



Volume 13, Number 3, May 2011

# MENTAL MUSCLE

## CHESS OWLS ARE NO. 2 IN THE STATE

by Miss Erin Floyd

The chess teams had all the right moves while competing in the Region IV Team Qualifying Tournament on March 5.

At the regional level, the varsity team came in second and the Lower School team came in fourth. Both teams qualified for the Tennessee

State Scholastic Team Chess Tournament in Cookeville on March 26. Because of schedule conflicts, the Lower School team did not compete at the state level. The varsity team came home

with their third second-place trophy in four years.

The Upper School team consists of junior **Ashish Nathani**, sophomores **Pete Abston**, **Amit Shah**, and **Nathan Vogt**, and freshman **Andy Sorensen**. The Lower School team includes freshmen **William Lamb** and Sorensen, and eighth graders **Marvin Banks** and **Max Meyer**. Nathani and Vogt are co-captains of the teams.

Chess competitions can be tricky, according to Meyer, who said confidence is the key.

"It's easy to be concerned that the kids you're competing against are extremely skilled," he said. "You may worry that they're out-thinking you, and you're not really sure what's going on in their heads. You just have to be confident

about what's going on in your head."

Sorensen had a similar outlook.

"The hardest part about this competition was playing people better than I am, especially when I didn't have much time to think about my moves," he said. "Also, it's challenging to play chess as a team-based game because you rely on your other teammates to win their games. The team has to get two and a half wins out of four to win the round."

When it comes to sharpening their skills, members of the chess team agreed that practice makes perfect.

"When I first learned chess, I frequently practiced to improve my skills,"

Sorensen said. "Tactics become very important."

Meyer added that skills he develops while practicing chess aid him in everyday life.



(left to right) Amit Shah, Nathan Vogt, Andy Sorensen, Ashish Nathani, and Pete Abston

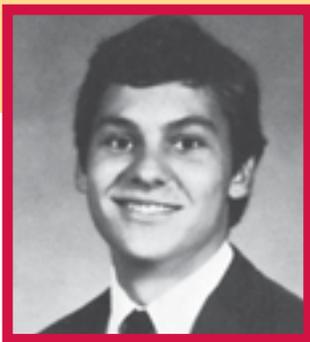
"My favorite part about chess is how it sharpens my mental skills," he said. "It really helps with analytical thinking."

Along with the "mental muscle" that chess provides, the boys enjoy participating.

"It's really fun, plus, Nathan Vogt is a very good teacher. He knows what he's doing," Meyer said. "We meet once a week, right after school, and we encourage anyone with an interest in the game to come check us out."

In addition to the mental exercise and the fun, another goal motivates these players.

"I participate because I really like chess and want to help MUS win a state title," Sorensen said.



Clay Smythe, Circa 1983

# Straight From the Top

by Mr. Clay Smythe '85, Lower School Principal

## Whatever Happened to Eddie Haskell?

For those who remember the old 1950s-60s television show, *Leave It To Beaver*, the name “Eddie Haskell” conjures up arguably the quint-essentially insincere character in recent popular fiction. Eddie was the sharp-tongued high school friend of Wally Cleaver, an all-American boy, big brother to “The Beaver,” the stereotypically precocious little brother.

The show regularly presented the three confronted by numerous situations which exposed some of the basic tensions people face in everyday life. Wally generally represented the conservative, law-abiding role, and Eddie represented the anti-hero, the sycophant (thanks, JER, for teaching me that word), exploiting situations to his own advantage, often at the expense of the gullible Beaver.

Eddie’s most memorable exchanges exposed his duplicitous character, an overly complimentary manner to adults, especially to Wally’s and Beaver’s mother (“You sure look lovely in that dress, Mrs. Cleaver.”), in contrast to his conniving manipulations of his naïve and simpler contemporaries. Eddie commonly referred to Wally and The Beaver by their given names, Wallace and Theodore, just to be mean, reinforcing his social standing, employing his sarcasm as an effective weapon protecting his personal position in the group.

Recently, an article claiming how best to get a high-school student accepted into a prestigious college circulated around our office. The gist was simple: achieving college acceptance to exclusive programs is highly competitive, therefore each student needs to do his or her best to stand out from the rest in more ways than producing good grades and a long list of accomplishments. The formula for success, claimed the article, was to receive exceptional teacher recommendations. The best way to get those kinds of kudos was to

cozy up to that authority as soon as possible and “go the extra mile” toward cultivating the relationship... all for the pragmatic end of being noticed by discriminating college admissions committees.

In a nod to our archetypal anti-hero, the exasperated author opined that it looks like students are being encouraged by this line of reasoning to act more like the two-faced Eddie Haskell than to work their best at achieving high marks and serving their school in order to promote the general welfare.

When a number of us adults read the piece and saw the infamous character’s name, we shared an immediate understanding of the author’s intent. We know Eddie Haskell, and we know that he is a fraud. Sucking up to teachers is a bad strategy, and we unmask it when it happens to us. However, sincerely developing a student-mentor relationship is one of the best experiences an MUS boy can know, and we strongly encourage the rapport. A student will carry the cherished relationship with him for the rest of his life, and the teacher will, too. Quite possibly, he may even merit the genuine college recommendation from said teacher at the end of the day.

Eddie Haskell serves as unique of a place within and among adolescent company as he does in adult society. He’s a pariah for those who desire to foster friendship in community. He sets people up in order to knock them down. He pokes fun, hiding his own insecurities, employing his quick wit to the negative. The rules don’t apply to him. Be they students or teachers, either target should be warned that he is known to lie in the grass awaiting his opportunity to strike. As a result of his deceit and manipulations, his cunning, he often avoids the demerit list and the bad conduct sheet. His craft remains alert in various scenarios in order to promote his survival. To catch him in the act requires a keen eye. Perceptive adults armed with the wisdom that comes through experience can aid youngsters in developing improved discernment by breaking down Eddie’s strategy in order for them to protect themselves from similar ruses.

continued on page 5

## Inside MUS

### Table of Contents

#### Owlcolades

- 3 National Merit Finalists
- 4 Cum Laude Society Inductees
- 5 MATHCOUNTS Champs
- 6 Honor Rolls

#### Fine Arts

- 7 Fine Arts Updates
- 8 The Making of NeoVox: a revue
- 10 Fine Arts Awards

#### Sports Buzz

- 11 Lacrosse Leadership Camp
- 12 Varsity Basketball Season
- 13 Basketball Homecoming
- 14 Varsity Swim Season
- 15 Varsity Wrestling Season
- 16 Football Awards
- 18 Junior Varsity Basketball
- 19 Seventh-Grade Basketball
- 20 Lower School Swim Team

#### Campus News

- 21 Student Council Q and A
- 22 Oodles of Debates
- 23 MangoLanguages
- 24 Caught on Camera

#### Insights

- 26 College Corner

#### Parents' Association

- 27 Updates From the Chairs

# National Merit Scholarship Finalists, Six Brainy Owls

FROM 1.5 MILLION COMPETITORS TO 15,000

by Miss Erin Floyd



Forrest Baty



Clint Montgomery



Chase Schoelkopf



Carson Smith



Mason Soun



J.P. Wheeler

Seniors **Forrest Baty, Clint Montgomery, Chase Schoelkopf, Carson Smith, Mason Soun, and J.P. Wheeler** were named finalists in the 2011 National Merit Scholarship (NMS) competition.

The boys' NMS journey began when they were included in the top 50,000 out of 1.5 million entrants. In early September, they received notification that they were six of the 16,000 students named as semifinalists. Now that they reached the finalist stage, they are six out of a choice group of 15,000 students, competing for the 8,400 merit scholarships to be given out March through June. Most of these awards are \$2,500 scholarships which will go toward their college education.

According to NMS, the scholarships are awarded based on "the finalist's academic record, information about the school's curricula and grading system, two sets of test scores, the high school official's written recommendation, information about the student's activities and leadership, and the finalist's own essay."

## CORRECTIONS ~ INSIDE MUS, VOL. 13, NUMBER 2



Jack Hirschman



Arnav Thakur



Witt Hawkins



Win Duncan

Jack Hirschman's and Arnav Thakur's names were misspelled on page 6.

Witt Hawkins was mis-identified as Win Duncan on page 25.



# Owlcolades



## GARRETT, GOING FOR THE GOLD

Daniel Garrett is a semifinalist for the 2011 U.S. Physics Olympics Team. The American Association of Physics Teachers (AAPT) uses three phases to select the team. The first phase selects 300 semifinalists from 3,000 candidates. The second phase reduces the pool to 20 members who will travel to the University of Maryland-College Park for a training camp. There, they engage in nine days of intense study, labs, exams, and problem solving. At the end of the camp, five students and an alternate will be selected as the team to represent the U.S. at the International Physics Olympiad (IPhO). In July, the team and their coaches will attend a three day camp of intense laboratory work before moving on to the IPhO, which will be held in Bangkok, Thailand.



## Cum Laude Society Inducts 19 New Members

*The Cum Laude Society is the highest academic honor a high school student can receive.*



Senior Cum Laude members (left to right) Drew Thibado, J.P. Wheeler, Nathan Prosser, Ben Zambetti, Carson Smith, James Akers, Matt Montsinger, Russell Scott, William Cross, and Forrest Baty



Junior Cum Laude members (left to right) Wil Hergenrader, George Ormseth, Daniel McLeod, Carson House, Charles Belina, Mark Sorensen, Eli Goldstein, Alex Weinstein, and (not pictured) Danny Galvin



### Presidential Scholars Candidates

Elliott Collins and Drew Thibado were recognized as candidates for the 2011 U.S. Presidential Scholars Program. To be eligible, students must score exceptionally well on either the SAT or ACT. If selected as finalists, they will receive medallions and expense-paid trips to Washington, DC.



