

The Magazine of Memphis University School • November 2008

MUS TODAY





MEMPHIS UNIVERSITY SCHOOL
Founded 1893

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

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DIRECTOR OF ALUMNI AND PARENT PROGRAMS

Claire K. Farmer



From the Editor

It's an exciting time at school as we get closer to the end of the first semester. Many thanks go to our teachers who do so much for our boys. Our seniors are busy applying to colleges across the United States, at the same time our juniors start looking for the right college. Our theater troupe just finished a well-attended, four-performance run of *Macbeth* and are looking ahead to the spring performances of *Thurber's Carnival* and *Little Shop of Horrors*. We also showcased student art, photography, and mosaic heads on *Macbeth's* opening

night. We welcomed more than 400 guests at our Admissions Open House. As we went to press, eighth-grader **Zach Olsen** won the state golf championship, our football team was undefeated, our cross country team placed ninth at state, our swimming and bowling teams were in mid-season, and basketball was just beginning. It's a busy time for everyone in the halls of MUS.

In this issue of *MUS Today*, you'll read about **Henry Klyce '65** who has spent his career inventing things to keep us healthy, and our first Olympian, **Mac Cone '70**, who competed in the Beijing Olympics. We also bring you lots of Homecoming pictures and events, including the first 50th class reunion of the new MUS with the Class of 1958.

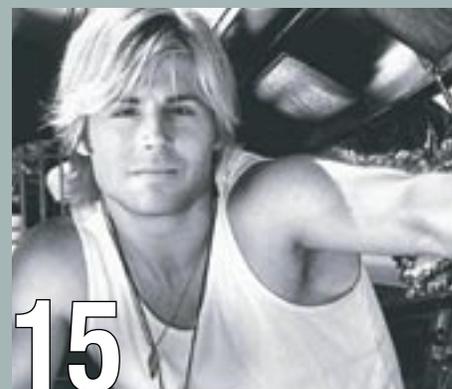
We pay tribute to legendary Coach Jake Rudolph whose career spanned 39 years with the Owls. At the end of October, his sons came to chapel and reminisced about playing for their coach dad. They also shared a movie with our boys that covered much of his career. Coach Rudolph left an incredible legacy.

I thank everyone who responded to our e-mail survey this summer. With more than 500 comments and suggestions, we're creating lists and will share some of the results in our next issue. As always, please let me know if you have any ideas for improving our communications.

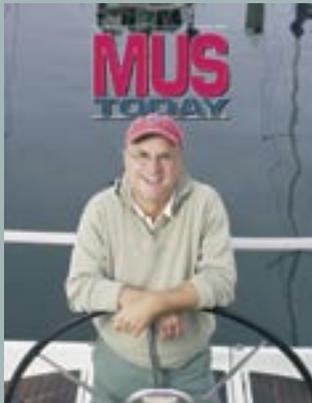
Have a healthy and happy holiday season!

Vicki Tyler

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ON THE COVER
Henry Klyce '65 has been at the helm of many companies over the years. Read about his latest endeavor. Story starts on page 3. Photo by Jack Kenner.

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CORRECTIONS:

In the 2008 Annual Report, **Mitch Stem '93** should have been identified on page 26 as an alumnus, and **Ned Smith '60** should have been listed in the Owls Club on page 18.

by Chris R. Sanders, Board of Trustees Education Committee Chair



CHRIS SANDERS

joined the MUS Board of Trustees in 2006. As a graduate of Hutchison School, she earned her bachelor's degree from the University of Tennessee and her master's in education from the University of Memphis. She currently serves on the board and the executive committee of Presbyterian Day School. Sanders is a past board member of the Junior League of Memphis, Children's Museum of Memphis, and Streets Ministries. She is a past president of the Hutchison Alumnae Board.

She is married to **Reid Sanders '67** and is mother to daughter, Aubrey, and son, **Reid '10**. She is the sister of three MUS alumni (**Jim Robinson '68**, **Wiley Robinson '75**, and **Bob Robinson '78**).

