). For more information, call Angela Counce at 260-1309.

Apr. 19	Harding at MUS*	7:00 PM
Apr. 21	Briarcrest at MUS*	7:00 PM
Apr. 22	MUS at Jackson Christian (double-header)	4:30 PM
Apr. 24	MUS vs CBHS* at AutoZone Park	5:00 PM
Apr. 25	MUS at CBHS*	7:00 PM
Apr. 29	MUS at ECS*	4:30 PM
Apr. 30	MUS at SBEC	2:00 PM
May 3	MUS at Briarcrest*	7:00 PM
May 4	Bartlett at MUS	5:30 PM
May 6	MUS at Harding*	4:15 PM
May 7	SBEC at MUS	5:00 PM

May 12-20 West Tennessee Regional at CBHS/MUS
May 24-28 State Tournament in Memphis, TN

* Division Game

The Dynamic Duo

Seniors **Bo Ladyman** and **Alex Guyton** have been MUS's tennis dream team for the last three years. The two have helped bring home three team state titles and two state doubles titles. Watching the two of them play a doubles match is exciting, but next year should be even more interesting as the two will compete in Division I collegiate tennis. The boys visited several of the same schools, but, in the end, Ladyman chose Furman first and Dartmouth second, while Guyton decided the opposite. It is likely that the two, when they are named to the rosters of the schools, will be matched against one another.



Bo Ladyman



Alex Guyton

Ladyman Heads to Furman

When senior **Bo Ladyman** signed a national letter of intent with Furman University, he became the sixth member of his family to play for a Division I school. The Furman coach watched Ladyman at the National Tournament in Kalamazoo, Michigan, and liked his game and aggressive style of play. When Ladyman went to visit the school, he really liked the school, the coach, and the team members.

During his career, Ladyman has won three state high school team titles and two state doubles championships. He is ranked in the top 100 in the nation and has been ranked as high as eighth in the South's 18's division. In 2001, he was winner of the Tennessee Sportsmanship Award, and in 2003, he reached the quarterfinals of the National Junior Championship in doubles. He has represented Tennessee throughout his career on the Junior Davis Cup team.

"Bo was a highly recruited athlete who was drawn to Furman's strong academics and level of tennis," said head coach Paul Scarpa. "A very strong Christian young man, Bo visited Furman and liked both the core values of the school and the closeness of the tennis team."

In addition to being captain of the MUS tennis team, Ladyman has been a member of Mu Alpha Theta and the Dean's List



for four semesters. He has participated in the Spanish Club, YMCA Youth Legislature, and the Peer Mentoring program. He has also spent time tutoring at the Lester Community Center and as a Chrysalis board member.

Guyton Bound for Dartmouth

Alex Guyton will begin his collegiate career playing singles and doubles tennis for Dartmouth. The school's tennis coach, Chuck Rinyon, saw Guyton play at the National Tournament in Kalamazoo, Michigan, the summer before his junior year and was impressed by his game. Guyton visited the school in New Hampshire during spring break that year, enjoyed the atmosphere, and had a very positive rapport with the head coach.

Guyton has won three state team titles and two doubles titles while playing for MUS. He has qualified to play in national tournaments across the country since he was 14 years old, and along with Ladyman, he reached the quarterfinals of the National Junior Championship in the 16 and under division. At one point, Guyton was ranked first of all players in the South, and he received the Tennessee Sportsmanship Award as a freshman.

During the time he is not playing tennis, Guyton has been actively involved at MUS. He is a member of several student

groups including the Cum Laude Society, Quill and Scroll Society, National Honor Society, Spanish Honor Society, Mu Alpha Theta, and History Honor Society. He is a National Merit Semifinalist, he has been named to the Dean's List numerous times, and last year, he was presented with the Wellford Leadership Award, the highest honor given to a rising senior at MUS. He is a member of Beg To Differ, MUS's award-winning *a cappella* singing group, a Student Ambassador and Peer Mentor, and editor-in-chief of the MUS yearbook. He has also been a Race for the Cure recruiter at MUS and has been a ball boy at the annual Kroger/St. Jude Classic.

Park, a Puntin' Rebel

Rob Park has committed to play football at the University of Mississippi next year. The senior, who has been a member of the varsity team since the ninth grade, signed a national letter of intent with the Rebels on February 2.

Park has been the team's starting punter since his freshman year and was named All-State punter for three consecutive seasons. As quarterback, Park led the Owls to an 11-1 record and the 2004 Division II-AAA state title. He was named offensive MVP of the Super 7 Conference and made the Coaches' All-State Team as both quarterback and punter. Other honors include the Owls co-MVP for the 2004 season, the Tennessee Sports Writers Association (TSWA)



Division II All-State Team, and *The Commercial Appeal's* All-Metro Team. Park set MUS career records in yards punted (4,580) and punt attempts (124). During the 2004 season, he passed for 1,465 yards and 13 touchdowns and averaged 38.1 yards on 41 punts. "I've had a great time playing football here at MUS," Park said. "The coaches and staff helped us achieve so much, and I'm really looking forward to playing at Ole Miss."

