

INSIDE

News from MEMPHIS UNIVERSITY SCHOOL



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Charity Week 2003 Builds on Tradition

"An MUS student contributes his time and abilities to the welfare of his school and of the greater community." These words are found in the MUS Community Creed, written by members of the class of 2001, who wanted to document the characteristics that an MUS student should embody. The Civic Service Organization annually sponsors a week of projects and presentations from Memphis civic leaders to encourage students to give back to their community. "Charity Week is meant to be a time when a lot of attention is placed on service in hopes of reminding students of its importance to our school," said senior **Ken Farmer**, Civic Service chairman.

Dr. Scott Morris of the Church Heath Center kicked off Charity Week 2003 by offering students a David Letterman-style "Top Ten" list detailing why they should participate in civic service. Recounting personal stories from his countless years of service drove his "number one reason" home—it's the right thing to do. Dr. Morris established the Church Health Center in 1987 as a faith community health ministry that offers low cost, high-quality healthcare to uninsured patients and their families, the elderly, and the homeless.

On Tuesday, the MUS varsity basketball game took on a service-oriented theme. Students were asked to bring canned food items, which would later be donated to the Memphis Food Bank, to the game against Briarcrest Christian School. According to Farmer "a bountiful plethora" of cans were donated at the game.

David Montague '82, returned to MUS as a chapel speaker on Wednesday and talked about the motivations for and misconceptions of charity. He shared stories of the needy people he has come in contact with and said that many of them are more charitable and giving than people who have much more materially. "I have seen generosity in Binghampton like I have never seen other places," Montague said. "When you look at your assets and then look at some of the poor and oppressed, you realize that your bucket is awfully empty when it comes to joy, peace, patience, goodness, and generosity."

Montague runs Service Over Self, a Memphis-based housing repair and renovation group. Junior high, high school, and college students work alongside needy Binghampton homeowners who are not able to complete needed work on their homes.

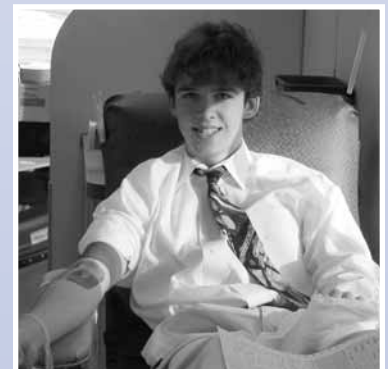
The Civic Service Organization sponsored a field trip to the National Civil Rights Museum Wednesday afternoon. This was an excellent outing for students to learn about the Civil Rights struggle and to see what they can do to help worthy charitable causes in Memphis.

Students showed their support for civic service by wearing their Charity Week T-shirts to school on Thursday. The shirts were sold to raise money for the upcoming Habitat for Humanity house to be constructed by MUS and Hutchison students this spring. That afternoon, several students continued the ongoing project of tutoring Emmanuel Episcopal Center students at Second Presbyterian Church.



Stuart Gillespie, Ken Farmer, and Elliott Embry (below) roll up their sleeves for the Student/Faculty Blood Drive.

A student and faculty blood drive was held Friday morning, and while students lay in the Lifeblood van nibbling on cookies and pretzels to regain their strength, a few See *Charity Week*, page 2



argued about who had the healthiest veins and whose blood would fill the bag fastest (well OK, only one student...**Stuart Gillespie**).

Reverend Colenzo Hubbard, of the Emmanuel Episcopal Center, spoke in chapel that morning and added his thoughts on the benefits of serving others. The Emmanuel Episcopal Center works with and ministers to residents in the Cleaborn and Foote Homes public housing communities. A Student Art Exhibit and Silent Auction took place Friday in the Fisher Fine Arts Wing, and the sale of students' pieces of art raised needed funds for the Habitat for Humanity house.



Reverend Colenzo Hubbard with senior Doug Owings

Mrs. Elizabeth Crosby, MUS English teacher, organized a book drive to collect 1,000 books for the Read-To-Me program sponsored by the Memphis Literacy Council. "There are so many books in my office, it's a wreck – but in a good way," Mrs. Crosby said. Mr. Dax Torrey's homeroom contributed more books than any other in the Lower School, while Mr. Flip Eikner's and Coach Bubba Burr's homerooms tied for most books or money donated in the Upper School. Mrs. Crosby rewarded each class with a special order McDonald's breakfast.

The week culminated at the Civic Service Talent Show on Saturday, February 1. Acts ranged from live music, to videos, to, ummm...dancing. After the night's festivities, three student groups were singled out as the best. Most Talented honors went to junior Will Presley who performed a guitar solo. Seniors John Harkess, Ken Farmer, Randall Holcomb, Shahzad Khan, Robert Snowden, Henry Talbot, and Craig Sneed formed the group "George Washington's Rules of Crunkivility" for their rap video, which was voted Most Entertaining. The Best Overall award went to Hooray for Fun, a student band made up of seniors Henry Talbot and Craig Sneed, sophomore Sloan Abernathy, White Station student Neil Bartlett, and Briarcrest student Lane Shaw.

MUS students must raise \$8,500 for their portion of the Habitat for Humanity project, and the week's art auction, donations, and talent show raised more than \$6,300 toward the students' goal.

