

INSIDE

News from MEMPHIS UNIVERSITY SCHOOL



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Wilson Society Recognizes Seniors

Twenty-one seniors celebrated the legacy of longtime MUS supporter and friend, the late Kemmons Wilson, on Monday, April 26. The students were inducted as the inaugural members of the Wilson Society, a group established at MUS to give seniors an opportunity to demonstrate their full grasp of the seven tenets of the MUS Community Creed—Truth and Honor, Scholarship, Service, Respect, Humility, Involvement, and Accountability.

The following students (pictured below) were inducted into the Wilson Society: **Brandon Arrindell, Dean Atyia, Timothy Chen, Austin Chu, Chris Covellis, Sean Curran, Spencer Dailey, Elliot Embry, Tyler Fisher, Gatlin Hardin, Andrew Hooser, Lee Hoyle, Todd Jean-Pierre, Adam Kaplan, Ben Kastan, Stephen Kriger, Cash McCracken, John McGreger, Paul Moinester, Austin Rainey, and Brad Spicer.**

Written by the graduating class of 2001, the MUS Community Creed was adopted by the students as a statement of the ideals and virtues that have governed student behavior and attitudes since the inception of the school. To exhibit their understanding of the MUS Creed the candidates had to complete the following requirements:

- **Truth and Honor:** A senior must demonstrate his full support of the Honor System through his actions and through the encouragement of this principle in others.
- **Scholarship:** A senior must submit a paper to be considered for the Memphis University School Student Ideas Periodical.
- **Service:** A senior must perform five hours of community service in a school-sponsored Civic Service project(s).
- **Respect:** A senior must participate in a program that involves

leading Lower School students, such as peer mentoring or peer tutoring.

- **Humility:** A senior must give a speech to a group of students. These speeches can range from an all-school assembly to a Lower School assembly, or teaching a Lower School class.
- **Involvement:** A senior must be involved in a school-sanctioned extracurricular activity, which can be anything from a sport to government club to theater productions.
- **Accountability:** A senior must continue to demonstrate positive school citizenship in the classroom and in all his activities.

Kem and Spence Wilson, sons of Kemmons Wilson, Sr., attended the dinner and presented each Wilson Society inductee with a copy of Mr. Wilson's autobiography, *Half Luck and Half Brains*. The candidates also received a special compass bearing the MUS seal and the seven tenets of the Community Creed, signifying the direction that leaders must offer others and have for themselves.

"The Wilson Society was created to recognize those students who have excelled in leadership and service, particularly during the second semester of their senior year," said Mr. **Manning Weir '90**, director of student life and the society's originator. "While some students see the last semester of high school as an opportunity to take it easy, these 21 gentlemen saw it as a final chance to make an impact on younger students, the community, and also themselves."

Kem Wilson (far left) and Manning Weir (far right) congratulate the inaugural Wilson Society members.



Sean Curran teaches students in Maria Burke's seventh-grade math class about polyhedra models.





STRAIGHT FROM THE HEAD

Lifetime Rewards of an Independent-School Education

by Ellis Haguewood, MUS Headmaster

“Though it cost all you have, get understanding.” —Proverbs 4.7b

A first-rate education comes with a price tag, and the cost of independent schools has risen dramatically in recent years. Schools in the National Association of Independent Schools (NAIS) had an average tuition in 2003–04 of \$16,298, over a third more than a decade ago. While an independent-school education costs more than many other educational options, to be sure, research shows that an investment in independent-school education produces priceless rewards. According to the NAIS, a school like MUS not only fosters superlative academic achievement but also develops a high sense of responsibility, self-reliance, and community service in its students.

Although tuition costs are often driven by a desire to offer the best possible facilities and the best student-support services possible, according to a recent *Wall Street Journal* article, the major reason for the increase is a strong motivation to increase teachers’ salaries. And why not? Research suggests that teachers have been and still are the most influential determinant in judging the quality of education that a child receives. At MUS, most of our teachers have advanced degrees in the subject areas in which they teach, they have an average of 21 years of experience, and they are committed to the highest standards of academic performance for every student. In the Mid-South, our teachers are in a class by themselves.

Our small, high-quality classrooms encourage curiosity and active participation, and our low student-to-teacher ratio (12 to 1) allows teachers to give individual attention to each student, allowing for the needs and interests of each boy. Small classes also allow teachers great flexibility in the use of creative teaching methods and the opportunity to create an atmosphere in which it is “cool” to be smart and to do one’s best. NAIS research asserts that in such an environment students cannot “hide from challenge or lose themselves in the shuffle.”

A demanding curriculum is crucial in preparing a student for college. MUS offers what NAIS research indicates as imperative: a “rigorous education that encourages students to master core knowledge at an early age and acquire advanced skills in math and language that pave the way for success in college.” An atmosphere of high expectations supports mandatory course requirements that do not offer students ready opportunities to opt out of taking essential classes. A vigorous curriculum cultivates essential habits of thought, analytical thinking, and cogent writing skills.

According to Ronald Wolk, founding editor and publisher of *Education Week* and *Teacher Magazine*, “Preparing leaders for society is one of the greatest contributions of private independent schools.

They are successful in doing this because they go beyond academics to address the development of the whole person.” At MUS our mission aims at “academic excellence and the development of well-rounded young men of strong moral character.” We are committed to the education of the whole child and his intellectual, physical, spiritual, and artistic development. Our teachers understand our mission and double as coaches, advisors, and counselors. Individualized college counseling provides the necessary guidance to find the best academic and social college match for each student. Leadership opportunities abound. The Honor System, maintained by a student-elected Honor Council, undergirds the school’s emphasis on personal integrity and high standards of civility. Independent schools demand that students acknowledge the worth and value of their peers and teachers.

The very highest quality of education comes with a price, but in fact the tuition at MUS is well below the national average. And tuition covers only 72 percent of the total cost for each student. Other sources of income—the generosity of alumni, parents, and friends through the Annual Fund; endowments and short-term investments; auxiliary services such as athletics, bookstore, cafeteria, driver education, summer camps, and summer school—subsidize the other 28 percent. While the cost of an MUS education is steep, the investment brings invaluable returns for the rest of a boy’s life.

A small, high-quality learning environment, development of independence and personal responsibility, acceptance to a college that will maximize a boy’s potential, life-long societal benefits—an MUS education is *priceless*.



Austin Rainey, headed for Clemson University, and Brad Spicer, headed for the University of Kentucky, at Graduation ‘04

TUITION SURVEY

MUS’s 2004–05 tuition of \$11,975 compares favorably to comparable college preparatory schools in the Southeast. The following are examples of day-school tuition at schools in the region:

McCallie School, Chattanooga	\$15,500
Baylor School, Chattanooga	\$15,368
Lovett School, Atlanta	\$15,230
Westminster Schools, Atlanta	\$15,112
Montgomery Bell Academy, Nashville	\$14,575
Hutchison School, Memphis	\$12,900
Webb School, Knoxville	\$12,898
St. Mary’s Episcopal School, Memphis	\$12,100

Vale, Mr. Ellis

THE 2003–04 SCHOOL YEAR marked the end of Latin teacher **Richard Ellis**'s 30-year teaching career, which included 14 years at MUS. In his Latin classes, Mr. Ellis's goal was to draw "contrasts and comparisons between the present and the ancient past, which possibly gives insight into the future." The successes of MUS students at Latin competitions throughout the country attest to the remarkable skill and enthusiasm that infused Mr. Ellis's teaching style.

Loved by his students and respected by his colleagues, Mr. Ellis made a mark on MUS because of his outstanding teaching and relationships with his students, as evidenced by the large number of students who came to school early to study Greek and Latin with him for no course credit. According to Mr. Ellis, the dedication of these students in particular made him realize that he achieved the aim of every teacher: to instill a love of learning in students.

Mr. Ellis received his B.S. in Latin/Greek from Memphis State University and his M.A. in Latin/Greek at the University of Iowa. Throughout his teaching career, he shared his knowledge and love of these subjects with his students. When asked what he enjoyed most about teaching at MUS, Mr. Ellis replied, "The academic freedoms and the opportunity to work with so many talented and motivated people, students, and faculty alike make it an enjoyable place to teach."

