Memphis University School

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Fencers Earn Third-Straight State Championship

Inside MUS Magazine
Volume 21, Number 2, Spring 2018-19

MUS

VERITAS • HONORQUE

Gerald Gallik Photography

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

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GRANDPARENTS DAY

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Thirty-six juniors and seven seniors were inducted as National Honor Society members.

National Honor Society Welcomes New Members

In a ceremony highlighting the characteristics of scholarship, leadership, character, and service, the National Honor Society inducted 36 juniors and seven seniors in late March.

Juniors

Robert Ayotte
Vaught Benge
Andrew Bragorgos
Henry Bridgforth
Reid Chandler
Ben Cramer
Jacob Curlin
Parth Dahima
Robert Dickinson
Jack Fernandez
Michael Gayoso
Vijdan Gill
Gregory Guo
Jonathan Huang
J.D. Huber
Kyle Koester
Daniel Lim
Ben Lindy
Charles Long
Rob McFadden
Duncan McLean
Knox McQuillen
Daniel Meskin
Will Portera
Arjun Puri
Drew Rakers
Edwin Rawson
Seth Richey
Council Rowland
Cole Saenz
Jeffrey Shulkin
James Smythe
Zane Snead
Jim Thomas
McKee Whittemore
Will Woodmansee

Seniors

David Byrd
Kylun Ewing
JoJo Fogarty
Allen Hughes
Jory Meyers
Richard Neff
Tyran Williams

From left, Reid Chandler and Vijdan Gill

Jeffrey Shulkin, Jory Meyers, Kylun Ewing, Allen Hughes, and Joshua Blackburn

Gregory Guo, Parth Dahima, Edwin Rawson, McKee Whittemore, and Kyle Koester

Jonathan Huang accepts his certificate during the National Honor Society induction March 22.

Scholarship

Reagan Griffin

Leadership

J.J. Johnson

Service

Bailey Keel

Character

Stephen Christenbury

Cum Laude Inducts 20 Members

Family and faculty celebrated 20 juniors and seniors during the school's annual Cum Laude Society induction ceremony February 15. The Cum Laude Society represents the highest honor students in a secondary school can achieve. As expressed in the society's motto "Areté (Excellence), Diké (Justice), Timé (Honor)," eligibility for the society demands the highest standards in academic performance and character.

Headmaster **Pete Sanders** introduced the guest speaker, History Department Chair **Jonathan Jones**, who encouraged students to take leaps of faith and remain focused on goals that are fulfilling, not just monetarily beneficial. After Instructor in English **Lin Askew** provided a background on the society and its history at MUS, Academic Dean **Flip Eikner '77** and English Department Chair **Elizabeth Crosby** introduced the inductees.

Senior inductees are **Sonny Charbonnet**, **Jonathan Douglass**, **Kyle Gan**, **Emerson Manley**, **Houston Pate**, **Warren Turner**, **Henry Wood**, and **Grant Young**, and junior inductees are **Churchill Akhigbe**, **Vaught Benge**, **Reid Chandler**, **Parth Dahima**, **Vijdan Gill**, **Gregory Guo**, **Jonathan Huang**, **Kyle Koester**, **Rob McFadden**, **Will Portera**, **Arjun Puri**, and **Will Woodmansee**.

Current members are seniors **James Blatchford**, **Ethan Hurst**, **Ethan Lam**, **John Mann**, **Ev Nichol**, **William Quinlen**, **Sellers Shy**, **Zuhair Somjee**, **Jet Tan**, and **Loyd Templeton**.

Eight seniors and 12 juniors were inducted as members of the Cum Laude Society during a ceremony held in Hyde Chapel February 15.

Students Earn Book Awards, Society Memberships

Nine students received special honors and collegiate book awards in April at the annual Special Awards and Honor Society Induction. Faculty, alumni, and special guests presented the awards.

Junior **Parth Dahima** earned the Sewanee Award for Excellence in Writing, which recognizes outstanding writing and academic performance, proven leadership qualities, and community or extracurricular contributions. Mr. **George Clarke '75**, a Sewanee alumnus, presented the award.

Junior **Arjun Puri** received the Dartmouth Book Award, which recognizes the junior who represents outstanding scholarship, high moral character, and a positive influence in the life of the school. Mr. **Jeremy Alpert '91**, a Dartmouth alumnus, presented the award.

Junior **Kyle Koester** claimed the UVA Jefferson Book Award, which is given to a well-rounded junior who best represents the Jeffersonian ideals of scholarship, leadership, and citizenship. Ms. **Elizabeth Crosby**, English Department chair and a University of Virginia alumna, presented the honor.

Junior **Rob McFadden** earned the Yale Book Award, which recognizes a student's intellectual promise and inquisitive mind, his motivation to stretch himself, and his moral concern for others. Mr. **Rollin Riggs '78**, a Yale alumnus, presented the award.

Junior **Duncan McLean** received the Washington and Lee University Book Award, which recognizes the qualities exemplified by George Washington and General Robert E. Lee: personal integrity and strength of character, academic excellence, leadership, honor, and significant involvement in community service. Mr. **Carl Krausnick '09**, a Washington and Lee alumnus, presented the award.

Junior **Will Portera** won the Wellford Leadership Award. Established in honor of Mr. **Alexander Wellford '30**, longtime chair of the Board of Trustees, the award honors a junior whose excellent athletic prowess is combined with a strong sense of leadership, a sense of fair play, integrity, gentleness, good humor, and solid scholarship. Mr. **Brett Grinder '91**, presented the award.

Sophomores **Matthew Jones** and **Colin McCown** received the Rhodes College Book Award for their contributions to the school, community service, and superlative academic records. Mr. **Steven Johanson**, Associate Director of College Counseling and a Rhodes College alumnus, presented the awards.

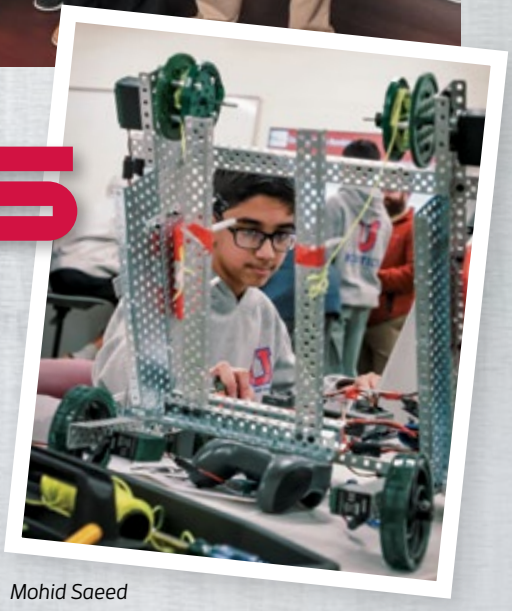
Senior **Sloan Miles** earned the Daughters of the American Revolution Good Citizenship Award, which recognizes the senior who possesses the qualities of dependability, service, leadership, and patriotism in community service. Dr. Patricia Eby of the DAR's Watauga Chapter presented the award.

In addition to the special awards winners, students were inducted into the French, Spanish, and Latin language honor societies; the History Honor Society; the Quill and Scroll Society; Mu Alpha Theta; and the Civic Service Organization's Societas Caritatis.

From top, left to right, Will Portera and Mr. Brett Grinder; Kyle Koester and Ms. Elizabeth Crosby; Dr. Patricia Eby and Sloan Miles; Mr. George Clarke and Parth Dahima

RoboBuzzards show school spirit at the Collierville High School VEX 901 Winter League events.

Robotics on a Roll



Mohid Saeed

Collierville High School hosted VEX 901 Winter League events over a span of five weeks, concluding with alliance selection and elimination matches February 5. The freshman team was eliminated during semifinals but won the Sportsmanship Award and praise from judges and fellow players for their respectful conduct and their willingness to help other competitors. One Lower School team won an Energy Award for their positive, high-octane attitudes. A second Lower School team competed valiantly but was ousted, 16-8, by the tournament champions, an alliance of Collierville middle and high school players.

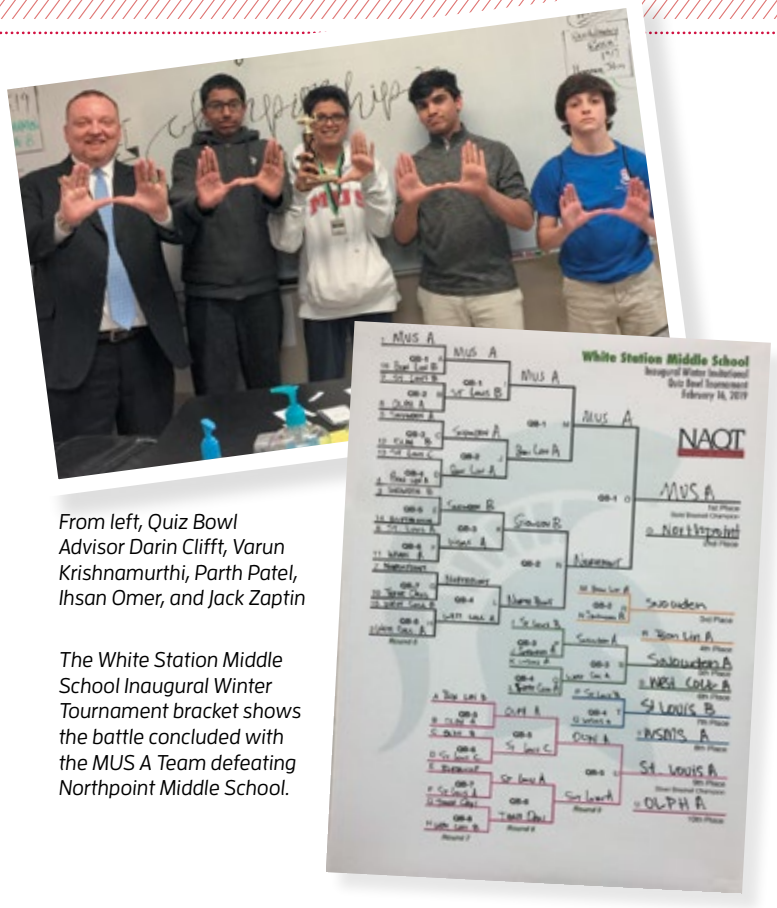
Robotics Advisor **Garrett Smithson** commended eighth grader **Alyaan Salman** for his excellent driving skills and a cool head throughout, especially during the stressful elimination matches. Smithson also noted the growth he saw in the teams each week.

"After each competition, they would come back to practice with more ideas and more conviction to execute them," he said. "I'm excited about the future of the program because not only did our more experienced players step up, but also several first-year robotics boys showed excellent promise."

The team includes freshmen **Will Chandler**, **Noah Emmert**, **Will Fraser**, **Mark Hieatt**, **Scott Ledbetter**, and **Kerry Zhao**; eighth graders **Aryaan Ahmed**, **Kartikeya Bomb**, **Ahad Farooq**, **Hamza Janjua**, **Jack Knighton**, **Varun Krishnamurthi**, **Isaac Palmer**, **Mohid Saeed**, and Salman; and seventh graders **Qasim Akbar**, **Bryan Ding**, **William Levy**, **Joel Lim**, **Parth Patel**, **Eshaan Patnaik**, **Bryson Robinson**, and **Weston Sands**.

Left to right, Will Chandler, Scott Ledbetter, Will Fraser, and William Levy in competition; below, Jack Knighton cheers a teammate; at bottom, Alyaan Salman at the controls

Photo: Alan Howell Photography



From left, Quiz Bowl Advisor Darin Clifft, Varun Krishnamurthi, Parth Patel, Ihsan Omer, and Jack Zaptin

The White Station Middle School Inaugural Winter Tournament bracket shows the battle concluded with the MUS A Team defeating Northpoint Middle School.

Chaos to Quiz Bowl Champs

Quiz Bowl Advisor **Darin Clifft** probably didn't have great feelings at the start of the White Station Inaugural Winter Invitational Quiz Bowl Tournament in mid-February. MUS players went to the wrong location first, at least four boys never showed up at the right location, and the four competitors for his "A Team" had never competed together before.

Nevertheless, eighth graders **Varun Krishnamurthi** and **Jack Zaptin** (captain) and seventh graders **Ihsan Omer** and **Parth Patel** didn't let a little thing like chaos stand in the way of nine straight victories and the overall championship.