"I hope that the speeches and the activities opened the eyes of the MUS students and faculty and inspired us to continue to grow in our commitment to service in the community," said Farmer. "Each student should strive to serve others because so much has

been given to us. Over the course of the week, a urinal was smashed, goldfish were eaten, scantily clad coeds demonstrated vocational promise, and Mr. Saunders survived yet another talent show. As the Charity Week T-shirt says, we were Building on Tradition, and the week was a very successful step in the right direction."



Artwork for the Student Art Exhibit and Silent Auction. Above are two of the auctioned paintings, by seventh-graders Kirk Malmo (top) and Parker Joyner.

Thank you, Thank you, Thank you...

Many thanks to Delta Asset Management, a sponsor of the Civic Service Talent Show, who was inadvertently left out of the program.

DELTA ASSET MANAGEMENT, LLC



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MUS Supports Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Concert

The Memphis Symphony Orchestra presents a tribute concert each year in honor of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day and Black History Month. In an effort to lower the cost of tickets to the concert and enable more people to attend, the Symphony collects donations through a variety of programs. MUS teamed up with Hutchison School, Lausanne Collegiate School, and St. George's in the "School Partners" program to monetarily sponsor this year's concert and offset the ticket prices for attendees.

The event drew more than 2,000 attendees last year at the Temple of Deliverance Church of God in Christ. The ninth-annual concert took place on Saturday, January 18 at 7:00 p.m. The performance was led by David Loebel and Vincent Danner, MSO conductors; Dr. Lawrence Edwards, Memphis Symphony Chorus director; Steven Hayes, LeMoyné-Owen College Choir director; and Dr. Charles Pender, director of the Southwest Tennessee Community College Chorus and Memphis City Schools District Choirs. A variety of selections were performed including "The Star Spangled Banner," "Afro-American Symphony" Mvt. IV, "Battle Hymn of the Republic," and "We Shall Overcome."



Lower School Government Club Builds A Legacy

The Upper School Government Club has built a tradition of leadership in Model UN competitions, and this year 33 Lower School students proved that they now have a legacy of their own. Twelve seventh-graders and 21 eighth-graders ventured to the City Council and County Commission Chambers on December 6 to try their hands at international relations and debate techniques at the fourth annual YMCA Middle School Youth in Government competition.

Groups of students form delegations representing countries from around the world, and they prepare bills or research papers based on current problems of the country. Students are encouraged to research the traditions and dress of their country and wear authentic costumes during the competition. **Mr. Manning Weir**, director of student life, "did a great job of getting our students prepared," said Lower School Principal **Rick Broer**.

Awards were distributed at the end of competition, and MUS students received a variety of honors. Eighth-grader **Erim Sarinoglu** and seventh-grader **Samir Sheth** received Outstanding Delegate distinctions. Eighth-graders **Jeffrey Webb** and **Ryan Foley**, representing Pakistan, received an award for Outstanding Proposal, while **Thomas McIntire** and **David Morelli** took home the award for Best Costume.

MUS students served as leaders of the competition this year and will do so again in 2003-04. **David Minervini** acted as General Assembly president this year and passed his post to **Andrew Jehl**. **Richard Blount** will replace **Greg Jones** as General Assembly vice-president, and **Ben Waller** will inherit Security Council president responsibilities from **Walter Klyce**.

Seventh-grade participants were: **Alan Blount, Conor Bolich, Roger Chu, Daniel Ernst, Travis Hamm, David Harriman, Warner Johnson, Rob Pitts, Samir Sheth, Michael Sousoulas, Peter Travis, and Jackson Woodall**. Eighth-grade participants were: **Tyler Anthony, Richard Blount, Alex Carter, Wilson Castleman, Stephen Counce, Ryan Foley, Brett Freebing, Adam Fussell, Josh Geraldson, Danny Gholson, Ben Goldstein, Andrew Jehl, Tyler Johnson, Neely Mallory, Bruce Mathews, Thomas McIntire, David Morelli, Erim Sarinoglu, Ben Waller, Jeffrey Webb, and Jonathan Yeung**.

The following members of the Upper School Model UN team volunteered their time to coach the Lower School students: **Tyler Fisher, Andy Garrett, John Harkess, Faris Haykal, Barlow Mann, John McGreger, Lee McNabb, Paul Moinester, Austin Rainey, Babu Rayudu, and Edward Taylor**.

Government Club Article Correction

The 2002-03 YMCA Youth Legislature leaders were named in the last issue of *Inside MUS* with two errors in the Red House leadership. Correct positions for the upcoming competition are junior **Adam Kaplan** as the Floor Leader of the Red House and senior **Conor Quinn** as Assistant Floor Leader of the Red House.



How Do You Spell Victory? W-R-I-G-H-T

Seventh-grader **Blair Wright** wowed students and faculty at the Hull Lower School Spelling Bee on Thursday, December 5. He qualified for the school bee by winning two preliminary contests on Monday, November 4, and Wednesday, November 13. Wright correctly spelled the word *diadem* to ensure his victory. The talented speller went on to compete in the Memphis/Shelby County Spelling Bee at the University of Memphis on Saturday, February 1. Wright was eliminated from the County Bee in the second round after misspelling the word *repertoire*.