Mr. Ellis fondly recalls his teaching career. "What can I say about my teaching experience? It's been a wonderful life! I think I would do it all again, well most of it. Over the years, I have loved the teaching of foreign languages: Latin, Greek, and Spanish; Greek most of all! It has always been a challenge for me to inspire others with a love of language and a reward for me when I have been able to do so. I have really enjoyed working with students and the wonderful colleagues I have gotten to know over the years. I plan to continue with my other passions: collecting antique phonographs, music boxes, and other musical items; traveling; and maybe even working with students in the future," said Mr. Ellis.

Mr. Ellis Haguewood, speaking on the announcement of Mr. Ellis's retirement, remarked, "We really didn't need another reminder that 'sic transit gloria mundi.' Nothing gold can stay." Mr. Ellis was that glimmer of gold in the classroom, and he will indeed be missed at MUS.



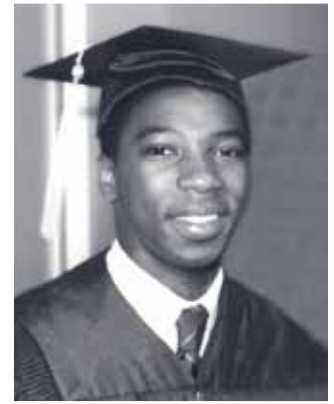
Mr. Ellis and Dara Chan '03 (pictured here at last year's Special Awards and Honor Societies Induction Night)

The **successes** of MUS students at Latin competitions throughout the country attest to the **remarkable skill and enthusiasm** that infused Mr. Ellis's **teaching style**.

National Achievement Scholar

MUS senior **Brandon Arrindell** has received a National Achievement Scholarship, a recognition given by the National Merit Scholarship Corporation (NMSC) for outstanding black students. Arrindell is one of approximately 800 designated recipients of the award. After his high score on the Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test—taken during his junior year—qualified him for Semifinalist status, Arrindell's excellent academic record and an essay written specifically for the competition were also taken into account, and he was raised to Finalist status.

Each year about 120,000 students enter the competition by taking the qualifying exam. Established in 1964, the National Achievement Scholarship program seeks to honor stellar black high school students. Eligible students can enter both the National Merit and National Achievement programs, but they may only receive one monetary award from the corporation. Arrindell will use his scholarship at Harvard University beginning next fall.



SECOND SEMESTER 2003-04

DEAN'S SCHOLAR

GRADE 12

Austin Chu
Sean Curran
Gatlin Hardin

GRADE 11

Andrew Olinger
Matt Sights

GRADE 10

Shea Conaway
Brian Evans
Bryce Hendry
Zachary Kisber
Walter Klyce
Jesse Mahautmr
Keith Parsons
Hayden Pendergrass

GRADE 9

Andrew Jehl
Erim Sarinoglu
John Stokes
Hobbie Turley

GRADE 8

Michael Cross
Scott Edwards
Watson George
Travis Hamm
Rob Hartmann
Jake McCrary
Mark McLeod
Will Pryor
Peter Travis

GRADE 7

Will Benton
Devin Brooks
Drew Cornaghie
Robert Duffley
Michael Edwards
Barret Folk
Lowell Hays
Jake Henke
Thomas Ivy
Rahul Kumar

Andrew Maroda
John Riggins
John Rutledge
Matthew Shelton
Will Stokes
Walt Wepfer

DEAN'S LIST

GRADE 12

Dean Atyia
Tom Billings
William Brandon
Timothy Chen
Chris Covellis
Spencer Dailey
Scott Ferguson
Tyler Fisher
Justin Foreman
Christian Freeman
Jason Goldstein
Andrew Hoff
Lee Hoyle
Ben Jaqua
Todd Jean-Pierre
Adam Kaplan
Ben Kastan
Jack Louie
Hays Mabry
Cash McCracken
Paul Moinester
Tony Montedonico
Lyle Muller
Cotter Norris
Austin Rainey
Will Stubblefield
Pierce Sullivan
Scott Tashie
Edward Taylor
Clayton Thomas

GRADE 11

Sloan Abernathy
Charles Askew
Rob Baird
Alex Chinn
Clint Cowan
Cody Curtis
John Daniel
Preston Dennis
Andrew Dudas
Price Edwards
Josh Evensky
Noah Feder
Phillip Flinn
Michael Fong
Robert Goff
Alex Guyton
Josh Hall
Rob Heflin
Tommy Horton
Benjamin Katz
Bo Ladyman
Cody Mayer
Harry Mayfield
Wilson McManus
Kyle Mullen
Stephen Nease
Randall Noel
Brent Phillips
Andrew Robinson
Mark Scales
Mike Schaeffer
Parth Sheth
Wes Spiro
Aaron Struminger
Ben Tacker
John Taylor
Jacob Weinstein
Eric Wilson
Hank Wynn

GRADE 10

Andrew Alexander
Collier Calandrucchio
Tom Chiu
Jonathan Davenport
Matthew Doss
Matt Dowling
Bryan Eder
Bryan Fox
Andrew Gordon
Oliver Green
Daniel Harriman
Frank Jemison
Matt Johnson
Greg Jones
Zach Matthews
Donald McClure
Will Pickens
Grayson Sharpe
David Shochat
Barrett Steinberg
Christopher Thomas
Will Thornton
Brian Wurzburg
Paul Yacoubian
Peter Zanca
Paul Zettler
GRADE 9
Tyler Anthony
Marshall Bartlett
Stephen Bowie
John Catmur
Stephen Counce
Blake Cowan
Khang Dang
Jay Edwards
Ryan Foley
Louis Ghawji
Stewart Gray
Ken Haltom
Drew Hammond
William Harris

Josh Henke
Philip Heppel
Reid Higginbotham
Luke Jensen
Noah Ketter
Neely Mallory
Bruce Mathews
Chris McDonald
Naveed Mirza
Lee Moore
David Morelli
Austin Nauert
Clement Oigbokie
Ragan Pitner
Ed Porter
Byron Tyler
Dev Varma
Ferrell Varner
Ben Waller
Jeffrey Webb
Jeffrey Wright
Jonathan Yeung
GRADE 8
Andrew Amos
Morgan Arant
Austin Beckford
Alan Blount
Roger Chu
Asad Dilawari
Michael Duke
Max Dyermeran
Hunter Edens
Matthew Edwards
Nelson Graham
Grant Heflin
Robert Hoehn
Barrett Huggins
Teddy Klug
Stephen Maroda
Will Mays
Andrew Millen
Ross Montague

Nick Nash
Samir Sheth
Patrick Stewart
Joshua Vieira
Malcolm Wood
Blair Wright
Luke Wynn
GRADE 7
Amro Amro
Jimmy Ball
Mark Beanblossom
Jordan Brown
John Carson
Robert Counce
Robert Cowan
Dylan Cunningham
Tommy Dickens
Will Ferguson
Jake Franklin
Drew Frisby
Matt Grisham
Mason Gudelsky
Matthew Jehl
Cliff Jones
Jackson Knight
Charlie Lowrance
Evan Mah
Colin McDonald
Ahmed Minhas
Jim Moore
Mustafa Motiwala
William Paxton
Robert Peterson
Harrison Rea
Taylor Reed
Phillip Russell
Wesley Shannon
William Shows
Andy Stubblefield
Robert Threlkeld

There's No "I" in TEAM

In March, 16 members of the MUS TEAMS team participated in the yearly competition at the University of Memphis. TEAMS stands for Test of Engineering Aptitude, Mathematics, and Science and begins with a local competition where team members answer 100 multiple-choice questions covering 10 different engineering topics. Examples of this year's topics include fire protection engineering, hydrostatic bearings on a large telescope, and engineering in fast-food processing. Teams who do well locally move on to state competition, and those that win their state divisions compete nationally on a long-answer test. Both the MUS varsity and JV teams went on to win the state division and competed nationally—placing 24th and 13th respectively.

Varsity team members were: **Tom Billings, Brent Boswell, Austin Chu, Sean Curran, Chris Freeman, Alex Guyton, Lyle Muller, and Parth Sheth.** JV team members were: **Alex Chinn, John Daniel, Brian Evans, Noah Feder, Andrew Manugian, Worth Morgan, Brent Phillips, and Kevin Wang.**

Master of the Written Word



Eighth-grader **Max Dynerman** received a Certificate of Recognition from the National Council of Teachers of English (NCTE) Promising Young Writers Program. **Mr. Jim Russell** nominated Dynerman for the award, which received approximately 750 nominations from schools in the United States and Canada, but only 229 winners were named. The program is designed to honor excellent eighth-grade writers and to emphasize the

importance of possessing good writing skills.

