



INSIDE MUS

Volume 10, Number 2, Winter 2007-08



Narcissistic (and ponytailed) Gaston (Peter Travis) leads the cast in an ode to his manliness.

Huge Production Debuts with Flawless Beauty

After his first experience directing the show last summer at Collierville's Harrell Theater, new MUS faculty member **Mr. Tim Greer** was ready to pull out all the stops for the MUST C Production of Disney's *Beauty and the Beast*. The final weekend of October saw dozens of MUS students and guest performers from neighboring schools bring to life the beloved tale of Belle and the Beast, whose love transforms him into a handsome prince.

"We had all the right people in place for this show," Mr. Greer observes. "From **Mr. Andy Saunders** and **Mr. Flip Eikner '77** on the design team to **Mr. John Hiltonsmith** as musical director to our various student performers, this was the right time for us to undertake *Beauty and the Beast*. We also had excellent support from everyone in the front office: Mr. Hiltonsmith, **Mr. Barry Ray**, **Coach John Cady '69**, **Mrs. Angela Counce**. It took a great deal of support to pull off a production this large and intricate."

Disney's *Beauty and the Beast* opened on Broadway in 1994 and has been referred to as "the play that saved New



Hunter Edens and Amanda Castroverde dazzled the crowd as Beast and Belle in MUST C Productions' presentation of Disney's *Beauty and the Beast*.

York." It generated a huge tourism boost to the then-struggling Times Square district, bringing families back to the area and helping pave the way for Mayor Rudy Giuliani's reforms. Since then the play has toured nationally and been performed by various opera companies and professional regional theaters, but it remains a daunting task for high schools.

"The special costuming and make-up alone make this a challenging play; when you add the special effects and the singing, dancing, and acting requirements involved, it can look like something of an Everest. Fortunately, we had seniors **Hunter Edens** (Beast), **Peter Travis** (Gaston), **Alexander Fones** (Lumiere), and **William McGehee** (Cogsworth) to assay the major roles. We were helped by some terrific performers from surrounding schools as well," Mr. Greer says.

Also in the cast were St. Mary's Episcopal School students Amanda Castroverde (Belle) and Lane Feler (dance captain and chorus), White Station High School student Amanda Tittle (Babette), and Hutchison School student Corinne Mestemacher (Mrs. Potts).

continued on page 3

STRAIGHT FROM THE TOP

I recently received an invitation from the Class of 1982 to join them for dinner on Saturday of Homecoming weekend.

Included with the invitation was a DVD of several productions created in the CCTV studio of the early 1980s. This was the closed-circuit television studio that recorded programs, produced regular TV programs, and sent out recorded shows to classrooms all over the school property. Watching the DVD brought back wonderful memories of my early years as a teacher at MUS.

There were a couple of recorded programs that had the leaders of the school in those years talking about the nature and character of MUS and how students could be successful at a school like MUS. It was a walk down memory lane to hear Colonel Ross Lynn, Gene Thorn, Leigh MacQueen, Jake Rudolph, Jerry Omundson, and Bob Boelte discuss the importance of the academic program, character development, the Honor System, extra-curricular programs, and the strong relationship between students and the faculty. As a young teacher, these men *were* MUS. Included in these programs were current faculty members **Ellis Haguewood, Tom Brown, Bill Taylor, Norman Thompson, and Andy Saunders**. While the physical changes are evident in this group when looking at the DVD, their voices and their sentiments about the school remain the same.

It was fascinating to realize that, while much has changed at 6191 Park Avenue since the early 1980s, so much of what makes MUS a unique and wonderful school is still here. Physical changes, including the updating or rebuilding



of most buildings, have made MUS a more comfortable and modern place to teach and learn. There have been faculty changes through the years, but many teachers from the early 1980s are still here making the same important impact on our boys. MUS is still in the business of providing the strongest college preparation possible for boys in the area. We still believe that character develop-

ment matters, and that the Honor System is a major way to help boys become men of strong moral character. The avenues of learning outside of the classroom remain important to our students' overall educational experience. Our faculty members remain open and ready to help students when needed, and their mentorship still makes a dramatic impact on the lives of our boys.

On the DVD, the question was posed to a variety of the faculty members, "What advice would you give to a student on how to get the most out of his MUS experience?" From Colonel Lynn to a young Mr. Taylor, the advice was, "Get involved." That was good advice in the early 1980s, and it still is. MUS affords students a wealth of educational opportunities, and it is still true that a student will "get out what he puts in."

It has been wonderful to see the changes that have come to MUS and yet to know that some things – the important things – will never change. The core values of academic preparation and the development of strong character are the cornerstones of our existence. While buildings and personnel change, these core values will not. MUS will have experienced many more changes 20 or 30 years from now, but the things we all agree are important will still remain.



Sam Shankman rode around the stage in style as Chip the teapot.

Disney's *Beauty and the Beast* was a resounding success with its audience, receiving standing ovations at every performance and finishing its run as one of the best-attended MUS plays in recent years. Other MUS students in the cast were: senior

Adam Gordon (Maurice), junior **Robert Duffley** (LeFou), sophomore **Austin Whittaker** (M. D'Arque), seventh-grader **Sam Shankman** (Chip), seniors **Matt Haltom** and **Jack Montgomery**, junior **Brandon Parrish**, and sophomores **Evan Baker** and **Ted Fockler**. The running crew included seniors **Austin Beckford**,

Mazen Istanbouli, and **Samir Sheth**, junior **Mathew Jehl**, and Hutchison student Kelsey Currie. Sound design was done by sophomore **Ryan Turner** and the lighting design by senior **Roger Chu**.

Up next on our stage: *Something in the Air*, a comedy directed by Peter Travis, opening February 7, 2008, followed by the recent Tony-award winning drama, *Journey's End*, directed by Andy Saunders, opening April 10, 2008.

Many thanks to Arthur Thompson, grandfather of Jack '08 and Emmett Montgomery '10, for providing photos of the production.



What production is complete without a dancing oven mitt (played by Jack Montgomery)?

OWL NEWS

Montgomery Aces SAT

Senior **Jack Montgomery** received a perfect score of 2,400 on the October administration of the SAT-I. To put this feat into perspective, during the 2006-07 school year, of the nearly 2.6 million SAT exams taken, only 335 came back with a perfect 2,400.



Montgomery's academic prowess has earned him places in Cum Laude, the National Honor Society, Mu Alpha Theta, and the History and Latin Honor Societies. He is a National Merit Semi-Finalist and an AP Scholar with Honor. In addition to his academic accomplishments, Montgomery is very involved in all areas of school life. He is captain of the varsity swim team, president of the Government and Latin Clubs, and a Student Ambassador.

MATH TEAM BRINGS HOME WINS

On October 22, ten MUS students traveled to Knoxville to compete in the University of Tennessee/Pro2Serve Math Contest. In the individual portion of the competition, three students advanced to the final round: **Scott Edwards**, **Nelson Graham**, and **Andrew Chinn**. Two three-man teams also competed in the math bowl portion of the contest. The team consisting of Scott Edwards, Graham, and **Rahul Kumar** brought home the first place trophy in the small school division and placed third overall.

Participants in the UT/Pro2Serve Math Contest included seniors **Michael Cross**, **Asad Dilawari**, Edwards, **John Fenton**, and Graham; juniors Kumar, **Tho Nguyen**, and **Robert Vestal**; and sophomores Chinn and **Josh Feler**.

Two days later, the team traveled to Oxford for the University of Mississippi's math contest. Scott Edwards placed third in the individual competition, and the team of Scott Edwards, Kumar, **Ross Montague**, and **Joshua Vieira** placed first in the team competition.