Masters of Knowledge

Knowledge Masters may sound like the hottest new board game on the market, but it is actually another competition that MUS students performed well in this year. The worldwide competition takes place in the fall and spring of each year and consists of 200 computerized multiple-choice questions. MUS students were able to participate simultaneously with other students in the country and around the world by logging onto the website. They were scored based on their number of correct answers and the amount of time taken to answer the questions.

The Upper School team finished fourth in the state—behind Cordova High School, Brentwood High School, and the Webb School—and 107th out of 858 participants worldwide, placing them in the 88th percentile. The students scored a 1424 on their exam out of a total 2000 points.

The Lower School team also did very well. They finished fourth in the state and 361st out of 851 participating schools in their age range. The team increased their score by more than 400 points from last year's competition.

Upper School team members were: **Timothy Chen, Sean Curran, John Daniel, Noah Feder, Chris Freeman, Lee Hoyle, Tushar Jha, Adam Kaplan, Sashank Karri, Ronny Khuri, Stephen Nease, Jayshal Patel, Jeff Posson, Conor Quinn, Parth Sheth, Andrew Smith, Aaron Struminger, and Hunter Swain**.

Lower School team members were: **Roger Chu, Stephen Counce, Bruce Mathews, Mac McCormack, David Morelli, Samir Sheth, and Michael Stein**.



National Merit Finalists Announced

Nearing the end of their tenure at MUS, several seniors were recognized with one of the highest honors a high school student can achieve. The following students were named National Merit Scholarship Finalists: Paul Bunch, Andy Garrett, Charlie Gordon, John Harkess, Faris Haykal, Joel Iglehart, Lee McNabb, JK Minervini, Michael Morisy, Michael Norman, and Conor Quinn.