According to the NCTE guidelines, students submitted two pieces of writing, which were read by teams of teachers at the state level. Papers were then judged on content, purpose, audience, tone, word choice, organization, development, and style. Other Tennessee students who were recognized hailed from Baylor, Maryville Middle School, White Station Middle School, Brentwood Middle School, and Montgomery Bell Academy.

The TIP of the Iceberg

Seventeen MUS seventh-graders took a seat alongside high school juniors and seniors in February to see how they would fare on the ACT college entrance exam. The students were chosen for participation in Duke University's Talent Identification Program (TIP) on the basis of their standardized test scores, and when they took the full version of the ACT, many scored high enough to make the high school students jealous. **Robert Duffley** achieved the "Grand" level of recognition with his composite score of 28. "I thought it was going to be really, really hard," said Duffley, "but it turned out to be a lot easier than I expected. I think it will take a lot of the pressure off when I get into high school because now I



know it is more of an intelligence test than a school test." Duffley was recognized, along with about 1,000 other "Grand" level participants, at a ceremony on the Duke campus in Durham, North Carolina, in May.

The other seventh-graders who participated all scored high enough to be recognized as state qualifiers, meaning they met at least one of the following criteria: a 20 or above in English or Math, or a 21 or above in Reading or Science. This group included **Amro Amro,**



Seventh-grader Robert Duffley achieves a "Grand" score on the ACT.

Devin Brooks, John Carson, Drew Cornaghie, Jared Davis, Michael Edwards, Barrett Folk, Matt Grisham, Lowell Hays, Thomas Ivy, Cliff Jones, Rahul Kumar, Jim Moore, William Paxton, Wesley Shannon, and Robert Threlkeld.

Latin Achievements

Two MUS students were honored recently for their outstanding achievements on the Classical Association of the Middle West and South's (CAMWS) 2004 Latin Sight Translation Examination. **Austin Chu**, one of the top ten winners of the examination, won a \$250 prize and a certificate of recognition. Winner of a Letter of Commendation on the exam was **Tyler Fisher.** CAMWS graded 364



Austin Chu, left, and Tyler Fisher receive CAMWS honors.

examinations from more than 50 schools throughout the United States and Canada. Chu and Fisher's recognitions were indeed a tribute to their talents in Latin and to the strength of MUS's Latin curriculum, as they were two of only a handful of students who were honored nationwide. One of the largest classical associations in the country, CAMWS recognizes both students and schools for their efforts to promote the study of classical languages.

Learning a New Language

On March 2 and 3, every student enrolled in a foreign language course at MUS was required to take part in a national exam measuring their level of competency in their particular language. Many students were recognized for their performance on these exams.



NATIONAL LATIN EXAM

The National Latin Exam recognized students in first, second, third, and fourth places within their grade levels. The following MUS students were recognized for their achievements:

NATIONAL SPANISH EXAM

In Spanish, all students scoring above the 75th percentile were recognized by the Tennessee State Chapter of the American Association of Teachers of Spanish and Portuguese. Several MUS students placed in the 99th national percentile: Level I - **Stewart Gray**; Level II - **Matt Dowling, Zachary Kisber, and Hayden Pendergrass**; Level III - **Lee Hoyle**; and Level IV - **Matt Sights and Evan Herrera. Gabriel Rapalo** was required to take the Level IV exam since he is a native speaker and was recognized for his results even though he is a student in the Level II class. The following Spanish students were also recognized for their performances:

LEVEL I	Frank Jemison	Kyle Fong
Marshall Bartlett	Matt Johnson	Michael Fong
Alex Carter	John Klinke	Ethan Knight
Wilson Castleman	Parker Long	Cody Mayer
Ashton Fisher	Garrott McClintock	Stephen Nease
Alexander Folk	Jason Northington	Andrew Olinger
Ken Haltom	Keith Parsons	Michael Schaeffer
William Harris	Barrett Steinberg	Hunter Swain
Miles Tamboli	Christopher Thomas	LEVEL IV
Hobbie Turley	Dex Witte	William Brandon
Ferrell Varner	Paul Zettler	Timothy Chen
LEVEL II	LEVEL III	Eddie Owen
Hunter Adams	Charles Askew	Edward Taylor
Oliver Green	Price Edwards	
Bryce Hendry	Phillip Flinn	

NATIONAL FRENCH EXAM

Fourteen MUS students were recognized as National and State winners of the Grand Concours in a ceremony sponsored by the Alliance Francaise that took place at St. Agnes Academy on Tuesday, April 27. In French I, Division A, **Erim Sarinoglu** placed tenth on the national level in the 85th percentile. In French II, Division B, **Louis Ghawji** placed seventh on the national level in the 95th percentile.

In French II, Division A, there were eight national winners: **Andrew Gordon** and **Zach Matthews** placed sixth in the 85th percentile; **Collier Calandruccio, Jonathan Davenport, and Zach Glover** placed seventh in the 80th percentile; **Brian Evans** and **David Minervini** placed eighth in the 80th percentile; and **Brian Wurzburg** placed ninth in the 75th percentile. In French III, Division A, there were four state winners: **Jacob Weinstein** placed fourth, **Parth Sheth** placed fifth, **Jordan Crawford** placed eighth, and **Jonathan Barnes** placed tenth.

LATIN I

**1ST PLACE -
SUMMA CUM LAUDE**

Morgan Arant
Michael Cross
Michael Duke
Scott Edwards
Watson George
Barrett Huggins
Will Mays
Mark McLeod
Will Pryor
Peter Travis

**2ND PLACE -
MAXIMA CUM LAUDE**

Roger Chu
Hunter Edens
Teddy Klug
Stephen Maroda
Jake McCrary
Nick Nash
Ragan Pitner
Corey Scheinblum
Josh Vieira
Blair Wright
Luke Wynn

**3RD PLACE -
MAGNA CUM LAUDE**

Travis Hamm
Rob Hartmann
Grant Heflin
Graham Jones
Ross Montague
Patrick Stewart
Michael Sousoulas

**4TH PLACE -
CUM LAUDE**

Sayle Atkinson
Alan Blount
Andrew Millen
Michael Stein

LATIN II

**1ST PLACE -
SUMMA CUM LAUDE**

Elliott Cole
Ashton Fisher
Scott Guinn
Drew Hammond
Josh Henke
Phillip Heppel
Andrew Jehl
Neely Mallory
Chris Mullins
Ed Porter

**2ND PLACE -
MAXIMA CUM LAUDE**

John Stokes
Byron Tyler
Jonathan Yeung
Alex Addington
West Askew
Stephen Bowie
Stephen Counce
Naveed Mirza
Haynes Vaughn
Jeffrey Webb
Jeffrey Wright

**3RD PLACE -
MAGNA CUM LAUDE**

Jay Edwards
Louis Ghawji
John Reinhardt
Noah Ketler
Zach Scott

**4TH PLACE -
CUM LAUDE**

LATIN III
**1ST PLACE -
SUMMA CUM LAUDE**
Beau Britton
Tom Chiu
Shea Conaway
Bryan Eder

Bryan Fox
Greg Jones
Walter Klyce
Jesse Mahautmr
Ian Noble
Will Pickens
Grayson Sharpe
Robert Wallace
Peter Zanca
**3RD PLACE -
MAGNA CUM LAUDE**
Will Thorton
**4TH PLACE -
CUM LAUDE**
Rob Peeler
David Schochat

LATIN IV AP
**1ST PLACE -
SUMMA CUM LAUDE**

Noah Feder
Will Hickman
Parth Sheth
Hank Wynn
**2ND PLACE -
MAXIMA CUM LAUDE**
Alex Chinn
Andrew Dudas
Chris Freeman
Aaron Markowitz
Aaron Struminger
Eric Wilson

LATIN V AP
**1ST PLACE -
SUMMA CUM LAUDE**

Austin Chu
Lyle Muller
**3RD PLACE -
MAGNA CUM LAUDE**
Tyler Fisher

Singing in the Streets

Since Beg To Differ began competing regularly in 1993, they have always achieved scores in the 90's or ratings in the "A" or Gold levels. Because of these scores, Beg To Differ was one of 22 select choirs from both independent and public secondary schools chosen to participate in a prestigious festival in Chicago this spring. Some of the schools participating had multiple choirs in attendance and more than 100 students enrolled in their respective choral programs. Beg To Differ attended with their modest group of 17 students, many of whom are in Beg To Differ as an extra-curricular activity.