Parental Involvement is Key to Academic Success

If you ask parents why they send their sons to MUS, I would expect most would agree it is because their son would receive an outstanding education. There are many components to an outstanding education and to academic excellence. The role of a parent's influence in their son's education is paramount. The Michigan Department of Education's recent research found that, "the most consistent predictor of children's academic achievement and social adjustment is parent expectations of the child's academic attainment and satisfaction with their child's education at school. Parents of high-achieving students set higher standards for their children's educational activities."

We know that the MUS faculty and administration are dedicated to academic excellence, but what can we, as parents and friends of MUS, do to help?

Teachers are the heart and soul of MUS. They are also a great source for wisdom and advice. I e-mailed each of my sons' teachers and asked them the following questions:

What are your expectations for my son in your classroom this year?

What can I, as a parent, do to help you achieve this?

The faculty feedback was very helpful. They gave broad course expectations as well as targeted expectations specifically for my son. Most of the comments expressed ways for me to communicate with my son about his courses, as well as ways to encourage him along the way. As one teacher aptly put it, "be mentally engaged with what he's learning and doing."

Catherine Schumacher, Lower School guidance counselor, said, "I think parental involvement is vital to a teen's academic success. My two suggestions would be to have appropriate involvement, not too little and not too much, and, secondly, to have consistent involvement so there isn't suspicion when, all of the sudden, a parent is involved."

Another way to contribute to your son's academic success is to support the education committee, which helps facilitate the academic success of the school. It provides oversight, evaluation, advice, and support to the administration on a broad range of subjects involving students, faculty, counselors, administration, and parents.

The MUS Strategic Plan has directed the education committee to look at the following areas this year: faculty hiring and evaluation, the schedule, and the Co-Edge program with Hutchison, distinctive programs, parent programs, and student enrollment. Each committee member is taking one of these areas and researching what MUS and comparable schools are doing. The research will be gathered and evaluated by the committee, and we will give the findings and our recommendations to the administration. I personally encourage any comments or feedback that you have on any of these subjects. Please feel free to send your ideas to me.

While academic excellence is only one aspect of MUS, it is a vital one. As parents and grandparents, we are here to encourage, nurture, and support not only our sons and our grandsons, but their, and our, great school. For alumni and parents and grandparents of alumni, financial support is always welcomed, but there are some other options. You may have a business that needs summer help or interns. Perhaps you work with a non-profit that could use additional volunteers. Maybe you have some life experiences that would make for a good chapel presentation. We want our boys to be involved and ultimately responsible for their own academic success. What better way for them to know that we care than to offer them our encouragement and our involvement.

Manufacturing Medical Miracles

by Kem Pollard

With a long and remarkably successful career in the medical device industry that includes the founding and building of five profitable companies and more than 40 patents to his credit, you might peg **Henry Arnold Klyce '65** as a business tycoon focused on the art of the deal. You would be wrong.

“The creative process is what motivates me, not necessarily building a business,” Klyce says.

Equating highly technical surgical products with inspired creativity doesn't seem at all like a stretch to Klyce, and perhaps that's the secret to his success. “I'm interested in the creative process of developing devices,” he explains. “It puts me in contact with the most inventive individuals. I think of them more as collaborators than as employees.

“It's thrilling to see something you develop make a difference in someone's life,” Klyce continues. “I often think back to when we developed ophthalmic devices that helped premature babies who were born blind to gain sight. There's a great reward in crafting things, in the intellectual element of researching things, the technical aspect of testing things, and the gratification that comes when they work right. I like being in a business where we actually make things, which isn't something that I saw a lot of growing up in Memphis. There wasn't much of a manufacturing base there at the time.”



Henry Klyce finds inspiration just hanging around his office.

Photo by Jack Kenner

Made in Memphis

A self-proclaimed serial entrepreneur, Klyce says he got his business acumen and entrepreneurial spirit from his father, the senior Henry Arnold Klyce, “although he would have thought that entrepreneur was an awfully fancy, high-falutin’ name for what he did,” Klyce chuckles. “He enjoyed business and he was good at it and was a big influence on me. I worked with him from the time I was a young teen, and he died when I was 27, so I ended up with a lot of responsibility fairly early.” The Klyce family businesses included home and industrial laundry services, a picture frame factory, an automobile dealership, apartments, real estate, and farms in Mississippi and Central America.