National Merit Scholarship Finalists

FIRST SEMESTER 2002-03

DEAN'S SCHOLAR

DEAN'S LIST

GRADE 12

JK Minervini

GRADE 11

Austin Chu

GRADE 10

Alex Chinn

Parth Sheth

GRADE 9

Shea Conaway

Matt Dowling

Bryan Fox

Oliver Green

Walter Klyce

Jesse Mahautmr

Keith Parsons

Hayden

Pendergrass

Grayson Sharpe

Barrett Steinberg

Peter Zanca

GRADE 8

Khang Dang

Andrew Jehl

Naveed Mirza

John Stokes

GRADE 7

Xander Batey

Alan Blount

Asad Dilawari

Scott Edwards

Watson George

Teddy Klug

Stephen Maroda

Will Mays

Jake McCrary

Mark McLeod

Ross Montague

Will Pryor

Michael Sousoulas

Peter Travis

Josh Vieira

Kyle Wherry

Blair Wright

GRADE 12

Geer Alexander

Eli Atkinson

Philip Blackett

Owen Brafford

Paul Bunch

Austin Carpenter

Dara Chan

Dana Doggrell

Jamie Drinan

Trey Flowers

Andy Garrett

Dustin Geer

Marshall

Goldsmith

Charlie Gordon

Houston

Hagewood

Faris Haykal

Andrew

Howington

Joel Iglehart

David Jacobson

Blake Lindsay

Barlow Mann

Clark Mayfield

Hite McLean

Lee McNabb

Ryves Moore

Edward Nenon

Michael Norman

Conor Quinn

Noah Randall

Babu Rayudu

Hunter Shell

Craig Sneed

Hill Stoecklein

Laird Tuttle

Tyler Wohrman

GRADE 11

Brandon Arrindell

Tyler Beard

Brent Boswell

Timothy Chen

Sean Curran

Spencer Dailey

Andrew Dillon

Tyler Fisher

Stuart Gillespie

Gatlin Hardin

Evan Herrera

Andrew Hooser

Lee Hoyle

Peter Jones

Adam Kaplan

Jack Louie

Sunny Majumdar

Cash McCracken

Paul Moinester

Lyle Muller

Eddie Owen

Will Owens

Doug Pleiman

Philip Reed

Brian Shoptaw

Scott Tashie

Edward Taylor

Blake Wiedman

GRADE 10

Kane Alber

Charles Askew

Clint Cowan

Jordan Crawford

John Daniel

Price Edwards

Noah Feder

Phillip Flinn

Michael Fong

Joey Friend

Robert Goff

Alex Guyton

Rob Heflin

Russ Hinson

Sashank Karri

Andrew Manugian

Aaron Markowitz

Cody Mayer

Scott McLeod

Wilson McManus

Stephen Nease

Randall Noel

Andrew Olinger

Brent Phillips

Andrew Robinson

Mike Schaeffer

Matt Sights

Wes Spiro

Warren Stafford

Aaron Struminger

John Taylor

Kevin Wang

Jacob Weinstein

Eric Wilson

Hank Wynn

GRADE 9

Duncan Adrian

Doug Boyer

Beau Britton

Andrew Cabigao

Collier

Calandrucio

Tom Chiu

David Deaderick

Matthew Doss

Bryan Eder

Brian Evans

Zach Glover

Daniel Harriman

Bryce Hendry

William Jameson

Frank Jemison

Matt Johnson

Greg Jones

Blake Karban

Patrick Kimberlin

Zachary Kisber

Scott Lillard

Garrott

McClintock

Donald McClure

Jason Northington

Rob Peeler

Will Pickens

Gabriel Rapalo

David Shochat

Nicholas Skefos

Christopher Thomas

Will Thornton

Andras Tigyi

Danny Travis

Reid Wesson

Christopher

Williamson

Dex Witte

Brian Wurzburg

Paul Yacoubian

Paul Zettler

GRADE 8

Tyler Anthony

West Askew

Stephen Bowie

Daniel Brown

Elliott Cole

Stephen Counce

Jordan Cowan

Miles

DeBardeleben

James Edwards

Ashton Fisher

Ryan Foley

Ben Goldstein

Drew Hammond

William Harris

Josh Henke

Reid

Higginbotham

Noah Ketler

Neely Mallory

Lee Moore

David Morelli

Ed Porter

Max Rose

Erim Sarinoglu

Zach Scott

Hobbie Turley

Byron Tyler

Artem Volosnikov

Ben Waller

Jeffrey Webb

Jeffrey Wright

Jonathan Yeung

GRADE 7

Andrew Amos

Morgan Arant

Hudson Atkins

Sayle Atkinson

Austin Beckford

Conor Bolich

Roger Chu

Michael Cross

Michael Duke

Hunter Edens

Matthew Edwards

Daniel Ernst

Daren Freebing

Sam Goldstein

Nelson Graham

Travis Hamm

Grant Heflin

Jack Heflin

Robert Hoehn

Barrett Huggins

Graham Jones

Wesley Jones

Parker Joyner

Nathaniel Kastan

John Kim

John Kornegay

Kirk Malmo

Tyler Massey

Andrew Millen

Vance

Montgomery

Corey Scheinblum

Kimari Shotwell

William Shows

Jay Snyder

Michael Stein

Patrick Stewart

Cade Wallace

Malcomb Wood

Jackson Woodall

Luke Wynn

Robbie Zettler



Thorn Field Welcomes New Additions

Thorn Field welcomes a handful of additions and improvements in 2003. Thanks to funds provided by some of the baseball parents and coaches, new dugouts were built in preparation for the 2003 season. According to **Head Coach Marc MacMillan '92**, "This is a great improvement to Thorn Field. The sunken dugouts allow our players professional-type access to and from the playing field, as well as other amenities." The dugouts will provide features such as interior lights, equipment staging areas, water fountains, storage rooms, standing-seam metal roofs, and a home side bathroom with sink and rear entry.

In addition to new dugouts, other improvements include 11 13- to 15-foot Foster hollies planted behind the center-field fence, providing a solid hitting background for batters. An additional batting cage will also be added to the facilities. "I can't say enough about the great improvements and additions that have been made over the past three years. Coaches and players are extremely thankful, as MUS now has one of the top facilities in the Mid-South," shares Coach MacMillan.

MUS opened its regular season at Thorn Field on March 12, versus Bolton High School. So if you haven't already, come out to see the facility and support the 2003 Diamond Owls. Check out our website at musowls.org/sports/sports_baseball for the most current schedule.



Thorn Voted Field of the Year

Coaches Marc MacMillan and **Ernie Bennett** attended the Tennessee Baseball Coaches Association (TBCA) Clinic in Nashville, January 17-19, but they did not know they would be coming home with the TBCA Region 8 Field of the Year Award. It should not have been too surprising, though, since this is the second time Thorn Field has been selected in three years.



Thorn Field improvement – pro-style sunken dugouts!

Even before the improvements mentioned, the TBCA chose Thorn Field for its aesthetic qualities, including lawn care and infield maintenance. Coach Bennett is responsible for the management and upkeep of all the athletic fields on the MUS campus. "I very much appreciate his [Coach Bennett's] meticulous attention in maintaining and improving our baseball field and all other athletic fields here at MUS. I value his perseverance, his initiative, and his team spirit," said **Headmaster Ellis Haguwood**.



BOP Fall Sports Finalists

The Commercial Appeal has released its list of Best of the Preps Fall Sports Finalists and several MUS students are in the running for athlete of the year in their respective sports. The following students will attend an awards ceremony on June 13 to find out who really is the "best of the preps."

- Mr. Football **Derek Clinin**
- Defensive Football Player of the Year **Derek Clinin**
- Cross Country **Collins Roll**
- Golf **Scott Tashie**

MUS also was ranked fifth in the Private School Division and third in the Male Division of Team Points. "Schools are awarded points for fielding a team in a sport, posting a winning record, and advancing in postseason play," according to *The Commercial Appeal*.

Golf Accolades

Three MUS golfers were named to *The Commercial Appeal's* Best of the Preps All-Metro team after the 2002-03 season. Senior **Alex DeBardleben** (center), junior **Scott Tashie** (left), and freshman **Bobby Hudson** (right) all received the county-wide honor for their personal performances.



Owls Take Two in Carbondale

While most people were opening gifts, visiting with family and friends, and celebrating the holidays, the varsity basketball team was on the MUS bus traveling north to Carbondale, Illinois, to participate in the 39th annual Carbondale Holiday

“The Owls shot 52% for the game and hit an amazing 62.5% from the three-point range...”

Tournament, a yearly tradition for the Owls. As the tournament concluded on Saturday, December 28, MUS players received a late present—taking two of three games to finish third in the Class A bracket.

The Owls opened their tournament slate against the Johnston City, Illinois, Indians, a team that had defeated them last season while on a four-game winning streak.