3-2-1 Quiz Bowl National Placements

Upper and Lower School teams competed in the national 3-2-1 quiz bowl in early December, tackling 80 triad questions during a timed online exam. Both teams placed well ahead of all Tennessee teams and ranked highly in the nation. The Lower School group finished ninth out of 79 teams across the country, and the Upper School placed 17th out of 174 teams nationwide.

Upper School competitors were seniors **Sonny Charbonnet** (captain), **Loyd Templeton**; juniors **Arjun Puri**, **Max Sabin**, **Jeffrey Shulkin**; sophomores **Harmon Colvett**, **Jack Fortenberry**, **Cooper Grinspun**, **Akbar Latif**, **Fawwaz Omer**, **Samy Paul**, **Ryan Peng**, **Will Schuessler**, **Max Shackelford**; freshmen **Simeon Betapudi**, **Noah Emmert**, **Rithvik Giledi**, **Mark Hieatt**, **Evan Jones**, **Loro Lado**, **Alex Li**, **Eric Liu**, **Reece Needham**, **Forest Rudd**, **Kevlar Singh**, and **Kerry Zhao**.

The national ninth-place 3-2-1 team, front row, from left, Alyaan Salman, Evan Wu, Reid Chauhan, Ihsan Omer, Varun Krishnamurthi, Parth Patel; middle row, Mohid Saeed, Vince Boberski, Jackson Oswalt, Eshaan Patnaik, Jack Zaptin, Bryan Ding, Jerry Xiao; and back row, Kartikeya Bomb, Advisor Ted Fockler, and Joel Lim.

Lower School competitors were eighth graders **Vince Boberski**, **Kartikeya Bomb**, **Reid Chauhan**, **Varun Krishnamurthi**, **Jackson Oswalt**, **Mohid Saeed**, **Alyaan Salman**, **Jack Zaptin**; and seventh graders **Bryan Ding**, **Joel Lim**, **Ihsan Omer**, **Parth Patel**, **Eshaan Patnaik**, **Evan Wu**, and **Jerry Xiao**.

SEGO CHARTS GEOGRAPHY BEE VICTORY

Eight Owls took the floor to compete in the final round of the MUS Geography Bee in mid-January, led by Mr. **David Gagliano**, instructor in Latin.

After 24 players competed throughout the month, **Hamza Janjua**, **Varun Krishnamurthi**, **Alyaan Salman**, and **Nolan Yaren** representing the Class of 2023; and **Will Hess**, **Sai Madasu**, **Everett Sego**, and **Jerry Xiao** from the Class of 2024 were the last men standing.

The crowd wiggled in excitement and gasped in awe as the competitors traveled from "The City of Oaks" in North Carolina to the rain-soaked Western Ghats of India, crisscrossing the globe to increasingly obscure locations.

The tension mounted as the geography buffs snapped out answers in double-elimination action until one contestant faced the question, "Cayenne is the capital of which French overseas city?" After a brief pause and a grin, a contestant joked "Wakanda."

His response provided the grateful audience and contestants a brief comedic break, then the battle resumed. Round after round, they continued until the bell rang, and time ran out – yet two young men remained. The competition had been so strong that the final round would not be won this day.

Hess would be the overall third-place winner, and Krishnamurthi and Sego would battle again another day to bring the championship to its finale.

That day came January 18 with triple-elimination rounds. The event required both boys to answer the same questions, presenting their written answers simultaneously. Question after question, the two young men traveled all over the globe until, finally, a sky bridge in Malaysia led Sego to victory.

Gagliano commended the contestants and the audience.

"We had another great group of students participating this year," he said. "They amaze me with some of the obscure facts they know, but the best part is seeing the rest of the student body cheering on their classmates."

After passing a qualifying test, Sego represented the school in the state competition at the end of March, making it into the top 20 before falling during a tiebreaker.

From top, left to right, Everett Sego and Varun Krishnamurthi; Will Hess

Classmates toss up "U" symbols in support as the Geography Bee contestants battle.

DEAN'S HONOR ROLLS

First Semester 2018-19 School Year

Dean's Scholars

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.

Grade 12

Louis Allen
Joshua Blackburn
James Blatchford
David Byrd
Sonny Charbonnet
Jonathan Douglass
Henry Duncan
Trey Fussell
Kyle Gan
William Garland
Jackson Hescock
David Holmes
Allen Hughes
Ethan Hurst
Lukas Jakstas
J.J. Johnson
Bailey Keel
Ethan Lam
Emerson Manley
Sloan Miles
Robbie Musicante
Sam Nelson
Ev Nichol
William Quinlen
Caleb Riggs
Brandan Roachell
Sellers Shy
Zuhair Somjee
Jet Tan
Loyd Templeton
Henry Wood
Grant Young

Grade 11

Churchill Akhigbe
Vaught Benge
Reid Chandler
Parth Dahima
Arnab Das
Charlie Eason
Cameron Evans
Jack Fernandez
Vijdan Gill
Gregory Guo
Jonathan Huang
Kyle Koester
Rob McFadden
Will Portera
Arjun Puri
Max Sabin
Jack Wellford
Will Woodmansee

Grade 10

Jack Beard
Drew Burnett
Wesley Butler
Leo Campbell
Harmon Colvett
Judson Fair
Hart Gowen
Cooper Grinspun
Dutch Hansen
Zachary Herman
Jack Jabbour
Will Jarratt
McKnight Johnston
Matthew Jones
Cullen Lonergan
Colin McCown
Watts Miller
Gavin Murrey
Holden Pate
Samy Paul
Ryan Peng
Max Shackelford
Edwin Shy
J.P. Wood
Tamaz Young

Grade 9

J.D. Clorina
Collin Craft
Noah Emmert
Mark Hieatt
Jordan Infeld
Dex Jack
Reece Needham
Vincent Ores
Hamza Ranjha
Forest Rudd
Talal Siddiq
Witt Smith
Garner Uhlhorn
Coleman Whitehead
Jacob Zamore
Kerry Zhao

Grade 8

Jack Blackwell
Vince Boberski
Reid Chauhan
Abdullah Elahi
Charlie Gamble
Jaxon Hammond
Frederick Huang
Kevin Ma
Parth Mishra
Jackson Oswalt
Jack Zaptin
Lou Zhou

Grade 7

Griffin Brown
Tyler Dang
Bryan Ding
Harrison Goetze
Will Hess
Caleb Latkovic
William Levy
Tucker Lowery
Brandon Nicholson
Ihsan Omer
Parth Patel
Eshaan Patnaik
Charlie Treadwell
Jerry Xiao
Seth Yarbrough

Dean's List

Students who have earned a weighted semester GPA of at least 3.25 with no semester grade below 80 are placed on the Dean's List.

Grade 12

Scott Burnett
Mac Coleman
Anders Croone
Jack Dabov
Kylun Ewing
John William Farris
Eddie Feild
JoJo Fogarty
Call Ford
Ben Gilliland
Nicholas Guerra
Clay Harrison
Nicholas Hurley
Grayson Kendall
Lee Linkous
Will Maiden
John Mann
Hudson Miller
Kayhan Mirza
Eli Nations
Kirklin Perkins
William Pollard
Matthew Rogers
Sidney Selvidge
Alden Southerland
Weston Touliatos
Hall Upshaw
Billy Weiss
Henry Wells
Ammon Wood
Philip Wunderlich

Grade 11

Graham Arkle
Robert Ayotte
Stratton Barousse
Andrew Bragorgos
Henry Bridgforth
Matt Camp
Gus Carter
Landon Ford
Sam Gallop
Yusuf Kazi
Carson Lakin
Daniel Lim
Ben Lindy
Duncan McLean
Knox McQuillen
Daniel Meskin
Tom Monaghan
Drew Rakers
Seth Richey
Collins Robinson
Council Rowland
Cole Saenz
Jeffrey Shulkin
Edward Smith
Zane Snead
Jim Thomas
Loi Vuong
Alex Warr
Tra Warren
McKee Whittemore
Spence Wilson

Grade 10

Ahmad Alsafwah
Omar Alyousef
Joseph Barnes
Warren Barry
Torrance Bostick
Evan Boswell
Ben Burkhart
Walker Burks
Stephen Cates
Doug Curtis
Mason Ezzell
Miller Galloway
Ben Hernandez
Griffin Hood
Christian Howard
George Howard
Joe Hudson
Warren Johnston
Akbar Latif
Marcus Love
Thomas Lusk
Hud McGehee
Reid McGowan
Everett Miller
Henry Nickey
Matthew Phillips
Henry Robinson
Daniel Russell
Carrigan Sulcer
Wes Vanderslice
Michael Wylie
Tylyn Young

Grade 9

Ayo Adebiyi
Chris Bird
Rithvik Giledi
Edward Grinder
Kyler Herring
Zion James
Evan Jones
Nash Kaye
Andrew Kerr
Loro Lado
Alex Li
Samuel Lim
Eric Liu
Oscar Marshall
Matthew Mellone
KJ Milan
Cole Rutherford
Nelson Saenz
Evan Schrier
Baron Scifres
Kollin White
Jake Yarbrough

Grade 8

Cristian Arocho
Aaron Barawid
Lewis Butler
Carter Campbell
Clarence Chapman
Braden Chubb
Jacob Cole
Charles Hamlett
Phoenix Hernandez
Joseph Keeler
Jack Knighton
Varun Krishnamurthi
John Lee
Wilson LeMay
Nickolas Mathews
Ben McBride
Ian McGehee
Brown Nickey
Isaac Palmer
Clyde Patton
Sam Phan
Thomas Preston
Kyan Ramsay
Doty Rawson
Mohid Saeed
Alyaan Salman
Jordan Saunders
Andrew Schell
Barrett Summers
Morgan Temme
Rhodes Temme
Demar Wells
Edward Wilson
Andrew Xu
Henry Yu

Grade 7

Qasim Akbar
Parks Applegate
Wilson Bridgforth
Gabe Chen
Casey Cooper
Lee Couloubaritsis
Jack Fowler
Aidan Glover
Will Gramm
Walker Griesbeck
Nathaniel Griffin
Jack Haddad
Jack Jarratt
Martin Kerlan
Andrew Kuhlo
Joel Lim
Henry Lindeman
Gates Luton
Sai Madasu
William Mallory
Wyatt McAllister
Logan McCandless
Catcher Miller
RJ Neal
Jax Newman
Bennett Owen
Jackson Ransom
William Robinson
Hank Sayle
Wilson Thakkar
Tol Thomas
Worrick Uhlhorn
Henry White
Evan Wu
Ben Wunderlich
Henry Zanone

An archive of Honor Rolls can be found on the Honor Rolls Resource Board of the website behind your login.

WordSmithing Owls Earn Awards

Owls competed in the 2019 WordSmith Writing Olympics in late February, with four earning honors in their grade-level competitions.

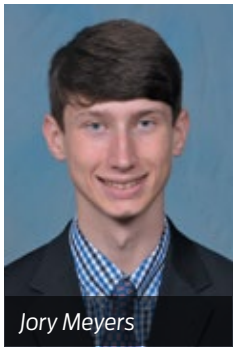
Seventh grader **Jerry Xiao** earned a school trophy and an individual Silver Medal for taking Second Place in the 400-Word Main Event and Third Place in the 80-Word Dash for his grade level.

Three Upper School students earned honors in their grade-level contests: senior **Jory Meyers**, Honorable Mention, 120-Word Dash; junior **Robert Dickinson**, Third Place, 80-Word Dash; and freshman **J.D. Clorina**, Honorable Mention, 80-Word Dash.

Celebrating nearly 40 years at the University of Memphis, the WordSmith competition brings hundreds of middle and high school students from 30 area schools to test their writing and creative-thinking skills with a series of writing exercises.

J.D. Clorina

Robert Dickinson


Jory Meyers

Jerry Xiao

Two Owls Advance as National Merit Scholars

From left, Miller, Assistant Headmaster Barry Ray, and Hurst

Of the three Semifinalists recognized by the 2018-19 National Merit Scholarship Program, two seniors advanced as National Merit Finalists and attained the highest honor of Scholar: **Ethan Hurst** and **Hudson Miller**.