Participants in the Ole Miss math contest included seniors Scott Edwards, Graham, **Connell Hall**, Montague, and Vieira; juniors **Michael Edwards** and Kumar; and sophomore Feler.

CORRECTIONS

In the article about the BRIDGES Kickoff Classic in the last issue of *Inside MUS*, **Harrison Martin** was incorrectly identified as **Michael Delugach** in a picture caption. **Andrew Wilensky** was left off of the "not pictured" list of Lower School Student Council representatives. We apologize for the errors.

MUS Has 65 AP Scholars

At the end of the 2006-07 school year, 140 MUS students took 267 Advanced Placement (AP) Exams in 18 different subjects. These exams are the culmination of vigorous AP classes in a variety of subjects, and doing well on these tests can often translate to college credit before a student even leaves high school. **For the third year in a row, all students (11 in 2007, 17 in 2006, and 16 in 2005) who took the BC Calculus exam scored a 5, the highest score possible.**

In addition, 65 students were named AP Scholars by the College Board in recognition of their exceptional achievement on the 2007 Advanced Placement Examinations. Congratulations are in order for the dedicated and caring instructors and the highly motivated and hard-working students who continue this tradition of academic excellence. The award designations are as follows:

Three students qualified for the **AP National Scholar Award** by earning an average grade of at least 4 on all AP exams taken and grades of 4 or higher on eight or more of these exams.

Stewart Gray '07
Jeffrey Webb '07
Jonathan Yeung '07

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

Roger Chu '08
Stephen Counce '07
Hunter Edens '08
Scott Edwards '08
Ashton Fisher '07
Ben Goldstein '07
Stewart Gray '07
Rob Hartmann '08
Philip Heppel '07
Andrew Jehl '07
Noah Ketler '07
Neely Mallory '07
Chris McDonald '07
David Morelli '07
Ragan Pitner '07
Erim Sarinoglu '07

Samir Sheth '08
Hobbie Turley '07
Byron Tyler '07
Dev Varma '07
Jeffrey Webb '07
Jonathan Yeung '07

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

West Askew '07
Austin Beckford '08
Conor Bolich '08
Michael Cross '08
David Curran '08
Ryan Foley '07
Alexander Fones '08
Teddy Klug '08
Drew Hammond '07
Joshua Henke '07
Robert Hoehn '08
Mazen Istanbouli '08
William Lang '07
Will Mays '08
William McGehee '08
Jack Montgomery '08
Ed Porter '07
John Stokes '07
Steven Thompson '07
Ben Waller '07

Twenty-three students qualified for the **AP Scholar Award** by earning grades of three or higher on three or more AP Exams.

Richard Blount '07
Alex Carter '07
John Catmur '07
Elliott Cole '07
Asad Dilawari '08
Jay Edwards '07
Kent Francis '08
Louis Ghawji '07
Matt Haltom '08
William Harris '07
Neale Hicks '07
Nathaniel Kastan '08
Stephen Maroda '08
Mark McLeod '08
Naveed Mirza '07
Ross Montague '08
Ben Pelz '08
Will Pryor '08
Jay Snyder '08
Michael Stein '08
Kristof Tigyi '07
Peter Travis '08
Joshua Vieira '08

MUS GOES GREEN

Sophomores **James Arnold** and **Wade Laycook** were dismayed by the reams of paper that clogged the garbage cans in the computer labs and hallways around campus. They translated their frustration with the excessive waste into action by forming the Green Owls Club, an environmental awareness club determined to make the corner of Park and Ridgeway a little bit greener.

"We want to instill environmental awareness in the student body," says Laycook. Adds Arnold, "Or a guilty conscience, if that's what it takes."

They wasted little time in setting their plan into action. With the help of club sponsor **Dr. Michael Schwartz** and Director of Business Operations

Rankin Fowlkes, the students ordered 50 blue recycling bins

to be placed around campus for clean paper products including notebook paper, copy/print paper, newspapers, magazines, note cards, envelopes, and cardboard.

"Because no one is chopping down trees outside of our windows to make paper, we don't always realize how our waste is affecting the environment," Arnold says.

Every Friday, members of **Coach Loyal Murphy's '86** Campus Beautification Team will collect the blue bins around campus and deposit the contents in a special receptacle behind the Campus Center. Once students and faculty members get used to recycling their paper goods, the Green Owls plan to expand the recycling program to include plastic and aluminum cans.



Wade Laycook and James Arnold are determined to make MUS more environmentally aware through the Green Owl Club and its recycling initiative.



MUS Leadership is Evident at Model UN

by Robert Duffley '09

MUS's tradition of excellence often transcends the bounds of academia. This year's YMCA Model United Nations conference, held November 2-4 in Cool Springs, Tennessee, was no exception. The group of 85 MUS delegates piled onto three buses with students from Hutchison School and St. Mary's Episcopal School to begin a trip that is an annual highlight for many.

Designed to reflect the real United Nations as accurately as possible, the conference is partitioned into four components: General Assembly (GA), Security Council, International Court of Justice (ICJ), and Press Corps. Leadership roles in each section were filled by MUS students.

A majority of the 640 youth delegates took part in the General Assembly, in which they role-played one of the 191 UN member states in debating and voting on resolutions (proposed solutions to international problems). The strong MUS contingent represented 24 countries. Working in groups of three or four, MUS delegates had previously researched countries from Algeria to Zambia and prepared resolutions to debate. This year's conference saw senior **Alexander Fones** and junior **Harrison Rea** serving as elected vice presidents of the GA component, while junior **Colin McDonald** served as the GA liaison.

Somewhat similar in structure to the GA is the Security Council, headed this year by senior **Jack Montgomery** and facilitated by junior **Mathew Jehl**, Security Council liaison. In this component, a small group of 15 delegates representing Security Council member states debated special resolutions concerning conflicts and grievances. Seniors **Roger Chu** (Russian Federation) and **Samir Sheth** (Ghana) deliberated as members of the Security Council. Chu won the award for Outstanding Security Council delegate, and Sheth was recognized for the best Security Council resolution.

MUS's leadership also extended to the International Court of Justice, where delegates acting as international lawyers argued multinational disputes under the gaze of justices **Hunter Edens**, **William McGehee**, **Tho Nguyen**, and ICJ President **Mazen Istanbouli**. In the fourth component, the Press Corps, MUS juniors **Robert Duffley** and **Brandon Parrish** tested the waters of international journalism.

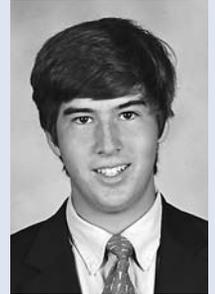
At the final awards ceremony, junior **Mustafa Motiwala** and freshman **Clint Montgomery** were recognized as outstanding delegates, and the delegation of the Democratic Republic of the Congo (**Jake Henke**, **Rahul Kumar**, and **Amro Amro**) received an award for an outstanding job in its ICJ case. For their sartorial savvy, the delegations of Liberia (**Asad Dilawari**, **John Fenton**, and **Peter Travis**) and Libya (**Sam Goldstein**, **Mark McLeod**, and **Michael Stein**) were recognized with Best Costume awards.

MUS's presence at next year's conference will be just as strong. Eight MUS students have been chosen by their peers to be officers at the 2008 conference. McDonald will serve as the General Assembly president and will be joined by **Cliff Guyton** and Rea as vice presidents, **Robert Threlkeld** as liaison, and **Evan Kline** as chaplain. Jehl and **Josh Feler** were elected Security Council president and liaison, respectively. **Duffley** will lead the Print Press Corps. No other school at the conference achieved so many prominent positions.