However, MUS cooled the Indians

down quickly, hitting five of seven three-pointers in the first half to grab a double-digit lead they never relinquished.

Senior **Ryan Baum** led MUS with 25 points as he hit 9 of 15 field goals. Senior **Andrew Hanover** also had an outstanding game, tallying 19 points, 5 rebounds, and 3 assists. The Owls shot 52 percent for the game and hit an amazing 62.5 percent from the three-point range to take the 67-48 win and advance in the tournament.



The next afternoon at the Southern Illinois University Arena, MUS tackled the DuQuoin Indians, a favorite in Illinois to challenge for a state title. DuQuoin jumped out to an early lead, led by 14 at the break, and never let the Owls make a run. Even with DuQuoin star Nick Hill, a Western Kentucky signee, slowed with the flu, the Indians took care of the ball and were very efficient.

Senior **Clay Chapman** tried to keep MUS in the game, contributing 13 points and 9 rebounds, but Ricky Oakley's 18 points, all from three-pointers, was enough to stymie the Owls as they lost 56-37 and move them to the consolation bracket.

But MUS refused to quit after the loss in the third-place game.

Playing against last season's Illinois state runner-up, the Herrin Tigers, the Owls were not intimidated. Both teams played much zone, hoping to force poor outside shots, but neither squad had off days. The zones slowed the pace of the game, but with both teams shooting above 50 percent from the field throughout, the game was exciting.



Herrin took a slim four-point lead into the break, but Baum got hot in the second half. He finished with 23 points, hitting four of six three-point shots, and added three rebounds. MUS also tallied 18 total assists with their 21 field goals, showing that they had good ball movement throughout the game. The Owls also made all five of their second-half free throws and missed only

three shots in the second half, shooting an incredible 78.6 percent from the field after the break and 65.6 percent for the game to take the 59-49 victory and third-place in the Class A bracket. With the win, MUS improved to 9-2 and grabbed some momentum heading into the new year.

Fall Sports Athletes Honored

If it seems like MUS athletes are constantly being honored with a school or city award, it's because they are. Football players and golfers received accolades from their coaches and fellow team members at the end of their respective seasons. On December 8, football players attended an end-of-season party where position awards and special awards were given out. The following students were honored for their performance during the 2002-03 football season.

- Offensive Line **Varsity – Jeff Grimm**
JV – Marc Purnell and Joey Friend
- Offensive Receivers **Varsity – John David Lawhorn**
JV – Will Thornton
- Offensive Backs **Varsity – Derek Clenin**
JV – Rob Park
- Defensive Line **Varsity – Todd Jean-Pierre**
JV – Andrew Cabigao
- Defensive Linebackers **Varsity – Tyler Wohrman**
JV – Hays Doan
- Defensive Backs **Varsity – Derek Clenin**
JV – Rob Heflin
- Slobberknocker Award **Bunky Parr**
- Iron Man Award **Derek Clenin**
- Managers **Michael Eason and Hunter Shell**
- Captains **Derek Clenin and Tyler Wohrman**
- Spirit Award **Blake Lindsay, John Phillips,**
and Tyler Wohrman
- MVP **Derek Clenin**

Two golfers were also singled out for their contributions to the undefeated regular season and third-place finish at the Division II State Tournament:

- Treadwell Condon Golf Award . . . **Alex DeBardeleben**
- Most Improved **Bobby Hudson**



Ring in the Holidays

The Hull Lower School Singers and Beg To Differ thrilled audiences this holiday season as they presented their annual Winter Concert. The two groups performed holiday favorites and contemporary selections on Thursday, December 12 in the Hyde Chapel. The concert has become a highlight of the season as parents, students, faculty, and friends gather to celebrate.

Under the direction of **Mr. John Hiltonsmith**, instructor in music, the eighth-grade choir performed holiday favorites like "Winter Wonderland," "White Christmas," and "Feliz Navidad," as well as "Joseph's Coat," from the hit Broadway musical *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat*. Beg To Differ chose songs from their repertoire that included "You're A Mean One, Mr. Grinch," from the classic television show *How the Grinch Stole Christmas*, "Mary Did You Know," and "Carol of the Bells."

The following students are members of the award-winning *a cappella* group Beg To Differ: **William Adams, Charles Askew, Philip Blackett, Ben Bleustein, Phillip Braun, Clint Cowan, Adrian Doggrell, Houston Hagewood, Will Hickman, Jesse Huseth, Walter Klyce, Taylor Maury, Drew McCarty, John McGreger, David Minervini, JK Minervini, Ian Noble, Warner Russell, Mike Schaeffer, Blake Wiedman, and Eric Wilson.**

The following eighth-graders are members of the Hull Lower School Singers: **Will Aldridge, Drew Alston, Louis Amagliani, Tyler Anthony, West Askew, Preston Battle, Richard Blount, Stephen Bowie, Brandon Byrd, Stephen Counce, Blake Cowan, Ryan Foley, Adam Fussell, Danny Gholson, Graham Gillespie, Ben Goldstein, Drew Hammond, William Harris, Tyler Horn, Harrison Hunt, Luke Jensen, Paul Kennedy, Noah Ketler, Neely Mallory, Se-an McDonald, Chase Moore, Lee Moore, Kevin Owen, Michael Park, Julian Prewitt, Will Reeser, John Reinhardt, Max Rose, Zach Scott, Ben Stallworth, John Stokes, Steven Thompson, Ben Waller, William Ware, and Jeffrey Wright.**

Opening for the Grizzlies



Beg To Differ was invited to sing "The National Anthem" when the Memphis Grizzlies took on the Sacramento Kings in January.