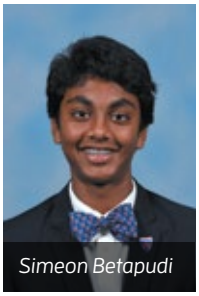
Hurst and Miller competed for some 7,500 scholarships worth more than $32 million that were offered beginning this spring. About 1.6 million students in more than 22,000 high schools entered the National Merit Scholarship Program by taking the Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (PSAT/NMSQT).

NCEE Medalists

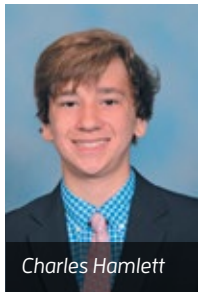
Twelve Bubones earned medals in the 2018-19 National Classical Etymology Exam. The exam measures a student's ability to handle Latin and Greek derivatives and usage in the English language.

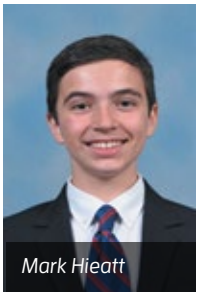
In the Intermediate Level, Latin III, sophomores **Cullen Lonergan** earned a Gold Medal, and **Fawwaz Omer** earned a Bronze. Freshmen brought home honors in the Intermediate Level, Latin II, with **Mark Hieatt**, **Matthew Mellone**, and **Kerry Zhao** earning Gold; and **Simeon Betapudi**, **Collin Craft**, **Evan Jones**, and **Forest Rudd** capturing Silver. Eighth graders captured honors in the Novice Levels, with **Jack Zaptin** earning a Bronze Medal in Latin II, and **Charles Hamlett** and **Jack Knighton** earning Bronze in Latin I.

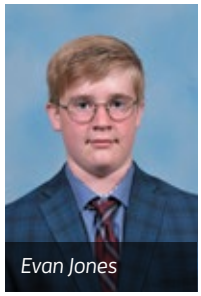
This is the ninth year the National Junior Classical League has sponsored the online competitions.

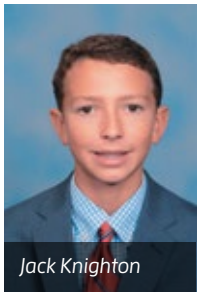

Simeon Betapudi

Collin Craft


Charles Hamlett

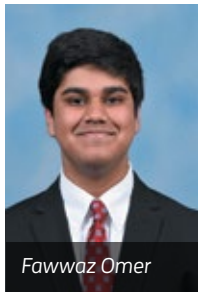

Mark Hieatt

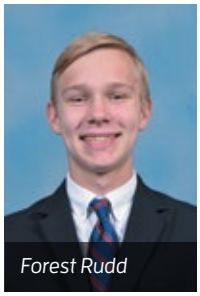

Evan Jones

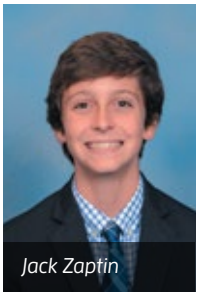

Jack Knighton

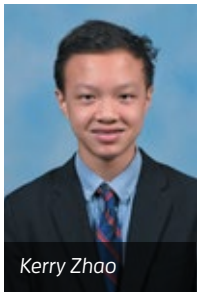
Cullen Lonergan

Matthew Mellone


Fawwaz Omer


Forest Rudd


Jack Zaptin


Kerry Zhao

Pictured, from left, are sophomores Daniel Russell and McKnight Johnston; junior McKee Whittemore; sophomores Max Shackelford, Ryan Peng, Will Schuessler, Matthew Phillips, and Wesley Butler; eighth graders Will McDaniel and Kaleb Conway; and Latin Instructor Ryan Sellers.

HUNKA, HUNKA

Classical Hero

A group of students attended "Elvis As Classical Hero," an event sponsored by the American Classical League in February. One in a series of special events around the country held in recognition of the ACL's centennial, the event took place on the grounds of Graceland with presentations on the famous mansion as a modern example of a classical temple and observations about Elvis and other notable Memphis personalities as classical heroic figures.

Mathletes Take 3rd at Collierville

Math instructors Mrs. **Leigh Packard**, Mrs. **Nancy Gates**, and Ms. **Heather Davis** took two four-man teams to the 7th Annual Collierville Math Bowl January 26. The A Team, eighth grader **Henry Yu**, seventh graders **Jerry Xiao** and **Gabe Chen**, and junior **Arjun Puri** took third place after battling 19 other teams in the competition.

From left, Henry Yu, Jerry Xiao, Gabe Chen, and Arjun Puri took third place after battling 19 other teams in the competition. Also pictured are Collierville High School instructor Dr. Matthew Holmes, far right, and the competition reader, Alex Zhang, a CHS sophomore.

MATHCOUNTS winning team, from the left, Eshaan Patnaik, Varun Krishnamurthi, Joel Lim, Henry Yu, Jerry Xiao, Parth Patel, Evan Wu, Gabe Chen, Bryan Ding, and William Levy

Owls Add Up Wins at MATHCOUNTS

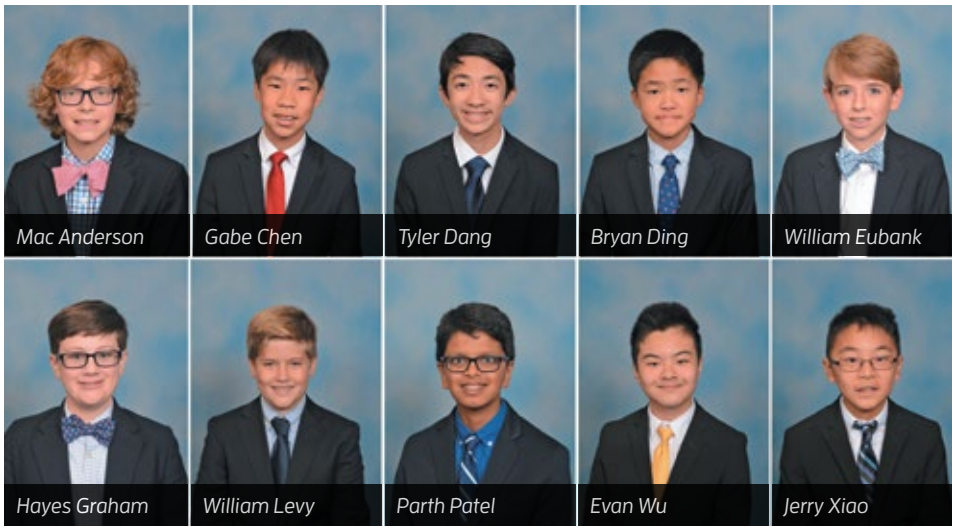
Owls won the MATHCOUNTS chapter competition in early February. The team of eighth graders **Varun Krishnamurthi** and **Henry Yu** and seventh graders **Gabe Chen**, **Bryan Ding**, **William Levy**, **Joel Lim**, **Parth Patel**, **Eshaan Patnaik**, **Evan Wu**, and **Jerry Xiao** competed against 17 schools for the chance to advance players to the state competition in early March.

In addition to winning as a team, two students took home individual awards. Ding ranked fourth in the overall competition, and Wu took second in the Countdown Round.

Four Owls advanced to the state competition in Nashville March 9 – Ding, Krishnamurthi, Xiao, and Wu. The fearsome foursome took third place, and Ding, as an individual winner, proceeded to the national competition in May in Florida. There Ding and the state team took 11th place out of 56 and won Most Improved Team – the best Tennessee ranking in the last 10 years.

DUKE'S TIP RECOGNIZES 10 OWLS

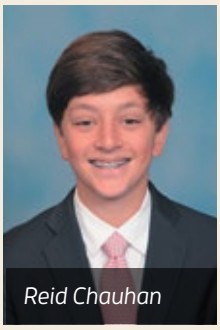
Seventh graders Gabe Chen, Bryan Ding, Evan Wu, and Jerry Xiao earned nationwide Grand Recognition in Duke University's Talent Identification Program. They were among 10 students whose SAT and ACT scores placed them among Tennessee's highest-scoring middle school students, including Mac Anderson, Tyler Dang, William Eubank, Hayes Graham, William Levy, and Parth Patel.

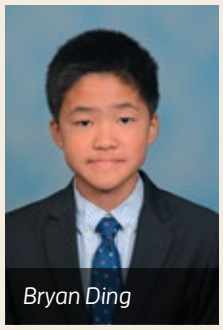


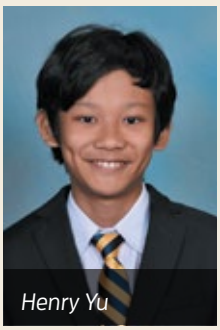
TOP FIVE AMC-8 OWLS

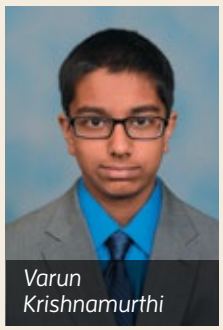
The American Mathematics Competition honored AMC-8 mathletes at the end of December. Of the top five Owls, four earned notable scores nationally. Seventh grader **Bryan Ding** and eighth grader **Varun Krishnamurthi** ranked in the top I percent nationally, and eighth graders **Reid Chauhan** and **Henry Yu** ranked in the top 5 percent nationally.

Ding, Krishnamurthi, Chauhan, Yu, and seventh grader **Jerry Xiao** scored the top five grades at MUS.


Reid Chauhan


Bryan Ding


Henry Yu


Varun Krishnamurthi

Jerry Xiao

Youth in Government competitors, from left, Wood Davis, Jory Meyers, Fawwaz Omer, Jeffrey Shulkin, Vijdan Gill, Reid Chandler, Tre Johnson, Joshua Blackburn, Jack Fernandez, Harmon Colvett, and Devin Malone

Youth in Government Honors

Mrs. **Jenny Pratt** and Mr. **Davis Smith** took 46 students to the Nashville YMCA Youth in Government Conference in early April. The 8 officers and 38 delegates won four awards, two top-20 delegate recognitions, and seven 2020 leadership roles.

Award Winners

Senior **Jory Meyers** earned Outstanding Delegate of the Red Senate
Junior **Cameron Evans** won Outstanding Member of the Press
Sophomores **Fawwaz Omer** and **Will Schuessler** won Outstanding Senior Brief of the Supreme Court
Freshman **Christopher Yarbro** earned Outstanding Delegate of Blue House
Of the 650 delegates attending, the top 20 are named to the Conference on National Affairs. Seniors **Wood Davis** and Meyers earned this honor.
Eight Owls served as YIG officers this year – more than any other school in the state. Next year MUS will have an equally strong presence with the following newly appointed officers:
Junior **Reid Chandler**, Clerk of the White Senate
Junior **Jack Fernandez**, White House Speaker Pro-Tem
Junior **Vijdan Gill**, Chief Justice of Supreme Court
Junior **Tre Johnson**, Sergeant at Arms of Blue Senate
Junior **Devin Malone**, Sergeant at Arms of Red House
Sophomore **Harmon Colvett**, Attorney General of Tennessee
Sophomore **Fawwaz Omer**, Associate Justice of Supreme Court

Government Club Travels and Victories

Government Club advisors Mrs. **Jenny Pratt** and Mr. **Davis Smith** took 12 students to AmeriMunc, a high school Model United Nations event sponsored by Washington, DC's, American University in early February. The small delegation competed among 580 total participants with two Owls capturing awards.

Senior **Jory Meyers** won Outstanding Delegate for his portrayal of Kang Kyung-Wha, foreign minister of South Korea; and sophomore **Harmon Colvett** won Honorable Mention for representing South Africa in the United Nations Committee on Economics and Finance.

Seniors **Joshua Blackburn**, **Wood Davis**, Meyers; juniors **Reid Chandler**, **Cameron Evans**, **Jack Fernandez**, **Vijdan Gill**, **Devin Malone**, **Jeffrey Shulkin**; sophomores Colvett, **Akbar Latif**, and **Fawwaz Omer** crammed an impressive number of activities into their trip.

In addition to touring the capital with staff from Rep. Steve Cohen's office, the Owls visited the Smithsonian Air and Space Museum, walked the National Mall, explored the Metro system, and chatted with **Omkar Hosad '18**, now at American University, and **Ahmed Latif '15**, Georgetown University. Somehow, the Owls managed to fit all that around a full weekend of Model U.N. debating.