An additional MUS presence was provided by Peter Zanca '06, currently a sophomore at Rhodes College, who gave up his weekend to serve as college staff.

Scott Edwards Named Academic All-Star

The Commercial Appeal recognized senior **Scott Edwards** as an Academic All-Star in October in the mathematics category. The newspaper's Academic All-Star program honors area high school students who demonstrate not only academic excellence but also a commitment to community service and involvement in school life.



Edwards, a senior, is a talented math student who is at his best in competition. He scored a 35 on the ACT and holds a 4.91 weighted grade point average. During the last three years, Edwards finished first in the state in the Pre-calculus Division of the Tennessee Math Teachers Association (TMTA) Contest, scoring a perfect 200, and finished fifth in West Tennessee in the Advanced Topics Division of the TMTA Contest. He was on the Math Bowl Team that recently won first place in the small school division of UT Knoxville's Pro2Serve Mathematics Contest for the second year in a row. Nancy Gates, chair of the Math Department, praises his "lightning-quick mind" and "intuition and creativity" in problem solving.

He is president of Mu Alpha Theta, the math honor society. Edwards also is a member of the National Honor Society, the Cum Laude Society, the History Honor Society, and the Spanish Honor Society. He received the Yale Book Award his junior year and was recently named a National Merit Semifinalist. His work with the yearbook as a section editor and staff member earned him a spot in Quill and Scroll, an international honorary society for high school journalists.

Edwards has been a member of the cross country, track, and football teams. He is a member of Heartbeat, a group of high school students who educate Lower School students about making good choices. Edwards has been involved in community service both at home and abroad. He has participated in mission trips to Nicaragua, where he did construction work, and Africa, where he taught at a school. And he volunteers at Service over Self, a Memphis organization dedicated to revitalizing homes and neighborhoods in the city.

Cross Country Commits to Compete



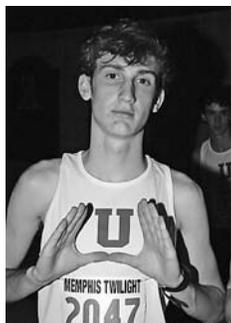
With one of the youngest teams in recent history, the 2007 varsity cross country team laid the foundation for upcoming seasons as they improved throughout this one.

The team was led by two seniors, **Alan Blount** and **Josh Vieira**. Both had been with the program for at least three years and represented MUS well at practice and at meets. Their work ethic and attitude were outstanding, as they improved and showed the underclassman how to prepare and conduct themselves.

The talented underclassmen followed the leadership of the two veterans and began developing their own leadership skills. This group included juniors **Matt Grisham**, **Thomas Ivy**, and **John Riggins**; sophomores **Bobby Bell**, **Alexander Kaltenborn**, **Matthew Murphy**, and **Reid Sanders**; and freshman **Shea Gabrielleschi**. These student-athletes performed well at practice and at the meets.



Alexander Kaltenborn shows his teammates Josh Vieira, Shea Gabrielleschi, Alan Blount, Matt Grisham, Thomas Ivy, and Matthew Murphy the importance of good hydration following a race.



Alan Blount shows off his team pride.

The Owls opened their race schedule in mid-September with a league meet at Shelby Farms. Participating against some of the deepest competition in the league, MUS ran near the front, finishing third.

In addition to one other league meet later in the season, the Owls participated in several large invitational races. MUS finished sixth in the Frank Horton Invitational in late September, with Vieira taking fifth in a very deep

field. In October the Owls competed in the Twilight Invitational at the Mike Rose Soccer Complex, claiming sixteenth out of 34 teams. Grisham was the Owls' best finisher in this race, taking the fifty-second position out of 280 runners. Then the team

participated in the Shelby County Championships at Shelby Farms, finishing fifth out of 19 schools. Grisham once again was the Owls' best finisher.

After these meets MUS was set for the postseason Region Championships, held October 25 at Shelby Farms. With TSSAA realignment, the Owls had to finish in the top three to qualify for the state meet. MUS ran very well and finished

tied for third as a team; unfortunately, they lost in a tiebreaker to ECS and, therefore, did not qualify as a team.

But for two Owl runners – Grisham and Vieira – the 2007 season did not end there. They qualified individually for state by finishing in the top ten at the regionals. On November 2, **Coach Joe Tyler** accompanied them to Nashville and the Division II AA State Meet, held at Percy Warner State Park.

Both runners did very well. Grisham ran a personal best 17:10.10 to medal and claim eighth overall, and Vieira ran 17:31.98 on the three-mile course to take seventeenth overall. These two Owls represented the program well with their performances.

Though the team did not participate at state, Coach Tyler remains upbeat and looks forward to the future. "From the middle of August through the state meet, our kids did a good job of running for their teammates and committing to each other. If the returning runners continue to do that in the off-season and into the summer, we have a chance to be competitive again."

With their second-place finish at the 2007 Division II AA State Golf Tournament, the MUS varsity golf team continued as one of the school's most successful, consistent programs, compiling a 37-3 record and claiming the region title, the program's twelfth overall region championship.

The team was led by two seniors who had the experience and talent to set the right example for the underclassmen. **Paul Billings** and **Jay Snyder** played well throughout the season, and both represented the Owls admirably at the state tournament.

But with only two seniors, the underclassmen had to continue to mature and play well, and they accomplished both tasks. Juniors **Mark Beanblossom**, **Jordan Brown**, and **Drew Frisby**; sophomores **Holman Moores** and **Wilson Orr**; and freshman **Jerry B. Martin** battled not only other teams but also each other in terms of overall stroke average as **Coach Greg King** had one of the school's deepest squads ever. Two eighth graders also contributed to this team; **Max Barousse** and **Daniel McLeod** showed their potential and talent in several varsity matches.

The Owls faced the best competition the area had to offer in the regular season, defeating public schools such as Arlington, Collierville, and White Station and independent school rivals Christian Brothers, ECS, Harding, SBEC, and St. George's. MUS lost only to Briarcrest and Houston in regular-season dual matches, though they defeated both in other tournaments.

The Owls also participated in several invitational tournaments. Perhaps their best showing was at the Spartan Invitational, held at T.O. Fuller State Park. MUS easily won the 11-team tournament by 19 strokes over second-place Houston. As a team the Owls tied a tournament record, shooting 283 (-5). Frisby set the individual tournament record with a 64 (-8), besting the old mark by three strokes.

With their outstanding regular season, the MUS team was primed for the postseason. Their first goal was to qualify for the state tournament at the region tournament, held at the Orgill Park Golf Course in Millington. The Owls won the region title with a 299 (+19), finishing two shots ahead of CBHS. Individually, Orr won a playoff to claim second, and Frisby finished third.

With their win at the region, the team qualified for the state tournament, which was held two weeks later in early October in Murfreesboro. The Owls knew they would have to play their very best and hoped that Baylor, the perennial favorite, would not play as well.

Although MUS played admirably, claiming second after the first day, Baylor dominated and held a large lead headed into the final day. On the second day, the Owls continued to play well as they took the runner-up spot, seven shots ahead of third-place MBA. MUS had three student-athletes finish in the top ten individually. Orr was +2 for the tournament, good enough for seventh overall. Frisby was one shot behind Orr to take eighth, and Billings shot +1 on the final day to move into ninth.

With their second-place finish, the Owls continue their streak of finishing in the top three at state. And with such a young group for Coach King, this program will continue to do well and contend on the state level.

Varsity Golf Places Second at State



Senior Jay Snyder helped lead a young Owls golf team to a second-place finish in the state golf tournament.