Although the choirs were scored by three of the best-known and respected choral conductors in the country today, including Dr. Craig Jessop, the conductor of the Mormon Tabernacle Choir, they were not ranked or placed, since the festival was designed for choirs already in the same essential ranking. Beg To Differ did score an overall 91 and was especially proud of the 94 that Dr. Jessop awarded them. Compared to the sheer size of many of the other choirs and the unusual diversity of Beg To Differ's repertoire, they, and especially their director, **Mr. John Hiltonsmith**, were very proud. Whereas the staple of most participating ensembles was classical in nature, Beg To Differ's included a piece from the early Baroque: "Exsultate Justi, in Domino," the traditional "Swing Low Sweet Chariot," featuring **Ian Noble**; "Walking in Memphis," featuring **Charles Askew**; and "It's All Right," featuring **Warner Russell**.

In addition to the contest, all the choirs performed together en masse with each of the choral conductors in residence at the festival at the famed Chicago Symphony Hall, a venue where such conductors as Sir Georg Solti and Herbert Karajan have conducted. Four members of each choir were selected by their respective directors to perform in an honor choir as well. Those selected from Beg To Differ were: **Walter Klyce, Will Hickman, Eric Wilson, and Mike Schaeffer**. Outside of the concert hall, the group turned heads on the streets of Chicago and in the subways, as they tended to break into spontaneous song. This has become an activity that many



members of the group have learned to appreciate and look forward to, given their style of music. Attracting a crowd of 15–20 onlookers is not unusual.

As in years past, **Mr. Flip Eikner '77** accompanied the group and coached them in stage presence and interpretation of their contest pieces. Mr. Eikner always adds a dimension to their contest performance that is unique to Beg To Differ.

Students participating were: **Drew Alston, Charles Askew, Ben Bleustein, Blake Cowan, Clint Cowan, Adrian Doggrell, Ben Goldstein, Will Hickman, Walter Klyce, Drew McCarty, John McGreger, David Minervini, Ian Noble, Warner Russell, Mike Schaeffer, John Stokes, and Eric Wilson.**

Knowledge is Power

The second semester Knowledge Masters competition again placed MUS participants where they are used to being—at the top. The Upper School team placed 86th, or in the 90th percentile, out of 838 schools from across the globe, and 4th in Tennessee. Of 2,000 possible points, the Owls scored 1,477 which was well above the average score of 1,187. The team outsmarted schools from Shanghai, China; Seoul, South Korea; Manila, Phillipines; Singapore; and the United Arab Emirates. They also beat all the teams participating from Alaska, Arizona, Delaware, Florida, Idaho, Kansas, Maine, Nebraska, New Mexico, Nevada, Oregon, South Carolina, South Dakota, Utah, and Wyoming. Upper School team members were **Jonathan Barnes, Austin Chu, Noah Feder, Chris Freeman, Sashank Karri, Bruce Mathews, Jayshal Patel, Parth Sheth, Warren Stafford, Aaron Struminger, Hunter Swain, Kevin Wang, and Paul Yacoubian.**

The Lower School team also placed very well at 2nd in Tennessee and 125th out of 909 competing schools. Lower School team members were: **Amro Amro, Austin Beckford, Roger Chu, Robert Duffley, Scott Edwards, John Kornegay, Andrew Millen, Michael Stein, Samir Sheth, and Jonathan Tutor.**



2003–04 Beg To Differ members

Math Adds Up Awards Tennessee Mathematics Teachers' Association Test (TMTA)

Thirty-seven MUS students went to the University of Memphis to compete statewide in the TMTA test held on April 20. This 80-minute, 40-question, multiple-choice exam is offered in the areas of Algebra I, Geometry, Algebra II, Pre-calculus, Calculus, and Statistics.

For the Memphis area, the following MUS students placed in each of these math divisions:

ALGEBRA I: Scott Edwards, 3rd; Josh Vieira, 9th
GEOMETRY: Stephen Counce, 3rd; Byron Tyler, 6th
ALGEBRA II: Shea Conaway, 2nd; Jesse Mahautmr, 3rd; Brian Evans and Bryan Fox, 4th; and Tom Chiu, 10th
PRE-CALCULUS: Alex Chinn, 1st; Noah Feder, 9th
CALCULUS: Austin Chu, 1st; Parth Sheth, 2nd
STATISTICS: Sean Curran, 2nd

Continental Math League Competitions (CML)

Seventh- and eighth-graders on the MUS math team, coached by Ms. Maria Burke, Mr. Bruce Ryan, and Ms. Betty Williams, competed in the CML competitions throughout the year. Consisting of five 30-minute competitions spaced over the school year, the contest requires above-average reading comprehension and analytical capabilities. The math team members with the highest scores received certificates of distinction for their mathematics talents. Of 30 possible points, the high scorers were Roger Chu with a perfect score, Scott Edwards with 29, Jon Tutor with 25, Michael Stein with 23, Devin Brooks with 17, Michael Edwards with 16, and Amro Amro with 15. Edwards and Chu received engraved medals in recognition of their outstanding performances.

Math League Press Contests

In February all MUS seventh-graders and the eighth-grade accelerated math students competed with more than 1,000 schools in the Math League Press contests. The goal of the competitions is to encourage student interest and confidence in mathematics by solving problems in different areas of math. With an individual score of 40 being perfect, Devin Brooks earned the highest seventh-grade score, 38; Michael Edwards scored 36; Lowell Hays and Harrison Rea scored 34; and Amro Amro, Robert Duffley, John Grisham, Jim Moore, and Walt Wepfer tied with scores of 33. Brooks had the top score in the state and placed 8th in the league. Edwards placed second in the state and 15th in the league.

The seventh-grade team finished third in the league. Eighth-grade high scorers Scott Edwards and Jon Tutor tied for MUS's best score of 38, while Roger Chu scored 37, Josh Vieira scored 33, and Ross Montague and Peter Travis both earned a score of 32. Edwards and Tutor tied for first place in the state and sixth in the league. Chu placed third in the state and 11th in the league. Vieira finished fourth in the state. The eighth-grade team placed second in the league. Both teams placed first in the state overall and received individual certificates of merit and a plaque for the school.



American Mathematics Contest (AMC)

Thirteen MUS students qualified for the 2004 American Invitational Mathematics Examination (AIME). Students qualify based on their AMC scores. This year, 239,186 of the best math students in the nation took the

AMC, and only about 2 percent of them qualified for the AIME (see below for a list of AMC competitors). The AIME qualifiers from MUS were Austin Chu, Alex Guyton, Timothy Chen, Worth Morgan, Alex Chinn, Andrew Manugian, Parth Sheth, Kevin Wang, Brent Boswell, Bo Ladyman, and Sunny Majumdar. The school team score is the sum of the top three students' scores—Chu, Guyton, and Chen's combined score of 351 out of 450 on the AMC placed MUS third in the state. Chu had the highest individual score in the state, while Guyton had the 23rd highest, and Chen the 25th.

The next round of this contest is the USA Mathematics Olympiad (USAMO), a six-question, nine-hour examination. The top 261 students in the country qualify for this exam, and qualification is based on the sum of both the AMC and the AIME scores. Chu was one of three students in Tennessee who qualified for this prestigious competition.

AMC 12

12TH GRADE
 Tom Billings
 Brent Boswell
 Timothy Chen
 Austin Chu
 Sean Curran
 Sunny Majumdar

11TH GRADE

Alex Chinn
 Clint Cowan
 John Daniel
 Andrew Dudas
 Noah Feder
 Kyle Fong
 Michael Fong
 Chris Freeman
 Alex Guyton
 Sashank Karri
 Bo Ladyman
 Andrew Manugian
 Aaron Markowitz
 Cody Mayer
 Michael McCulloch
 Worth Morgan
 Andrew Olinger
 Stephen Nease
 Brent Phillips
 Mike Schaeffer
 Matt Sights
 Parth Sheth
 Warren Stafford
 Aaron Struminger
 Kevin Wang
 Jacob Weinstein
 Eric Wilson
 Hank Wynn

AMC 10

10TH GRADE
 Jim Carter
 Tom Chiu
 Shea Conaway
 Matthew Doss
 Brian Evans
 Bryan Fox
 Zach Glover
 Andrew Gordon
 Frank Jemison
 Gregory Jones
 Walter Klyce
 Daniel Lansky
 Jesse Mahautmr
 Donald McClure
 Keith Parsons
 Rob Peeler
 Cameron Ridgway
 Grayson Sharpe
 Alex Snyder
 Barrett Steinberg
 Christopher Thomas
 Brian Wurzburg
 Paul Yacoubian
 Peter Zanca
9TH GRADE
 Tyler Anthony
 Elliott Cole
 Stephen Counce
 Khang Dang
 Miles DeBardleben
 Ryan Foley
 Ben Goldstein
 Stewart Gray
 Josh Henke
 Andrew Jehl
 Neely Mallory