The next government event was mid-February, with 24 students heading to Rhodes College for the Rhodes Model U.N. where the hosts complimented our delegation for their seriousness of purpose and hard work. Three award winners emerged from the conference: Junior **Arnab Das** won Honorable Position Paper for Sri Lanka; junior **Arjun Puri** earned Honorable Delegate for representing Indonesia on the Security Council; and freshman **Evan Schrier** earned a Verbal Commendation for his work representing the Philippines.

Rhodes competitors also included Blackburn; juniors **Wasif Abdullah**, **Andrew Bragorgos**, **Parth Dahima**, **Yousef Husein**, **Tre Johnson**, **Carson Lakin**, **Lucio Rosa**, **Kemen Rosario**, **William Shepherd**, **Sean-Marc Taylor**; sophomores Colvett, **Miller Galloway**, Omer, **Samy Paul**, **Jacob Rickels**; freshmen **Rithvik Giledi**, **West Loden**, **Vincent Ores**, **Kevlar Singh**, and **Garner Uhlhorn**.

From top, left to right, Arnab Das, Evan Schrier, Arjun Puri; Reid Chandler and Jack Fernandez

At left, Mr. Davis Smith and Mrs. Jenny Pratt with Government Club members in Washington, DC

Mentors Making a Difference

Two Upper School volunteer groups help their fellow Owls manage social and academic challenges they may encounter.

Peer Mentors meet with freshmen throughout the year to talk about managing academic rigor, getting involved in extracurricular activities, and navigating challenging social situations.

Our student-led Heartbeat Organization is a group of upperclassmen who pledge to abstain from drugs, alcohol, and tobacco. They meet with seventh graders to encourage them to make healthy life choices by avoiding these harmful substances.

The Peer Mentors are seniors **Joshua Blackburn**, **David Byrd**, **Reagan Griffin**, **Clay Harrison**, **J.J. Johnson**, **Ethan Lam**, **Smith McWaters**, **Sloan Miles**, **Robbie Musicante**, **Kirklin Perkins**, **Loyd Templeton**, **Philip Wunderlich**; juniors **Robert Ayotte**, **Parth Dahima**, **Arnab Das**, **Cody Hopkins**, **Jonathan Huang**, **J.D. Huber**, **Kyle Koester**, **Devin Malone**, **Hooper Mattis**, **Rob McFadden**, **Duncan McLean**, **Arjun Puri**, **Edwin Rawson**, **Thomas Rogers**, **Council Rowland**, **Cole Saenz**, **Edward Smith**, **Zane Snead**, **Jonah Wexler**, **McKee Whittemore**, **Will Woodmansee**; and sophomores **Cameron Bouley**, **Judson Fair**, **Jack Fortenberry**, **Hart Gowen**, **Zachary Herman**, **Griffin Hood**, **Joe Hudson**, **Jack Jabbour**, **Matthew Jones**, **Paul Jones**, **Akbar Latif**, **Everett Miller**, **Jason Nguyen**, **Samy Paul**, **Henry Robinson**, **Daniel Russell**, **Max Shackelford**, **Harm Thomas**, **Cason Triplett**, and **Tamaz Young**.

Heartbeat Mentors are seniors **Louis Allen**, **Joshua Blackburn**, **Stephen Christenbury**, **Wood Davis**, **Jonathan Douglass**, **Kylun Ewing**, **Call Ford**, **Clay Harrison**, **Dorian Hopkins**, **J.J. Johnson**, **Bailey Keel**, **Emerson Manley**, **Smith McWaters**, **Sloan Miles**, **Sellers Shy**, **Henry Wood**, **Grant Young**; and juniors **Robert Ayotte**, **Parth Dahima**, **Robert Dickinson**, **Gregory Guo**, **Kyle Koester**, **Ben Lindy**, **Hooper Mattis**, **Rob McFadden**, **Duncan McLean**, **Knox McQuillen**, **Daniel Meskin**, **Will Portera**, **Drew Rakers**, **James Smythe**, **Ben Spiegelman**, and **McKee Whittemore**.

Upper School leadership is key to guiding fellow Owls as they navigate the many extracurricular options, manage the stresses of new social situations, and learn to organize and study effectively. Above are Heartbeat Organization volunteers; right, Peer Mentors.

Mock Trial Team Hones Life Skills, Earns Honors

Mock Trial students honed their critical thinking and writing, built their public speaking and team-building skills, and developed their ability to dissect complicated material. During their exciting season, they also gleaned 16 individual honors.

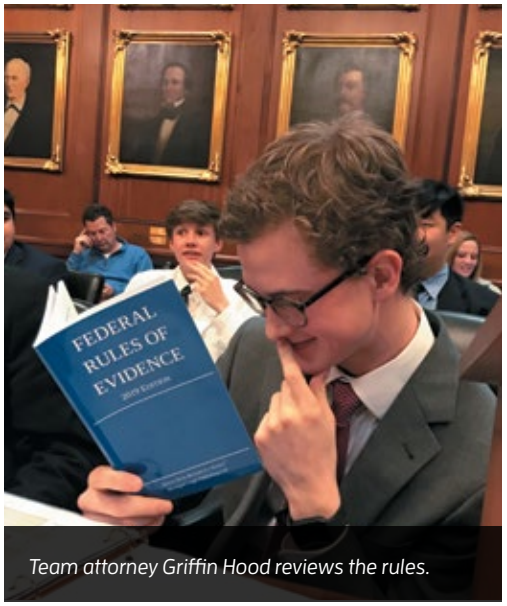
The three captains – seniors **Henry Duncan** and **Tyran Williams** and junior **James Smythe** – took the lead running tryouts, planning practices, and making decisions about tasks from assigning witness roles to deciding case themes and theories.

Team attorneys were Duncan, Smythe, Williams; sophomores **Griffin Hood**, **Harmon Colvett**; and freshman **Forest Rudd**.

Team witnesses were junior **Daniel Lim**; sophomores **Everett Miller**, **Jack Fortenberry**; and freshmen **Turner Bishop**, **Alex Li**, and **Kevlar Singh**. Bailiffs were freshmen **Mark Hieatt** and **Hamza Ranjha**.

Smythe and Williams earned three Best Attorney honors each, and Bishop brought home three Best Witness awards. Miller and Singh earned two Best Witness honors each. Colvett and Duncan each earned a Best Attorney award, and Li a Best Witness honor.

Team witness "Dr." Jack Fortenberry



Team attorney Griffin Hood reviews the rules.

Front row, from left, James Smythe, Henry Duncan, and Griffin Hood; second row, Kevlar Singh, Everett Miller, and Daniel Lim

Team members pose with a key piece of evidence.

From left, Tyran Williams, Alex Li, Turner Bishop, Jack Fortenberry, Forest Rudd, and Harmon Colvett

BOWLING — AND PACKING — AGAINST HUNGER

The CSO annual Wish Bowl knocked over the first pin in a chain reaction raising almost $7,000 for Rise Against Hunger. Some 17 teams participated in the Wish Bowl in late January, gathering almost $900.

Fundraising continued in homerooms, and the big food-packing event culminated the effort February 23, with volunteers in the Dining Hall putting together over 20,000 meals. The project supported Rise Against Hunger, an international hunger-relief organization with the goal of ending world hunger by 2030.

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Wish Bowlers raised money to support the Rise Against Hunger project. **1.** *Left to right, juniors Robert Ayotte, Edward Smith, McKee Whittemore, Spencer Gooch, Drew Rakers, Tom Monaghan, Duncan McLean, and Edwin Rawson* **2.** *Seniors Houston Pate and Sloan Miles* **3.** *Sophomores Matthew Jones, Reid McGowan, and Warren Barry* **4.** *Juniors Ben Lindy, Daniel Meskin, Robert Dickinson, and Knox McQuillen* **5.** *Seniors Trey Fussell, Alden Southerland, Nicholas Hurley, and Jonathan Douglass* **6.** *Spilled rice = school spirit* **7.** *Freshman Owen Fussell; sophomore Charles Long; seniors Alden Southerland and Houston Pate; sophomore Doug Curtis; freshman Christopher Yarbro; seniors Richard Neff, Nicholas Hurley, and Ben Gilliland* **8.** *Freshmen Will Pittman and Witt Smith; sophomore Daniel Russell; senior Louis Allen; sophomore Paul Jones; and senior Clay Harrison* **9.** *Freshman Talal Siddiq; juniors Jerry Peters, Parth Dahima, Kyle Koester, and Ben Lindy* **10.** *Senior Henry Wood*

Lower School STEM Owls at Lone Oaks

Seventh- and eighth-grade students enjoyed a beautiful day in an outdoor classroom on their annual STEM field trip to the University of Tennessee's Lone Oaks Farm in Middleton, TN.

Guided by a team of UT's educators, the boys calculated the slope of a field, used compasses and paper maps (rather than cell phones) for directions, improved their collaboration skills, and learned about the tremendous amount of science involved in cotton production and watershed restoration.

From top, left to right, eighth graders Shawn Felsenthal, Harrison Hayden, Kaleb Conway, Jack Billions, Tate Farmer, Jack Fortas, Stryker Aitken, Kemp Conrad, and Curtis Givens; eighth graders Liam Shepherd and Thomas Preston calculate the slope of a field; students begin their lesson on compasses; a Lone Oaks instructor introduces the boys to slope measurements; eighth grader Andrew Xu

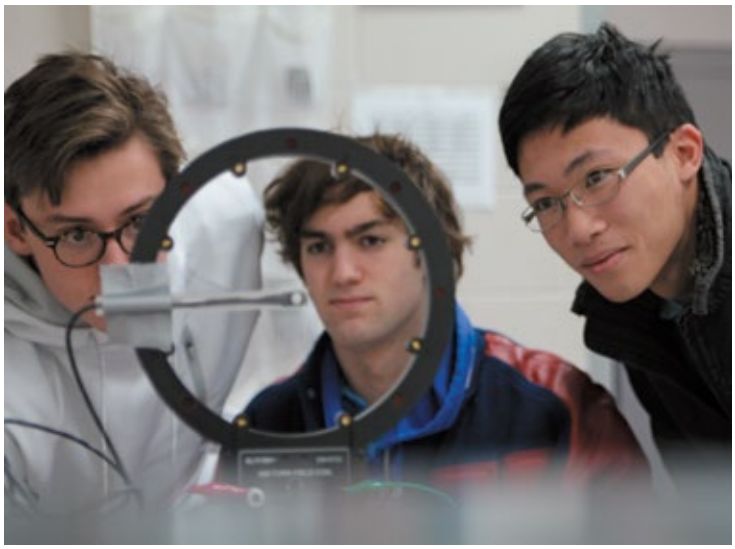
Art in Science, Raku Style

As smoke wafted across campus, Mrs. **Analice Sowell**'s Materials Science students interacted with nature's most basic elements – fire, earth, air, and water – as they created raku pottery.

Inspired by traditional Japanese raku firing, the Western process used in class involved heating pottery in a kiln at 1,000 degrees for a short period of time, then, while it is still red-hot, thrusting it into combustible materials and ice water.

Sowell provided safety instructions and distributed protective gear, and the pottery began making its way from the kiln to ice bath, leaving a trail of smoke to mark the transformation. The finished products revealed an intriguing depth of colors.

From top, students display their finished raku pieces; juniors Hooper Mattis and Cody Hopkins; junior Henry Bridgforth removes the first piece of pottery while Mrs. Sowell guides him. The kiln registered 1,000 degrees as the students removed the pieces, plunging them into shredded paper, then ice water.



From left, seniors Ethan Hurst, Ev Nichol, and Ethan Lam study the field probe at the center of the magnetized coils to take a field-strength reading.

Mu-mentum in Physics

Many have wondered how Physics Instructor Wayne Mullins has time to raise a posse of children, mentor a teacher at White Station High School, and cover his classes at MUS. After witnessing one of his recent AP Physics C Mechanics labs, one might theorize that he uses stargate deportation. He says students were measuring magnetic field strength that day – but we wonder.

After recently theorizing field strength by using the experimental value of mu, students put their theories to the test during a lab. Passing electricity through 500 turns of flat coil, they used field probes to measure the magnetic field at the center of the devices.