In addition to his achievements on the field, Park finds time for other extracurricular activities. He is a four-year starter on the varsity baseball team (Shelby County All-Metro), a member of the Elections Committee, and an active participant in the Spanish,

Team Memphis, being tabbed 'Best Attackman' in the latter's runner-up finish in the 'War for the South.' He will be the third Tennessean to play for the Irish, following Memphis native M. William Zoccola, who was on the first Notre Dame varsity team (1981), and All-American goalie Kirk Howell (2001)."

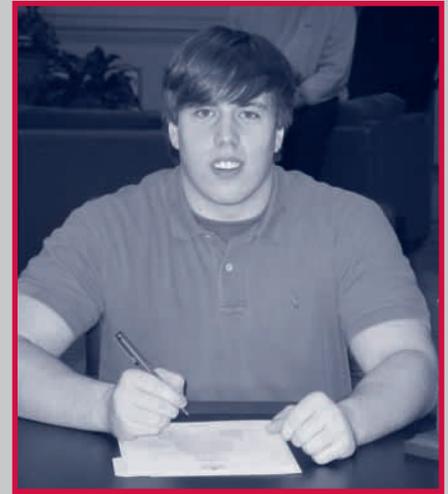
"We think Dan can play either at attack or in the midfield," said Notre Dame Head Coach Kevin Corrigan. "He is from Tennessee, which is rare for our players, but our last foray into the state had us ending up with an All-American goalie, so we are happy to have another guy from there. Given where he has played and the competition he has played against, he really has a great sense



Rob Park



Dan Gibson



Marc Purnell

Ethnic Relations, and Wall Street Stock Exchange clubs. Park also volunteers with MIFA and Meals on Wheels, participated in Young Life, and enjoys fishing in his spare time.

"As a coach, it is always with great joy that one sees a young man set a goal and achieve that goal by persistence and commitment," said Head Coach Bobby Alston. "I am confident that Rob will continue that pattern at Ole Miss and enjoy a great career in Oxford."

Gibson Signs with Notre Dame

All-American lacrosse player **Dan Gibson** will be living out his dream of playing for the University of Notre Dame this fall. "It has always been a dream of mine to go there," said Gibson. "I watched the football games growing up and, after a visit, realized that it was a great fit for me." Coaches at Notre Dame saw a tape of the state semifinal game during his sophomore year and contacted him.

LaxPower.com, a national lacrosse ratings website, posted the following summary of Gibson's career: "Gibson was a first-team all-state selection and All-American in his junior season finishing with 52 goals, 35 assists, and 48 ground balls for an average of 6.2 points per game. He led the team to a 12-2 record and the state final. In club action, Gibson has played for Crossroads and

of the game and a great feel for it. He also has the athletic ability to go along with that. I think he is really going to be a good player."

Gibson's mother, Mimi, believes MUS has been a major factor in his development. "Our family is so grateful. MUS is like a family in which the members—coaches, faculty, teammates, and friends—help each other to pursue excellence. We are so happy to be a part of this family and to watch Dan take this spirit and tradition with him as he joins the Fighting Irish," she said.

Gibson has been a Dean's List student, and he has been involved with the Civic Service Organization. He has also been a Student Ambassador and Peer Mentor.

Purnell Joins Governors

Marc Purnell has committed to play football for the Governors at Austin Peay State University in Clarksville, Tennessee, next year. He signed a national letter of intent on February 2. Purnell has made significant contributions to the Owls during his four years on the varsity squad. He was a two-year starter at center and was named to the Honorable Mention Coaches' All-State Team for the 2004 season. "Marc had an outstanding season – he started every offensive play we ran," said Coach Bobby Alston. "He performed well against several excellent defensive players and has worked very hard to earn this chance to compete at the next level."

Winning Season for Both Football Teams Seventh-Grade Football

Led by coaches **Jim Burnett '83, Craig Christenbury '83, Rankin Fowlkes, Drew Harris '83, and Scott Williams '85**, the seventh-grade football team completed their season, winning seven of eight games, including some big wins over rivals Briarcrest, ECS, and Germantown.

The Owls were led by an exemplary group of players. Quarterback **Jake Rudolph** ran the show for the offense and also served as a strong defensive player. Behind Rudolph, back **Hank Hill** gained big yards on the ground and could also catch the



Seventh-grade Owls line up in their traditional "50" defense awaiting a play from rival Houston Mustangs.

ball when thrown to, and fullback **Matthew Harriman** made significant contributions to the group.

Rudolph had a talented group of receivers to choose from, including **Wylie Coleman, Jon Kastan, Christian Kauffman, Peter Rainer, Matthew Schaeffer, George Utkov, Matt Williams**, and others.