Naveed Mirza
 Lee Moore
 John Stokes
 Byron Tyler
 Jonathan Yeung
8TH GRADE
 Roger Chu
AMC 8
 Austin Beckford
 Roger Chu
 Michael Cross
 David Curran
 Jared Davis
 Asad Dilawari
 Scott Edwards
 Daniel Ernst
 Watson George
 Nelson Graham
 Matt Grisham
 Lowell Hays
 Jack Heflin
 Jake Henke
 Kirk Malmo
 Andrew Maroda
 Stephen Maroda
 Will Mays
 Andrew Millen
 Vance Montgomery
 Will Pryor
 Harrison Rea
 John Rutledge
 Michael Stein
 Will Stokes
 Jon Tutor
 Walt Wepfer
 Malcolm Wood
 Robbie Zettler



American Regions Mathematics League (ARML)

Five MUS students participated with the West Tennessee division of ARML, which sponsors a series of competitive tests throughout the school year and a nationwide competition in the spring. The tests are comprised of eight "power problems," and according to team coach **Mr. Bruce Ryan**, sometimes the problems even stump the teachers. The team is also coached by **Mr. Loyal Murphy**, **Ms. Nancy Gates**, and teachers from White Station High School, St. Mary's Episcopal School, and Rhodes College. **Austin Chu**, **Timothy Chen**, **Brent Boswell**, **Tom Billings**, and **Parth Sheth** competed with this year's team in Iowa City, Iowa, where they placed 14th out of approximately 60 teams in their division. Impressively, they also beat two and tied with two A-Division teams.

Five MUS students participated in the ARML competition in May.



Comic Book Heroes

A new MUS student group contributed to the Memphis community this year in an effort to encourage literacy in Memphis. The MUS Comics Group, affectionately referred to as the LXF (League of Extraordinary Fanboys), held a T-shirt sale to raise \$58.00 for the Memphis Literacy Council. The LXF felt the Literacy Council was an appropriate designee of their profits since it emphasizes reading, a main activity of the comics club. MUS students designed the T-shirt they sold, and the LXF's goal with the design was to promote both the comic industry and the club.

In addition to their regular meetings during which they usually read a particular comic and discussed the concept of a hero in that comic, the LXF held trivia contests. The winners of the trivia contests received a comic from the collections of **Mr. Patrick McCarroll** or **Mr. Darin Clift**, the club's faculty sponsors. The group also visited the movie theater together to see film adaptations of comic books throughout the year.



MUS Senior Wins Youth In Government Recognition

Mr. Guy Amsler, MUS Government Club faculty advisor, says that **Bernard Myers '90** was a driving force behind the spirit of camaraderie that now exemplifies the YMCA Youth In Government (YIG) program. Government Club is one of only a few programs that stresses inter-school cooperation. "He [Bernard] went out of his way to make friends and relationships with students from other schools and encourage participation in the different conferences," said Mr. Amsler.

When Myers passed away suddenly during his freshman year at Northwestern University, the MUS Government Club and the Memphis area YMCA established the Bernard Myers Scholarship Fund in his memory. The fund covers all expenses for a deserving participant to attend the annual Youth Legislature conference in Nashville. This year, the award was presented to MUS senior **Lee Hoyle**, who was a National Merit Semifinalist, a Dean's Scholar, and a member of the National Honor Society, Mu Alpha Theta, and the National History Honor Society while at MUS. He worked on the *Owl* annual staff, was a member of Fellowship of Christian Athletes, and a charter member of the Wilson Society. Within the Government Club, Hoyle's Costa Rica delegation received awards for the Best Country Research Project and Best Resolution at the 2002 Model UN. At the 2003 Model UN, he won individual awards for Outstanding Senior Assembly Delegate and Outstanding Security Council Visitor Delegate, while representing North Korea. According to Mr. Amsler, it is "rare and outstanding" for a participant to win two individual awards at a YMCA conference.

Faculty sponsors recommend nominees from each school's Government Club, and the award is given based on academic performance, leadership, character, and service in school and the community. Students from MUS, St. Mary's Episcopal School, Hutchison School, Christian Brothers High School, Central High School, and Craigmont High School have won the award since its establishment in the early 1990's.

"In Bernard's memory, this fund honors worthy individuals," said Mr. Amsler. "Lee's attitude exemplifies the spirit of competition and debate within the framework of tolerance and respect for one's opponent. These elements represent the best aspects of democracy in practice. Bernard would be proud."

Anyone wishing to donate to the Bernard Myers Scholarship fund may send checks to Mr. Guy Amsler at MUS, 6191 Park Avenue, Memphis, TN 38119. Checks should be made payable to YMCA Youth in Government.



Lee Hoyle

Under New Management 2004-05 Student Leaders

HONOR COUNCIL

PRESIDENT: Phillip Flinn
12TH GRADE REPRESENTATIVES
 Weller Drennon, Alex Guyton
11TH GRADE REPRESENTATIVES
 Hunter Adams, Will Pickens
10TH GRADE REPRESENTATIVES
 Miles DeBardeleben, Neely Mallory
9TH GRADE REPRESENTATIVES
 Watson George, Luke Wynn
8TH GRADE REPRESENTATIVES
 Lowell Hays, John Riggins
7TH GRADE REPRESENTATIVES
 Will be chosen in Fall of 2004

STUDENT COUNCIL

PRESIDENT: Andrew Robinson
VICE PRESIDENT:
 Sloan Abernathy
COMMISSIONER OF STUDENT WELFARE: Ben Tacker
COMMISSIONER OF STUDENT SERVICES: J.D. Lawhorn
COMMISSIONER OF SPECIAL ACTIVITIES: William Montgomery
COMMISSIONER OF SOCIAL EVENTS: Sam Sawyer
SECRETARY/TREASURER:
 Matt Farmer
LOWER SCHOOL PRESIDENT:
 Walt Wepfer
12TH GRADE REPRESENTATIVES
 Cody Curtis, Kyle Fong,
 Rob Heflin, Chris Levy,

Mark Scales, John Taylor
11TH GRADE REPRESENTATIVES
 Doug Boyer, Andrew Cabigao,
 Zane Haykal, John Klinke,
 Devin Owens, Rob Peeler
10TH GRADE REPRESENTATIVES
 Will Aldridge, Preston Battle,
 Luke Jensen, Sisco Larson,
 Steven Thompson, Jeffrey Wright
9TH GRADE REPRESENTATIVES
 Michael Duke, Kirk Malmo,
 Tyler Massey, Vance Montgomery,
 Robb Pitts, Malcolm Wood
8TH GRADE REPRESENTATIVES
 Barrett Folk, Michael Folk,
 Rhobb Hunter, Jackson Knight,
 Carl Krausnick
7TH GRADE REPRESENTATIVES
 Will be chosen in Fall 2004

SENIOR CLASS

PRESIDENT: Kane Alber

THE OWL (yearbook)

EDITOR: Alex Guyton

THE OWL'S HOOT (newspaper)

CO-EDITORS: Clint Cowan,
 Andrew Manugian

THE MUSE (literary magazine)

EDITOR: Michael Schaeffer

CIVIC SERVICE ORGANIZATION

PRESIDENT: Worth Morgan

GOVERNMENT CLUB

PRESIDENT: Alex Chinn



Clay Smythe '85, Bob Lupton, Bubba Halliday '82, and Ellis Haguewood

Lupton Shares Message of Hope, Charity

Thirty-two years ago, Bob Lupton left a budding business career to work with delinquent urban youth in inner-city Atlanta. He and his wife, Peggy, sold their suburban home and, along with their two sons, moved into the inner-city where they have lived and served as neighbors among those in need as Christian community developers with FCS Urban Ministries. Mr. Lupton was the keynote speaker for the seventh-annual Metcalf Symposium on April 2.