Faeries, Farces, and Forests

Shakespeare's *A Midsummer Night's Dream* took the stage in Hyde Chapel in early March. Four young Athenians ran away to the forest, faeries quarreled, and a trickster ran amok; but in the end, true love was happily restored.

Cast

The Quite Brief Version

Theseus/Oberon – *Tyran Williams*
Hippolyta/Titania – *Mackenzie Fittes*
Egeus – *Tra Warren*
Hermia – *Stillman McFadden*
Helena – *Virginia Pratt*
Lysander – *Akbar Latif*
Demetrius – *Reece Needham*
Philostrate – *Kollin White*
Puck – *Vince Boberski*
Bottom – *Henry Duncan*
Quince – *Cameron Evans*
Snug/Lion – *Kyan Ramsay*
Snout/Wall – *Lacy Ferrell*
Starveling/Moonshine – *Alden Southerland*
Flute/Thisbe – *Parth Mishra*

The Not-Quite-So-Brief Version

The Court

Theseus, Duke of Athens - *Dorian Hopkins*
Hippolyta, Queen of the Amazons – *Becket Monaghan*
Egeus, Father to Hermia - *Joshua Blackburn*
Hermia – *Callie Oehmler*
Helena – *Claire Schneider*
Lysander – *Vijdan Gill*
Demetrius – *Jim Thomas*
Philostrate – *Akbar Latif*

The Forest

Oberon, the Faerie King - *James Blatchford*
Titania, the Faerie Queen– *Emma Nair*
Puck – *Aidan Saunders*
Peaseblossom – *Lacy Ferrell*
Cobweb – *Virginia Pratt*
Moth – *Meredith Kerlin*
Mustardseed – *Leo Smythe*

The Theatricals

Peter Quince/Prologue – *Tyran Williams*
Nick Bottom/Pyramus – *James Smythe*
Francis Flute/Thisbe – *Henry Duncan*
Tom Snout/Wall – *Bailey Keel*
Snug/Lion – *Devin Malone*
Robin Starveling/Moonshine – *Reece Needham*

Lords and Ladies of Theseus's Court, Elves, Faeries, and Warriors

Kollin White
Parth Mishra
Vince Boberski
Kyan Ramsay
Lacy Ferrell
Virginia Pratt
Meredith Kerlin
Mackenzie Fittes
Bailey Keel
Matthew Rhodes
Tra Warren
Stillman McFadden
Alden Southerland
Hunter Kendall

Crew

Theater Production Class

David Byrd
Reid Chandler
Cameron Evans
Vijdan Gill
Matthew Jones
Colin McCown
Smith McWaters
Max Shackelford
Alden Southerland
Grant Young

Afternoon Shop Crew

Ahmad Alsafwah
David Byrd
Reid Chandler
Arnab Das
Thomas Eubank
Cameron Evans
Will Fraser
Paige Fernandez
Jack Fernandez
Vijdan Gill
Cooper Grace
Cooper Grinspun
Ben Hernandez
Yousef Husein
Matthew Jones
Jake Klepper
Carson Lakin
Scott Ledbetter
Cullen Lonergan
Colin McCown
Jack Morin
Holden Pate
Ryan Peng
Jeffrey Shulkin
Sean-Marc Taylor
Jonah Wexler
Harry White

Run Crew

Props

Riane Bayne
Reid Chandler
Jack Fernandez
Vijdan Gill

Sound

Cameron Evans
Carson Lakin
Drums – *Akbar Latif*

Lights

Paige Fernandez
Cooper Grinspun
Followspot – *Reid Chandler*
Followspot – *Cooper Grinspun*

Costumes

Makeup and Costume Technician – *Sarah Pratt*
Wardrobe Assistant – *Smith McWaters*
Wardrobe Assistant – *Nora James Eikner*

Stage Management

AV – *Reid Chandler*
Stage Crew – *David Byrd*
Actors – *Vijdan Gill*

Backstage

Yousef Husein
Sophie Fernandez

DIRECTED BY:

Mr. Ted Fockler '10 and Mr. Timothy Greer

DESIGN AND TECHNICAL DIRECTION BY:

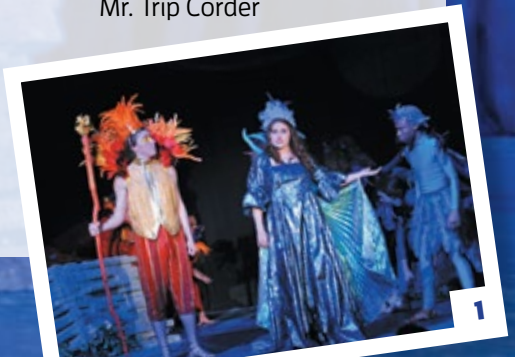
Mr. Robert Fudge

COSTUMES BY:

Ms. Alexandria Perel-Sams

SHOP SUPERVISION BY:

Mr. Trip Corder



Photos: Charles Harrell Photography

Nick Bottom as Pyramus and Robin Starvling as Moonshine in the play within the play

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1. *Oberon and Titania amidst the faeries* **2.** *Cast and crew of* A Midsummer Night's Dream **3.** *Titania and her faerie attendants entertain the transformed Bottom* **4.** *Demetrius and Lysander fight over Helena while Hermia tries to intervene as Oberon watches* **5.** *Thisbe is menaced by a lion* **6.** *The Quite Brief players introduce their characters*

Art Unleashed

Mr. **Jim Buchman**'s seventh-grade art classes unleashed yet another menagerie of creatures on the unsuspecting world this year. The flocks, herds, and hordes were birthed from corrugated cardboard forms covered with layers of wire mesh, plaster cloth, and putty. Some artists adorned their creatures with accents of carved wood and concluded the process with a bath of stain and/or shellac. If you took one of these critters into your home, we advise you to keep it well fed.

From top, left to right, seventh graders **1.** *Andrew Tancredi, Hank Sayle, Parks Applegate, Lee Couloubaritsis, Martin Kerlan, Bennett Owen, and Davidson Alexander* **2.** *Sayle, Parks Painter, William Hamlett, Gates Luton, Couloubaritsis, Harrison Goetze, Hayes Graham, and Griffin Brown* **3.** *Joel Lim, Kristopher Horne, Carter Lamb, Jack Haddad, Henry Zanone, Grayson Pollan, Sayle, Jack Jarratt, Sam Wilson, F.J. Wright, Owen Grow, and Clayton Kuhlo* **4.** *Critters getting ready to make a break for freedom.*

All-West honorees (junior Daniel Lim not pictured)

All-West Music Owls

Sixteen students earned chairs in an All-West Tennessee band or orchestra and performed at the All-West Tennessee Music Convention February 14-16 at the Cannon Center. The honored musicians are:

Middle School Blue Band
Vince Boberski, eighth grader, *alto saxophone*
Henry Yu, eighth grader, *clarinet*
Joel Lim, seventh grader, *oboe*
Henry Lindeman, seventh grader, *trombone*
Eshaan Patnaik, seventh grader, *clarinet*
Jerry Xiao, seventh grader, *oboe*

Middle School Red Band
Kartikeya Bomb, eighth grader, *percussion*
Bryan Ding, seventh grader, *clarinet*

9-10 Red Band
Samy Paul, sophomore, *clarinet*

High School Blue Jazz Band
Braxton Hart, sophomore, *trombone*

Middle School Orchestra
Gabe Chen, seventh grader, *violin*
Evan Wu, seventh grader, *viola*

Honors String Orchestra
Ryan Peng, sophomore, *violin*
Samuel Lim, freshman, *violin*

Symphony Orchestra
Jacob Curlin, junior, *violin*
Daniel Lim, junior, *violin*

Hescock Wins Brooks Best-In-Show, National Recognition

Senior **Jackson Hescock** moved to Memphis last summer and brought Texas-sized artistic talent with him, undertaking an independent study with Acting Arts Department Chair **Grant Burke** and completing several paintings that were submitted to this year's Mid-South Scholastic Art Awards at the Memphis Brooks Museum of Art.

His painting *Please* won Best-In-Show, a Gold Key, and the Senior Division Painting Award. In addition, Hescock won three Gold Keys for his works *Half*, *Trinity*, and *Delivered*, and a Silver Key award for *Ashley*. His art portfolio also won Honorable Mention. His prize included $1,300 in cash and a $1,000 college scholarship.

These regional honors, which included an American Visions nomination, qualified Hescock for national competition this spring in the Alliance for Young Artists & Writers' Scholastic Art & Writing Awards in New York City, where *Please* was awarded a Gold Medal and an American Visions Medal. Nearly 340,000 works of art and writing were submitted to the competition, which has celebrated teen artists and writers from across the country since 1923.

Hescock, who plans to pursue art as a career, says the freedom Burke allowed during his independent study has given him a taste of what it's like to be a practicing artist.

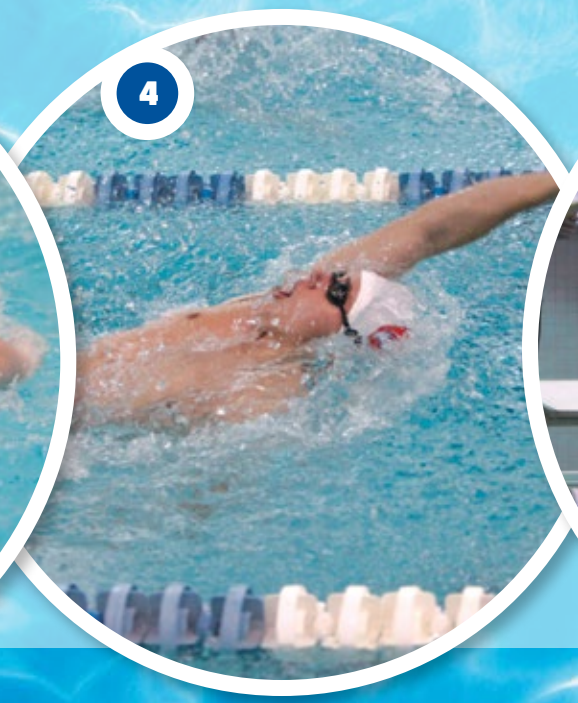
"Artistically, I have been able to focus on whatever I believe will benefit my technique and style," he said. "I fully intend to continue studying art in hopes of achieving my dream of becoming a studio artist."

Jackson Hescock stands beside his piece Delivered *at the Brooks Museum of Art.*

Swimmers Take Fifth at State

Now in his seventh year as the MUS varsity swimming head coach, Mr. **Bryan Parker** has overseen some of the best teams in program history. His 2018-19 squad continued that legacy of excellence, ultimately finishing fifth out of 46 teams at the state meet.

The varsity roster encompassed 30 swimmers, and each grade was well-represented. Seniors included **Louis Allen**, **Wood Davis**, **Clay Harrison**, **Jackson Hays**, **Ethan Hurst**, **Bailey Keel**, **Ev Nichol**, and **Warren Turner**. Juniors who swam this year included **Hugh Bourland**, **Jack Gorman**, **Jonathan Shepherd**, and **Harris Tennyson**. Sophomores **Wesley Butler**, **Griffin Hood**, **McKnight Johnston**, **Caleb Littlejohn**, **Hud McGehee**, **Fawwaz Omer**, **Ryan Peng**, and **Max Shackelford** all showed great promise this season. And the freshmen made up the largest group: **Will Chandler**, **Collin Craft**, **Noah Emmert**,



Zion James, **Eric Liu**, **Gryffin Ostner**, **Daniel Peoples**, **Clarkson Shoaf**, **Kollin White**, and **Kerry Zhao**.

The Owls swam in several league meets as well as in the Germantown Invitational, and they performed very well in all of them, winning four, and finishing no worse than second in any regular-season event. The Owls' string of 10-straight county championships ended this season with the Owls taking second, but several swimmers easily qualified for the state meet in Nashville.

In state competition the 200-yard freestyle relay team of Hurst, Nichol, Turner, and Shoaf finished fourth, and the 400-yard freestyle team of Hurst, Nichol, Turner, and James claimed fifth-place overall.

In individual events Turner finished third in the 100-yard butterfly race – just 0.15 seconds behind the winner. He also took fourth in the 50-yard freestyle race. Nichol finished his high-school career with a fourth-place finish in the 200-yard freestyle.