### Academic All-American Swimmers

Six Aquatic Owls qualified this year for the Swimming Academic All-American program: (front row) Clint Montgomery, Mason Soun, Ethan Landau, (back row) Drew Thibado, Richard Twardzik, and Kevin Szymkowicz. Candidates must have a minimum of 3.75 on a 4-point scale or 93.75 percent of the grade scale for seven semesters, must be a graduating senior, and must letter in swimming.

### Montgomery Goes to Governor's School

Sophomore David Montgomery has been accepted to the Governor's School for International Studies. In June, he will attend an immersive four-week program at the University of Memphis.



### Roachell Receives Comcast Scholarship

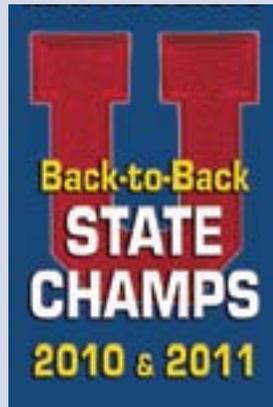
Jianyin Roachell was selected as a recipient of the Comcast Leaders and Achievers® Scholarship and will receive a one-time grant of \$1,000. Comcast awards this scholarship based on the student's demonstrated leadership, academic achievement, and service to the community.



## State MATHCOUNTS Champs



For the second year in a row, MUS mathletes brought home the state championship trophy. (left to right) Coach Loyal Murphy and students Yunhua Zhao, Witt Fesmire, Richard Ouyang, Baty Daniel, and Jeffrey Zheng pause for photographs after winning the MATHCOUNTS state championship. Due to their outstanding individual performances, Ouyang and Zhao will represent half of the state team, who will compete in May at the national competition to be held in Washington, DC. In addition, math instructor Loyal Murphy will coach the Tennessee state team for the second year in a row.



## Knowledge Bowlers Win Championship

The team of (left to right, first row) Carson House, Eli Goldstein, Jackson Darr, and Nicholas Rouse won the Knowledge Bowl Championship as well as \$7,500 college scholarships for each player. Also pictured are (left to right, second row) coaches Mr. Darin Clift, Mr. Jonathan Large, and Mr. Doug Perkins.



## Schoelkopf Recognized for Civic Service

Chase Schoelkopf was named a semifinalist and given a bronze medal in the Prudential Spirit of Community Awards for his contributions and leadership as president of the Civic Service Organization. Schoelkopf was also nominated by faculty and administration for the Association of Fundraising Professionals' 2010-11 Crystal Award, Youth in Philanthropy.

.....  
Straight From the Top continued from page 2

All that said, episodes often culminated with Eddie being exposed for the fraud that he was, often unmasked by the youthful, less experienced Beaver, and Ward and June Cleaver, his strong, virtuous, and astute parents (also a pop-cultural rarity). Turns out, truth is truth, and a hypocrite can be called out by the clarity and simplicity even of a child. Eddie's style of bullying may be subtle, but young people constantly reminded of true character, of true citizenship, of true friendship... they can tell the difference.

Unfortunately, boys today are poorer for not having *Leave It To Beaver* playing on TV every afternoon. If they watched it, maybe they could more readily see Eddie Haskell's premeditated antics among their contemporaries for what they truly are: dishonorable, selfish tricks aimed at subverting good citizenship for self-seeking gain, substituting strong moral character for pragmatic self-interest. Since contemporary popular culture seems to have lost the Haskell character, we adults need to help our kids find a substitute device. In so doing, kids could increase their personal mental and social strength, employing our anecdotes among their friends, encouraging the Community Creed tenants when confronted by the ignoble deeds of another.

Ultimately, the young people will have to learn to fend for themselves. Armed with black and white re-runs from a previous generation may be a start.

# MUS HONOR ROLLS

## First Semester 2010-11 School Year

*At the conclusion of each semester, students who have earned 90 or above in every regular and honors course and 80 or above in every honors accelerated and AP course are designated Dean's Scholars and are eligible for a holiday in the following semester.*

*Students who have earned a weighted semester GPA of at least 3.75 with no semester grade below 80 will be placed on the Dean's List.*

*To be eligible for these honors, all the student's conduct marks in both quarters must be S or E. Also, he must pass physical education for the semester.*

### Dean's Scholars

#### 12th Grade

James Akers  
Aditya Biswas  
William Cross  
Rob Dickinson  
Daniel Garrett  
Alex Jarratt  
Jack Klug  
Ethan Landau  
Jason Manis  
Clint Montgomery  
Nathan Prosser  
Chase Schoelkopf  
Russell Scott  
Max Sheppard  
Carson Smith  
Mason Soun  
Kevin Szymkowicz  
Drew Thibado  
Richard Twardzik  
J.P. Wheeler  
Wyatt Whicker

#### 11th Grade

Max Barzel  
Charles Belina  
John David Christman  
Daniel Cunningham  
Nathan Feler  
Nathan Franklin  
Danny Galvin  
William George  
Eli Goldstein  
Garrott Graham  
John Grayson  
Michael Green  
Jake Greenstein  
Wil Hergenrader  
Carson House  
Daniel McLeod  
John Newman  
George Ormseth  
Nicholas Rouse  
Mark Sorensen

Jack Stukenborg  
Ross Warner  
Alex Weinstein  
Andrew Wilensky

#### 10th Grade

Jared Ashkenaz  
James Belina  
Srujan Bethi  
Seth Carson  
William Hoehn  
Farhan Kathawala  
Peyton Klawinski  
Edward Lake  
Bennett Mercer  
Andrew Miller  
Zachary Olsen  
James Rantzow  
Andrew Renshaw  
Brian Ringel  
Marshall Sharp  
Edward Simpson  
Nathan Vogt

#### 9th Grade

Shivam Bhakta  
Seamus Fitzhenry  
Chris Galvin  
Salman Haque  
Josh Hawkins  
Witt Hawkins  
Davis Howe  
Tal Keel  
William Lamb  
Leshan Moodley  
Ben Ormseth  
Stephen Pacheco  
Will Prater  
Nick Schwartz  
Walker Sims  
Andy Sorensen  
Garret Sullivan  
Zain Virk  
Will Wells

#### 8th Grade

Baty Daniel  
Andrew Elsagr  
Will Farnsworth  
Robert Gooch  
Jack Hirschman  
Richard Ouyang  
Azeez Shala  
Matt Stephens  
Sherman Tabor  
Jeffrey Zheng

#### 7th Grade

Sam Bartz  
Chandler Clayton  
Forest Colerick  
David Dabov  
Dylan Echlin  
Witt Fesmire  
Tom Fowlkes  
Philip Freeburg

Owen Galvin  
Cole Harrison  
Austin Hord  
Grayson Lee  
Jason Lin  
Eric Makapugay  
Saatvik Mohan  
Patrick Murphy  
Patton Orr  
Russell Sands  
Ethan Schaffer  
Daniel Tancredi  
Colin Threlkeld  
Jordan Wallace

#### Dean's List

#### 12th Grade

Kyle Anderson  
Mac Armour  
Taylor Bates  
Forrest Baty  
Howard Choi  
Jeff Daniel  
Shea Gabrielleschi  
William Hepner  
Taylor Jordan  
Matthias Leung  
Wilson Luttrell  
Hunter McLendon  
Witt Meloni  
Matt Montsinger  
Philip Overton  
Wells Prather  
Jianyin Roachell  
Joel Saslawsky  
Billy Simco  
William Smythe  
Andrew Tackett  
David Ursic  
Ben Zambetti

#### 11th Grade

Obaid Anwar  
Toby Baker  
David Brandon  
Townes Buford  
Lee Downen  
Will Forsythe  
Charlie Freeburg  
Scott Freeburg  
Healy Fuess  
Edward Good  
Spencer Gruber  
William Hammond  
Daniel Harris  
Anthony Hodges  
Nick James  
Carlton McCord  
Ashish Nathani  
John Oates  
Drew Stevenson  
Max Weiss  
Heath Wilder

#### 10th Grade

Philip Aiken  
Nick Antonelli  
Derrick Baber  
Warren Ball  
Matt Bolton  
Daniel Britton  
Tucker Brock  
Ashton Clark  
Colin Donoghue  
Forrest Field  
Charlie Goodfellow  
Kyle Gossett  
Drew Hutson  
A.J. Kharbanda  
Ryan Mayzell  
Remy Rea  
Sam Shankman  
Blake Smith  
Ben Taylor  
Mac Trammell  
Alex Weaver  
Jonathan Wilfong  
Chip Womack

#### 9th Grade

Michael Baker  
James Bedwell  
Jacob Birnbaum  
Michael Birnbaum  
David Blankenship  
Kameron Bradley  
Thornton Brooksbank  
Alec Carro  
Andrew Crosby  
Austin Dobbs  
Josh Douglass  
Connor Dowling  
Renn Eason  
Cal Edge  
Jake Eissler  
Drew Evans  
Drew Flaherty  
Travis Floyd  
Blake Fountain  
Matthew Gayoso  
Bud Harris  
Reed Harrison  
Samuel Hecht  
Jack Henke  
Jeffrey Lancaster  
Jay Mitchum  
Kyle Naes  
Sam Neyhart  
Samuel Ostrow  
James Prather  
John Richardson  
Jackson Roberts  
Jordan Samuel  
Aditya Shah  
Elliot Slovis  
Tate Solberg  
Paul Stevenson  
Stephen Tsiu  
Tejvir Vaghela  
John Valentine

Harrison Williams  
Gary Wunderlich  
Chase Wyatt

#### 8th Grade

Mitchell Apollonio  
Alex Carruthers  
Mitchell Clark  
Alex Creson  
Patrick Demere  
Nick Dunn  
Jack Gray  
Jack Hawkins  
Brad Jarratt  
August Klinke  
Ashish Kumar  
Ahmed Latif  
Walker Lee  
Stewart Love  
Kamar Mack  
Nicholas Manley  
William Merriman  
Nevin Naren  
Jerry Oates  
Michael Reddoch  
Preston Roberts  
Pierce Rose  
Christian Schneider  
Andrew Shelton  
Hamid Shirwany  
Corwin Vinson  
Griffin Wilson  
Ty Wolf  
Connor Wright  
Yunhua Zhao

#### 7th Grade

Andres Carro  
Tucker Colerick  
Ben Daniel  
Matthew Davidoff  
Dawson Davis  
Nathan Dinh  
Christian Fauser  
Ian Fitzhenry  
Matt Fuess  
Andrew Hanissian  
Jim House  
Gil Humphreys  
Henry Keel  
Cameron Lakin  
Will McAtee  
Murray Morrison  
David Nelson  
Jonathan Peters  
William Rantzow  
Jack Richman  
Bilal Siddiq  
Reid Smith  
Kevin Tu  
Grant Webb  
Connor Whitson

# Fine Arts Updates



Jace Watkins shows off his banner design.