Mr. Lupton's life work has been the rebuilding of urban neighborhoods where families can flourish and children can grow into healthy adults. He has developed three mixed-income subdivisions, organized two multi-racial congregations, and started numerous businesses and housing opportunities for the community. While speaking to students, Mr. Lupton described the difference between giving someone a handout and a hand up. Tracing one dollar from the community clothing store, to the cashier's paycheck, to the doctor who helps a child, and back into the community's economy was a powerful illustration that showed the importance of each person's desire to earn money and provide for themselves and their family.

Mr. Lupton was a guest lecturer in an ethics class at MUS in addition to presenting a symposium lecture to the student body and faculty and holding two open forums with students. In the forums, he had an opportunity to expand on some of the topics covered in Chapel as well as from his books: *Theirs is the Kingdom* and *Return Flight*.

The Metcalf Symposium is an annual speaking series held at MUS designed specifically for secondary school students. It encourages reflection on the great ethical traditions of Western Civilization, which are emphasized at MUS, and honors Robert M. Metcalf, a lifelong businessman and former service elder at Second Presbyterian Church. Past symposium speakers have included Drew Trotter of the Center for Christian Study in Charlottesville, Virginia; Marvin Olasky of the University of Texas; and David Aikman from the Ethics and Public Policy Institute. The symposium is an initiative of The Wilberforce Education Foundation, a non-profit foundation that strives to develop and fund Christian world- and life-view programs that cultivate leadership at the secondary and university levels.

Helping Hands

The Junior League of Memphis recognized MUS with a Helping Hands award this year for continued support of the philanthropic organization. Each year, Junior League members use the Hyde Chapel for one of their largest meetings. Mrs. Leslie Dunavant, wife of John Dunavant '82, presented the award to Headmaster Ellis Haguewood with thanks on behalf of the Junior League.

Student Council executive members and Senior Class representatives: bottom: Matt Farmer, Mark Scales, Sloan Abernathy, Andrew Robinson; second row: Kyle Fong, J.D. Lawhorn, Sam Sawyer; third row: William Montgomery, John Taylor; top: Chris Levy.



MUS Spells L-I-T-E-R-A-C-Y

Memphis Literacy Council Benefits from MUS Support

At the suggestion of Memphis Literacy Council (MLC) board member and MUS English teacher **Ms. Elizabeth Crosby**, MUS entered a team in MLC's 13th-annual Corporate Spelling Bee. The MUS faculty joined other Memphis businesses in an old-fashioned competition to celebrate and raise funds for literacy in Memphis. Founded in 1974, the MLC's trained volunteers offer free literacy instruction to adults in the Memphis community. There are approximately 130,000 adults in Memphis who are at low literacy levels, and most of the adult students at the MLC begin the program reading below the fourth-grade level.

Eager to support the cause of adult literacy in the Memphis community, MUS faculty mobilized first to select its three-member team. On a beautiful spring afternoon in Ms. Elizabeth Crosby's backyard, **Mr. Terry Shelton** presided over a faculty spelling bee, calling out words, alternately encouraging and mocking the spelling-bee hopefuls' responses, and finally awarding plastic trophies to **Mrs. Molly Burr**, **Mrs. Bonnie Barnes**, and **Mr. Bruce Ryan**.

On the night of the event, the three faculty spelling champions and a number of their supportive colleagues attended the Literacy Council's spelling bee, facing serious corporate competition from the likes of *The Commercial Appeal*, *The Memphis Flyer*, Coors Brewing Company, Merrill Lynch, and MLG&W (which won the light-hearted competition), among others. The only school to enter and participate in the program, MUS was proud to do its part to support the cause of adult literacy in the Memphis community.



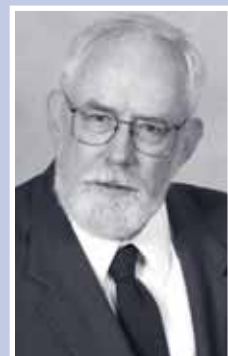
As Spelling Bee Master, Terry Shelton awaits the correct spelling of the word "pyracantha" from Bruce Ryan. Reginald Dalle and Bill Taylor look on, each relieved that it's not his turn.

History Repeats Itself

Dr. John Harkins, MUS and Memphis's resident history guru, has been elected to a new term as president of the West Tennessee Historical Society. Dr. Harkins previously served in this role for several years in the 1990's. The society is a heritage organization that serves 21 counties in West Tennessee by supporting historical programs,

archives, publications, preservations, markers, museums, and other historical collections. The group holds monthly meetings, September through May, usually in MUS's Wunderlich Auditorium.

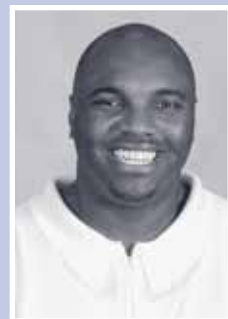
As president, Dr. Harkins will preside over the monthly meetings and supervise the promotion of all state and local history through the society. The group has reprinted, published, and supported several books on West Tennessee history, and in the past, they have been responsible for preserving historical landmarks such as the Gray House, an antebellum home which was in danger of demolition during the widening of U.S. Highway 64.



Dr. John Harkins

Coach Rogers Speaks to Pro Football Hopefuls

MUS football coach **Glenn Rogers** served as a speaker and role model at the 2004 High School Football Leadership Summit held May 15 at the National Civil Rights Museum. Presented by the Guide Right Motivational Symposium, the leadership summit gathered National Football League (NFL) players and coaches in an effort to provide role models for student athletes. Speakers were asked to talk about academic responsibilities, peer pressure, crime and drug awareness, and managing finances—topics that are important to athletes. Coach Rogers addressed high school juniors and seniors from Memphis and Shelby County high schools on issues ranging from coping with peer pressure to remaining committed to academic excellence. The symposium is a way for NFL athletes and coaches, as well as community leaders, to exert a positive influence on local youth athletes.



Coach Glenn Rogers

A former member of the Tampa Bay Buccaneers, Coach Rogers was one of four professional athletes, including Mike McKenzie, cornerback of the Green Bay Packers; Kippie Brown, coach of the Houston Texans; and Ernest Gray, a former New York Giant, selected to speak to the young athletes.

Targeting Education

This year, MUS received a check for \$553.82 from the Target Take Charge of Education School Fundraising program. Any time a purchase is made with a Target Visa or Target Guest Card, one percent of the total price is donated to a K-12 school of the buyer's choice. The money received has been deposited into MUS's Annual Fund and will benefit every aspect of student life—academics, athletics, fine arts, extra-curricular programs, technology, and campus improvement. Thanks to all who donated to MUS through this program.

Varsity Track Performs Well at Regional, State

The 2004 varsity track team completed another successful campaign as the Owls claimed a second-place regional finish and advanced 11 participants to the state meet, held at Briarcrest Christian School.



Hunter Adams (left) and Peter Zanca (right) lead this pack of runners.

MUS got some good preparation during the regular season at various meets around the area, and in many of them, the Owls did well. The team started strong at the MUS Jamboree and then proceeded to win easily a three-team meet with Briarcrest and Harding Academy. The season also consisted of two meets at Germantown, one at Harding in which the Owls placed second out of twelve teams, and one at Bartlett. These meets helped prepare MUS for their postseason run as **Coach Bobby Alston** prepared his sprinters, long-distance runners, and field participants for a run at the regional and state titles.

The postseason got off to an auspicious start as junior **John David Lawhorn** won the regional decathlon title with a strong performance on day two. Then, at the regional meet, the Owls came up short of winning the championship; however, several Owls shined at the meet. Lawhorn won the 300-meter hurdles and finished third in the 110-meter hurdles. Sophomore **Peter Zanca** also helped the squad with ten points by winning the 800-meter race, while fellow sophomore **Hunter Adams** claimed fifth in the race. Adams also qualified for state by finishing second in both the 1600-meters and 3200-meters.

Junior **Walker Pritchard** led all Owl sprinters as he qualified in two races as well. Pritchard's third-place finish in the 100-meters and second in the 200-meters added 14 points to the team and gave MUS some depth at state.

The 4x100-meter and 4x800-meter relay teams also qualified for state with good performances at the regional. The 4x100-meter team, consisting of senior **Neil Taylor** and juniors **Kane Alber**, **Lawhorn**, and **Pritchard**, won their race with a time of 43.68 seconds, while the 4x800-meter team, composed of sophomores **Will Pickens**, **Oliver Green**, **Zanca**, and freshmen **Ken Haltom**, finished second to earn eight points.