Coach Parker enjoyed working with this group, and he is already looking forward to next season.

"The 2018-19 season was great. The leadership provided by our seniors helped us out tremendously!" he said. "I look forward to seeing what the future holds for this team."

LOWER SCHOOL

Coach: Kelsey McDonald

Record: 1-2, Second-Place Winners at Germantown Invitational and County Championship

Roster: Eighth graders Aaron Barawid, Charlie Dyson, Frederick Huang, Joseph Keeler, Jack Knighton, Kevin Ma, Mason Putnam, Jack Zaptin; seventh graders Wilson Bridgforth, Harrison Goetze, Henry Lindeman, Sai Madasu, Sam Wilson

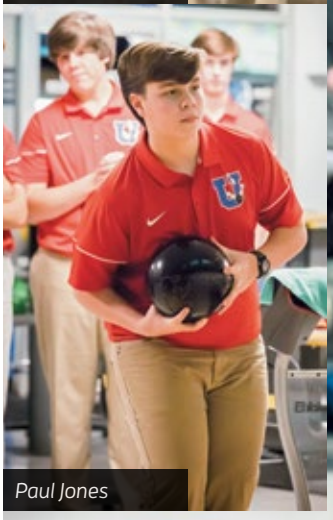
Opposite page, top, left to right, swimmers Wood Davis, Ethan Hurst, Zion James, Warren Turner, Ev Nichol, Coach Bryan Parker, Jackson Hays, and Harris Tennyson show their spirit at the state competition.

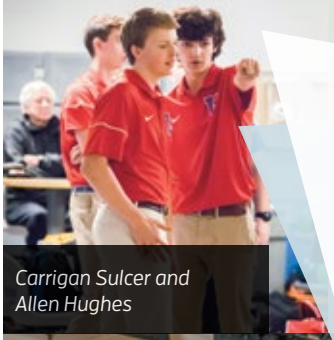
1. *Wood Davis* **2.** *Warren Turner* **3.** *Ev Nichol* **4.** *Ethan Hurst* **5.** *Jackson Hays* **6.** *Zion James* **7.** *Bailey Keel*

Action shots by Gerald Gallik Photography

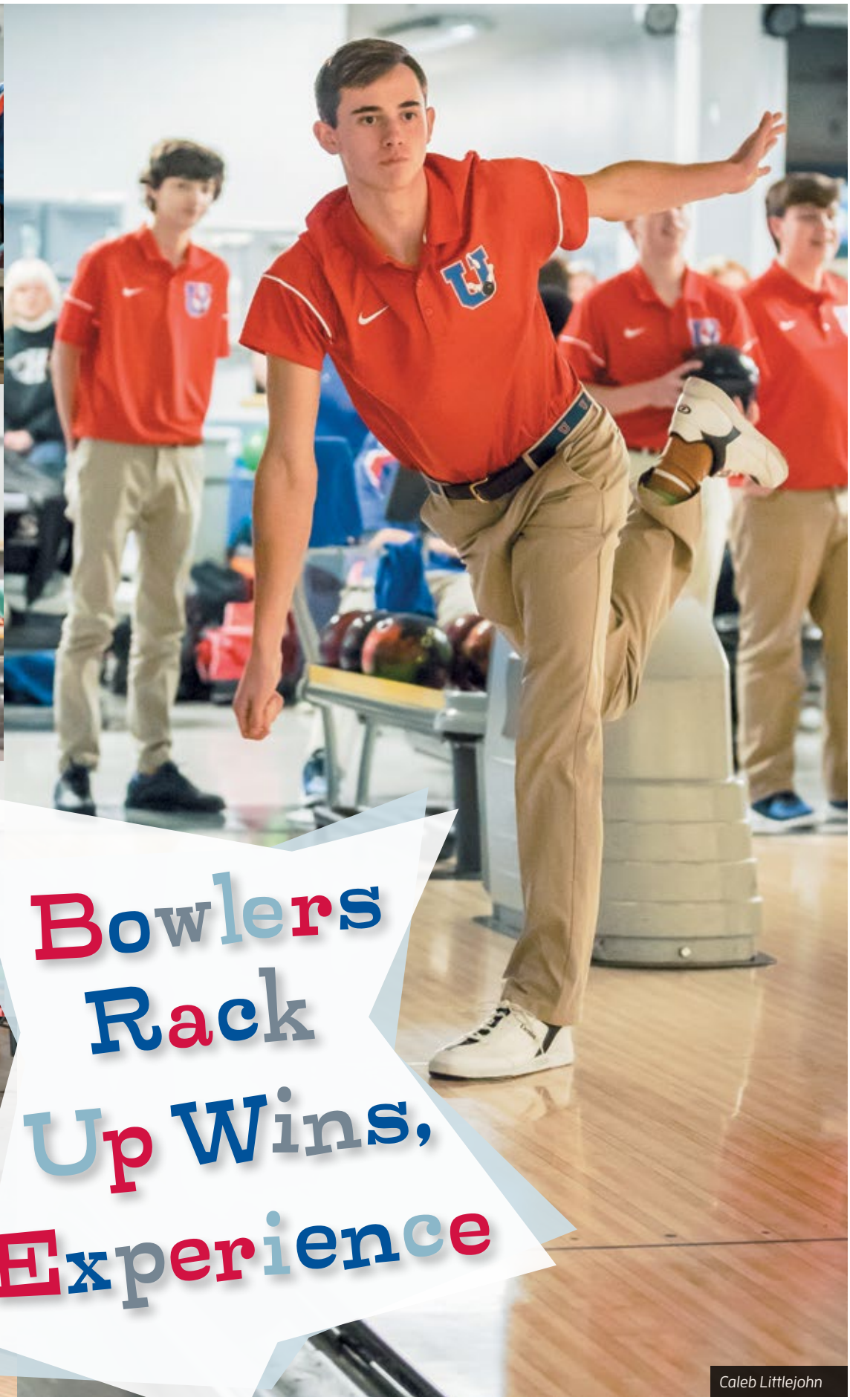
Bowlers Rack Up Wins, Experience

Riley Palmer


Paul Jones


Carrigan Sulcer and Allen Hughes

Hud McGehee


Caleb Littlejohn

Photos: Alan Howell Photography

A new day and a new head coach began the 2018-19 bowling season as Coach **Michael Escue** took over from Dr. **David Jackson** and Mrs. **Jenny Pratt**. Escue brings many years of coaching and bowling experience to the program, and the team benefited from his expertise.

The varsity program welcomed several new bowlers after a large senior class departed last year, and this new roster was relatively young. The team had only one senior, **Allen Hughes**; and one junior, **Riley Palmer**. The remaining bowlers all were sophomores, including **Ben Burkhart**, **Warren Johnston**, **Paul Jones**, **Caleb Littlejohn**, **Hud McGehee**, and **Carrigan Sulcer**. These eight were quite dedicated to their games, and they all improved from the start of the year.

The Owls finished 7-8 this year, highlighted by an impressive win over state power Christian Brothers, 16.5-10.5, in early November. The team also defeated Lausanne three times and Harding three times. They finished fourth in the region and missed out on the state tournament, but Escue was pleased with the progress of the team.

"For a first-year team, I am very happy with our results. I feel our boys proudly represented MUS in every aspect of what it truly means to be an Owl," Escue said.

Sulcer, 2019-20 captain, knows this year laid the foundation for a better bowling season next year.

"Noting that the team included only two bowlers who had previously bowled in a competitive setting, I believe we did quite well," he said. "The upcoming season should be one of success as we begin with a fresh perspective and a hunger for victory."

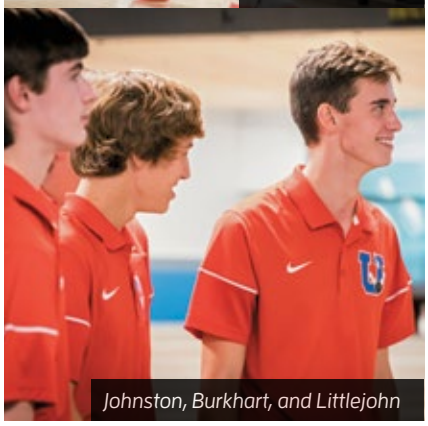
Escue wasted little time working toward next season, as he has already hosted tryouts and has a good idea concerning next year's roster. If bowlers put in some off-season work, he said, that dedication should translate to improvement at the lanes.

From left, kneeling, Warren Johnston, Hud McGehee, Caleb Littlejohn, Riley Palmer; standing, Ben Burkhart, Carrigan Sulcer, Paul Jones, Allen Hughes, and Coach Michael Escue

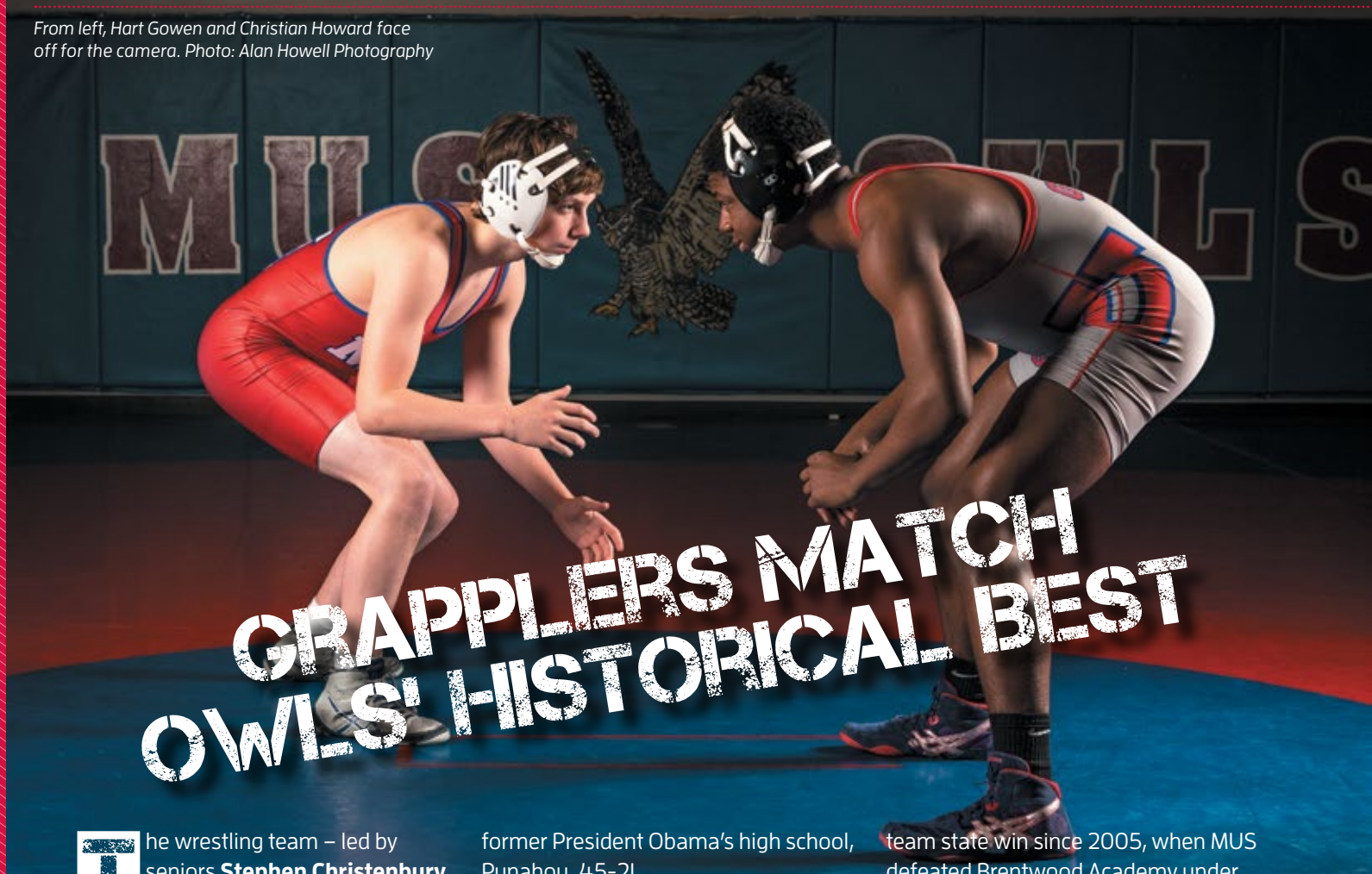
Carrigan Sulcer

Warren Johnston

Ben Burkhart



Johnston, Burkhart, and Littlejohn



From left, Hart Gowen and Christian Howard face off for the camera. Photo: Alan Howell Photography

GRAPPLERS MATCH OWLS' HISTORICAL BEST

The wrestling team – led by seniors **Stephen Christenbury**, **Dorian Hopkins**, and **Matthew Rhodes** and featuring a starting lineup of almost exclusively freshmen and sophomores – overcame incredible odds to secure an 18-17 record and a season equal to the best in MUS history books.