## Digital Design Class by Mrs. Terry Balton

Students were tasked with creating artwork for the MUS theater production of *Treasure Island*. This project challenged the boys to consider a client's [Mr. Tim Greer] concept, then create artwork by selecting fonts, colors, images, and layout choices. The banners were saved in a Photoshop format, and after critiques by class members, the Communications Department, and Mr. Greer, the winning design was chosen. Junior **Jace Watkins'** art was then applied to all the posters, programs, and street banners displayed on campus for *Treasure Island*.



Trip Underwood gives a "thumbs up" as he waits for the mold to set.

## Sculpture Class by Mr. Jim Buchman

Students are doing two separate, but related, casting projects. First they made a mold of their hand and wrist using alginate which is a single-use, flexible mold-making material. They put their hand in a container and fill the bucket with alginate. After eight minutes, they gently flexed their hand and pulled it out. This created a void in the shape of whatever position the student held. The boys filled that void with plaster, like water in an ice tray, and tore the rubbery alginate away from the plaster replica, which is called a positive mold. Since the alginate is destroyed, leaving only one positive shape, it is called a "waste" mold. Next the students will make a two-part, four-piece mold which is re-useable, allowing for multiple positives. The multiple hands will be carved and fitted together to complete the final project. More on the second project will be shared in the July issue of *Inside MUS*.

## Printmaking Class by Mr. Grant Burke

In a project loosely inspired by Mr. Frank Beddor's chapel, the students created a deck of custom playing cards. The suit in this deck feature a different academic department, with the faculty filling the roles of aces, kings, queens, and jacks. The class decided that the aces would be the department chairs, then voted on the other three representatives. Science was represented by hearts, math by clubs, foreign language by diamonds, and English by spades. Each card was hand printed with oil-based block ink, then hand painted with watercolors. The project was an introduction to woodcutting tools and preparation for the students' next project: self-portraits.

continued on page 10



Avery Tosi and Nicholas Vergos show "before and after" examples of the sculpture class project.



# The Arts



Mr. Shelton as Jack of Spades, by Kevin Szymkowicz



Mr. Hernández, as King of Diamonds, by Markus Williams



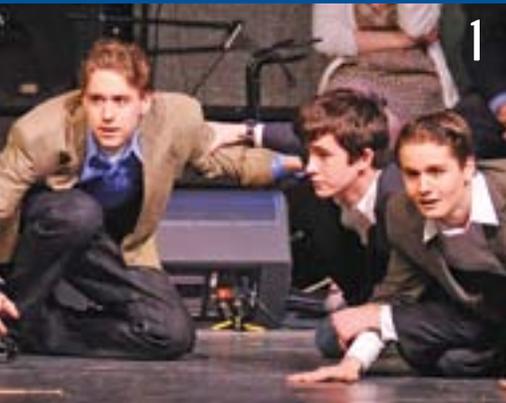
Mr. Suddarth as Ace of Diamonds, by Russell Scott



Mr. Cliff as King of Clubs (Hulk green, of course), by Heath Wilder



Mrs. Sowell as Queen of Hearts, by Ivan Denson



1



2



3



4



5

# FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION

## The Making of NeoVox: a revue

by Kenneth Johnson '11

**D**ance is expression through movement. It is a physical and mental exercise where the mind, body, and soul are one. When the circumstances are right, it can be a freeing experience. Dance can also be incredibly expressive, the art of acting without words. Maybe that is why I always say that dance equals life.



Max Weiss, Fraser Humphreys, and Eli Goldstein perform "Lucy in the Sky with Diamonds."

When Mr. Tim Greer offered me the opportunity to choreograph *NeoVox: a revue*, I was completely overwhelmed with excitement. It was not only a chance to add significant leadership experience to my college resume, but also a chance to create something totally new and to introduce a type of dance that, to my knowledge, had never been seen in Hyde Chapel.

My initial joy didn't last long, as I soon became overwhelmed in a totally different way. I began to realize the enormous responsibilities and challenges ahead. Dancing has been my life for ten years, but this was going to be different. Being the lead choreographer on a full-length show was a challenge that would test my ability.

Production meetings began and I learned the schedule, the general design of the set, and the concept behind the name, *NeoVox*, *neo* meaning "new" and *vox* meaning "voice." This production was conceived to express something "new" from multiple generational and racial experiences. It would highlight dance, and the dance numbers would be

1. Alex Jarratt, Will Forsythe, and Morgan Hunt evade pursuit as a trio of Old West outlaws during an improv round.
2. Scooter Taylor, Jianyin Roachell, Christian Patterson, Mr. John Hiltonsmith, and Kenny Johnson in the closing song, "Open All Night"
3. Morgan Hunt and Alex Jarratt do vaudeville math in "7 x 13 = 28."
4. Anand Patel, Ria McCadney, and Jianyin Roachell bring the choreography to life in "Because the Night."
5. Kenny Johnson and Mila Yarbrough share a boy-meets-girl moment in "Lost Without You."

connected by classic vaudeville sketches, much like *Saturday Night Live* or *In Living Color*.

*NeoVox* would be set in an underground club where anything goes, where every race and generation would come together, be accepted, have fun, and “swagger.” The concept sounded awesome, but I realized that I would not only choreograph the songs I chose, but also songs chosen by other production team members. That meant choreographing totally unfamiliar songs. I realized I’d be fully immersed in the directing role. And strictly speaking, “fine arts” aren’t always that fine.

Most audiences only see the finished product. They don’t see artists spending countless hours staring at nothing in order to imagine what to create, and they don’t know the musical selections may change late in the schedule, that the weather may steal valuable rehearsals, that roles may require recasting, or that scripts may need rewriting. At some point, I began to think of this work as a rite of passage that would prove whether I was really meant to choreograph in the future.

The journey began on the first day back to school after the winter break, when the entire dance crew met. I described the opportunity given to us and my vision for the performance. Over time, the dancers began to embrace that vision and understand the work that was ahead of them.

We practiced long and hard for more than a month. There were days of constant worrying, laughing, teaching, choreographing, meditating, talking, repeating, and starting over. Words and phrases like “Boom, Boom, Kack,” “Let’s try this,” and “I have an idea” flowed frequently as the show evolved.

Some days were incredibly hard, and some days were insanely fun. I could sometimes see self-doubt in the eyes of the dancers, and I wondered how to give them the encouragement they needed. I frequently sought the same encouragement from Mr. Greer as well as other faculty and administrators. Somehow, though, I made it through this process.



The dance ensemble blew the house away during the song “Find Your Love” with choreography that included stomp, hip-hop, and contemporary dance moves.

The troupe definitely proved themselves worthy dancers, not only in my eyes but in the eyes of the audience. Some dancers learned they could do things they never imagined. Others experienced an aspect of MUS they’d never seen. There were tears and lots of hugs on closing night. Even with all the grueling hours and hard work, they were sad to see the show end.

When the show closed, I had successfully completed my first major choreography project. I learned that crazy ideas can come to reality and change lives. I also learned that leadership brings a lot of freedom and expression, but it also carries a lot of stress and sleepless nights.

Art and the artistic process have always been at least partially misunderstood, complicated, and stressful. Successful artists learn to look beyond the negative and believe in themselves. I hope that *NeoVox* is a torch that will be passed on to other aspiring choreographers, directors, actors, and musicians. The show took student directing into a whole new world of possibilities, and I hope it doesn’t end with me.

I learned that teaching is sometimes more about listening than speaking, that circumstances beyond our control will always try to rob us of our joy, and that being creative is the hardest and most fulfilling job I’ll ever do. And finally, I learned that I was right. Dance is life.

Fine Arts Updates continued from page 7

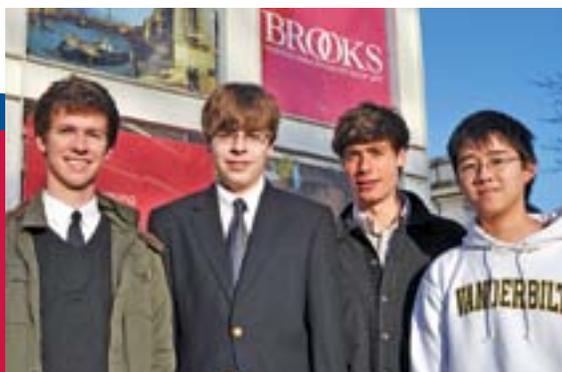
## *Beg To Differ Awards* by Mr. John Hiltonsmith

Fourteen members of Beg To Differ® (BTD) flew with Mr. John Hiltonsmith and Mr. Flip Eikner to Los Angeles for clinics and a competition at the Anaheim Heritage Music Festival, where they had the best showing in the 20-year history of BTD. The *a cappella* Owls received a gold medal rating and the Most Outstanding Choral Performance trophy. Sophomore **Fraser Humphreys** was recognized with the Maestro Award for a solo performance. In addition, BTD was the only group invited to perform at a Carnegie Hall festival next spring. The award-winning ensemble includes seniors **John Edwards, Philip Overton, Jianyin Roachell, and Matt Montsinger**; juniors **Nathan Feler,**

**Aaron Noble, Christian Patterson, and Ross Warner**; sophomores **Tripp Crews, Fraser Humphreys, and Sam Shankman**; and freshmen **Andrew Counce, Shaan Jiles, and Paul Stevenson.**



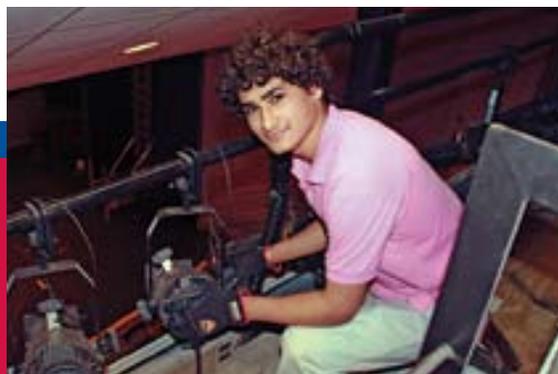
Members of Beg To Differ pose with their awards from the Anaheim Heritage Music Festival.