In the field events, a pair of seniors, **Andrew Hooser** and **Todd Jean-Pierre**, each performed well enough at regional to



qualify for state as both finished third in their respective events against a stellar field. Hooser placed in the shot put with a 49' 3" throw, and Jean-Pierre placed in the discus with a 137' 9" throw.

At the state meet, the Owls finished ninth and tallied 31.50 points. Lawhorn had the best finish of any Owl by claiming second in the 300-meter hurdles. Pritchard finished sixth in the 100-meters and fifth in the 200-meters, while Zanca claimed a sixth-place finish in the 800-meter race. Hunter Adams rounded out the individual runners with a seventh-place finish in the 1600-meters and eighth in the 3200-meters against some of the stiffest competition in recent history.

The 4x800-meter relay team, which added sophomore **Donald McClure**, tallied four points for the squad as they finished fifth, while the 4x100-meter team finished seventh and got two points. In the field events, Hooser claimed sixth in the shot put, and Jean-Pierre finished seventh in the discus as both ended outstanding MUS careers.

With a young squad this season, the team should only improve and return to its winning ways in the future.

Diamond Owls Triumph Despite Trials

With nine lettermen returning from last year's 19-win club, the Diamond Owls had high expectations for the 2004 season. **Coach Marc MacMillan '92** recalled the potential this team possessed. "We had a good mixture of talent, experience, and youth that enabled us to see the tremendous upside to this year's squad. In short, it was as good as I've seen here in 15 years."

However, unexpected hardships changed the overall make-up of the team. The loss of players due to both injuries and academic reasons spiraled quickly, and the Owls found themselves re-evaluating their outlook for the season. Key injuries before and during the season left the Diamond Owls only dressing 11 varsity players for the majority of their games. "As a coach, you anticipate an injury or two occurring, but I've never seen anything like this before. There was a period where we lost four players within the first ten days of the season, and then injuries just continued throughout the year," said Coach MacMillan. "However, I can't say enough about the perseverance these young men displayed."

After a rough start, the Owls were able to go 3-1 in the 2004 Pepsi Challenge that led to six straight victories, including wins over Briarcrest, Cordova, Evangelical Christian School, and Harding. At 3-4 in district play, the Owls were in great shape to finish in the top three in their division but once again, injuries came into play. "It was a tough year mentally, and while I expect our players to be focused and play hard every time they step on the field, there were times when celebrating a victory was overshadowed with the loss of another player," said Coach MacMillan. "However, there were positives throughout. A season like this allows for life lessons to be learned. Also, everybody played, and they played a lot. Nineteen out of the 26 boys who played baseball this year gained valuable varsity experience. That experience along with the hardships they had to endure should benefit MUS Baseball in the future."

Four Diamond Owls will leave a program they have been a part of for five years. **Rich Bollinger**, **Will Owens**, **Philip Reed**, and **Kyle Vogel** graduated in May. The other 15 lettermen included

Sam Coates, David Delugach, Matt Doss, Warren Grimm, Michael Haas, Harrison Hunt, Donnie Malmo, Mason Mosby, Michael Park, Brent Phillips, Max Prokell, Zack Rutland, Zach Scott, Jeffrey Wright, and JP Zdancewicz.

"Over the years our seniors have laid a foundation for returning players to continue to build on. It's a foundation built on ethics and commitment, and it's a continuous cycle that includes participating in both summer and spring baseball along with a desire to improve in the off-season," said Coach MacMillan. "Knowing what we have learned from the past and a never-ending desire to build on that foundation allows for great anticipation in 2005."



Max Prokell slides in just under the umpire's glove.

Best of the Preps

What a season it was for the sports teams! Aside from regional and state championships, one student and three coaches were named overall winners at *The Commercial Appeal's* annual Best of the Preps awards ceremony on June 11: **Scott Tashie** won the Boys



Best of the Preps winners Scott Tashie and Coach Ronnie Wenzler

Golf Award and coaches **Ronnie Wenzler** (golf), **Vincent Beck** (soccer), and **Bill Taylor** (tennis) were named Coach of the Year in their respective sports. Additionally, **Andrew Hooser** was a finalist for Private School Athlete of the Year and **Edward Taylor** was a finalist for Private School Scholar-Athlete.

The following students were recognized by BOP for their performance during the spring sports season (for fall and winter sports BOP winners, see the May 2004 issue of *Inside MUS*):

TENNIS

BOP FINALISTS: Alex Gates, Alex Guyton, Bo Ladyman, Jordan Smith

DIVISION 2 ALL-METRO TEAM MEMBERS: Alex Gates, Alex Guyton, Bo Ladyman, William Lang, Hays Mabry, Jordan Smith

TRACK AND FIELD

PRIVATE SCHOOLS ALL-METRO TEAM MEMBERS:

Hunter Adams, J.D. Lawhorn, Walker Pritchard, Peter Zanca, the MUS 400-relay team, and the MUS 3,200-relay team

BASEBALL

PRIVATE SCHOOLS ALL-METRO TEAM MEMBERS: Will Owens, Rob Park

SOCCER

BOP FINALIST: Paul Moinester

DIVISION 2 ALL-METRO TEAM MEMBERS: Kane Alber, Winfield Clifford, Paul Moinester, Doug Pleiman, Ben Tacker, Clayton Thomas

Outstanding Athletes

Each year at the All-Sports Banquet, four MUS student-athletes are recognized for outstanding contributions to the MUS community—in part for athletic ability, but also because of academics, unselfish service, and positive attitude. **Blake Weidman** received the Al Wright Christian Character Award, **Andrew Hooser** and **Philip Reed** received the James R. Haygood III Best All-Around Athlete Award, and **Todd Jean-Pierre** received the Paul Trowbridge Gillespie Scholar-Athlete Award. Congratulations to these athletes for their impact on the MUS community.



From left, Blake Weidman, Andrew Hooser, Philip Reed, and Todd Jean-Pierre.

stay tuned...

- ★ Highlights from the 2004 Varsity and JV Lacrosse seasons will be featured in the October issue of **Inside MUS**.
- ★ The summer issue of **MUS Today** will feature stories on MUS's state championship teams in Soccer and Tennis.



Tennis Owls Set Standard for Future

The Lower School tennis team continued their tradition of excellence by going undefeated in the regular season and winning the Shelby League doubles title.

Led by **Coach Bill Taylor**, the team consisted of seventh-graders **Grant Hopkins, Jackson Knight, Sam Montesi, Will Nease, and Walt Wepfer** and eighth-graders **Collin Fountain, Teddy Klug, Nick Nash, Michael Sousoulas, and Peter Travis**.

The Owls easily won their four regular season team matches, defeating teams from St. George's, SBEC, Harding Academy, and Evangelical Christian School, before looking to sweep the singles and doubles titles at the postseason tournament. At the Shelby League tournament, Klug took third place in the singles, while the doubles team of Travis and Wepfer defeated the team of Fountain and Sousoulas in a fierce, all-MUS final for the doubles title.

Once again, Coach Taylor was proud of these young men for their effort and attitude throughout the season.

Diamond Owls Learn About Baseball and Pick Up Wins

After a spring full of rainouts, the Lower School baseball teams finished their seasons in mid-May. The seventh-grade team was led by **Coaches Don Beard and Daniel White** and the eighth-grade team by **Hunt Taylor '94 and Steven Kramer '95**.

For the seventh-grade team, with many new players, the season focused on teaching and learning the game of baseball. With an overall record of 2-7, the seventh grade picked up its first win against FACS by a score of 12-11 and then followed it up later with a 6-4 victory over SBEC. The seventh-grade team was made up of **Walt Barnett, Robert Counce, Robert Cowan, Michael Delugach, Michael Edwards, Michael Folk, Trip Hale, Mathew Jehl, Coleman Kimbrough, Buddy Morrison, Shelby Smith, and Jack Steffner**.

The eighth-grade returned an experienced squad, and after losing their opening game of the year, they won eight out of their next nine. The Owls picked up key wins against Briarcrest and ECS during the regular season; however, they fell to ECS in the semifinals of the Shelby Tipton Junior League Tournament closing out their season with an overall record of 7-2. The eighth-grade team was made up of **Patrick Boyer, Scott Edwards, Daniel Ernst, Nelson Graham, David Harriman, Grant Heflin, Kirk Malmo, Tyler Massey, Mark McLeod, Corey Scheinblum, Eric Sheppard, Jackson Woodall, Blair Wright, and Robbie Zettler**.

Track Finishes Second, Gains Experience

Led by **Coach Matt Bakke**, the 2004 Lower School track team had another fine season and claimed a second-place finish in the Shelby League Track Championships.