As a student, the younger Klyce tagged along with his sister to attend a summer school biology course at MUS. “At the time, I was in the Memphis public school system, but **I went home and asked my parents if I could attend MUS full-time,**” he remembers. I got a wonderful education there. **Professor Bill Hatchett** was a big influence on me. He was very dedicated, and the way he ran his classes had a great effect on me. We would write essays, and he would



give them back indicating that something was wrong, but he wouldn’t identify precisely what. We had to figure it out ourselves.

I still use those English skills today when I write surgical techniques, which must be very precise.

I also especially enjoyed **Mr. Leigh MacQueen’s** American History course and we had good science classes, too. I’m very fortunate that my education stood me in such good stead.”

Klyce went on to major in English at Cornell University where he was a member of the Quill and Dagger Society and earned a bachelor of arts degree. After graduating, he returned home to Memphis to help run the family businesses.

Introduction to the Medical World

So how did an English major make the leap from business to pioneering cutting edge surgical devices? It’s a question Klyce gets often. “It certainly wasn’t a logical next step to most people,” he laughs. “I was introduced to Dr. Steve Charles who was working with a California-based engineer to develop a suction cutter for eye surgery. They needed business advice and someone to invest some seed capital in a start-up. That company became Medical Instrument Development Laboratories (MID) and we developed a broad range of ophthalmic surgical devices, primarily for retinal diseases. Originally, my role was not focused on the technical process of how devices are conceived and tested. But early on, as we were getting the company going, I was introduced to surgeons and surgeon-inventors and I spent a lot of time with Steve in the operating room. He taught me a lot.”

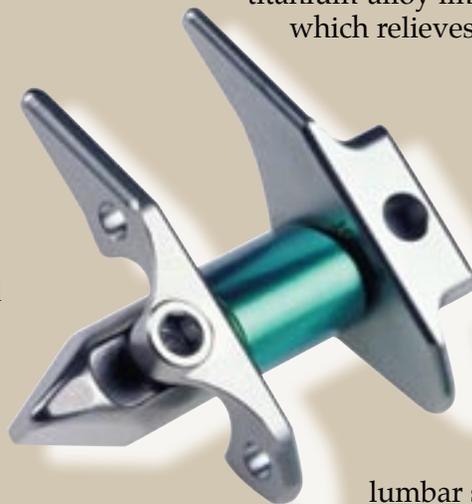
As it turned out, Klyce taught them a lot, too. “I found out that there are many different levels of technical knowledge in this field,” he explains. “Most doctors are not engineers. They know what they want, but they speak in medical terms, not engineering terms.

I found out that there was a role for someone like me who could help translate information between the doctors and the engineers.”

MID Labs was acquired by Alcon Labs in 1985.

Klyce was able to translate his experience in that first medical venture into a distinguished career that has encompassed several successful medical device companies and contributed to significant strides in neurosurgery and orthopedics. After MID Labs was sold, Klyce founded Surgical Dynamics, a company also based in California that manufactured and marketed surgical devices for orthopedics and neurosurgery, with an emphasis on spine surgery and minimally invasive spinal products. Surgical Dynamics was one of the first companies to develop cages for use in spinal fusions. U.S. Surgical acquired the venture in 1995. In 1996, Klyce co-founded Operating Room Recovery and Instrument Services. Based in Houston, he merged this company with Applied Medical Technologies to form Alliance Medical Corporation in 1998.

Another California company founded by Klyce in 1997, St. Francis Medical Technologies, Inc., became known for the innovative X-STOP (pictured here) Interspinous Process Decompression System, a titanium-alloy implant which relieves



lumbar spinal stenosis.

Caused by a narrowing of the spinal canal, lumbar spinal stenosis is one of the most common reasons for back surgery in patients 50 and older. The condition can cause debilitating pain in the back and legs. The X-STOP is actually a spacer that prevents the pinching of nerves in the back that cause the pain. Unlike previous products, the X-STOP is reversible and less invasive. Kyphon, Inc., acquired St. Francis in 2007.