### Artistic Owls Featured at Brooks Exhibitions

(left to right) David Brandon, Ben Taylor, Shea Gabrielleschi, and Matthias Leung

At the Mid-South Scholastic Art Contest, Shea Gabrielleschi and David Brandon received Gold Keys; August Klinke, Matthias Leung, Nicholas Manley, Marshall Smith, and Ben Taylor received Silver Keys; and Ben Zambetti received an honorable mention.



### Joseph Levy Nominated for Orpheum Award

Joseph Levy was nominated for the Orpheum Award, Technical Achievement. This award recognizes one Mid-South student who has gone above and beyond the call of duty, giving his or her time in a technical, backstage, or leadership position. The winning student will receive a \$500 cash prize during a black-tie awards ceremony at the Orpheum Theatre on May 26.

# Lacrosse Learns Leadership Lessons

By Mr. Tom Scott

**D**uring Presidents Day weekend, instead of playing a tournament out of town, the lacrosse team stayed on campus and worked on leadership skills.

"We wanted to bring the boys together as a team and help them become better leaders in competition," said Head Coach Elliott Dent. "They learned that it is not just the coaches' or captains' job to encourage other players, it's also their responsibility to help each other."



*After having completed survival training, the team is prepared for the intense lacrosse season.*

Dent and assistant coaches Mr. Whit Tenent '00, Mr. Ron Ansley '96, and Mr. Patrick DiMento worked with Elite Leadership Training (ELT) trainers and CEO, Ms. Lona Spisso, to teach the team to overcome adversity in stressful situations, while forging a foundation of character and honor beyond playing the game. Their objective was to build confident and competent leaders who would make better decisions, emphasizing the principle of doing it "right" even if no one is looking.

The players believe the weekend's training helped make a difference this season.

"We definitely grew closer as a team and learned the importance of communication and team work through the exercises and lectures," said senior and co-captain **Rob Dickinson**. "We learned how to work as a cohesive unit in the face of adversity."

Senior and co-captain **Russell Scott** said, "We learned how to develop energy and focus for practices and games. We leave 'messaging around' for the locker room and turn on that switch in our heads that says it's time to work when we head to the field."

The MUS players impressed the ELT team.

"The young warriors of MUS lacrosse displayed passion and courage over the three-day event," said Ms. Spisso. "They forged a bond executing both mental and physical team building tasks, learning to trust and believe in the man next to them. We would grade the team's effort as 'excellent' and on par with many of the



collegiate and professional teams we train. The boys learned, 'It's the hard [work] which makes it great!'"

The trainers included Mr. J.B. Spisso, Mr. Scott Smilinich, Mr. James Ader, and Ms. Spisso. ELT has trained a variety of professional, collegiate, and high school teams, as well as business

organizations.

To keep the training fresh in their minds during the season, the team adopted a theme that they shout as a group before games, "Dig in, shoot straight, and fight like hell!"



*Myatt McClure, Heath Wilder, and Patrick DiMento work together to accomplish a goal.*

*Jackson Roberts, Stephen Valentine, Tyler Jacks, and Ross Warner carry James Sexton as they try to outrun their teammates in a conditioning drill.*

Photography by Elite Leadership Training LLC





As two CBHS players look on, Danny Galvin goes for a lay-up.



Daniel Cunningham and Carlton McCord defend the Christian Brothers point guard.



Toby Baker soars for a basket against the Purple Wave.

## A Roller Coaster Season for the Varsity Owls

The 2010-11 varsity basketball team completed the season in late February after advancing to the state quarterfinal round of the Division II AA playoffs. While the Owls fell in Chattanooga to eventual state runner-up McCallie, the team played its best basketball in the post season, making improvements the coaches hope will carry into next year.

The team's three seniors, **Ivan Denson**, **M.J. Isbell**, and **Britt McGuire**, brought multiple years of experience to the squad. But underclassmen also played a significant role on this year's team. Juniors **Toby Baker**, **Daniel Cunningham**, **Danny Galvin**, and **Carlton McCord** and sophomores **John Lewandowski**, **Jake Rudesill**, **Fernando Van Hook**, **Will Whitley**, and **Jonathan Wilfong** contributed throughout the year as they gained experience and improved their game. Juniors **Jackson Darr** and **Jack Stukenborg** provided managerial support all season.

The Owls started off the year with eight consecutive victories, defeating local teams SBEC, Collierville, FCA, Tipton-Rosemark, Harding Academy, and MHEA as well as out-of-town squads Holland Hall (OK) and Madison Ridgeland (MS).

A talented Arlington High School team interrupted the Owls' winning streak just before the end of the first semester. Despite the setback, the team felt confident going into the holiday break and hoped to improve their chemistry with the recent addition of key players from football.

The team's next game was the Harding Academy Holiday Invitational and in Illinois at the annual Carbondale (IL) Holiday Tournament. At Harding, MUS advanced to the title game by defeating Hickman County and the host Lions. However, they lost the title game to league rival, Briarcrest.

The Owls played well in Illinois by defeating Maplewood Richmond Heights (MO), 52-51. After a tough three-point setback in the next round to Madison (IL), MUS easily handled Carterville (IL) but ended the tournament with a loss to Bartlett, one of the most athletic teams in Shelby County this year. The Owls finished 2010 at 12-4.

In January, the squad began their regional schedule on a "foul" note, losing to the Eagles of St. Benedict and four teams on the road; Houston, ECS (which went on to win the Division II A state title); Christian Brothers (which would ultimately win the region tournament); and Bolton, another very talented and athletic team.

The Owls never gave up, and they played their most impressive game of the season at home, defeating Briarcrest, 68-52, to claim their first regional victory. In that win, four MUS players scored in the double-digits, and the Owls led for the final three quarters, even holding a 20-point advantage late in the game. The Owls record was then 13-9. Unfortunately, the Owls could not continue their momentum, losing five regular-season contests (St. Benedict, FACS, Christian Brothers, St. George's, and Briarcrest.) Again, despite the adversity of the season, MUS did not quit as the post season began.

In the regional tournament at Briarcrest, the Owls came out playing hard, trailed at the half, and closed the gap to within four points. The Saints would let them get no closer and the game ended MUS 38, Briarcrest 58.

The Owls next faced St. Benedict, a team that handled MUS twice in the regular season. But this game did not play out like the previous two. MUS controlled SBA with the Owls' zone defense and led the entire second half to claim the 44-38 victory and a home playoff game in the state quarter-finals.

That home contest would be against Brentwood Academy, a very physical team from just outside of Nashville. After trailing for much of the first half by as many as ten points, the Owls rallied in the second half with good perimeter shooting. MUS led late in the third quarter and never trailed again, claiming a 56-54 victory.

The win over Brentwood advanced MUS to the state tournament where they would first play McCallie, perhaps the most athletic team the Owls faced all year.

Continuing the roller coaster pattern of the entire year, MUS led over the Blue Tornado with just over a minute remaining in the third quarter, but McCallie out-rebounded MUS, 24-8, in the second half, an advantage the Owls could not reverse. MUS fell, 57-49, and with the loss, McCallie ended the Owls season at 15-16.

They have a busy summer schedule planned, including the Summer Classic on June 23-25. While coaches Mr. Jerry Peters, Mr. Matt Bakke, and Mr. Mark Counce are sad to say farewell to their three seniors, they look forward to next season and the strength of so many experienced returning players.



Daniel Cunningham eyes the hoop from the baseline.



M. J. Isbell



Philip Overton



Blake Hennessy



Mr. Ellis Haguewood



Shea Gabrielleschi



Scooter Taylor, Melony Hayes, William Hepner, Grace Peters, William Cross, Cameron Cofield, Wells Prather, Caroline Walker, Jason Manis, Julia Harrison, Hurston Reed, and Evelyn Reed

## Basketball Homecoming 2011

*Basketball Homecoming was plagued with bad weather, but the festivities were still filled with the always-entertaining Pep Rally, this year featuring rave attire, as well as cheerleaders, videos, music, impersonations of chapel speakers, "15 snappy rahs," and the crowning of the Homecoming queen, Caroline Walker, during the game.*



# Aquatic Owls are County Champions

## FOR A THREE-PEAT!

by Mrs. Laurie Clark, Varsity Swim Coach



The varsity swim team, completing a 164-11 season, broke multiple school records, achieved their highest state finish, and won the Shelby County Championship for the third straight year.

The 34-member squad, led by captains **James Davies, Taylor Jordan, and Richard Twardzik**, competes in the Shelby County High

School Swim League, which has no public, private, or size divisions. All Shelby County male athletes compete for one championship. Unlike last year, the massive field of competitors posed no challenge for the Owls, who posted a 34-0 record during the regular season. This record included several wins over rival Christian Brothers.



*The varsity aquatic Owls*

In addition to regular season meets, the team traveled to the Irving Invitational in Dallas on December 4, where they competed against 22 Texas teams and won the first-place trophy. One week later at the Germantown Invitational, the Owls grabbed another first-place win. On January 22, the team competed in the 48th Annual Hendrix Swimming and Diving Invitational in Conway, AR. Again this year, the Owls were the only out-of-state competitors. They glided away with the second-place trophy, a noteworthy achievement considering they were the only team without divers.