On defense, **Whit Carr** and **Harrison Martin** were just two of the many Owls who contributed in the trenches for the team and piled up many tackles, while a solid group of linebackers, including **Bryan Crenshaw, Hill, Alex Perry**, and others, backed up the line. In the secondary, **Robert Cartwright, Kauffman, Holman Moores, Rudolph, Utkov**, and others patrolled the grounds.

MUS won their first three contests, including a solid 16-0 victory over Houston. In the fourth game, the Owls suffered their first loss as Collierville defeated them, 22-8. However, the seventh-graders bounced back to win their remaining four games, including a 14-0 win over Germantown and a season-ending 26-8 home victory over ECS.

Without playoffs this season, regular-season standings determined the league champion, and their single setback caused the Owls to finish behind league winner Collierville. Despite the runner-up finish, MUS had a fine season, and they look forward to next year.



Eighth-Grade Football

The eighth-grade football team continued its string of Shelby League championships this year winning its first seven games and finishing with a win against rival ECS to complete an 8-1 season and keep the title at MUS.

Led by coaches **Bobby Wade '84, John Barton '84, Larry Heathcott, Mac McFarland '99, and Jay Webb**, the Owls overcame some very talented teams with hard play and dedication.

Michael Folk led the team at the quarterback position and showed good leadership for the MUS offense. **Walt Wepfer** made life easier for the whole offense as he gained a majority of the yardage on the ground and was also one of Folk's favorite receivers. With fullbacks **Will Benton** and **Will Stokes** leading the way, Wepfer had a fine season. And when he needed a breather, **George Coors** did his job by running hard and playing well.

The Owls also had a good aerial attack as receivers like **John Carson, Derek Haynes, Lowell Hays**, and others were sure-handed and had big gains.

Defensively, the Owls stayed strong all season; allowing only one team to score more than eight points. The defensive line was anchored by players such as **Walter Barnett, Robb Harrison, David Popwell, Jack Steffner**, and **Steven Tutor**, while linebackers like Barnett,



Walt Wepfer (36) darts through a hole made by the Owls' offensive line.

Benton, Stokes, Wepfer and others cleaned up opposing runners with relative ease. And when teams would challenge by passing, Carson, Folk, and Hays were rarely out of position and allowed very few completions.

With wins of eight points or more, the Owls defeated each of their opponents convincingly. Their lone loss came in the eighth game of the year, a tough two-point road setback to Millington, 16-14. However, even with the loss, wins over Houston, Briarcrest, Collierville, Cordova, Germantown, Bolton, and ECS secured the top spot in the league standings to end the year. And with no

playoffs this season, MUS claimed another Shelby League title.

Congratulations to the eighth-graders as they continued the success of Lower School football.

Golf Takes Second at Shelby League Tournament

Led by **Coach Mike Laird**, the 2004 Lower School golf team had a very strong season, finishing with a record of 3-1, and they claimed second place at the Shelby League Tournament held in late September.

This year the team included eighth-graders **Mark Beanblossom, Jordan Brown, Graham Jones, Andrew Maroda,** and **Shelby Smith**. The seventh-graders on the team were **Bo Hale, Richard Mallory, Matthew Murphy, Wilson Orr,** and **Whitt Thompson**.



Golf team included (front) Mark Beanblossom, Graham Jones, Andrew Maroda, Richard Mallory, (back) Wilson Orr, Matthew Murphy, Shelby Smith, Bo Hale, (not pictured) Jordan Brown, and Whitt Thompson.

MUS began the season with big wins over Houston Middle at Quail Ridge Golf Course and Briarcrest at Cordova Club Golf Course before their postseason tournament. In the championship match held at Windyke Country Club, MUS was challenged by a strong St. George's team, who ultimately won with a score of 163, beating MUS by only four strokes. Also in the tournament was SBEC, whom MUS easily defeated by 18 strokes.

The Owls had six players finish in the top ten in the final tournament. Orr (second), Brown (seventh), Beanblossom (eighth), Maroda (tenth), Murphy (tenth), and Smith (tenth) all played well to help their school.

Coach Laird and his golfers deserve to be proud of their efforts as this group continues the tradition of excellent golf at MUS.



Runners Top Off Impressive Season

Throughout the fall, MUS sports fanatics may have looked at cross country and seen a sport where only varsity runners were working hard for the glory. However, had they looked deeper into the situation, they may have noticed the Lower School cross country team running at the front also. Led by **Coach Matt Bakke**, Lower School cross country is sometimes overlooked, but this season was one that runners made hard to miss.

The two major races the junior Owls participated in were the Chickasaw Trails Invitational and the Shelby 7-8 League Championship. As a team, the Owls took third in the Chickasaw Trails Invitational, a large race in Alabama. The squad then came out of the league championship the clear winner, defeating their competition by a whopping 54 points.