Mrs. Burke Honored by MAA

The Mathematical Association of America (MAA) has named **Mrs. Maria Burke**, Hull Lower School mathematics teacher, as a winner of the 2002 Edyth May Sliffe Award for Distinguished Junior High School Mathematics Teaching. Each year, the organization chooses approximately 50 award recipients in the United States based on their contributions to the continuous improvement and development of talented math students. Mrs. Burke received an award check, a certificate, and a pin for this honor.



Edyth May Sliffe, a former mathematics teacher in California, established the award to honor teachers whose student teams received high scores on the American High School Mathematics Examination. In 1994, an MAA committee established a new set of awards to be presented so junior-high teachers could also receive recognition. The award acknowledges teachers in the top five schools from ten regions of the country based on the performance of the top three students over a three-year period.

We Want to Pump You Up

With the completion of the \$15 million construction project on the new Dunavant Upper School and MUS Campus Center, campus improvement efforts are being focused on other areas of the school. One upgrade was the renovation of the school's weight room with advanced, state-of-the-art equipment. Hammer Strength equipment—"universally acknowledged to be the best," says **Coach Orlando McKay**—was installed in the Sue H. Hyde Sports and Physical Education Center weight room in November.

The new equipment is being used in all physical education classes and for athletic training. The equipment has improved the quality of P.E. classes since, according to Coach McKay, the machines are "much easier to use and the kids get more out of it." The weight room is also open for general student use.

The new machines are a major improvement mainly because they are based on unilateral movement, meaning that each appendage works independently making the weightlifter more balanced. "Anyone can use these machines," Coach McKay says, and he hopes that every student will take advantage of the impressive equipment. "Working out is a lifestyle," he says. "If people start early in life they will be more willing to continue exercising and live a longer life."

Coach McKay, a member of the 1991 national champion University of Washington football team and a former receiver for the Green Bay Packers, said that MUS is very fortunate to have the new equipment. "This room definitely rivals any NFL or NBA weight room I've ever seen," he said.



Eighth-Grade Parents Get the Lowdown on the Upper School

What will the curriculum be like? Who will be teaching my son? What major changes will we have to face?

More than 100 eighth-grade parents attended the "High School Program" on Tuesday, January 14, in Hyde Chapel. Upper School Principal **Barry Ray** led the program, which is typically held in April but was changed to early January this year so parents could have more time for high school preparation.

The goal of the program is to answer typical questions about the transition to high school and the expectations that will be put on their sons. "Because most of the boys have been here through the seventh and eighth grades, we want the parents to feel comfortable with their decision to keep their sons at MUS," said Mr. Ray.

Mr. Ray acquainted the parents with Upper School faculty and staff, described the freshman curriculum, and told the parents about student activities. **Dr. Emily Baer**, associate director of college guidance, also addressed the parents to set the stage for the college counseling and application process.

MUS Theatre Presents

Once upon a Mattress

March 27-29 • 7:30 p.m. • Hyde Chapel

Directed by Mr. Flip Eikner '77 and based on the classic fairy tale "The Princess and the Pea," the story centers on Prince Dauntless the Drab and his mother, Queen Aggravain, who devised a plan to determine whether Princess Winnifred (originally portrayed by Carol Burnett) is worthy of marrying her son. Music by Mary Rodgers and lyrics by Marshall Barer. Book by Jay Thompson, Marshall Barer, and Dean Fuller.

Harvey

April 24-25 • 7:30 p.m. • Hyde Chapel

April 27, 2:30 p.m.

This student production, directed by Houston Hagewood and Conor Quinn, is a timeless comedy by Mary Chase about Elwood P. Dowd and his invisible companion, Harvey.

Admission per play is \$10; \$7 for students and adults over age 65. For more information, call 260-1300.

The Parents' Association Needs You!

Did you know that your Parents' Association membership dues help pay for many school activities that you may take for granted? The printing of the MUS version of the Memphis "Community of Concern" booklet, *A Parent's Guide for the Prevention of Alcohol, Tobacco, and Other Drug Use*, athletic travel, Beg to Differ expenses, the seventh- and eighth-grade class trips, the Science Bowl, and the Habitat for Humanity house are all examples of how your membership dues defer the cost for students and families. When asked to join the Parents' Association, remember, it is not just baking cookies. Your dues really do matter.

Speaking of cookies, the Parents' Association provided a delicious addition to the Student Art Exhibit and Silent Auction on January 31. A table of refreshments made the event more hospitable for all in attendance.

All the grade-level parent parties have been completed successfully now, and thanks go out to the host families: **Kristi and Bill McCann** for the seventh grade, **Mary and Jimmy Edwards** for the eighth grade, **Suzu Satterfield and John Pickens** for the ninth grade, **Julie Ann and Cannon Doan** for the tenth grade, **Sophie and Rick Bollinger** for the eleventh grade, and **Ellen and Randy Holcomb** for the twelfth grade. Their generous hospitality made for a pleasant opportunity for parents to get together.