The Shelby County Championship Meet was held on January 29 at the University of Memphis. After the team's close win over Christian Brothers last year, the Owls ferociously trained in order to widen the gap this year. The hard work resulted in every Owl achieving multiple qualifying times and two first-place wins.

Junior **Crews Wellford** placed first in the 200-yard freestyle and sophomore **Pace Clark** tied for first in the 100-yard butterfly. While these two swimmers excelled in their categories, the entire team proved

to have great depth and strength, earning 569 points compared to second-place Collierville High School, which placed second with 447 points.

To finish the season, the team traveled to the Tennessee State High School Swimming and Diving Championship held February 11 and 12 at UT Knoxville. They broke seven of the 15 MUS swimming records.

The relay team of senior **Andrew Kennedy**, junior Wellford, and sophomores Clark and **Nedas Jakstas** broke the 200-yard medley relay record and placed seventh in the state. The relay team of Clark, Jordan, Jakstas, and Wellford also shattered the 400-yard freestyle relay record and placed tenth in the state. Wellford

broke the 50-yard backstroke record; the 100-yard backstroke record, placing seventh; and the 200-yard freestyle record, finishing eighth. Clark broke the 100-yard butterfly, finishing 13th in the state, and the 500-yard freestyle, with an 11th place finish.

Other individual competitors were seniors Davies, **Ethan Landau**, and Twardzik; junior **Michael Green**; and freshman **Thornton Brooksbank**.

The team's incredible finish was a tribute to the leadership of the 13 seniors, as well as each strong team member. Team members included seniors **Aditya Biswas, Michael Galligher, Conor Miller, Clint Montgomery, Mason Soun, Kevin Szymkowicz, Drew Thibado**, and **Wyatt Whicker**; juniors **Obaid Anwar** and **Charles Belina**; sophomores **James Belina, George Byars, Cole Flemmons, Daniel McGowan, Sam Moore, Chip Ogles, Austin Pretsch**, and **Walker Thompson**; and freshmen **Austin Dobbs, Jake Eissler, Drew Evans, Seamus Fitzhenry, Reed Harrison**, and **Davis Howe**.

# MATURITY AND PERSEVERANCE

*COACH HENDRICKS AND HIS TEAM WALKED THE WALK*

**W**ith only four seniors on this season's varsity wrestling squad, Head Coach Steve Hendricks knew success would not be judged just by the overall record. He and his staff would gauge success by the levels of improvement, consistency, and loyalty to the team.

Despite having such a young squad, the team performed well, completed the season at 13-5, and had several notable individual performances in post-season competitions.

Coach Hendricks put together a challenging schedule, although 12 of his top 22 athletes were sophomores or younger. The Owls competed in the Blackhorse Invitational at Houston High School, the Arlington Duals, the Millington Trojan Invitational, and the Briarcrest Duals. The team's regular season included competitors with strong local programs, such as Ridgeway, St. George's, Millington, Kingsbury, Briarcrest, Christian Brothers, and Bolton.

The squad was led by its four seniors: **Elliott Collins**, **Hunter McLendon**, **William Reid**, and **Avery Tosi**, who provided experience, leadership, and advice to their younger teammates.

The coaching staff is looking forward to another year with talented and growing underclassmen. These wrestlers include juniors **Townes Buford**, **Lee Downen**, **Eli Goldstein**, **Carson House**, **Jack Shawkey**, and **Markus Williams**; sophomores **Srujan Jampana Raju**, **Trey O'Bannon**, **Andrew Raves**, **Andrew Renshaw**, and **Alex Taylor**; and freshmen **Bobby Lewis**, **Kyle Naes**, and **Walker Sims**. Freshman **John Estes** was also an invaluable member of the squad, serving as varsity manager.

In addition to a respectable season, several Owls earned honors at post-season tournaments. At the state individual tournament in mid-February in Franklin, TN, four MUS wrestlers won at least one match and advanced in their weight divisions. Weighing in at 119 pounds, O'Bannon reached the quarterfinal round before falling to a McCallie sophomore in the consolation



*Trey O'Bannon exhibits his wrestling prowess over his opponent.*

round. At 135 pounds, Williams also won his first match, then claimed another victory in the consolation bracket. And in the 171-pound division, Tosi won two matches and came within one win of placing in the finals.

The best MUS finish came from Goldstein, who earned a first-round bye in the 140-pound division. In the quarterfinals, he needed only 1:10 to pin his Knoxville Webb opponent and advance to the semifinals. He lost the next match, 3-2, and fell to the consolation bracket, then lost the next match to fall to fifth place. A testament to Goldstein's tenacity, he rebounded to win his final match and take fifth at state, an outstanding finish.

Other Owls also performed well in post-season competition. In the freshman tournament, Naes won his division, and **John Kakales** finished second in his weight class, with both wrestlers showing excellent potential.

After suffering a serious health issue early in the season, Coach Hendricks exhibited the tenacity he values in his athletes. Coach John Cady acted as head coach in Hendricks' absence, filling the role for almost two months while Hendricks recovered.

Hendricks, Cady, and the assistant coaches, Mr. John Knaff and Mr. James Walker, taught their student-athletes, by example, what it means to "walk the walk." The team, including the coaches, exhibited dedication to the values that make the wrestling team state contenders each year.

"We overcame some tough situations and made changes that are going to be positive," Coach Hendricks said. "I am proud of my seniors and very excited about our younger guys, including our Lower Schoolers, who finished their season undefeated. We look forward to those guys joining our current varsity wrestlers."

*(left to right, kneeling) Elliott Collins, Hunter McLendon, Andrew Renshaw, Avery Tosi, Srujan Jampana Raju, Trey O'Bannon (standing) Coach John Knaff, Eli Goldstein, Alex Taylor, Townes Buford, Markus Williams, Morgan Hunt, Andrew Raves, Jack Shawkey, Lee Downen, Coach James Walker, and Coach Steve Hendricks (not pictured, John Estes, Carson House, Bobby Lewis, Kyle Naes, Walker Sims)*





**Seniors Sign to College Sports**

Seniors (from left) Sam Cox, Zach Erickson, and Henry Dickinson signed National Letters of Intent to play college sports next season. Dickinson and Erickson will play football at the University of Illinois and Liberty University, respectively. Cox signed for track and field with Mississippi State.

Rivals.com and ESPN rated Dickinson a three-star recruit. This past season, he won the Tennessee Titans Mr. Football Lineman of the Year Award for Division II AA. He registered 116 tackles, 12 for a loss, forced four fumbles, blocked one kick, and had four interceptions.

Erickson finished his MUS career with 152 tackles, ending the year ranked as sixth in the state with 83 tackles, six for a loss, two interceptions, two pass breakups, and three fumble recoveries.

Cox won gold medals during the last state track and field meet in the pole vault and relay.



**Fencing Medals**

(left to right) Nick DiMento, Drew Hutson, Howard Choi, and Jeffrey Zheng display their medals from the dual Saber meet between MUS and The Cheney Fencing Club in Brentwood, TN. Hutson won first place, Choi won second place, and DiMento and Zheng tied for third place.



*Henry Dickinson, Jordan Keese, Wells Prather, and Terrence Cole with their awards*

**Team Awards – Position Awards**

- Offensive Line: *Ben Still*
- Offensive Receiver: *William Cross*
- Offensive Back: *Landon Finney*
- Defensive Line: *Wil Hergenrader*
- Linebacker: *Henry Dickinson*
- Secondary: *Alex Dale*
- Special Teams: *Toby Baker*

**Team Awards – Special Awards**

- Steve Minkin Headhunter Award:**  
*Henry Dickinson*
- Holiday Ham – Trey Jordan “Do Right” Award:**  
*Terrence Cole*
- Dan Griffin Spirit Awards:**  
Offense: *Wells Prather*  
Defense: *Jordan Keese*
- W.S. Roberts MVP Award:**  
Offense: *William Cross*  
Defense: *Henry Dickinson*

**2010 All-Star Selections, Tennessee Secondary School Athletic Association**

- Tennessee Titan Mr. Football Division II AA Back Finalist:**  
*Toby Baker*
- Tennessee Titan Mr. Football Division II AA Lineman of the Year:**  
*Henry Dickinson*

**The Tennessee Sports Writers Association All-State Team:**

*Toby Baker, Henry Dickinson, and Ben Still*

**Liberty Bowl High School**

**All-Star Team:**

*Henry Dickinson and Landon Finney*

**The Commercial Appeal**

**Best of Preps All Metro Private School Team:**

- Toby Baker*
- William Cross*
- Alex Dale*
- Henry Dickinson*
- Landon Finney*
- Ben Still*



Toby Baker



William Cross



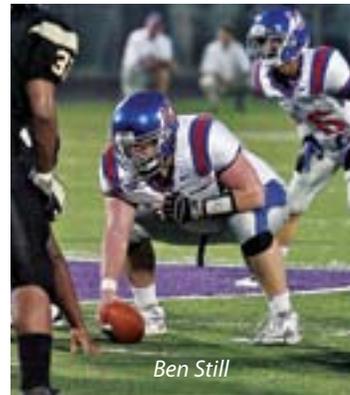
Alex Dale



Henry Dickinson



Jordan Keesee



Ben Still



Landon Finney

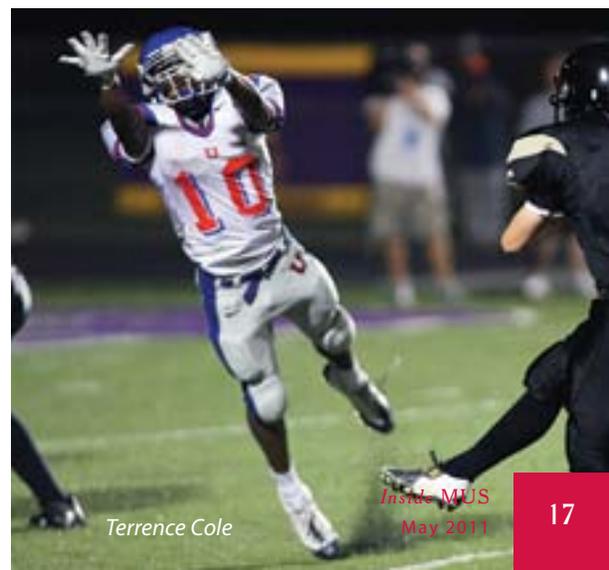
# 2010 Football Awards



Wil Hergenrader



Wells Prather



Terrence Cole

## JV Basketball



Nourse Fox skies high for a lay-up.