Seniors Sign with Colleges

Senior **Blair Wright** committed to play baseball for the University of Mississippi. The senior right-handed pitcher is the third Diamond Owl in three years to become a Rebel. Wright, a 5'11", 195-pound pitcher, was a Tennessee Sports Writers Association All-State selection in 2007 with an overall record of 7-3 in 72.33 innings pitched including 88 strikeouts and 1.75 ERA.

Wright's performance received not only state but also local recognition with his selection to the D2 West Tennessee Regional All-Conference Team, D2 West Tennessee Regional All Tournament Team, Tennessee Baseball Coaches Association All-Region Team, and *The Commercial Appeal* All-Metro Team in the private school division.

Wright also played for the Tennessee Baseball Coaches Association's Team Tennessee at the Junior Sunbelt Series in McAlester, Oklahoma, and for Dulins Dodgers, the 2007 B.E.S.T World Champions.

Following his commitment, Blair voiced his enthusiasm. "I've always wanted to play college baseball," he said. "The opportunity to play at the school that I have grown up rooting for and that has a chance to go to the College World Series year in and year out is awesome."

Coach Marc MacMillan '92 understands what a special place Ole Miss is to Wright and his family. Blair's father, Jeff Wright, graduated from Ole Miss in 1978, and supporting the Rebels has been a family affair. "I am very excited for Blair and his family," Coach MacMillan says. "For Blair to be able



Blair Wright will play baseball for Ole Miss, where Coach Marc MacMillan spent his college career.

2007-08 Varsity Basketball Schedule

12/22	Young Life Shootout at Ridgeway	11:00 a.m.
12/27-29	Carbondale Tournament (IL)	
1/4	MUS at Arlington	7:30 p.m.
1/5	Harding at MUS	7:30 p.m.
1/8	St. Benedict at MUS	7:30 p.m.
1/11	MUS at ECS	7:30 p.m.
1/15	MUS at Briarcrest	7:30 p.m.
1/18	CBHS at MUS	7:30 p.m.
1/23	St. George's at MUS	7:30 p.m.
1/25	MUS at St. Benedict	7:30 p.m.
1/29	ECS at MUS	7:30 p.m.
2/1	Briarcrest at MUS	7:30 p.m.
2/5	MUS at CBHS	7:30 p.m.
2/8	MUS at Cordova	7:30 p.m.
2/11-19	Regional Tournament at ECS	
2/23	Sub-State at TBA	
2/28-3/1	State Tournament at Lipscomb University	

to play on the collegiate level at the school that means so much to him and his family is pretty extraordinary. He has worked hard for this and looks forward to being a Rebel. Ole Miss will provide Blair the opportunity to compete for championships on a yearly basis as well as to continue his excellence in the classroom, so I think it is a perfect fit."

Watson George will be continuing his tennis career as a Furman University Purple Paladin upon graduating from MUS. George, who was a finalist for *The Commercial Appeal* Best of the Preps Tennis Player of the Year following the 2007 season, teamed up with junior **Will Carter** to capture the state doubles title last year.

"I've always wanted to play college tennis and felt that Furman was a good fit for me," George says. "I like the combination of strong academics and a successful tennis program. The coaches are easy-going guys, but at the same time they get the most out of their players. I've gotten to know some guys on the team really well and am excited about joining them next fall."

George's coach is also optimistic about his collegiate tennis career. "I am excited for the opportunity that Watson has," says **Mr. Bill Taylor**, varsity tennis coach. "He is a talented and hardworking athlete, and he will be playing under a great coach at Furman. On top of all this, he will be able to team up again with another great MUS player, Bo Ladyman '05. They should have a solid team at Furman next year, but Watson will be hard to replace on the MUS team."

George is a member of Cum Laude, Mu Alpha Theta, and the history and Spanish honor societies. He is a National Merit Commended Student and was awarded the Dartmouth Book Award during his junior year. In addition to his involvement at MUS, George has also served as a Regions Morgan Keegan Tennis Tournament ballboy throughout his high school career and has taught tennis in inner city youth.



Watson George, here with Coach Bill Taylor, will suit up for the Purple Paladins of Furman next season.

LOWER SCHOOL CROSS COUNTRY TEAM POSTS SILVER MEDAL FINISH

With their second-place finish in the Shelby League Meet, the Lower School cross country team completed a successful 2007 season, competing in four league meets before the postseason.

Led by **Coach Matt Bakke**, the team was made up of a large group of Lower School students. Eighth graders included **Jordan Andershock, David Brandon, Robert Brennan, Nathan Franklin, Charlie Freeburg, Scott Freeburg, Healy Fuess, Eli Goldstein, Michael Green, Morgan Hunt, Drew Hutson, David Lee, Lee Marshall, John Oates, George Ormseth, Lane Sally, Ross Warner, and Tate Yawn**. Seventh graders included **Grayson Andrews, Jared Carson, Colin Donoghue, Buckner**

Hasenmueller, Will Jones, William Mann, Tripp Mattis, Stone McSpadden, Andrew Raves, Austin Riggins, and Chip Womack.

The Owls started early in September, practicing and racing at Shelby Farms. With dedication from both Coach Bakke and the student-athletes, the team rounded into form, as most of the young men improved their two-mile times as the season progressed.

Then in the Shelby League Meet, the Owls were primed to compete for a championship. Though they fell just short, finishing with 67 points (17 points behind ECS), MUS runners performed well.

Warner was the Owls' best finisher, claiming eighth overall. Other MUS finishers included Fuess (10th), Oates (15th), Ormseth (18th), and Yawn (19th).

In the B-race which followed, MUS dominated, claiming the top six spots. Goldstein was the winner, followed by Sally, Carson, Donoghue, Brennan, and Brandon.

Coach Bakke was very pleased with these young men throughout the season as they worked hard and represented the school well.



Stone McSpadden and the rest of the Lower School cross country team ran to a second-place finish in the Shelby League Championships.



CHAMPIONSHIP SEASON FOR LOWER SCHOOL GOLF

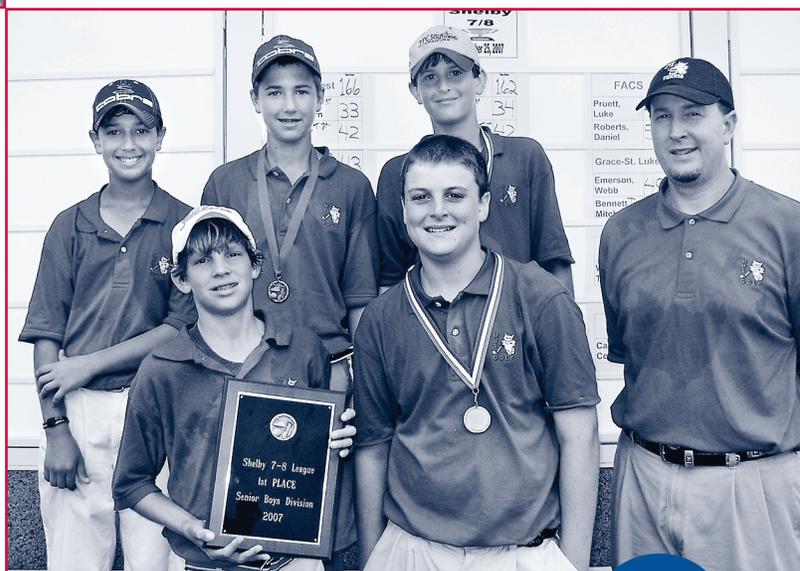
Led by **Coach Trey Suddarth**, the Lower School golf team completed a championship season. They defeated seven other schools in the postseason tournament, including Briarcrest and St. George's, the two schools that had defeated the Owls in the regular season.