The Owls went through the regular season undefeated as they won all four of their meets, beating such rivals as Evangelical Christian School, Harding Academy, and Woodland Presbyterian School.

Then, in the Shelby League Meet, the MUS team performed very well but eventually succumbed to a stronger, deeper ECS

squad. At the meet, the Owls were led by seventh-grader **Walt Wepfer**, who compiled 16 individual points by placing fifth in the 100-meter dash, fourth in the 200-meter dash, fourth in the long jump, and third in the high jump.

Several other seventh-graders contributed as well, including **Robert Tipton**, who finished second in both the 800-meter and 1600-meter races;

Jon Mitchell, who claimed fourth in the 800-meter; and **Barrett Folk**, who finished sixth in the 100-meter hurdles. To round out the individual running events, eighth-graders **Xander Batey, Sam Goldstein, and Rob Pitts** all ran well and helped the squad. Goldstein's third in the 100-meter hurdles, Pitts' fourth in the 1600-meter race, and Batey's fifth in the 400-meter dash kept MUS in contention for the title.

Several eighth-graders also contributed in the field events. **Nathaniel Kastan's** second-place finish in the shot put and fourth in the discus added twelve points to the total, while **Andrew Flowers** won the shot put and **Tyler Massey** finished second in the discus to help the cause.

But MUS excelled in the relays. The 4x100-meter team, composed of eighth-grader **Collin Fountain** and seventh-graders **Michael Folk, Lowell Hays, and Wepfer**, won their race, while the 4x200-meter team of eighth-grader **Will Mays, Goldstein, Folk, and Hays** also finished first, beating a strong Woodland team. Those same four young men also ran the 4x400-meter relay and finished second behind ECS, which went on to win the meet, 133-108.

Despite the second-place finish, Coach Bakke was very encouraged as seventh-grade participation reached a five-year high. This group should continue the excellence that MUS track has grown accustomed to.

Seventh-Grade Soccer Scores Experience

Led by **Coach Justin Lohman**, the seventh-grade soccer team may not have had the success they were hoping for in terms of wins and losses, but their experiences and improvement left the soccer staff encouraged about the future.

The team was composed of 17 members: **Yusef Akbik, Amro Amro, Jimmy Ball, Kyle Brown, Jared Davis, Cameron Fonseca, Edward Fu, Jake Henke, Thomas Ivy, Rahul Kumar, Andrew Maroda, Zeno Mercer, Ahmed Minhas, Mustafa Motiwala, Wesley Shannon, Matt Shelton, and Robert Threlkeld**.

The squad got off to a rough start with a 6-0 loss to Briarcrest Christian School and a 5-1 setback against the MUS eighth-grade team before notching their first victory of the year, a 3-0 win against Harding Academy.

However, the season ended with six consecutive losses, setbacks that were tough because the team improved as the year progressed. The season ended with a loss in the opening round of the Shelby League Tournament against the MUS eighth-graders. Even in this game the improvement was notable as the seventh-graders jumped out to an early 1-0 lead after a goal by Ball before losing that lead in the second half.

Despite the record, the players and coaches enjoyed the year and improved throughout.

Not Much Just Chillin'

On April 21, parents and Lower School students heard from award-winning education reporter Linda Perlstein, author of the book *Not Much Just Chillin', The Hidden Lives of Middle Schoolers*.



Linda Perlstein

Perlstein spent more than a year immersed in the lives of a group of suburban middle-schoolers as research for the book. Her lecture stemmed from this experience and focused on the inside account of what middle-schoolers actually deal with as they make the transition from childhood to the teenage years. Mrs. Bryn Wulf and some Lower School parents read the book as part of the Lower School Parents' Book Club earlier in the year.

Perlstein is a staff writer at *The Washington Post*, where she first began writing about middle-school students in 2000 for an

acclaimed four-part series. She received a B.A. from Wesleyan University and an M.A. in International Affairs from Columbia University.

Counseling Department Sets Dates for Upcoming Events

Members of the Kemmons Wilson Leadership Development and Counseling Center have a variety of programs planned for the first month of school for parents and students. Mark your calendar to attend the following events:

SEPTEMBER 15, PARENT BACK TO SCHOOL DAY

Eighth-grade parents will meet in the Dunavant Auditorium for a boxed-lunch meeting with psychologist Dr. Kip Parrish.

SEPTEMBER 21, BREAKFAST MEETING FOR NINTH-GRADE PARENTS

Psychologist Dr. Richard Luscomb will speak in the Wunderlich Auditorium from 7:30-8:45 a.m.

SEPTEMBER 23, BREAKFAST MEETING FOR SEVENTH-GRADE PARENTS

Psychologist Dr. Richard Luscomb will speak in the Wunderlich Auditorium from 7:30-8:45 a.m.

SEPTEMBER 27-30, FCD WEEK

Freedom From Chemical Dependency programs for eighth- and tenth-graders.

SEPTEMBER 28, PARENT MEETING

FCD facilitators will meet with eighth- and tenth-grade parents in the Wunderlich Auditorium at 7:00 p.m.

TECHNO UPDATE

On-Line Forum

One trademark of an MUS education is the constant push to learn beyond the classroom and gain knowledge that applies to subjects other than reading, writing, and arithmetic. This spring, Mr. Duane Larson, a member of MUS's Information Technology department, had an idea to add an online message forum, or bulletin board, to the school's computer network for student use. Instead of simply launching the program on his own, he recruited a group of students for a hands-on learning experience.

Forums have grown in popularity in recent years, and their wide availability allows for discussion and debate on any topic. Senior Austin Chu, eighth-grader Roger Chu, and seventh-grader Rahul Kumar were interested in the project and helped set up the forum, using their existing knowledge of computers and learning some new skills along the way.

Austin Chu started the process by installing a Linux operating system on MUS's network and configuring the system to work with the bulletin board software. Kumar then installed a new web scripting language, an open-source database software, and the bulletin board program. Once these installations were finished, the program could have been launched, but the boys decided they wanted their program to have some different

features. That's when Roger Chu stepped in to do some additional web coding and scripting to alter the default program.

"We asked for suggestions from students to find out what topics they wanted to see on the forum," said Kumar. Most of the topics are sports-related, with separate bulletin boards for football, basketball, baseball, etc. Lower School students may set up an account through the forum and then are able to participate in any of the discussions through a series of posted messages

which make up a discussion "thread."

Currently, the MUS forum has 83 users and there have been more than 350 posts. The forum can

only be reached through a campus computer. A moderating team including Mr. Larson, Kumar, Roger and Austin Chu, and juniors Sashank Karri and Jonathan Barnes actively monitor the discussions to make sure the posts are not inappropriate and that no one uses foul language or makes insulting remarks.

This year the message board was only open to Lower School students, but all involved hope next year the MUS forum will be available to the whole school.



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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Inside MUS is published by Memphis University School. Send news and comments to Beth Russell, Editor of *Inside MUS*, at beth.russell@musowls.org, or call 901-260-1348.

UPCOMING EVENTS

2004

- Monday, August 16 Convocation Day
(first day of school)
- Monday, September 6 Labor Day
- Wednesday, September 15 Parent Back to School Day
(student holiday)
- Thur.–Mon., October 14-18 Fall Break
- Wed.–Fri., November 24-26 Thanksgiving Holiday
- Friday, December 17 Last Day of First Semester

2005

- Monday, January 3 First Day of Second Semester
- Monday, January 17 Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday
- Monday, February 21 Presidents' Day Holiday
- Fri.–Sun., March 4-13 Spring Break
- Friday, March 25 Good Friday Holiday
- Monday, March 28 Easter Monday Holiday
- Friday, April 29 Last Day of Second Semester
for Seniors
- Mon.–Fri., May 2-13 AP Exams
- Mon.–Fri., May 2-6 Senior Exams
- Sunday, May 15 Graduation Exercises
- Thur.–Wed., May 19-25 Underclassmen Exams
- Thursday, May 26 Last Day for Underclassmen
(half-day)

BRIDGES



**KICK-OFF
CLASSIC**

**Mark your calendar for the fourth-annual
Bridges Kick-off Classic
Saturday, August 21 at the Liberty Bowl.
Games begin at 2:00 p.m. and
feature a triple header:**

**MUS vs. East
Whitehaven vs. CBHS
Melrose vs. Briarcrest**

**Tickets will be \$10 for all three games.
Call 260-1300 for more information.**