Turning the corner, Hurston Reed looks for the open man.



Jordan Rogers shows good form, much to the chagrin of the CBHS defender.

## Freshman Basketball



Trey Moore goes up strong for the score.



Slicing through the defense, James Prather finishes with the soft finger-roll.



Jackson Roberts makes a good pass against the St. Benedict double-team.

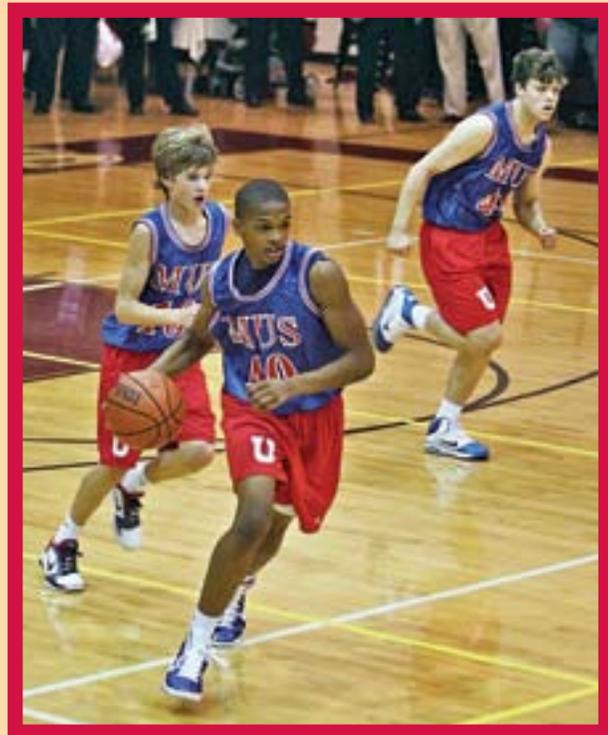
## **Eighth Grade's Blue (and Red) Streak**

Led by Coach Trey Suddarth, the eighth-grade Owls completed one of the best seasons in MUS eighth-grade basketball history, as they finished at 19-2 and won two tournaments, including the Shelby League post-season tournament.

Members of the squad included **Paxton Dixon, Marcus Evans, Will Farnsworth, Jack Hawkins, Carter McFerrin, Michael Reddoch, Pierce Rose, Sam Simmons, Carter Sweat, Preston White, Gaines Whittington, Ty Wolf, Connor Wright**, and manager **Bennett Wilfong**.

After an opening loss to a very talented Collegiate School team, the Owls won their next 13 games, including capturing the Blue Streak Invitational holiday tournament. That record was broken only by a close setback to St. George's Independent School in mid-January.

However, MUS would not lose again, winning their last four regular-season games to claim the top seed in the post-season tournament. At that tournament, held at Evangelical Christian School, the Owls played well and cruised past Harding Academy and St. George's to claim the title.



*With Pierce Rose and Gaines Whittington following-up, Marcus Evans leads the break.*



*Using a Jackson Dickinson screen, Owen Galvin penetrates the baseline against St. George's.*

## **Tournament Finalists**

### ***Seventh-Grade Owls Promise a Strong Varsity Future***

The seventh-grade basketball team finished the season 18-4, after winning the Shelby League's regular season and finishing second in the post-season tournament.

The squad started a strong season with 15 consecutive wins before losing a game. The Owls then rebounded to win the Shelby League's regular season and to claim the top seed in the post-season tournament.

After winning the semi-final contest against St. George's Independent School, MUS fell in the title game in a close contest to Harding Academy, 35-29, to finish second overall.

Members of the team included **Drew Crain, Jackson Dickinson, Christian Fauser, Tom Fowlkes, Philip Freeburg, Mark French, Jalen Friendly, Owen Galvin, David Nelson, Trammel Robinson, Reid Smith**, and **Connor Whitson**.

Despite the last loss, the team played hard throughout the entire season and greatly improved their skills.

# HARD WORK, TEAMWORK, AND LEADERSHIP

## *A Winning Season for the Lower School Swim Team*

by Miss Whitney Clark, Lower School Swim Coach

The Lower School swim team had an amazing 2010-2011 season; full of exciting wins and incredible races. The eighth graders and team captains, **Robert Gooch** and **Sherman Tabor**, led the team of 24 through many practices that included workouts up to two miles. Through practice and determination, these swimmers excelled as individual competitors and as a team.

Throughout the season, many races and meets stand out. For example, seventh grader **Henry Keel** swam to an incredible first-place finish in the 200-yard freestyle at the Germantown Invitational Meet. Other first-place finishes included eighth grader **Richard Ouyang** in the 50-yard backstroke, Keel in the 50-yard breaststroke, and Tabor in the 50-yard butterfly and freestyle. The team pulled out a hard-earned, second-place finish, losing by a mere eight points.

At the Middle School Championship Meet, the team made every effort to redeem their winning record and received nothing less. The 100-yard medley relay team composed of eighth grader **Hal Boyd** (freestyle), Keel (breaststroke), Ouyang (backstroke), and Tabor (butterfly) started the meet with a record breaking first-place finish and a time of 57.91.

There were many other accomplishments at the championship meet, including

Ouyang's second-place finishes in the 100-yard individual medley (IM) and 50-yard backstroke, accompanied by Tabor in the 50-yard freestyle and butterfly, and eighth grader **Chris Davis** in the 50-yard breaststroke. The 200-yard freestyle relay team of eighth graders Davis and Gooch, and seventh graders **Tucker Colerick**, and **Andrew Green** placed second. Keel also placed second in the 50-yard IM and Boyd in the 50-yard freestyle.

The team also included eighth graders **Patrick Demere**, **Proctor Ford**, **Ahmed Latif**, **Henry Liu**, **Nevin Naren**, and **Preston Roberts**, and seventh graders **Sam Bartz**, **Forest Colerick**, **Matthew Davidoff**, **Nathan Dinh**, **Ian Fitzhenry**, **Trip Gibson**, **Andrew Hanessian**, **Edwin Hussey**, and **Mac Treadwell**.

Thanks to hard work, teamwork, and leadership, this team of 24 amazing individual

swimmers achieved great results by winning the Middle School Championship Meet by outscoring 15 teams, including second-place finisher St. George's Episcopal School by 167 points. This win allowed the junior aquatic Owls to finish the season with another outstanding record of 42-1.



*The Lower School Aquatic Owls*



## Lower School Wrestling

Led by coaches Mr. John Knaff, Mr. James Walker, and varsity Head Coach Steve Hendricks, the Lower School wrestling teams completed one of the program's best seasons as it finished undefeated at 7-0 for the year.

Members of the squad included seventh graders Hudson Anthony, Chandler Clayton, David Dabov, Robert Hammons, Gil Humphreys, Evan Knaff, Bedon Lancaster, Mac McArtor, and David Watkins, and eighth graders Carlos Broady, Austin Darr, Mac Dickerson, Jack Gray, Jack Hirschman, Hayden Hunt, John Kakales, Jeffrey Knowlton, Jack McDowell, and Jason Stein.

The Owls faced strong competition but bested all opponents. In fact, some of the Owls did so well that they were given the opportunity to participate in varsity matches.



*(left to right, front row) William Hepner, Matt Montsinger, and Jordan Keese, (back row) Scooter Taylor, Britt Colcolough, Blake Hennessey, and Henry Dickinson*



of an event stays around long after the event is over. I had to think about that and manage that, too.

**Q:** *What has been your greatest surprise this year?*

**A:** Everything was a surprise because I didn't know what to expect. For the past three years, I was a representative, so I wasn't directly involved in the process;

booking DJs and making contracts, for example. I was surprised that I was actually doing them, but it was fun and I'm glad I learned about those things.

The other side of this is the disciplinary responsibilities that the president may be asked to fill. That was really hard. I guess that goes under the challenges category. I mean, these are my peers and friends. I went to school with some of these guys since sixth grade.

**Q:** *What was your greatest success?*

**A:** We had a fresh new idea with U Madness, and the student body was very receptive when the council presented it. It was a great way to support the basketball team and I think this year's council has started a tradition.

**Q:** *Any final message for the student body?*

**A:** I appreciate everyone for being so receptive. I'm glad to be a part of something great like this. I look forward to coming back to the big "U," and I know I'll see the Student Council working hard, too. I loved it. I'm glad I did it. No regrets.

**T**he Student Council provides a range of entertainment for students and a communication path between students and faculty. As the president and council prepare to hand over responsibilities to a new group of leaders, senior **Scooter Taylor** reflects on the year during a question and answer session.

**Q:** *Looking back to last year's elections, what are your thoughts?*

**A:** I wanted to focus on positive things and was very excited about coming up with creative activities for the students. Above all, I wanted it to be fun. I was a little nervous about the responsibilities, but I knew I had a great council of guys to depend on for ideas.

**Q:** *What was your greatest challenge?*

**A:** We definitely had problems with the weather, but each event had its own challenges. I wanted everyone to have a good time and for the events to reflect positively on the school. I learned that you have to look at both sides – student requests and the administration's parameters – and that things go deeper than just the event. Things occur that night, the next day, weeks later. I learned that it isn't only about planning. The reputation

## NO REGRETS

### *Q and A with Scooter Taylor, Student Council President*

# Oodles of Debates In Moodle's Corner of Cyberspace

by Miss Erin Floyd

Students in the Facing History Through Literature class don't stop talking, discussing, and asking questions just because the class is formally over. Instead, they go online and continue the class long after the bell has rung.