This season the Owls' line-up was flawless individually. Led by eighth-grader **Robert Tipton**, who took first in the championship and tied the course record, all MUS runners finished in the top 20. In the B race, Owl runners came up only one place short of sweeping the top 10.

This great squad consisted of eighth-graders: **Tipton, Yusef Akbik, Amro Amro, Will Ferguson, Grant Hopkins, Thomas Ivy, Ben Khuri, Jackson Knight, Carl Krausnick, Colin McDonald, Jon Mitchell, Jim Moore, Mustafa Motiwala, Harrison Rea, John Riggins, John Rutledge,** and **Andy Stubblefield**; and seventh-graders: **Joseph Amagliani, Will Carruthers, Barnes Chism, George Curran, Tyler Flowers, Alex Garner, Spencer Hunt, Michael Lewandowski, Taylor Medlin, Jake Rudolph, Reid Sanders, Brian Son, John Straton, Colin Thomas,** and **Ryan Turner**.

MUS can look forward to an award-winning future from these spectacular young runners.



Robert Tipton gives a thumbs-up after the cross country team completes a championship season with Tipton taking first place and tying the course record.

Opening the Doors

Approximately 115 families visited MUS during the Open House on November 7. As they toured the campus with Student Ambassadors and other tour guides, parents and prospective students asked questions and enjoyed conversations with their hosts for the day. **Mr. Clay Smythe**, Student Council President



Student guides such as (back row) Michael Fong, Andrew Gordon, Ben Bleustein, and John Summers led small groups on tours of the MUS campus during Open House.



Math instructors Betty Williams and Darin Clift discuss the school's curriculum with Open House visitors Takari Donaville and his mother, Janis. Takari is an eighth-grader at Cordova Middle School.

Andrew Robinson, and Honor Council President **Phillip Flinn** made a presentation about life at MUS. The tours ended in the Dining Hall where families had a chance to ask teachers questions about curriculum and other concerns.

"This year's attendees were from a wider variety of schools than we have ever had," said **Mr. Lin Askew**, director of admissions. "We had 26 city and county schools represented this year, in addition to 10 independent schools." The prospective families commented on how informative and passionate their guides were about the school. Every year Open House demonstrates the cooperation among the students, faculty, administration, and staff. From the maintenance staff's tireless work to polish the campus to the preparation of the hosts, the school community comes together to display what makes MUS a great school.

The Best Times

Last spring, MUS history instructor **Dr. John Harkins** began writing "The Best in Memphis History" for *The Best Times* (TBT). In the wake of our city's loss of *Old Shelby County* and *The Commercial Appeal's* "Pastimes" column, MUS alumnus **Walter Wills '67** made arrangements with TBT publisher Lester Gingold to give the column a trial run.

The half-dozen columns published to date are vignettes of about 600 words. Topics include: the West Tennessee Historical Society's key role in local history; reflections on the Memphis riverfront and plans to erect large buildings along it; Memphis journalist-historians as exemplified by Paul R. Coppock (all of his local history columns are still available in hardback books); Ellen Davies Rodgers' legacy of the Davies Manor museum home and the association that sustains it; Charl O. Williams' contributions to education in Shelby County and the nation; six of our city's century-old independent schools (including MUS) and their contributions; and Memphis State Professor Enoch Mitchell as teacher, administrator, citizen, and state and local historian. A national award-winning monthly tabloid for senior Memphians, TBT is distributed free from dozens of Memphis locations.



Spicing It Up

An article by MUS librarian **Leah Allison** was accepted for publication in the fall 2004 issue of *Library Media Connection*, a national library magazine. The article is entitled "The Multigenre Approach and Research Skills—Spicing It Up!" In the article Mrs. Allison discusses the unique approach to research projects and learning she has honed in her Computer Applications and Research Skills (CARS) course at MUS during the last few years.

Library Media Connection is a magazine for school librarians and technology specialists. It focuses on providing librarians with information on teaching information and technology skills, managing a school library, and effectively using a library's budget.

Twenty Years and Counting

Each year, the Tennessee Association of Independent Schools recognizes faculty from its member schools who have dedicated twenty years of service to their institution. This year, like most others, MUS has multiple faculty members who have achieved this impressive milestone. MUS thanks **Mr. Guy Amsler**, **Mr. Flip Eikner '77**, **Dr. John Harkins**, **Mr. John Hiltonsmith**, **Mr. Curt Schmitt**, and **Mrs. Paula Schmitt** for their commitment to MUS and its students.

New Tech on Staff

MUS is pleased to welcome **Mr. Billy Smith** to the school's Information Technology department. A former member of the Hilton Corporation's technical support team, he holds an associate degree in computer science from Northwest Mississippi Community College and is currently pursuing a B.A. in computer science at Christian Brothers University. He will work with **Mr. Duane Larson** to make sure MUS is on the cutting edge of technology.