The younger wrestlers included junior **Tucker Caldwell**; sophomores **Torrance Bostick**, **Miller Galloway**, **Hart Gowen**, **Dutch Hansen**, **Christian Howard**; freshmen **Hunter Barnes**, **Owen Fussell**, **Gervacio Gonzalez**, **Andrew Harris**, **Hamza Ranjha**, **Jack Ryan**, **Jacob Zamore**; and eighth graders **Braden Chubb**, **Ian McGehee**, and **Isaac Palmer**.

The regular season included a trip to Hawaii for the Moanalua Holiday Duals, a tournament featuring several teams from the Hawaiian Islands as well as California. Without a full squad, the Owls managed to go 3-3 and claim seventh place by defeating former President Obama's high school, Punahou, 45-21.

After the tournament ended, the Owls celebrated the new year in Honolulu, one of the last places in the world to count down to midnight. For the remaining days of the holiday break, the team spent their time relaxing on beaches and touring the island. Other highlights of the season were victories over Houston, Brentwood Academy, and a second-place finish at the Briarcrest Dawg Fights with five individual champions.

During the postseason the wrestlers placed third in the regional duals, hosted by MUS, defeating Franklin Road Academy, 38-36; Battle Ground Academy, 54-30; and Brentwood Academy, 41-31.

At the TSSAA state competition, the team dropped the first match to second-seeded and eventual runner-up McCallie, but they made history by defeating Chattanooga Christian School, 42-41. This was the Owl's first team state win since 2005, when MUS defeated Brentwood Academy under Head Coach **Tommy Harrison**. In the West Region individual tournament the following week, the Owls placed third and qualified eight wrestlers for state.

Six wrestlers placed in the individual state competition: Christenbury (third), Howard (fourth), Hopkins (fifth), McGehee (fifth), Rhodes (fifth), and Bostick (sixth). With these results the 2018-19 Owls took seventh place overall and tied the school's best state finish.

"The guys faced a lot of adversity, but they continued to work hard and stay together to put together an outstanding season. The seniors were great leaders and kept the team focused," Head Coach **Chris Lewis** said. "They were instrumental in the process of growing and improving the wrestling program. They will be missed."

Jack Ryan battles with a Briarcrest opponent

Stephen Christenbury earned the Outstanding Upper Weight Award at the Briarcrest Dawg Fights.

Wrestling team and coaches after the Briarcrest Dawg Fights

Ian McGehee returns a Father Ryan wrestler to the mat during the Region Duals at MUS.

Torrance Bostick uses a half nelson on a Briarcrest opponent.

Action shots by Gerald Gallik Photography

ROUNDBALLERS RIDE ROLLER COASTER SEASON TO QUARTERFINALS

The varsity basketball season provided some great highs, including a thrilling 59-51 overtime victory over rival Christian Brothers and three wins over a talented St. Benedict squad. The season also included some lows: a fluid roster, nagging injuries, and a challenging schedule. The Owls rode out the highs and lows to an 8-19 season and a quarterfinal showing.

The roster featured nine seniors, many of whom had been in the program for several seasons: **Walker Crosby**, **Jalen Hollimon**, **Matthew Rogers**, **Dekari Scott**, **Sellers Shy**, **Josh Tanenbaum**, **Henry Wells**, **Philip Wunderlich**, and **Grant Young**. Juniors on the roster included **Vaught Benge**, **Caleb Brock**, **J.D. Huber**, and **Thomas Pitts**. The Owls had a talented group of sophomores: **Roderic Lewis**, **Ayman McGowan**, **Gavin Murrey**, and **Henry Nickey**. Freshmen **James Barton** and **Coy Stiles** gained valuable experience and demonstrated they would be major factors moving forward.

The Owls struggled early as they faced strong competition, dropping their first five contests. But they rebounded to get their first win against a disciplined Pope John Paul II team. The team began playing much better as they gained experience, battling Melrose and Houston to close defeats.

The squad got an influx of players in game eight when six football players joined the basketball roster, and Coach **Matt Bakke** worked hard to build chemistry quickly as they headed into divisional play.

Upon returning from the holiday break, the team started playing better basketball, sparked by the second half of the Harding game January 4. After a poor first half, the team exploded for a 30-point third quarter. Although they were not victorious, that accomplishment seemed to

Photos: Gerald Gallik Photography

motivate them. The Owls won their next two games, including an impressive 51-38 victory over divisional foe St. Benedict.

Facing some very good opponents, the team could never put consecutive wins together. The Owls did play their best against their rivals, Christian Brothers, defeating the Purple Wave, 59-51, in overtime at home and falling by two, 42-40, to conclude the regular season. That final loss put the team into the first-round play-in game in the state tournament. Encountering St. Benedict for a third time, the Owls played well and advanced to the quarterfinals, traveling to meet the four-time defending state champion, Brentwood Academy. At Brentwood the team played some of its best basketball and stayed close throughout. Ultimately, however, they could not overcome the Eagles, losing 42-36 to end the season.

Coach Bakke will have many fond memories of these athletes.

"I am extremely proud of this team. Our record does not reflect what a competitive team we had. The guys kept a winning attitude and continued to work hard despite some tough setbacks during the year. We were playing our best basketball at the end of the season and came very close to making a return trip to the final four again this year. We certainly showed that we could compete with any team in the state. Many thanks to Coach [**Trey**] **Suddarth**, Coach [**Dax**] **Torrey**, and Coach [**Jerry**] **Dover** for the invaluable contributions they made this season," Bakke said.

"Also, special thanks to Ms. **Tracy Killen** and the cheerleaders for their tremendous support of the team this year. Finally, thanks to the parents for their patience, encouragement, and dedication to the team. I am very fortunate to have been associated with such an outstanding group of people."

This season marked Bakke's seventh and last as varsity head coach as he announced his retirement from coaching – after 20 years with the MUS program – earlier in the year. He will continue to serve as an assistant athletic director with oversight of Lower School sports and as a physical education instructor.

Torrey, who serves as the school's sports information director, called Bakke a true gentleman. "He has been the ultimate ambassador for MUS basketball in the community. We are fortunate for his time leading the program."

Athletic Director **Bobby Alston** also expressed gratitude for Bakke's contributions. "Matt has been an outstanding leader. He has given his all to our boys each and every day. MUS is a better place because of his effort and energy."

Opposite page, left to right, Dekari Scott (No. 3); Jalen Hollimon (No. 15); Sellers Shy (No. 12); varsity Owls in action; Henry Wells and Vaught Benge

JUNIOR VARSITY

Coach: Jerry Dover
Record: 16-3
Roster: Juniors J.D. Huber, Thomas Pitts, Blake Sexton; sophomores Jack Beard, Stephen Cates, Jack Jabbour, Chris Parks, Edwin Shy, Jon Van Hoozer, Wes Vanderslice; freshman James Barton

FRESHMEN

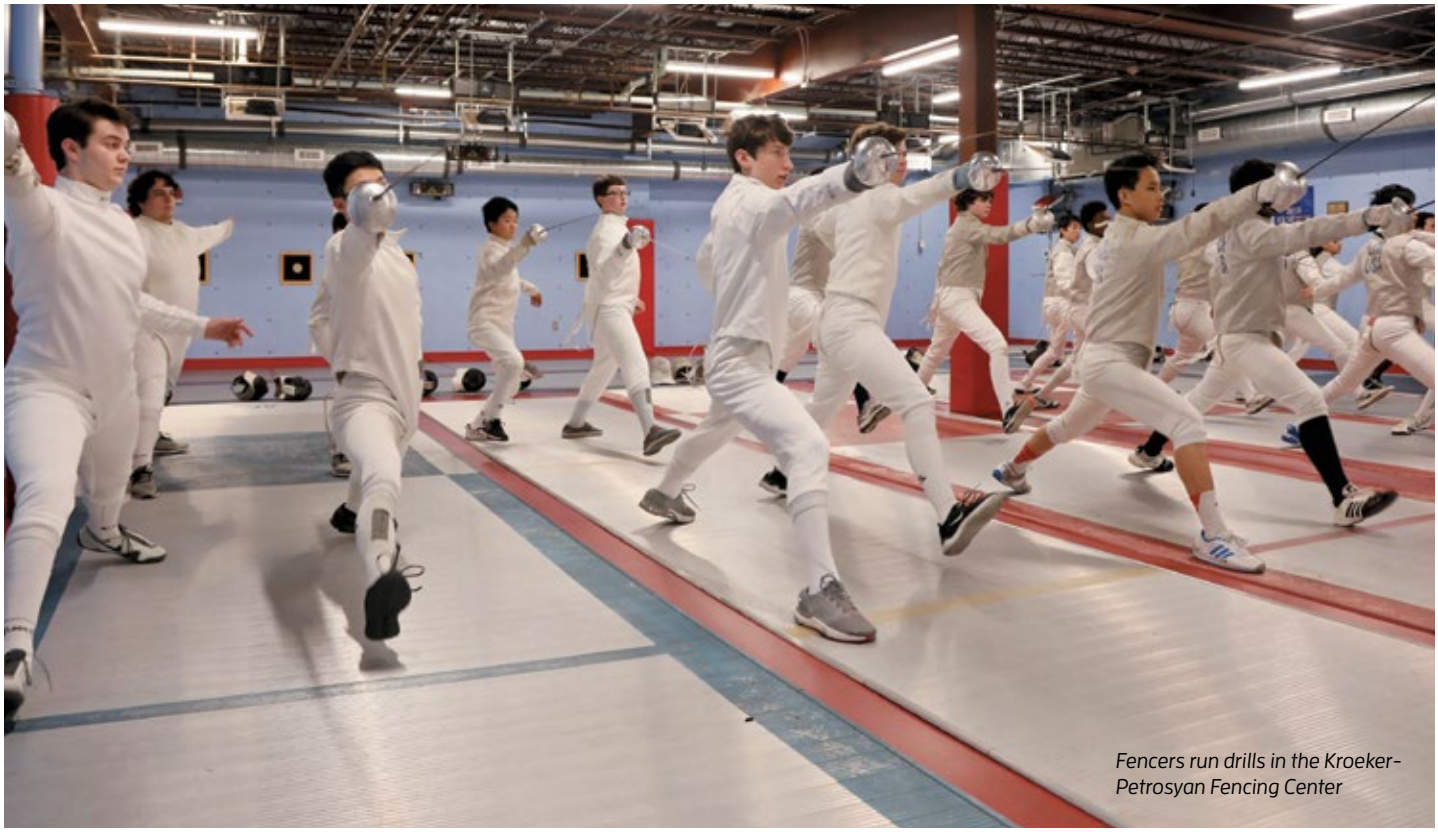
Coach: Joe Abrahams '96
Record: 16-3
Roster: Freshmen James Allen, George Hamsley, Kyler Herring, Oscar Marshall, KJ Milan, Vincent Ores, Mac Owen, Ricky Ransom, Baron Scifres, Henry Weeks; eighth graders Curtis Givens, Chaun King

EIGHTH GRADE

Coach: Wes Crump
Record: 17-5, Turkey Shoot Champions, Shelby League Semifinalists
Roster: Eighth graders Charles Baine, Jack Billions, Carter Campbell, Clarence Chapman, Reid Chauhan, Jaxon Hammond, Wilson LeMay, Griffin Marshall, Will McDaniel, Max Painter, Wesley Street, William Tayloe, Rhodes Temme

SEVENTH GRADE

Coach: Jason Peters '88
Record: 17-1, Shelby League Champions
Roster: Seventh graders Mac Barcroft, Griffin Brown, Noah Davis, Myles Gill, Jack Haddad, Barton Johnson, Sims Miller, Brandon Nicholson, Bennett Owen, Grayson Pollan, Jackson Ransom, Van Thompson



Photos: Gerald Galilik Photography

Fencers run drills in the Kroeker-Petrosyan Fencing Center

FENCERS FINESSE THIRD-CONSECUTIVE STATE TITLE

The fencing team traveled to the state championship in Nashville April 6, claiming their seventh overall trophy and their third-consecutive state championship. Coaches **Skip Aymett '08**, **Mike Harber**, **Brad Kroeker**, and **Sergey Petrosyan** credit the team's success to the strength of character built every day in practice.