The team was made up of eighth graders **James Duke, Thomas Farnsworth, Jake Greenstein, Lee Marshall, Ryan Reisner, and Andrew Wilensky**; and seventh graders **Alan Craig, Zachary Olsen, Trey O'Neal, Van Putman, Fort Robinson, Jake Rudesill, and Frederick Scharff**.

During the regular season, MUS posted a 6-2 record, defeating Lausanne, FACS, White Station Middle School, Woodland, Tipton-Rosemark, and ECS. Their only two setbacks came from St. George's and Briarcrest, both in close team matches.

But the Owls shined at the Shelby League Tournament held at Windyke Country Club. They won by four strokes over Briarcrest and eight strokes over third-place St. George's as they avenged those regular-season losses.

Members of the Lower School golf team including (front row, l-r) Thomas Farnsworth, James Duke, (back row, l-r) Van Putman, Zach Olsen, Jake Rudesill, and Coach Trey Suddarth captured the Shelby League Championship.





Lower School Civic Service Has Successful Fall

by Alex Crump '12,
Lower School Civic Service President



In the Lower School this semester, we participated in two major Civic Service events. They were a can drive for the Food Bank and a money drive for Books from Birth. The

Food Bank is an organization that gives canned foods and hygiene products to underprivileged citizens in the Mid-South. In the joint project with the Upper School, Lower School students and faculty contributed significantly to the 5,000-can total.

Along with giving to the Food Bank, we also contributed money to Books from Birth, which is a non-profit organization that supplies books for children every month until they turn five years old. The Lower School contributed \$2,100. **Coach Mark Chubb's** homeroom alone contributed over \$500. Eighth-grader **Crews Wellford**, a student in Coach Chubb's homeroom, says, "We tried to help our community in the best way possible. Everyone in our homeroom contributed, and one student gave \$200 alone."

We plan to have many more Lower School Civic Service events in the future, and we hope to be as successful as we were in the first two.



Joel Saslawsky, Stuart McClure, Stephen Maroda, Mark Vives, Nathaniel Kastan, Ben Pelz, and Barret Folk served as tours guides at Open House.

On October 28, the faculty welcomed 140 students and their families to the annual Admissions Open House. This group included 40 students from public schools and 100 students from independent schools. The largest number of participants are currently enrolled at Presbyterian Day School, Woodland Presbyterian School, Lausanne Collegiate School,

Bornblum Solomon Schechter School, Grace-St. Luke's Episcopal School, and St. George's Independent School. Sixth graders comprised 60 percent of our student visitors, eighth graders comprised 19 percent, and the remaining 21 percent was composed of students from various grades. Forty-six regional schools (28 public and 18 independent or parochial) were represented at Open House.

Components of the program included a tour of the campus led by junior and senior Student Ambassadors and ninth-grade hosts, presentations regarding need-based financial aid and the admissions process, and an opportunity to interact with faculty representing all the academic departments. One hundred and fifteen parent, alumni, student, and faculty volunteers assisted with making guests feel welcome and informed.

Hopefully, Open House will be one of many contacts that families will have with MUS as they search for the right school community. The program provided a relaxed opportunity for visitors to experience the campus, culture, and people that make our school so unique.

Open House Opens Doors to Visitors

by Mr. Danny Kahalley, Director of Admissions



FACING HISTORY IN THE LOWER SCHOOL

by Mr. Eddie Batey

Facing History and Ourselves (FHAO) is a program that engages students and invites them to grapple with issues intrinsic to being human – identity, choice, inquiry, moral dilemmas, and ethics.

According to the FHAO curriculum, “By studying the historical development and lessons of the Holocaust and other examples of genocide, students make the essential connection between history and the choices they confront in their own lives.”

This year our eighth-grade boys are again meeting with Hutchison middle school girls to consider complex issues against the historical backdrop of the Holocaust, the Civil Rights Movement, and more recent examples of injustice in the world. The first of four reciprocating sessions was held at MUS in the Hull Lower School on September 21. Students were overflowing the opening session in the Dunavant Lecture Hall, as FHAO staff members introduced the students to the morning’s activities. Immediately thereafter, the 215 students broke out into ten smaller groups and moved to individual classrooms. In the smaller groups, the students created identity charts and considered how people formulate their self-concepts. Next, students divided into even smaller groups and dramatized portions of “The Bear That Wasn’t,” a modern



Hutchison and MUS students learn about respect and tolerance in the Facing History program.

fable involving themes of identity and conformity.

New to the program this year is the facilitation of small groups by our seniors in the Wilson Society. The Wilson Society is a group of seniors who demonstrate leadership and service by participating in a number of projects throughout the year. Working in pairs as co-facilitators, ten of the Wilson Society members led groups traditionally headed by MUS faculty. Trained by **Mr. Shaun Gehres** and **Mr. Eddie Batey**, the Wilson Society facilitators performed admirably in a new position of leadership and influence. We appreciate the work of seniors **Ben Arnold, David Curran, Scott Edwards, Nelson Graham, Stuart McClure, Ross Montague, Conner Pera, Eric Sheppard, Jay Snyder, and Mark Vives.**

Helping You Get to Know the Faculty and Staff at MUS

Hoo's Hoo:



Shaun Gehres

Duties: Instructor in Social Studies, Head Wrestling Coach, Assistant Football Coach, Lower School Disciplinary Committee Member, Facing History and Ourselves Coordinator for MUS

Years at MUS: 5 (2002-07)

Little-Known Fact: Mr. Gehres is a huge fan of Pac-10 sports, especially Arizona Wildcats basketball. He attended 11 different schools in 6 different states in his academic career.



Dax Torrey

Duties: Instructor in English, Seventh-Grade Basketball Coach, Lower School Trap Shooting Coach, Sports Information Director, Editor of the MUS Football Media Guide, statistician for the football program and for varsity basketball

Years at MUS: 7 (2000-07)

Little-Known Fact: Mr. Torrey writes all sports articles for MUS publications and the MUS website. And he is the home public-address announcer for seventh-grade, eighth-grade, freshmen, and junior varsity football games and for varsity basketball games.



Marge Roosa

Duties: Administrative Assistant, College Guidance

Years at MUS: 14 (1993-2007)

Little-Known Fact: Mrs. Roosa processes 450-500 transcripts for seniors during

college admissions season.



Rocio Rodríguez del Río

Duties: Instructor in Spanish, involved with the school's recycling program

Years at MUS: 1 (2007)

Little-Known Fact: *Don Quixote* is Dr. Rodríguez del Río's favorite book. She has read *Don Quixote* more than four times, and she's "looking forward to

the opportunity to read it again, since every time I read it, I discover something new."



Mr. Darin Clift's trip to the dunk tank worked out much better for the students than it did for him, as a dripping wet Clift helped raise money during the Civic Service Charity Fair.

Bungee racing, demonstrated here by juniors Michael Edwards and Amro Amro, proved to be a big draw at the Civic Service Fair.

CHARITY WEEK KICKS OFF A YEAR OF SERVICE

Students at MUS are not required to complete a certain amount of service hours in order to graduate. This does not stop the Civic Service Organization (CSO) from being one of the most popular and active student groups on campus. Each year the club provides opportunities for students to contribute hundreds of hours to causes around the community that need their support. And Charity Week, which occurred in mid-September, gave the CSO a chance to showcase a number of opportunities for students to give back.



During Charity Week, Civic Service Chairman Teddy Klug tutored Sudanese refugees. MUS will continue to participate in the program throughout the school year.