Integrating Computer Software Skills into the Classroom

Assignments in academic classes continually require competency on the computer and with production software such as Microsoft Word, Excel, and PowerPoint. In order to ensure that students have the skills necessary to complete their assignments, technology training sessions are given along with the assignments. For instance, Spanish students recently spent time in the computer lab learning to create PowerPoint presentations about cultures and countries. Some of the presentations were created to be presented orally, while others were to be viewed on the Internet. Along with the nuts and bolts of PowerPoint, the students were given instruction on producing presentations that communicate academic information. The Internet presentations can be found on **Mrs. Mindy Broadway's** web page.

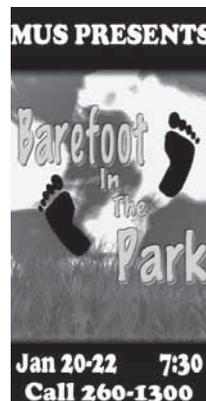
Other training sessions have been built around formatting the MLA style in Word for English papers, formatting Excel spreadsheets as timelines for history classes, and manipulating Excel charts to accurately show data in graphs for science courses. Although the students are producing specific assignments, training sessions focus on learning to manipulate the software. These training sessions are led by **Mrs. Terry Balton**, who is then available for students requiring additional help.

Digital by Design

The development of affordable and user-friendly desktop publishing systems has given people advanced production tools without giving them advanced design skills. Sophisticated software does not guarantee good design. The purpose of the Digital Design and Communications course is to provide students with a working knowledge of design concepts to supplement their know-how of desktop publishing software. The design concepts, in concert with the tools of the design software, will allow for the creation of materials that effectively communicate information.

Mrs. Terry Balton, whose undergraduate degree is in fine arts and communications, teaches the semester-long fine arts class. The students learn the basic elements and principles of design as they create projects using various computer software. Although the course is not designed to be software specific, the programs the students use at school to create their projects are Adobe's Photoshop Elements, EliteVision (graphic software used to produce the school's yearbook), and Microsoft's FrontPage, Publisher, Photo Editor, and Word.

Recently the students worked in Photoshop Elements to create a student-produced outdoor banner and poster for *Barefoot in the Park*, the MUS student-produced play performed in January. Each student's design was critiqued by fellow classmates, along with **Ms. Beth Russell** (former director of public relations), **Mrs. Denise Hunt** (MUS graphic designer), and **Eric Wilson** (MUS senior and director of *Barefoot in the Park*). The students then reworked the designs based on the suggestions of their peers and adult mentors. **Paul Anderson's** design (left) was chosen to hang outside the school advertising the play. Students have also produced



print flyers, logos, yearbook layouts, animated gifs, and web pages. Their work, as well as numerous resources concerning the class, can be found at <http://usstudents.musowls.org/design>.

Don't Miss the Next MUST C Production



New banners going up for the MUS spring musical were designed by Kane Alber this semester in the Digital Design and Communications class.

Repeat Programs Target Different Groups Each Year

Giving Fresh Approach to Real Facts, Tough Choices, and Testimonials

FCD Week

Freedom from Chemical Dependency (FCD) Week was September 27-30 for eighth- and tenth-graders. During the week, students attended seminar presentations on drug and alcohol abuse given by recovering alcoholics Glenn Hall and Roger Waite, who are part of the national FCD organization. The primary goal of this special week is to encourage our young men to reflect on the heartache and heartbreak that can occur due to the irresponsible use or abuse of alcohol or other drugs and how the devastation can be avoided by simply abstaining from such use. On the night of September 28, parents had an opportunity to meet with the facilitators for an update on the topics to be covered during the week.

Alive at 25

During the week of November 15-19, Wayne Gutsch, a fitness and wellness instructor from the University of Memphis, presented a program entitled "Alive at 25" to the MUS ninth-grade students. The program consisted of a weeklong series of discussion classes focusing on driving safety by looking at personal choices, actions, and consequences. Mr. Gutsch actively involved the students in the discussions that covered the gamut of driving and safety, such as automobile maintenance, peer pressure, loud radios, alcohol and other drugs, personal actions, and consequences. According to Gutsch, "The most important part of the program is probably the discussions of consequences." He explains the difference between parental discipline and that of

person who can be in control of his behavior, and his decisions will have consequences, positive or negative. With that in mind, he led the students in a discussion on "how to take control."

On Tuesday of that week, Gutsch conducted a very informative session for parents. In this meeting, he impressed upon parents the need for them to be the proper role models for their sons. He also talked about the various topics he would be discussing with their sons. There was some productive conversation among the parents and a great "sharing time." One of the parents also has recommended a website that is now included as a link on the MUS Counseling Website. We encourage everyone to visit the site at www.parenting-teendrivers.com.