Parents will continue to be invited to attend drug and alcohol education sessions hosted by the Parents' Association. Upcoming events will also include working on the Habitat for Humanity house, arranging a picnic for the seniors, and assisting with the spring musical, *Once Upon a Mattress*.



Mimi Gibson, Peggy and Ellis Hagewood, and Cannon and Julie Ann Doan pose for a picture at the tenth-grade parent party.



Blackett's View on Black History

Senior **Philip Blackett** has had a big year. He was accepted to Harvard, he was elected to serve as Youth Governor for the 2003 YMCA Youth Legislature competition, and he has created an entire



Philip Blackett works on his website in the Rose Technology Center.

website focusing on black history.

After more than a year of work, Blackett was ready to release "Blackett's View on Black History" in February, in celebration of Black History

Month. The amount of research that went into the site is obvious

as visitors peruse the pages. A wealth of information is located within the pages of Blackett's site, including profiles of influential African-Americans, a timeline documenting important dates in black history and the Civil Rights struggle, an index of famous black firsts, an alphabetical listing of African-American quotes, and a collection of other informational black history sites. Blackett says he used a variety of research materials including history books, autobiographies, commentaries, and African-American prose.

Blackett also serves as chairman of the Diversity Club, which he created to serve as a resource for students to learn about cultures, religions, and races other than their own. "I took the same approach with the website as I took with the Diversity Club. When you see something that is not happening at school and it is your last year, you want to leave a legacy," Blackett said. "Sometimes people do not appreciate the cultures of students who are under-represented. This website gives other students an outlet to see and learn about the culture from an African-American's point of view."

"Blackett's View on Black History" can be viewed at:

<http://usstudents.musowls.org/BlackHistory/index.htm>

Grandparents Tackle Technology

Since November 18, a shared interest in learning about computers has brought an atypical group of students to the Hull Lower School Computer Lab. Their interest in technology is not uncommon. Their willingness to devote after-school time is not

strange. These students are out of the ordinary because they are not boys—they are their grandparents!

Parents' computer classes have been offered several times, but **Mrs. Terry Balton**, Lower School computer teacher, thought the grandparents might enjoy learning about computers, too. Apparently she was right! The first class was so well received that now the Grandparent's Computer Club meets for one hour a week, usually Mondays or Tuesdays at

4:00 p.m. The informal class structure allows the novice computer users to feel unpressured as they begin to accomplish amazing things with the computer. Mrs. Balton has shown the group how to format text, to improve correspondence with decorative borders, and even to merge a database of addresses to mailing labels and Christmas letters. Throughout the year, topics will be covered and re-covered, depending on group requests. If you would like more information about the club, contact Mrs. Balton at 260-1321.



Eighth-grader Harrison Hunt's grandfather learns new skills.

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June 16, 18, and 20 • 9:00 -11:00 a.m. (6 hours total) • \$50.00

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Making a Decision about Early Decision

by Bob Boelte, Director of College Guidance

The much-publicized controversy over whether or not to continue the admission application alternative called “Early Decision” is the latest in the college admission debates. It actually has been a concern for college advisors for some time. The student who decides to apply to a college under an Early Decision Plan has to understand that, if admitted, he or she HAS to attend that institution. Certain questions (such as those in the box below) disturb advisors, and yet, for some applicants, Early Decision is a good way to go.

At MUS, we do not endorse a student’s choice to apply for Early Decision unless the student has visited the college and his parents give their approval, for obvious reasons. We also do not believe that an unqualified student should apply Early Decision to a highly competitive school just to impress the college with his strong interest. Some institutions encourage qualified applicants who are legacies to apply Early Decision, but again their profile should be strong. In all cases, students may apply to only one college on the Early

Decision Plan, but in most instances today, they may apply to other colleges Early Action and Regular Decision.

Almost every year, I have advisees come to my office in September of their senior year and say, “Mr. Boelte, I am going to make your life easy. I have decided to apply Early Decision!” “Really,” I’ll say. “To what college?” “Oh, sir, I don’t know yet, but I want to go Early Decision because I hear it is a great way to get into a good college.” (Groan) Then I

explain what is entailed in Early Decision; what the commitment is; why he has to visit colleges before gambling on four years of his life somewhere he may not be happy; why he has to study what the colleges offer and whether or not they are suitable for him; and most important, whether he has the credentials to be a good applicant.

- **Are 17- and 18-year olds really ready to commit to one college in early fall of their senior year? (The deadline is usually November 1).**
- **Is it fair that some colleges accept 30 to 55 percent of their freshman class on Early Decision, making the chances of acceptance worse for the larger number of applicants who decide to wait to apply under Regular Decision (usually January 1 to January 15)?**
- **Would it not be more equitable to have everybody reviewed from one applicant pool?**
- **Is not the Early Action Plan, whereby a student applies early in the fall but is not compelled to make a decision to accept an offer of admissions until May 1, more sensible?**
- **Who is the greatest beneficiary in an Early Decision application, the applicant or the college?**



Bob Boelte offers guidance to junior Barton Mallory as he begins the college application process.

Yale has led the way in the last several months in deciding to drop the Early Decision option. Some colleges are dropping Early Decision, but promoting Early Action. In most cases, competitive colleges use their Early Decision acceptances to set the base for the freshman class. Many admit that having Early Decision cuts down on the workload of reviewing all applications after the first of the year. And many colleges have said that no matter what the most competitive colleges do, they want to keep the commitment of the Early Decision plan because it helps their yield and aids in recruitment.