Charity Week actually began on Saturday, September 15, with a cleanup of Zion Cemetery. The cemetery has been the focus of Civic Service efforts for a number of years, and students have spent countless hours removing debris and cleaning gravestones. The following Monday, the CSO traveled downtown to the Ronald McDonald house to take dinner to the families living at the house while their children receive treatment at St. Jude Children's Research Hospital. Tuesday, students tutored Sudanese refugees, and on Wednesday, the CSO held a blood drive through LifeBlood that resulted in 28 units of blood being donated to area hospitals. Also on Wednesday in chapel, students heard from Braxton Brady '91, who encouraged the boys to "understand the situation, get in the game, and accept responsibility for making this city a better place." On Thursday, students tutored children from the Emmanuel Center. And on Friday, the CSO held the annual Civic Service Fair, where students had the opportunity to pledge their time to causes that interested them while listening to the Studio Band, eating chicken biscuits, participating in a dance contest, and hurling softballs at **Mr. John Cady '69** and **Mr. Darin Clift** in the dunk tank.

The CSO is an integral part of student life at MUS, and the time that students give to the organization goes a long way to making the city of Memphis a place that MUS can be proud to be a part of.



Homecoming '07

Homecoming once again brought out MUS students' unparalleled school spirit. The Student Council held dress-up days throughout the week that the student body took very seriously. Sleeveless shirts made the rounds on Monday. Tuesday, students donned their best superhero costumes for hero and villain day. Jerseys made an appearance on Wednesday, and the official Homecoming shirt, designed to look like a tuxedo, was Thursday's look. Friday brought the traditional grub day and pep rally. The week ended with an Owl victory against Northside and St. Mary's student Cristen Garrett being crowned Homecoming Queen.



Megan Adams, Elizabeth Blankenship, Cristen Garrett, Virginia Grayson, Adelaide Thornton, and Cameron Luttrell made up the 2007 Football Homecoming Court.



Juniors Turner Morehead and John Rutledge and sophomore Mitchell Thompson are a little too excited about "sleeveless shirt day."



Mr. Barry Ray and senior Michael Cross modeled "A Formal Affair" Homecoming t-shirts.

HYDE FIVE: Top Five Check-Outs in the Joseph R. Hyde, Jr. Library Learning Center

MUS students are serial readers! They love books that appear in series and, as you might suspect, many of their favorite books have to do with science fiction, adventure, and fantasy. The top five series that our students in all grades have checked out include:

1. The **Eragon** books by Christopher Paolini
2. **Ranma 1/2** by Rumiko Takahashi (a graphic novel series from Japan)
3. The **Alex Rider Adventure** series by Anthony Horowitz
4. The **Harry Potter** books by J. K. Rowling
5. The **Artemis Fowl** books by Eoin Colfer

Other popular series include the *Guinness Book of World Records* (an annual that can be checked out overnight), the *Ender* books by Orson Scott Card, the *Dune* series by Frank Herbert and Brian Herbert, and *His Dark Materials* by Philip Pullman.



INSIGHTS

Guest Speaker Bob Ditter Shares Important Messages

What a refreshing experience, having a nationally-known speaker dispense parenting wisdom to MUS and Hutchison parents at an event held in Hutchison's Wiener Theatre on September 20. The advice offered by Bob Ditter included: stop enabling, teach your children to take responsibility, let them learn from their mistakes, and be there to love and support them when the hard times come.

Ditter works in Boston, Massachusetts, as a family therapist with a clientele very similar to MUS and Hutchison families. His insights and advice seemed to be taken from the very households represented in the audience that night, and parents were nodding their heads and clapping in agreement throughout the message.

Perhaps the main point driven home by Ditter was this: parents must take the time from their busy lifestyles to pay very close attention to the little things in their children's lives. There are no "do-overs" when it comes to guiding our children through adolescence, and now is the time to be involved in their lives. Parents can circumvent the really big problems by being there and being a part of what goes on day to day.

FCD Reps Educate Students and Parents

Freedom from Chemical Dependency (FCD) representatives visited MUS the week of October 29. Students in grades eight, ten, eleven, and twelve spent time with these educators, who are recovering addicts, talking about healthy choices surrounding alcohol and drug use. The FCD representatives used their own lives to discuss the addiction and recovery process. Students in the eighth and tenth grades met four times with the representatives, allowing much time for student questions, role play, and general education about specific drugs and their effects on one's body. Juniors met with representatives for a recap of lessons they learned in grades eight and ten, as well as the most up-to-date statistics about teens their age and the risks associated with

alcohol and drug use. Seniors were offered lessons about making good decisions surrounding the experiences they may encounter in college.

Parents were invited to meet with the representatives over breakfast to discuss what their sons learned in these meetings, as well as productive ways to facilitate communication about these lessons. They also learned that an adult should never be afraid to be the parent and institute consequences for their son's unacceptable behavior.

The FCD representatives commented on the progress the educational programs at MUS have made with our young men.

Heartbeat

Heartbeat is a group of juniors and seniors who are proud of the fact that they do not have to use drugs to be "cool." They met in small groups on October 4 with seventh-grade students and shared their reasons for abstaining from any type of drug. A lesson plan on tobacco products was shared with the group, and they discussed the effects of smoking, dipping, and chewing and the damage these cause the human body. On November 29 the group met again to discuss the effects of alcohol use. The members of Heartbeat are seniors **Paul Billings, Michael Cross, Scott Edwards, Watson George, Teddy Klug, Stephen Maroda, Owen Mercer, Ross Montague, and Jay Snyder**; and juniors **Michael Edwards, Lowell Hays, Andrew Maroda, and Walt Wepfer**.

Alive at 25

Alive at 25, a program instituted through the University of Memphis, was presented to the freshman class November 12-16. Facilitator Wayne Gutch, who has taught this class for many years at MUS, spoke to parents in an evening program. Alive at 25 consists of a weeklong series of discussion classes focusing on driving safety and examining one's personal choices, actions, and consequences. This informational course always garners rave reviews from MUS students.

Mentoring Update

Thirty seniors and juniors were selected from an outstanding pool of 60 candidates to serve as mentors for the 2007-08 school year. Ten teams of three mentors each are assigned to this small-group advisory program, which promotes a positive transition for MUS eighth graders into adolescence and into the Upper School.

After undergoing several training sessions, the mentors meet with their charges during Friday organizational periods. The dynamics of how to have an effective small group environment and the topic "Respecting Yourself and Others" were the focal points of the first two sessions. The mentors and eighth graders will meet twelve times during the school year and hopefully will create positive bonds that will benefit all of these young men for years to come.

Mentors include seniors **Hudson Atkins, Sayle Atkinson, Paul Billings, Alan Blount, Conor Bolich, Michael Cross, Scott Edwards, Kent Francis, Watson George, Mazen Istanbouli, Nathaniel Kastan, Stephen Maroda, Mark McLeod, Scott McClintock, Owen Mercer, Ross Montague, Jack Montgomery, Ben Pelz, Will Pryor, and Jay Snyder**; and juniors **Will Benton, Johnny Carson, Robert Duffley, Michael Edwards, Lowell Hays, Rahul Kumar, Evan Mah, Andrew Maroda, Jack Steffner, and Will Stokes**.

Community of Concern

The Community of Concern is a partnership of parents, students, and schools working together to encourage the prevention of alcohol, tobacco, and other drug use. Community of Concern booklets include information for parents on drug use and prevention, the signs and symptoms of substance abuse, and effective communication with teenagers about alcohol and drugs. Community of Concern booklets were sent in September to all parents of new students in the Upper School. Updated booklets have been ordered and will be mailed to the parents of all seventh graders and parents of new eighth-grade students. If you would like a booklet and are not scheduled to receive one, call Bebe Jonakin at 260-1335 or email bebe.jonakin@musowls.org.