Stressing their points to various student groups are Glenn Hall from FCD, Wayne Gutsch from Alive at 25, Loyal Murphy from MUS, and Amy Oakes from Rhodes College.

the courts, and he does this in such a way that he connects with the students on their level, making impressions that he hopes will have a lasting impact on the students. During the course of the week, he discussed consequences such as fines, jail time, loss of license, and even the killing of a friend. Naturally, the discussions lead into a consideration of the differences between a responsible and an irresponsible person. The ultimate goal of the program is to convince each student that he is the only

Senior Insights Day

On October 13, as underclassmen participated in the Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (NMSQT), members of the senior class divided into four groups and rotated among four sessions—Alcohol 101, Major Investigation, First Impressions Count, and College Admissions Workshop—led by faculty, staff, and guests of the school.

Summer Opportunities

Time for students to start thinking about summer plans! Colleges and universities, as well as other public and private institutions, offer many opportunities to students during the summer months. If you would like to learn more about these programs, visit http://www.musowls.org/students/Summer/enrichment_opps.htm or contact **Mrs. Bebe Jonakin** at 260-1335 for more information.

Alcohol 101

To start a discussion in Alcohol 101, **Mr. Loyal Murphy** thought it was appropriate as the Upper School disciplinarian to remind the boys of the alcohol and drug policy as it is printed in the *U Book*. The boys must understand that the school does not condone underage drinking and that the boys place their status at school in jeopardy should they choose to drink at or before a school-sponsored function, whether it is an MUS function or another school's function which an MUS student chooses to attend.

After discussing the policies, Mr. Murphy showed a video provided by the Counseling Department entitled, "Tell Me Something I Don't Know." This video takes a look at college binge drinking and stresses to the viewer that young adults are legally liable for their actions.

"Next, I chose to step out of my role as disciplinarian and spoke to the boys as MUS alumnus Loyal Murphy from the class of 1986," said Mr. Murphy. "I began by telling them about my take on alcohol while I was a student at MUS. I mentioned personal characteristics that might make me more susceptible to alcohol abuse. I covered my personal college stance on alcohol

to me. I'll heal." Second, MUS students perceive themselves as too intelligent to make a mistake as far as alcohol is concerned. "I'm too smart to drink too much. I'll realize when to stop. I'm too intelligent to get caught in a bad situation." And third, many students are used to being able to repair damage or pay for broken items should they make a mistake. "I can fix it. We'll pay to make it right." There are some outcomes to alcohol-related incidents that cannot be repaired. Saying, "I'm sorry," just does not cut it.

"I hope that the boys realize that the concern surrounding underage drinking arises from love," said Mr. Murphy. "It takes a village to raise a child," and everyone in the MUS village is interested in our young men making sound choices and surviving their teen years.

Major Investigation

Deciding upon a major in college is definitely not an easy task. Thus, the sooner one begins the process, the better. Amy Oakes, from Rhodes College Career Services, believes that students need to thoroughly examine themselves in order to choose the best major option for them. This program, led by Oakes, provided our seniors with

students were able to identify potential majors of interest. Resources, such as websites, were also provided to facilitate further research of majors and careers.

First Impressions Count

Mrs. Debbie Lazarov, director of communications, and **Ms. Beth Russell**, former director of public relations, led a session titled "First Impressions Count: How to Interview." They told the boys that almost every interview they have for the rest of their lives will be basically the same and that their preparation, behavior,



consumption and relayed stories of friends in college who either had near-fatal, alcohol-related accidents or damaged friendships beyond repair while in a drunken stupor."

Mr. Murphy finished by telling the boys that they had three big things going against them as far as alcohol (or anything else dangerous for that matter) was concerned. First, 18-year-old boys are genetically designed to think of themselves as indestructible. "Nothing that bad could happen

resources that will enable them to learn more about themselves, majors, and careers, all while continuously focusing on the important concept that "any major can be successful."

A "celebrity major match" game was incorporated to stress the fact that "major does not equate career." In addition to this activity, students completed a "Mini Major/Career Search" assessment, which categorized their interests with certain majors and careers. From these results,

and follow-up should always be the same. There will be questions that are almost guaranteed to be asked when applying to college and graduate school or for scholarships, internships, and jobs. The boys were instructed that if they follow a few simple rules about speaking, eye contact, posture, behavior, and appearance and have well thought-out answers to standard questions, they will be ahead of the majority of other applicants. After being given tips on researching the organization,

preparing questions to ask, submitting a resume, formulating answers to pre-conceived interview questions, learning interview etiquette, and writing thank-you notes, the boys were divided into groups to role-play. They were given the scenario that they would be applying for a first-semester internship at ESPN during their junior year in college; their job as an intern would be to research statistics and other information for the on-air personalities for College Game Day and then travel to the games with the crew. Each group role-played the interview and were critiqued, and then the entire group determined who got the job.