The team included seniors **Eddie Feild**, **Ethan Lam**, **Jory Meyers**, **Sidney Selvidge**, and **Ammon Wood**; juniors **Jonathan Huang** and **Daniel Lim**, sophomores **Omar Alyousef**, **Evan Boswell**, **Harmon Colvett**, **Mason Ezzell**, and **Akbar Latif**; freshmen **Mohammad Husein**, **Dex Jack**, **Samuel Lim**, and **Johnathan Ray**; eighth graders **Vince Boberski**, **Sam Phan**, and **Kyan Ramsay**; and seventh graders **Tyler Dang**, **Hayes Graham**, **Joel Lim**, and **Anthony Yakoub**.

The season included 10 regular-season competitions, beginning with an open-field event October 13 in which freshman Samuel Lim, in a stunning upset, took the Gold in foil over a top regional fencer from Georgia.

Junior Olympic trials took place in Nashville November 17, and nine fencers qualified for the national championships in Denver. The Junior Olympic Competition in February was a treat for Samuel Lim and Ray. They advanced to the second round with some of the team's best-yet performances in foil competition.

In the final season event March 2, Ray achieved the second of his four victories, taking the Gold in both epee and foil events, with sophomore Latif coming out on top in saber.

The top fencers during the season were Huang with seven Gold and two Bronze; Ray, four Gold, four Silver, one Bronze; and Samuel Lim, one Gold, six Silver, one Bronze. The remaining fencers collected a total of

Coaches Skip Aymett '08, Mike Harber, Brad Kroeker, and Sergey Petrosyan credit the team's success to the skills and strength of character that the team built every day in dedicated practice.

32 additional medals.

MUS joined 14 other schools in Nashville April 6 to compete for state championships, and the Owls swept the Overall Weapon Squad events to score 693 points. Franklin Academy was second with 169 points. Highlights of the individual events included Huang's Gold in saber and Bronze in foil; Samuel Lim's Silver in foil; Ray's Bronze in epee and foil; and Lam's Bronze in epee.

All-State honors were also awarded at the state championship.

Huang earned All-State Saber 1st Team; Selvidge was named to All-State Epee 1st Team, Latif earned 2nd Team, and Husein and Ray earned Honorable Mention; and Samuel Lim was named to Foil 1st Team, Ray earned 2nd Team, and Huang earned Honorable Mention.

MEDAL COUNT

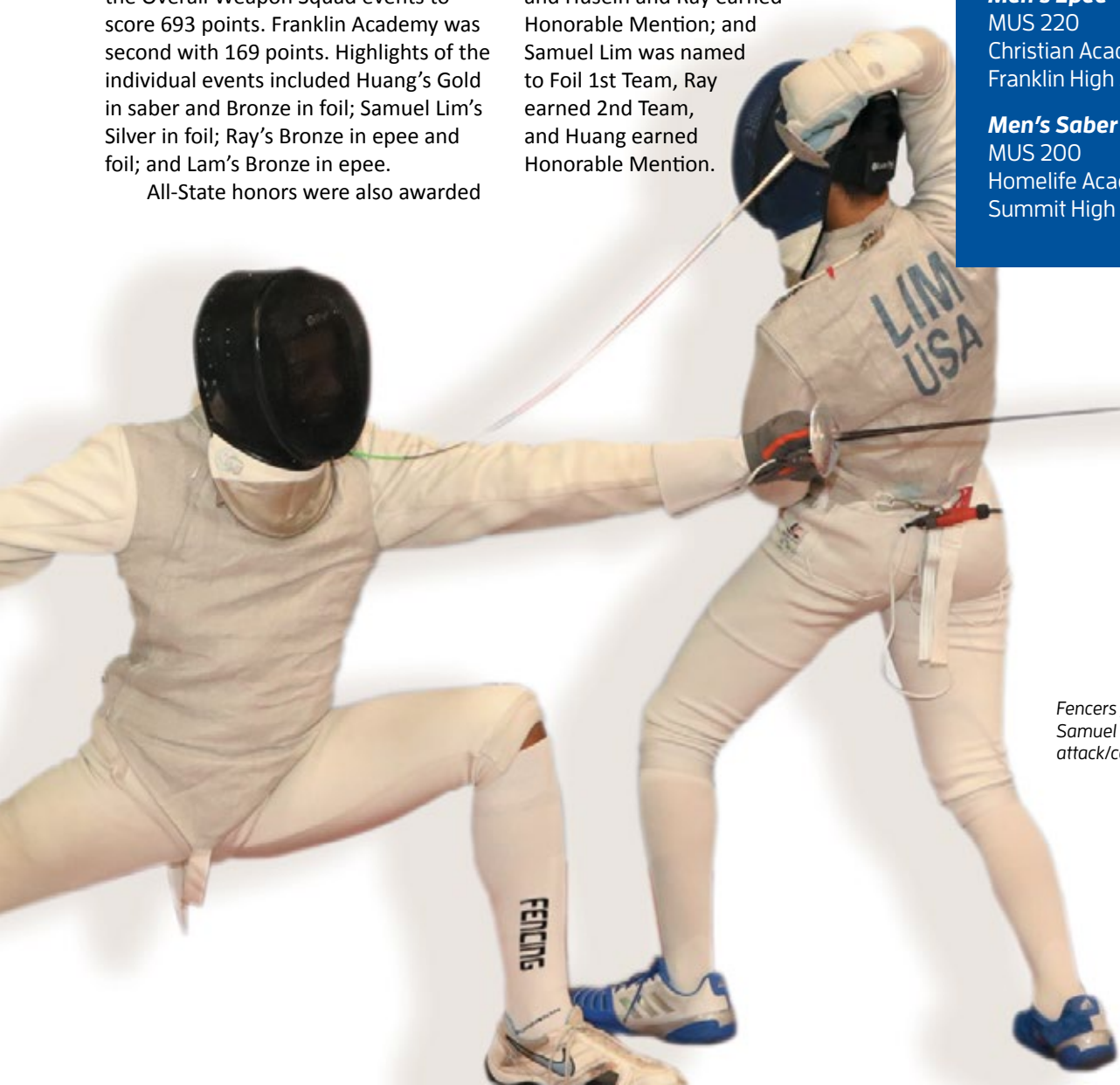
Jonathan Huang: 9
Johnathan Ray: 9
Samuel Lim: 8
Sidney Selvidge: 6
Akbar Latif: 5
Dex Jack: 5
Omar Ayousef: 4
Ethan Lam: 4
Mohammad Husein: 4
Jory Meyers: 2
Daniel Lim: 1
Evan Boswell: 1

State Competition Weapon Top 3

Men's Foil
MUS 273
Auburn High School 121
Franklin High School 79

Men's Epee
MUS 220
Christian Academy 100
Franklin High School 90

Men's Saber
MUS 200
Homelife Academy 156
Summit High School 89



Fencers Johnathan Ray and Samuel Lim demonstrate an attack/counterattack.

SCHOLAR-ATHLETES SIGN COLLEGE COMMITMENTS

February 6

Faculty, family, and friends celebrated the first National Letter of Intent signing day of the year with these seven seniors: seated, from left, **Matthew Rhodes** will play football for The University of Memphis, **Dorian Hopkins** will play football for The University of Tulsa, **Maurice Hampton** will play baseball and football for Louisiana State University, **Walker Crosby** will golf for Furman University; standing, **Ev Nichol** will swim for Williams College, **Bailey Keel** will play football for Washington and Lee University, and **JoJo Fogarty** will play lacrosse for Sewanee: The University of the South.

April 17

Family and friends gathered to celebrate these college decision makers April 17: from left, **Billy Weiss** will join the lacrosse team for Loyola University Maryland, **Sellers Shy** will play football for University of Mississippi, **Jalen Hollimon** will play football for Millikin University, and **Warren Turner** will swim for United States Naval Academy.

May 2

During the final event of the year May 2, **Anders Croone** signed to play lacrosse for University of Denver.

Photo: Gerald Gallik Photography

HOMECOMING 2019

The Basketball Homecoming Court and escorts, from left, Lindsey Fields, William Pollard, Hannah Hussey, Lee Linkous, Paige Patteson, Alden Southerland, Homecoming Queen Madison Grinder, Emerson Manley, Ellie Weeks, Scott Burnett, Annie Leatherman, and Sam Nelson

Welcome Grandparents!

Neither snow, nor rain, nor heat, nor gloom of night stays our grandparents from spending time with their grandkids.

The weather was gloomy in late February, but Grandparents Day was cheerful as ever. We had a splendid turnout as grandparents enjoyed brunch and coffee, heard from our leadership and orchestra, then toured the Lower School with their personal guides.

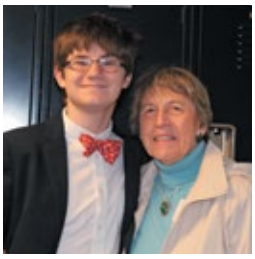
Dr. Mike McSwain, Davidson Alexander '24, and Mrs. Jean McSwain

Ms. Tri Dang and Tyler Dang '24

Mr. Wesley Bell, Mrs. Edna Bell, and Will Hess '24

Mrs. Sally Treadwell and Charlie Treadwell '24

Clarence Chapman '23 and Mr. Clarence Chapman, Sr.



Jax Newman '24 and Mrs. Ann Gilmore

William Eubank '24 and Mrs. Diane Deters

Mrs. Ruth Ferguson and Matt Walker '23

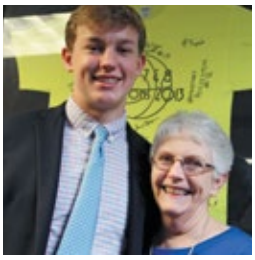
Phoenix Hernandez '23 and Ms. Jacqueline McNeal

Demar Wells '23, Mrs. Joyce Douglas, and Mr. Elijah Douglas

Mr. Christopher Knighton, Jack Knighton '23, and Mrs. Shirley Knighton

Mrs. Pam Anderson, Mac Anderson '24, and Mr. David Anderson

Ms. Barbara Cole and Jacob Cole '23



Will McDaniel '23 and Mrs. Phyllis McDaniel

Clyde Patton '23, Mr. Clyde Patton '58, and Mrs. Leslie Patton

Hayes Graham '24 and Mrs. Dell Skelton

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Inside

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LeeAnn Christopherson
Creative Director

OATH OF HONOR

We, the students and faculty at Memphis University School, hereby pledge our full support to the Honor System. I pledge to be honest myself, and in order that the spirit and integrity of the Honor System may endure, I pledge that I will make known to the Honor Council any case of dishonesty which I may observe at MUS.

UPCOMING EVENTS

JUNE

14 ACT Registration Deadline for July 13 Test

24 ACT Late Registration Deadline for July 13 Test

Pitner Driving School Begins

JULY

4-5 School Holiday: Independence Day

8 Session 2 Summer Programs Begin

13 ACT

AUGUST

7-12 Book Sale by Grade Level (See Website Calendar)

14 Opening Convocation

(Half Day for Returning Students)

15 First Day of Regular Classes

Send news and comments to rebecca.greer@musowls.org or call (901) 260-1348.

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SUMMER

Register online at **musowls.org/summer**

Photo: Gerald Gallik Photography

On the Cover

Fencers practice in the Kroeker-Petrosyan Fencing Center. The squad earned their third-consecutive and seventh overall state title in April.

In foreground are freshman Samuel Lim; background, left to right, seventh grader Hayes Graham and sophomores Omar Alyousef and Evan Boswell.

See more on page 34.

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Visit musowls.org and
get connected to the community.