For the applicant who is a strong candidate, who has studied and visited his number one college choice, and may be a legacy or is being heavily recruited by that college that he likes for various reasons—sure, go for it.

Early Decision in past years has been effective at MUS, although its increasing popularity has made it even more competitive. Media reports have not helped the process, and it will be interesting to see how many highly competitive colleges decide to discard the Early Decision option. I do not think the less competitive schools will drop it because it has been a good tool for recruitment. Besides, colleges should do what they want to do, there being so many colleges and universities to choose from. In most cases, the Early Decision applicant from MUS who is not initially accepted is deferred to the Regular Decision pool if he seems admissible and is reviewed again later with his first semester grades and new test scores in his file.

Seniors Admitted to First-Choice Colleges through Early Decision

In the Class of 2003, almost a quarter of the class applied Early Decision and the following seniors have already been admitted to their first-choice colleges. (Most of the others have been deferred to Regular Decision and will hear in April; the admitted Early Decision students must withdraw their applications from other colleges.)

William Adams	The University of Richmond
Preston Blankenship	Vanderbilt University
Andy Garrett	Dartmouth College
Marshall Goldsmith	The University of Virginia
John Harkess	The University of Virginia
Joel Iglehart	The University of Virginia
Philip Lewis	Washington University
Clark Mayfield	New York University
Michael Morisy	Cornell University
Conor Quinn	Williams College
Edward Yang	Northwestern University

Seniors Who Applied Early Action

Twenty-five percent of this class of 100 students applied Early Action. Several applied Early Action while applying Early Decision, and several also applied to more than one college under Early Action, which years ago was either prohibited or discouraged. These schools may or may not be final choices for those who applied. The seniors and their Early Action colleges are:

Chris Beck	Clemson, Georgia, Illinois, and Tennessee
Philip Blackett	Harvard College
Clay Chapman	The University of Mississippi
Matthew Cohen	The University of Georgia
George Edwards	Southern Methodist University
Ken Farmer	Colorado College
Dustin Geer	The University of Tennessee
Faris Haykal	Harvard College
David Jacobson	The University of Kentucky and Colorado State University
Barlow Mann	Tulane University
Ryves Moore	The University of Georgia
Blake Morris	The College of Charleston
Noah Randall	University of Denver
Babu Rayudu	Northeastern University
Robert Snowden	The College of Charleston
Tyler Wohrman	The University of Mississippi

Guidance Counselors Give Website A Facelift



The MUS website is constantly evolving and reflects the most up-to-date state of the school. The staff of the Kemmons Wilson Leadership Development and Counseling Center wanted their web pages to represent their proactive role in the comprehensive education of the students—so we changed them. The new and improved Counseling website features pictures of the counselors, current programs, helpful hints for parents, and much more. Check out the new Counseling website at:

www.musowls.org/students/services/counseling.htm

The Reading Connection

Parents of Hull Lower School students began meeting with Lower School counselor **Mrs. Bryn Wulf** in October to discuss issues pertinent to the growth and development of their sons. The newly-formed Lower School Parents Book Club began by reading *Raising Cain* by Dan Kindlon and Michael Thompson. *Raising Cain* focuses on the emotional miseducation of adolescent boys and the ways American culture sets expectations of stoicism and machoism.

In addition to the discussion of books about adolescent boys, the meetings have served a dual role as a place for parents to exchange information about events, opportunities, and daily life at Hull Lower School. For example, one mother may have a question about extracurricular activities available to seventh graders. The questions are often answered by another parent or by Mrs. Wulf, who leads the discussions.

All parents of Lower School students are welcome to participate in the monthly book club meetings. There are evening and daytime groups in place to accommodate the various schedules of families. For more information on upcoming book club meetings, visit the Counseling website.



Ellis Haguewood
Headmaster

Barry Ray
Upper School Principal

Rick Broer
Lower School Principal

Bobby Alston
Director of Athletics

Lin Askew
Director of Admissions

Bob Boelte
Director of College Guidance

Perry Dement
Director of Development

Mike Gunn
Academic Dean

Bebe Jonakin
Director of Counseling Services

Marc MacMillan
Business Manager

Ellen McDonell
Director of Hyde Library

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UPCOMING EVENTS

April

- 2 Election of Honor Council President
- 6 Daylight Savings Time Begins
- 10 Student Council Elections
- 14 Special Awards & Honor Societies Induction Night
- 18 - 21 Easter Holiday
- 24 - 25, 27 . . . Student Produced Play: *Harvey*
- 25 Red and Blue Society Induction
- 30 Transition of Student Leaders

May

- 2 Last Day of Second Semester for Seniors
- 4 All Sports Banquet
- 5 Advanced Placement Exams Begin
Senior Exams Begin
- 10 Spring Formal
- 15 Senior Class Brunch at Headmaster's House
Graduation Rehearsal
- 18 Baccalaureate and Graduation at
Second Presbyterian Church
- 22 Underclassmen Exams Begin
- 26 Memorial Day Holiday
- 30 Last Day of 2002 - 03 School Year

Background painting by seventh-grader Parker Joyner



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