Mr. Spencer Reese, instructor, says the after-class discussion has taken on a life of its own. This life exists in an online learning environment made possible through a software package with the unlikely sounding name, Moodle, an acronym for Modular Object-Oriented Dynamic Learning Environment.

Moodle is a software package that includes discussion boards and other social media tools, extends students' learning experience, and gives all students a chance to offer ideas and opinions and ask questions after class.

"Moodle helped us understand the topics better because we were bouncing ideas off of each other in a forum setting," said senior **Chase Schoelkopf**. "We were able to post responses and see other people's thoughts. We used it after almost every class."

Reese started using Moodle to ensure class participation, posting questions about topics he had discussed that day.

"I'd ask things like, 'What defines a community?' or 'How did the Barmen Declaration reclaim Christianity within the Nazi regime?' or even, 'Are we happy at the end of *Hotel Rwanda* simply because we like Don Cheadle?' However, it quickly took on a life of its own,"

Reese said. "Class topics were continued after the bell, but students also added their own subjects for consideration."

Senior **Stephen Valentine** said he benefitted greatly from the incorporation of the Internet-based technology.

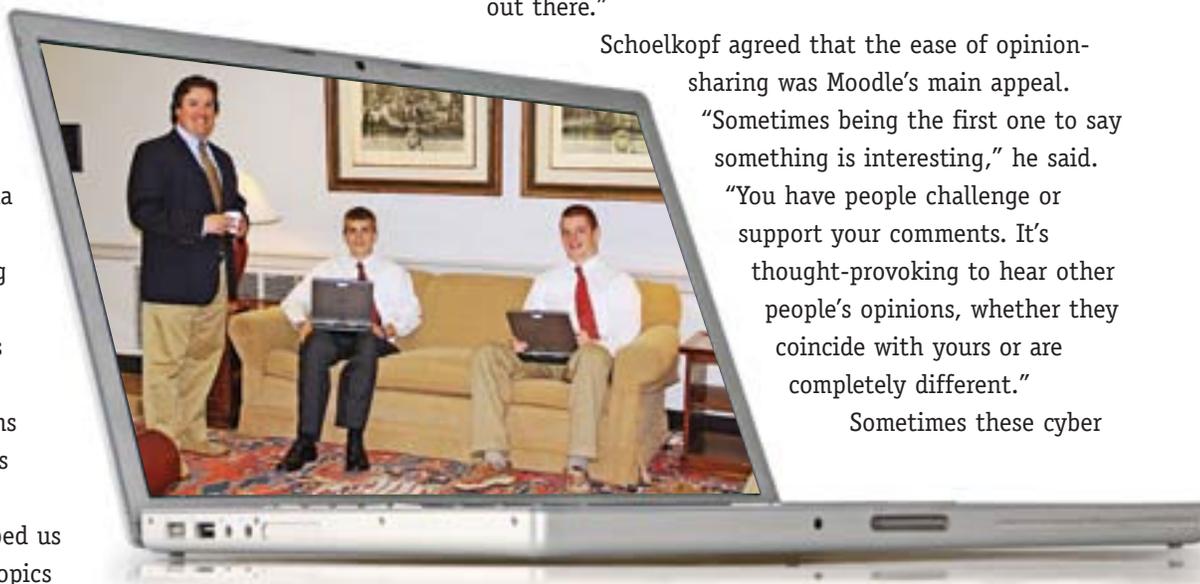
"Everyone has a chance to speak during class time, but a lot of us had more to say or wanted to elaborate," Valentine said. "Moodle was a great way for us to do that. Most of our comments were at least a paragraph long – some even longer. It definitely helped me excel in the classwork and also allowed me to get my opinion out there."

Schoelkopf agreed that the ease of opinion-sharing was Moodle's main appeal.

"Sometimes being the first one to say something is interesting," he said.

"You have people challenge or support your comments. It's thought-provoking to hear other people's opinions, whether they coincide with yours or are completely different."

Sometimes these cyber



*The conversations in Mr. Reese's class carried on after class in person and online.*

debates would even carry on into the class's next session.

"Mr. Reese would take the best Moodle posts and bring them into class, and we'd take about ten minutes to discuss what people talked about," Valentine said.

Reese said he also uses Moodle for his book club because it allows for an open discussion of books and offers "viral" suggestions among faculty and students.

"I've really appreciated Moodle because it extends the class period and gives a voice to those students who aren't necessarily apt to speak up in class," Reese said.

To learn more about Moodle, visit the website at [www.moodle.org](http://www.moodle.org).

# “请问我可以用Mango语言吗?”

by Miss Erin Floyd

A new online language instruction program available in Hyde Library is becoming a popular way for students and some faculty to improve their skills in Spanish, French, Chinese, and Italian by means of on-demand practice, drills, and instruction in structure and vocabulary.

Mrs. Bonnie Barnes, Hyde Library director, subscribed to MangoLanguages last fall after positive responses from several faculty members. The service includes features for auditory-learners as well as designs that benefit visual-learners.

“It shows the students how a sentence fits together with color coding and explanations of idioms and then has them make up their own sentences by substituting other vocabulary words for the ones in the example,” Barnes said. “We’re testing the system to see if it should be incorporated into our language curriculum or continue to offer it for independent learning.”

Barnes said she feels the program has been a success.

“Mr. José Hernández has used the lessons extensively with his Spanish students, with more than 521 sessions logged as of April,” Barnes said. “Dr. Reginald Dalle was very excited about it, and Mrs. Rebecca Keel has had a positive experience with it thus far.”

Sophomore **Richard Hoffsommer** said he also is a fan of the program.

“I used MangoLanguages in Mrs. Keel’s French class,

and then I tried it at home,” Hoffsommer said. “It gives you a phrase, and you can click on each word to hear the pronunciation. You can continue once you have a good understanding, and later on, those same phrases will come up again. It reinforces what you learn and ensures you’ve retained it.”

Freshman **Patrick DiMento** said he had a similar experience.

“It went along with our book really well,” DiMento said. “The program gives you a chance to learn faster. I like that it speaks and shows the words.”

Technology can be its own foreign language; however, students say MangoLanguages is fun and easy to navigate.

“It’s pretty self-explanatory and fun to use,” Hoffsommer said. “I liked it.”

Several faculty members and students have been studying languages independently. Mr. Grant Burke, Mr. Whit Tenent, Mr. Jeremy Cupp, and Ms. Judy Rutledge have tried the system as an opportunity for personal enrichment or as they prepared for MUS trips abroad.

Those who normally think of a library as a place where conversation is frowned upon may change their minds if they ask the librarians, “请问我可以用Mango语言吗?”

The translation – “May I use MangoLanguages?” – will definitely receive a positive response at MUS.

Lacrosse • Football  
Wrestling • Engineering  
Introduction to Ancient  
Greece • Robotics  
Creative Writing



make  
summer  
fun

**MUS**  
**2011**  
**SUMMER**  
**PROGRAMS**

**260-1300**  
**www.musowls.org**

Tennis • Baseball • Archaeology • British Literature II • Golf • Soccer  
Math Pre-7 • English Review • Math Review • Comics/Graphic Novels  
Reading and Writing Skills • Computer Video Game Creation • Digital  
Comic Book Creation • Digital Filmmaking • Exploring Harry Potter  
Math Scholars Camp • Civil Rights and Film • SLAM • Music Camp





Photo by PhotoEffect.com

(left to right) David Ursic, Jace Watkins, Daniel Britton, Jake Woodman, Cullen West, Alec Ossorio, Chris Fiedler, and Andrew Tackett pose for a photograph during a trap team shoot.



(left to right) The three MUSketeers, Howard Choi, Bennett Mercer, and Drew Hutson at a saber competition



## Look Who's Caught on Camera



Rob Dickinson, Russell Scott, Chase Schoelkopf, and Henry Dickinson

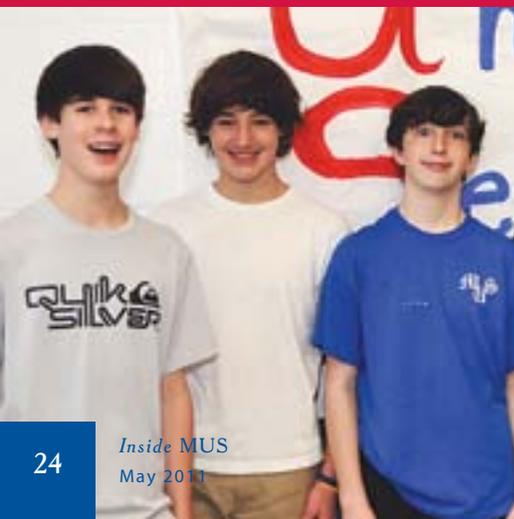


"Changing of the clothes" was required this year after the Student Council's unofficial "changing of the guard."



Aaditya Malhotra, Conor Miller, Anand Patel, and Drew Thibado made a fort in the entrance court after one of the many recent storms downed a campus tree.

## WISH BOWL 2011



Bailey Buford, Samuel Hecht, Seamus Fitzhenry, and Jake Eissler show St. Patrick's Day pride while participating in the Wish Bowl.