College Admissions Workshop

Dr. Emily Baer, director of College Counseling, divided the seniors into college "admissions committees." They had four cases: Sam, whose mother graduated from the university and whose grandfather was offering 3.5 million dollars; Semhar, in whom an English professor had an interest and who was very involved with her Eritrean roots from Africa; Silvia, the oldest of 12 children from a single-parent family of Hispanic origin, who was first in her public school class and whose SAT scores were very low; and Sean, a baseball player from an independent boarding school with high scores and low GPA. The students read and discussed the entire case, including recommendations, student essays, transcripts, and school profiles. There were many variables to consider, but there were a few which came directly from the administration of the college. These included: the president wanted a 20 percent increase in students from the East coast; there was a need to include more private

school students; the Board wanted to improve diversity. The seniors grappled with the cases raising issues similar to those that will be raised when admissions committees look over MUS applicants as they apply to college. They discovered how difficult these decisions can be and how each piece of the application plays into the ultimate decision to accept or deny a student, as they were allowed to accept only one of the four cases they had.

Heartbeat Pumps Up Message to Lower Schoolers

Heartbeat is a student service organization made up of seniors dedicated to remaining alcohol-and drug-free. Members also serve as positive role models for the younger students at MUS by discussing with seventh-grade homerooms the negative effects of drinking and smoking. Heartbeat has met with the seventh-graders twice this year. The first meeting was devoted to tobacco and tobacco products, while the second meeting



Worth Morgan fields questions from seventh graders during one of the Heartbeat sessions.



Members of Heartbeat are Worth Morgan, Warner Russell, Randall Noel, Cody Curtis, Wes Spiro, Bo Ladyman, Price Edwards, (standing) Bebe Jonakin, group advisor, Matt Sights, (not pictured) Clint Cowan and Alex Guyton.

featured discussions of alcohol use and abuse. These seniors meet twice a month to discuss their lesson plans so that they include accurate facts and statistics; but, more important, they endeavor to incorporate their personal stories in such a way that the message comes through loud and clear that "it is cool not to use." Members of Heartbeat for 2004-05 are **Clint Cowan, Cody Curtis, Price Edwards, Alex Guyton, Bo Ladyman, Worth Morgan, Randall Noel, Warner Russell, Matt Sights, and Wes Spiro.**

Adjusting to Lower School Life

Lower School students were busy first semester getting involved and adjusting to Lower School life through the camaraderie of the Heartbeat meetings just mentioned, as well as other ways.

- In assemblies, they have heard presentations on topics such as bullying, personal wellness, and civic service.
- They participated in a Lower School Field Day with **Mr. Dax Torrey's** homeroom winning the competition.
- In early September the seventh-graders took the Otis-Lennon School Ability Test. This test measures their general school ability and is used as an extra resource when needed.
- Each seventh-grader has also attended a group lunch meeting with the Lower School counselors. While **Mrs. Bryn Wulf** was on maternity leave, **Mrs. Catherine Schuhmacher** and **Mr. Eddie Batey** adeptly filled in. During these meetings, students got to know each other and the counselor better through interactive games. Mr. Batey and Mrs. Schuhmacher took the opportunity to educate students about the counselor's job and the services he or she can provide for students.

The Lower School parents have also been busy this year.

- Kip Parrish, Ph.D., spoke to the eighth-grade parents at Back To School day. This well-attended lunch meeting armed parents with the latest tips and strategies to help their sons achieve success.
- The seventh-grade parents later met with Rich Luscomb, Ph.D., to discuss parenting tools as well as appropriate expectations for seventh-grade students.
- Other parent activities have included the Lower School Parents' Book Club, which meets monthly to discuss relevant parenting issues. The three books discussed thus far have ranged in topic from bullying to raising boys. These groups provide an excellent forum for parents to share similar challenges they have had with their sons. If anyone would like to get involved with this group, contact Mrs. Wulf at 260-1360 for more information.

Important Lessons Learned at College Seminars

by Emily Baer, Director of College Guidance

This past fall, I attended the College Board National Forum, a gathering of admissions personnel and college counselors from all over the world. We met in Chicago, where I had the opportunity to visit MUS alumni currently attending Northwestern, and I briefly toured the University of Chicago as well. The tone of the College Board reflected Chicagoan Jane Addams, the first woman to receive the Nobel Prize and the founder of the social settlement known as Hull House. She wrote in 1902, "Educators should conserve the learning and training necessary for the successful individual and family life, but should add to that a preparation for the enlarged efforts which our increasing democracy requires."

Addams's belief that education plays a vital role in our development as citizens is as resonant today as it was at the turn of the century. The focus of this conference was to ensure that all students have access to a college education, despite their economic means. The mission of the College Board is simple: to connect students to college success and opportunity.