Book Club

MUS Parent Book Club is offered the third Thursday of each month. These meetings provide an opportunity for parents to discuss the month's book selection and to network with other parents about the topic at hand (which is posted on the web site at musowls.org/parents/bookclub/html). Feel free to come and take part in the discussion even if you are unable to read the book.

Copies of the selections are available at Davis-Kidd Booksellers with a 20 percent discount. Also, do not forget to check out the Hyde Library at MUS for a great selection of parenting books.

Parent to Parent

Parent to Parent sessions went well this semester! This DVD-based program is a great networking tool for parents facilitated by parents. Its aim is to educate parents challenged with raising kids in today's society. Topics included Internet use and abuse, healthy choices surrounding alcohol and drugs, and difficult social issues such as bullying, just to name a few. Look for our next series beginning in January. For additional questions about this program, please contact Catherine Schuhmacher in the Lower School at 260-1326 or catherine@musowls.org.

NAEP

This fall MUS was selected to participate in the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) survey. The survey is conducted annually in order to gauge what America's students know and what they can do in the areas of mathematics and English. Sixty 13-year-olds were randomly chosen to participate in the test, and their results will be used to help the National Department of Education create and implement policies aimed to help America's students succeed.





College Guidance

This year we are featuring a series of questions and answers with Director of College Guidance **Dr. Emily Baer**. This Q&A series addresses topics of importance to MUS families, no matter where they are in the college planning process.

► **Inside MUS: When should families start thinking about college?**

EB: Birth. If a family's goal is to put their sons in private school where they're paying tuition, you have to start thinking about college from Day One. This may not affect the boys so much in grades one through six except to encourage involvement in school and good study habits. But if you're thinking about college from the beginning, from birth, then you have a lot more time to organize your finances and to be sure that you're ready to pay for their college. There was a time not so long ago when not everybody in America went to college, and that was acceptable. MUS families have made a choice that indicates that not going to college is certainly not acceptable. So for our population, the answer is from birth.

► **Inside MUS: How much do you talk to people, and starting when, about financial aid?**

EB: Financial aid is a really personal thing. The packet I prepare for freshmen includes some general information about financial aid. It gets more specific as we go along. At the meeting in November of junior year, I give the boys specific information defining terms, making sure they understand what a Stafford Loan is or a Perkins Loan...all the terminology involved in financial aid. And then for seniors, it really becomes much more individualized. There are certain things that everybody can do, like the federal FAFSA form, and then there's working with the colleges' financial aid offices. That really gets more serious in senior year, when we know where we're applying and what's doable and how much help each parent might need. That's based very much on individual circumstances and is confidential.

► **Inside MUS: What can families do to prepare for college?**

EB: Prepare yourself financially. Give your child the best possible education you are capable of giving him, and augment that education. Be sure that you introduce him to the world. There's a lot more than just schoolwork. I find those kids that end up at the top of the class and those kids that get into selective schools are kids who know about music and art and have traveled; kids who have some understanding of people in the world who don't have what they have, or who have more than what they have; people who understand, really, what living in this world is all about politically, historically, demographically. Those are things parents can build at home.

► **Inside MUS: Do you think our parents do a good job of that?**

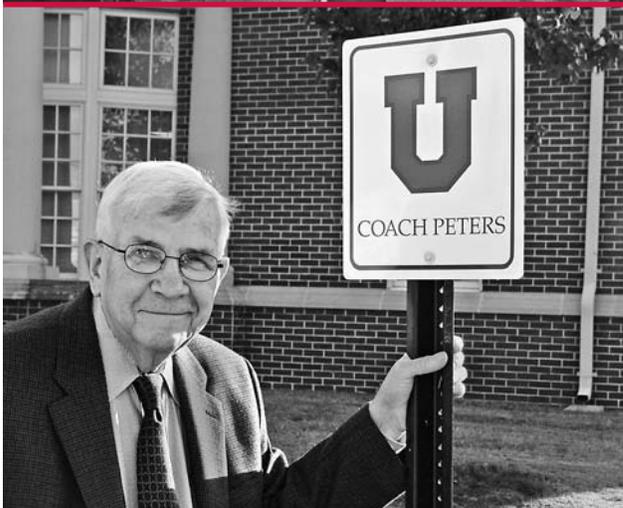
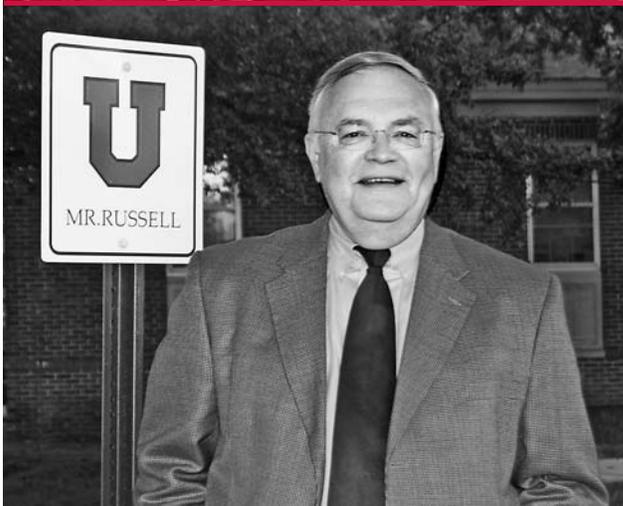
EB: I think most of our parents do a very good job of that. I think we are really fortunate in that sense, that we deal with a population of parents who are very much interested in their children and in the success of their children. By and large, I think we do have parents who try to expose their kids to all kinds of different, wonderful things.

For more information on financial aid, visit www.musowls.org/academics/collegeguidance2.html#scholarships.

To be continued in the next issue of *Inside MUS*.



The three members of the MUS family who have served the school for more than four decades received their own parking spaces. **Miss Mary Nell Easum** is in her 46th year at MUS and serves as the registrar. **Mr. Jim Russell** is the relative newcomer of the group, currently in his 43rd year, and serves as the Sue Hightower Hyde Chair of English. And **Mr. Jerry Peters** has been at it for 48 years, sharing his love of history, government, and, of course, basketball with generations of students.



TECH NEWS

DIGITAL VIDEO ENHANCES LEARNING

BY MRS. BONNIE BARNES, DIRECTOR OF THE JOSEPH R. HYDE, JR. LIBRARY LEARNING CENTER

The Hyde Library has recently added a second digital video collection for teachers and students: SafariMontage from The Library Video Company.

SafariMontage includes 2,000 recent, copyrighted videos from such producers as A&E, the History Channel, National Geographic, PBS, and more. Housed in a server on campus, they can be played from any computer on our network. Each video is divided into short segments, and teachers can create and bookmark their own segments in units as small as a few seconds or as large as several minutes. Multiple users can watch the same video at the same time, and students can ask at the front desk to access the videos in the library. Every video has support materials such as quizzes and lesson plans and has been categorized by subject, keyword, and age level.

History instructor Barry Ray says, "The ease of use over DVD or VHS tapes helps me move seamlessly from one thing in class to another. Boys are visually oriented, so using video is extremely effective in teaching them. I am finding more clips I can use in class every day."

SafariMontage joins our extensive video library, which comprises 2,200 VHS and DVD videos, our Discovery Education Streaming subscription to over 5,000 videos (formerly UnitedStreaming Video), and our links to free online videos that can be found at <http://apollo.musowls.org/library/freevideo.html>.



Betty Britt, here with her daughter Lisa Colcolough, graciously hosted the Grandmothers' Coffee.



Sally and Alan Perry served as the chairs of this year's Parent Phonathon.