Molitor Ford, Cole Stockstill, and Harrison Stewart



Photography by ShowTymeStudio.com



*Sherman Tabor and Mrs. Margaret Tabor*



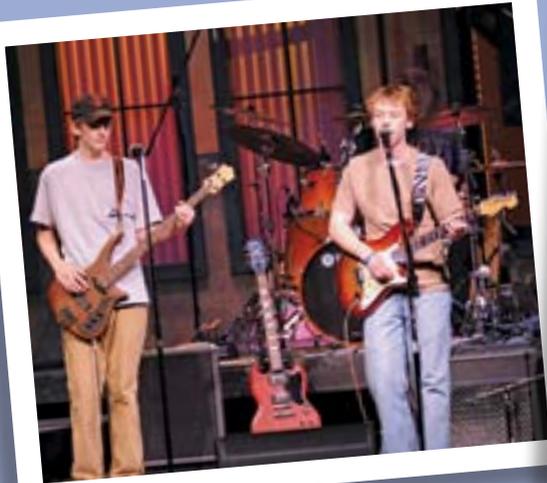
*John Kakaless and Mrs. Betty Harbison*



*Mrs. Peggy McPherson, Thomas Hayes, and Mrs. Charlotte Hayes*

GRANDMOTHERS' COFFEE

Photography by ShowTymeStudio.com

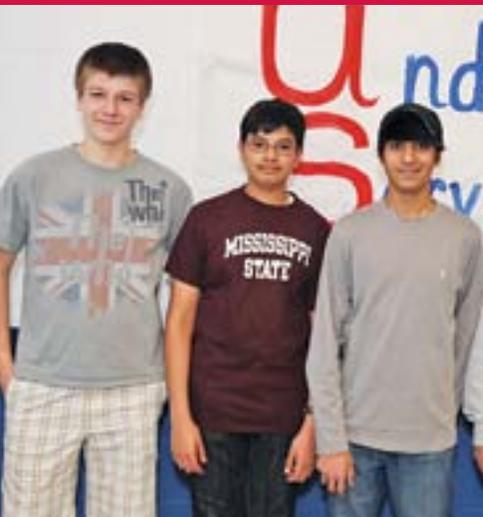


*Thomas Threlkeld and Ross Warner, competing in the Talent Show*



*Distinguished Gentlemen's Club members Clint Montgomery, Mac Armour, Constantine Cui, Philip Overton, James Davies, Jianyin Roachell, Hunter Krauch, and Nate Utkov give their best GQ Magazine pose.*

WISH BOWL 2011



*Jack Henke, Aditya Shah, and Tejvir Vaghela*

*(left to right) Charlie Freeburg, Chase Schoelkopf, George Ormseth, Britt Colcolough, James Davies, Mr. Barry Ray, Carson Smith, Scott Freeburg, and Richard Twardzik*

Photography by ShowTymeStudio.com



# CORNER: **SENIOR ASSIGNMENTS**

by Ms. Katherine Broer Parr, Associate Director of College Counseling

## COLLEGE



We are sad to see the Class of 2011 graduate and go on their way, but we are so proud of their achievements, and we wish them all the best as they move into their college years.

It is now time for the Class of 2012 to move on to the next phase of their lives and take on the privileges and responsibilities of being seniors. If your son is a rising senior, he has some College Counseling assignments to complete over the summer so that he'll be ready to start the college application process when he returns to school in the fall. He should complete the Senior Summer Survey on Naviance Family Connection by the end of the summer. This survey will enable us to get to know more about him and all of his achievements, and will help us when writing his college recommendations.

The second assignment he has to complete over the summer is to write a college application essay. Although some colleges do not require an essay with the application, we ask that every rising senior write one over the summer. An essay could be required for a variety of applications, and we want your son to be prepared. He should choose one of the essay prompts found on the Common Application ([www.commonapp.org](http://www.commonapp.org)). They are:

1. Evaluate a significant experience, achievement, risk you have taken, or ethical dilemma you have faced and its impact on you.
2. Discuss some issue of personal, local, national, or international concern and its importance to you.
3. Indicate a person who has had a significant influence on you and describe that influence.
4. Describe a character in fiction, a historical figure, or a creative work (as in art, music, science, etc.) that has had an influence on you and explain that influence.
5. A range of academic interests, personal perspectives, and life experiences adds much to the educational mix. Given your personal background, describe an experience that illustrates what you would bring to the diversity of a college community or an encounter that demonstrated the importance of diversity to you.
6. Topic of your choice.

As always, please contact the College Counseling Office with any questions or concerns. We hope you have a good summer, and we look forward to working with you and the Class of 2012.

## Do you have high-res photos of MUS activities or events?

Upload them to our Owl Dropbox:

<https://dropbox.yousendit.com/Owl-Dropbox>

You may see them in our publications or websites!

When submitting photographs, put them in a zipped file and include the students' names, grades, and the name and date of the event. Contact the Communications Office at (901) 260-1348 or [editor@musowls.org](mailto:editor@musowls.org) if you have any questions.



## Did you know?

You may purchase sports pictures from Jerry Gallik (our sports photographer).

Check out his website:

[www.musowls.photorelect.com](http://www.musowls.photorelect.com)

and music or theater pictures from Charles Wayne Harrell (our arts photographer) at

[www.showtymestudio.com](http://www.showtymestudio.com).

# With Common Purpose

by Linda and Louie Sheppard, Parents' Association Co-Chairs

*“The Memphis University School Parents' Association is a community of parents and families working together with common purpose: to advance and support the mission of Memphis University School in order to enhance the school experience for the benefit of the students, families, faculty, and administration.”*

**T**his mission statement was created and adopted by the 2010-2011 Parents' Association (PA) Board of Directors. It is our hope that it will serve as a statement of purpose and provide direction and guidance for our work and for the work of the PA for years to come. Immediately after our January board meeting, the PA was back on the job with that purpose in mind.

Your grade representatives and volunteer committees were hard at work coordinating social and educational opportunities in an ongoing effort to bring parents together. Among these gatherings, it was exciting to see the recently introduced and extremely popular Lower School Dads' Coffees expand to the Upper School. Feedback from participating ninth- and tenth-grade dads was very positive.

February brought a new and improved event for Lower School grandmothers: an on-campus Grandmothers' Coffee, which included special time with their grandsons. It was a huge success with more than 100 grandmothers turning out, from as far away as California.

Soon it was Valentine's Day and parents showed faculty and staff how special they are to us by doing what we do best — feeding them special treats all day.

We also joined forces with the student Civic Service Organization and an alumni civic service committee to co-sponsor the Battle of the Bands, a charity fundraising effort.

March brought another opportunity to promote the Owls and their spirit gear at Hutchison's "Beeline Bazaar," where sales were fantastic. PA sports coordinators and volunteers have sold record-breaking amounts of merchandise this year, but do not worry; they have not sold out just yet. You can still find your favorite items in the Schaeffer Bookstore.

As soon as the cast of *NeoVox: a revue* put away their dancing shoes, it was time to begin to work on the logistics of ticket sales and the feeding of the cast and crew of *Treasure Island*, which was a spectacular hit in April.

Special thanks to the families who have warmly welcomed our foreign exchange student, **Peter Gill**, into their homes and lives during second semester: Mrs. Beth and Mr. Stan Caummisar, Ms. Sally Davies, Mrs. Janet and Mr. David Smith, Mrs. Lisa and Mr. Terry Roberts, Mrs. Terri and Mr. Jeff Jarratt, and Mrs. Dorrie and Mr. Bert Szymkowicz. Peter's parents, Mrs. Lisa and Mr. Charles Gill, arrived in May, just in time for a three-week visit and graduation.

We extend a huge "thank you" to the board and to all the members of the Parents' Association for your dedication and commitment to your sons and to MUS. These events and programs would be impossible without you. If you have questions or want to become more involved at MUS, please contact Mrs. Ann Laughlin, director of alumni and parent programs, at 260-1350, or any member of the PA Board of Directors.



Mrs. Linda and Mr. Louie Sheppard

## Parents' Association Board of Directors 2010 - 2011

**Chairmen:** Linda and Louie Sheppard

**Secretary:** Tonja and David Reid

**Treasurer:** Susan and Mark Weaver

**Membership:** Nada and Scott Fountain

**Communication/Parent Education:** Kristi and Keith Collins

**Sports Coordinator:** Karen and Larry Klawinski and Lauren and Myron Boswell

**Arts Coordinator:** Terri and Jeff Jarratt

**Grandparents:** Leigh Ann and Phil Stevenson

**Exchange Student:** Beth and Stan Caummisar

**Fundraising:** Cynthia and Mike Cross

**Phonathon:** Jackie and Tyler Shawkey

**Admissions:** Jennifer and Paul Edwards '79

**Hospitality:** Chalmers and Steve Valentine

**Upper School Hospitality:** Claudia and Tom Twardzik

**Lower School Hospitality:** Nancy and Lowell Hays

**Senior Class Rep:** Mary and Jimmy Edwards

**Junior Class Rep:** Avery and Frederick Dale

**Sophomore Class Rep:** Cindy and Bob Hoehn '76

**Freshman Class Rep:** Beth and Kimbrough Taylor '84

**Eighth-Grade Class Rep:** Alice and Jeff Wright

**Seventh-Grade Class Rep:** Tracy and Rocky Anthony



- Ellis Haguewood  
Headmaster
- Barry Ray  
Upper School Principal
- Clay Smythe  
Lower School Principal
- Bobby Alston  
Director of Athletics
- Bonnie Barnes  
Director of Hyde Library
- Rick Broer  
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- Perry Dement  
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## Memphis University School

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### THE MUS MISSION

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.

FIND US ON



## Upcoming Events\*

### May

- 25 Book Buy-back Begins
- 26 Last Day of School (1/2 Day)
- 30 School Closed: Memorial Day

### June

- 3 Late Registration and Book Sales for Summer School
- 4 SAT Reasoning Test and Subject Tests
- 6 Summer School Begins
- 11 ACT National Test
- 30 Summer School Ends

### August

- 15 1st Semester Begins (1/2 Day)  
Opening Convocation, 8:30 a.m.  
School Picture Day

\* For a complete listing of all MUS events, please visit [www.musowls.org](http://www.musowls.org) and go to our online calendar.

## Theater Season 2011-12

*Sherlock Holmes:*  
**The Crucifer of Blood**  
October 27 and 29-31, 2011

**Code of Silence**  
Da Comedy You Can't Refuse  
February 2, 4, and 6, 2012

**THE PRODUCERS**  
Mid-April, 2012