A number of sessions and workshops were offered for professionals from the secondary schools as well as the colleges. At these meetings I have a chance to hear new ideas, to gain reinforcement and support for the work I do here at MUS, and to share in generating new approaches. To that end, I attended many sessions and informal discussions—one of my favorites being Sarah Meyer McGinty's workshop on the application essay. Ms. McGinty is an advisor to the Teaching Education Program at Harvard University, and she provided fresh ideas on the age-old topic of the college application essay. While she emphasized that grades are always the single most important factor, she pointed out that the essay could be the "tip factor" for those on the margins, either at the top or the bottom of the pool.

Other sessions I attended provided insight into the admissions process at a number of competitive schools. Duke University Dean of Admissions, Christoph Guttentag, spoke candidly about evaluating "earned attributes according to institutional priorities." In other words, Duke serves Duke first and applicants second. He understands the



Seniors take part in the College Admissions Workshop (see page 22) to learn how college applications are viewed from the other side of the table: (pictured top) Kyle Fong, Jordan Crawford, Cody Curtis, (below) Price Edwards, Phillip Flinn, Josh Evensky, and Noah Feder.



difficulty of attaining admission to Duke, but Guttentag emphasizes the many other colleges that exist. He cited an old cliché: "The life you ought to be living is the life you are living." Other speakers echoed the same sentiments. From the University of Chicago Lab School's [secondary school connected to the University of Chicago] Willard Dix came the advice to work harder in the pre-application process. He believes too many students look for the "name brand," often falling victim to the Groucho Marx axiom; "I would never be a member of a club that would have me." Dix berates colleges for creating a need and then denying it, using Harvard's 91 percent

deny rate as an example. He criticizes students and their parents for not being realistic and creative in their college application list. In fact, Mr. Dix refuses to submit transcripts or letters of recommendation to colleges for which the applicant is not qualified.

Four weeks after my return from the College Board, I attended a California college tour called DecemberFest. This is a week-long, invitational event that took me to California Institute of Tech-

nology, Claremont McKenna, Pitzer, Pomona, Harvey Mudd, Occidental, Whittier, the University of Redlands, and Scripps. The opportunities at these colleges are outstanding, including research and lab experiments at the undergraduate level.

While I learn a great deal about colleges and applications and admissions procedures on trips such as these, I am also reminded of the wide variety of colleges that are available for MUS students of every level. I add to my arsenal each time I travel with counselors from other states and countries. I always return having established a new network of colleagues with whom to share information. These meetings allow me to continue to stay abreast of the latest ideas and information for college counseling at MUS.

Ellis Haguewood
Headmaster

Barry Ray
Upper School Principal

Rick Broer
Lower School Principal

Bobby Alston
Director of Athletics

Lin Askew
Director of Admissions

Emily Baer
Director of College Guidance

Perry Dement
Director of Advancement

Rankin Fowlkes
Director of Business Operations

Mike Gunn
Academic Dean

Bebe Jonakin
Director of Counseling Services

Debbie Lazarov
Director of Communications

Ellen McDonell
Director of Hyde Library

Inside MUS is published by Memphis University School. Send news and comments to Caitlin Goodrich, Editor of *Inside MUS*, at caitlin.goodrich@musowls.org, or call 901-260-1348.

Memphis University School is a college-preparatory school dedicated to academic excellence and the development of well-rounded young men of strong moral character, consistent with the school's Christian tradition.



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UPCOMING EVENTS

March

- 16 Sophomores and Parents Meeting for Registration and College Preparation
- 18 National Honor Society Induction
- 25 School Holiday – Good Friday
- 28 School Holiday – Easter Monday
- 31 Spring Musical Opens

April

- 1 Metcalf Symposium
- 3 Daylight Savings Time Begins
- 6 Election of 2005-06 Honor Council President
- 12 Senior Graduation Seat Selection Begins
- 13 Student Council Election Speeches
- 14 Election of 2005-06 Student Council Executives
- 19 Tennessee Mathematics Teachers Association Exam
- 20 Transition of Student Leaders
- 23 Passover Begins at Sundown
- 25 Shelby League Seventh- and Eighth-Grade Tennis Tournament Begins
- 29 Last Day of Regular Classes for Seniors
- 30 Spring Formal

May

- 1 Sports Banquet
- 2 Senior and A.P. Exams Begin
- 4 Shelby League Seventh- and Eighth-Grade Track Championships Begin
- 9 Shelby League Seventh- and Eighth-Grade Soccer Tournament Begins
- 12 Senior Class Brunch at the Headmaster's House; Graduation Rehearsal at Second Presbyterian Church
- 15 Baccalaureate at Second Presbyterian Church; Graduation at Second Presbyterian Church
- 18 End of Fourth Quarter (1/2 day)
- 19 Underclassmen Exams Begin
- 24 State Baseball Tournament Begins
- 25 State Tennis Tournament Begins
- 26 Last Day of School (1/2 day)
- 27 State Track Meet
- 28 State Soccer Tournament

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