Today, Klyce is the founder and president of Spartek Medical, a San Francisco Bay-area company that manufactures spinal implants

and motion preservation devices. Spartek teams him with many of the same engineers he has collaborated with for more than 20 years. Klyce is also a board member of Active Implants Corporation, headquartered in Memphis.

Along with a passion for the creative process, Klyce credits his liberal arts background for much of his successful track record.

“I’m a great believer in the value of a liberal arts education,”

he says. “It gives you the ability to think clearly, which is a good background for any line of work. An English degree is especially beneficial because you learn how to write. If you can’t write, you can’t think or express ideas clearly.”

Preserving the Process

As a developer of medical advances, Klyce views the current state of the healthcare industry from an interesting perspective. “We have so many uninsured people in this country,” he points out. “It is intolerable long-term and needs to be rectified. But I’m also a believer that medical device innovations must not be hampered by too much regulation and by decisions that focus primarily on the

costs of new technologies when it comes to who will get access to new therapies. The area in which I have worked for 20 years now, orthopedics, is about pain and function. People want to be active for as long as possible. Devices that make this possible have made a huge difference in peoples' lives. However, new devices won't be developed unless we continue to foster a business environment that rewards those prepared to take the financial risks to develop new therapies and devices.

We have to balance allowing more people to reap these benefits without destroying this creative process."

A former member of the Memphis Symphony Orchestra, Klyce plays violin and viola in two Bay-area orchestras. He also enjoys bird hunting with his two sons and sailing in his home waters on the San Francisco Bay and in the Sea of Cortez in Baja California, Mexico, where he also keeps a boat. The Klyce family

includes his wife, Carole, three children, Adam, Matthew, and Genevieve, and two grandchildren. Adam and Genevieve also work at Spartek.

Whether playing classical music, sailing, stalking birds, or spending time with his family, it's a safe bet that an idea for the next patent is perking, continuing the creative process that fuels him and that has already sparked five companies and improved life for thousands of patients. 



Photo by Jack Kenner

Henry Klyce (center) with his family: son Adam, granddaughter Emily, wife Carole, grandson Henry Jackson, daughter-in-law Lisa, and daughter Genevieve; below, Klyce enjoying one of his many pastimes – sailing



MUS Says Goodbye to Beloved Football Coach, Teacher, Mentor



Jake Rudolph 1929-2008

by Kem Pollard

Generations of students, alumni, parents, and faculty were deeply saddened when former MUS Head Football Coach **Jake Rudolph** suffered a stroke and died on July 6 in Memphis at age 78. Following a storied 39-year career with the Owls, Rudolph was revered as a football icon and legend. His funeral at Kingsway Christian Church in Germantown drew hundreds of mourners, highlighting the legacy of values he left behind and the many lives he touched on and off the field.

Pictured from 1960, Coach Rudolph consults his faithful assistant, his clipboard. That clipboard took all the abuse through the years – often slapped around, sometimes slammed to the ground, and, on occasion, flipped skyward.



“Coach Rudolph had a profound and permanent influence on the lives of so many boys who are now men and leaders in Memphis and elsewhere,” says **Ellis Hagewood**, MUS headmaster. “He is legendary in the hearts of the thousands of alumni who played for him or who cheered the red and blue on to victory at Hull-Dobbs Athletic Field. Coach Rudolph gave his life to the boys he taught and coached, to the school he loved, and to his family.”