Nancy Barnett and Crissy Smith worked the phones to drum up support for the Annual Fund.



Class parties sponsored by the PA give parents such as Beth Sousoulas, Neal Beckford, and David Turner a chance to get to know one another better.



Guests at the Grandmothers' Coffee were charmed by a performance from *Beg To Differ*.

The Parents' Association (PA) is staying busy as usual. Senior **John Fenton**, our exchange student from England, has been having a fantastic experience living with classmates **Will McGehee**, **Austin Beckford**, and **Peter Travis**. Thank you to those host families — **Holley and Lucius McGehee**, **Joey and Neal Beckford**, and **Joan and Harry Travis**. John's parents, **Philippa and Alex Fenton**, will be making a visit over the Christmas holidays. Plans are in the works to make them feel welcome when they arrive.

Parent to Parent, an eight-week video series designed to help parents handle some of the challenges their children face as teenagers, ran from September 19 through November 14. **Mrs. Missy Rainer** is trained to lead this program for our parents, and, once again, she did a terrific job.

The success of the Homecoming BBQ showed evidence of the dedication and talent of our hardworking parents. They spent hours decorating the Campus Center Dining Hall for the Homecoming festivities.

On October 6, twelfth-grade parents gathered at the home of **Beth and George Sousalous '78**, while seventh-grade parents turned out at the home of **Michelle and John Crews '84**. The ninth-grade parents were hosted by **Mimi and Greg Gibson** on November 17. Thanks to the hosts and volunteers who made these events possible.

The PA also sponsored the Lower School Grandfathers' Breakfast in October. Seventh and eighth graders and their grandfathers enjoyed the delicacies offered in the Dining Hall and appreciated the efforts of the PA in providing them an opportunity for fellowship.

With Phonathon the week of October 22, more volunteer opportunities arose. Tenth-grade moms stuffed and stamped thousands of envelopes in preparation for mailing the pledges from parents and alumni. Over 50 parents gave up an evening to make calls to their respective classes asking for Annual Fund donations. This is one of the most important volunteer opportunities available to MUS parents each year, as tuition only covers 73 percent of the cost to educate our students.

If you ask the cast and crew of *Beauty and the Beast*, they will tell you that an important volunteer opportunity is the work done by PA Arts Coordinators **Lisa and Charles Duffley** and their volunteers. Support in the most important way — FOOD — was provided each night of the final week of rehearsals for all those involved with the play, and volunteers sold tickets at each of the performances.

Let's not forget Open House on October 28. **Cindy and Craig Nauert**, PA Admissions Coordinators, arranged for parents to be available to meet, greet, and answer questions from hundreds of prospective families. They also geared up for small gatherings in the homes of several parents who have or have had children at some of our feeder schools.

Throughout the fall semester, all grades had a number of informal get-togethers, primarily for mothers. Everything from coffees on campus to a "girls'" movie night out to numerous lunches to a talk with Lower School Counselor **Mrs. Catherine Schumacher** regarding Internet safety for our children have been opportunities for our parents to get to know fellow parents and be better informed about current issues.

Thank you to all PA volunteers for supporting the efforts of the school to provide our parents and students with the best programs and services.

Parents Come Back To School

On Wednesday, September 12, parents traded places with their sons and spent the day going to classes, eating in the Dining Hall, and meeting with teachers at Back to School Day. Student Ambassadors were on hand to direct parents to classrooms, and teachers used the opportunity to explain their courses and their expectations to those in attendance.

MUS parents are an involved group. Almost 90 percent of the student body was represented by at least one parent on Back to School Day. Below is the breakdown of participation by grade:

Grade 12	81%
Grade 11	83%
Grade 10	88%
Grade 9	87%
Grade 8	89%
Grade 7	93%
<hr/>	
Total % for Upper School	85%
Total % for Lower School	91%
Total 7-12	87%





Memphis University School
6191 Park Avenue
Memphis, TN 38119-5399

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Non-profit
Organization
U.S. Postage
PAID
Memphis, TN
Permit No. 631

INSIDE MUS

Ellis Haguewood
Headmaster

Barry Ray
Upper School Principal
Clay Smythe
Lower School Principal

Bobby Alston
Director of Athletics

Emily Baer
Director of College Guidance

Bonnie Barnes
Director of Hyde Library

Rick Broer
Academic Dean

Perry Dement
Director of Advancement

Claire Farmer
Director of Parent and Alumni Programs

Rankin Fowlkes
Director of Business Operations

Bebe Jonakin
Director of Counseling Services

Danny Kahalley
Director of Admissions

Debbie Lazarov
Director of Communications

Inside MUS is published by Memphis University School. Send news and comments to Kate Metcalf, Editor of *Inside MUS*, at kate.metcalf@musowls.org, or call 901-260-1348.

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.

UPCOMING EVENTS

January

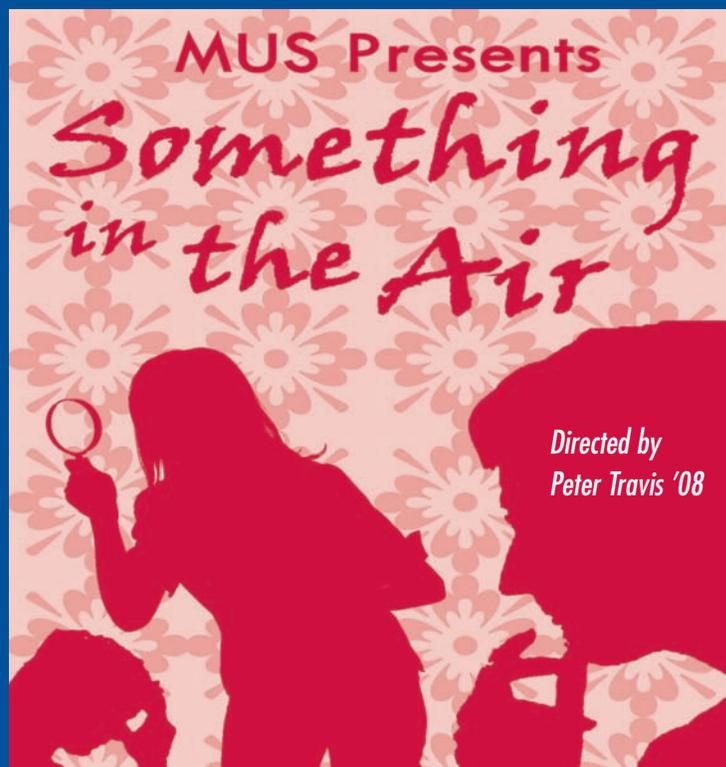
- 3** Second Semester Begins
- 12** Lower School Dance
- 14** Eighth-Grade Parents Meeting, "High School Program"
- 18** Basketball Homecoming
- 21** School Holiday, Martin Luther King, Jr. Day

February

- 1** End of Third Quarter Progress Report Period
- 2** MathCounts Regional Competition
- 7** Opening of Winter Play: *Something in the Air*
- 11** Regional Basketball Tournament Begins
- 15** State Wrestling Tournament
- 18** School Holiday, Presidents' Day
- 22** Civic Service Talent Show
- 23** Basketball Sub-State Game
- 28** State Basketball Tournament Begins
- 29** Cum Laude Induction

March

- 6** End of Third Quarter
- 7** Spring Break Begins
- 17** Fourth Quarter Begins
- 21** School Holiday, Good Friday
- 23** Easter
- 27** YMCA Youth Legislature in Nashville Begins
- 28** Metcalf Symposium



February 7-9 • 7:30 p.m. • Hyde Chapel
Call 260-1300 for tickets