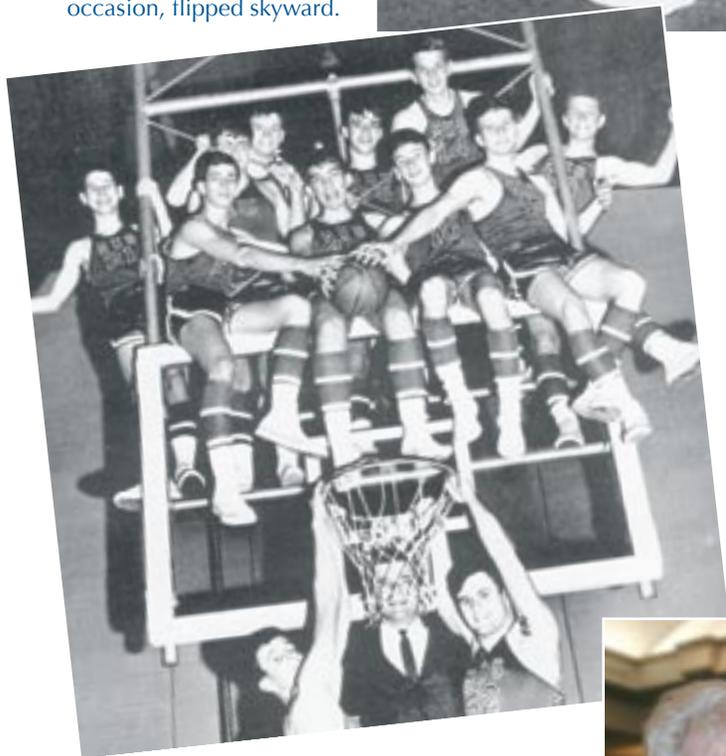
Rudolph is survived by his wife, **Carolyn Smith Rudolph**, sons and MUS graduates **Stephen '74**, **Courtney '77**, and **David '81**, nine grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

The School He Loved

Coach Rudolph retired as MUS head coach in 1997. At the time, he had the highest number of wins in Shelby County history with 295 victories. Today, his record stands as the second highest number of career wins in Shelby County and the fifth highest number of career wins in Tennessee prep football. His overall record at MUS was 295-119-4.

Rudolph's teams held one Class AA state championship title, two state runner-up finishes, six regional titles, and ten district titles. He led MUS teams to the playoffs an impressive 16 times, coached the Owls to an undefeated season in 1967, and had double-digit victories in nine of his 39 seasons.

Along the way, Coach Rudolph garnered many coaching honors, including being named the Tennessee Coach of the Year, the Lawrenceburg Touchdown Club Coach of the Year, and the Memphis Quarterback Coach of



In 1964, Rudolph taught mathematics and coached football and B Team basketball (shown above). His team posted 21 wins and no defeats – the best record for an MUS B Team at the time.



Even after his retirement, Carolyn and Jake Rudolph regularly attended events on campus, as they did here in 2007.



Teacher Jake Rudolph explains algebra to ninth graders in 1977.



In 1985, Rudolph's team won the state football title – the first in the school's history.

the Year. He also received the Rex Dockery Award from the Memphis chapter of the National Football Foundation and College Hall of Fame.

In addition to his coaching duties, Coach Rudolph taught algebra at MUS. When he wasn't teaching or coaching, he could often be found diligently watering and fertilizing the grass on the football field. The beloved coach and teacher had a lighter side, too, that included a rousing Elvis Presley impersonation, replete with scarves and accessories, that his students found particularly entertaining.

"Jake Rudolph was and forever will be the heart and soul of MUS football," says **Bobby Alston**, MUS head football coach. "To have played under him or to have coached under him was a privilege. Coach Rudolph always encouraged his team to play with class on the field and to show class when met with adversity. Because of the lessons he taught and the example he lived, his will be a legacy of class."

"When you start to consider what makes a great coach or a great teacher, there are several key characteristics that you traditionally find in the successful ones," says Stephen Rudolph. "First of all, they are devoted to and passionate about their profession and realize true joy from the positive effects they have on their players' and students' lives. The influence a coach or teacher has over a player/student often extends well beyond their time on the playing field or in the classroom. Jake Rudolph knew this only too well."



College Football Hero

Born in Clarksville, TN, Rudolph played football at the Darlington School in Rome, GA, and received a scholarship to attend Georgia Tech University. There, he played for legendary coaches Bobby Dodd, Ray Graves, and Frank Broyles. Rudolph started as defensive back for undefeated Tech teams at the Orange and Sugar Bowls in 1951 and 1952.

In fact, Rudolph has a permanent place in Georgia Tech Yellow Jacket football lore for a

famous game-saving and season-making play in 1952. Known as "Little Jackie Rudolph," he made a dramatic fourth-and-goal tackle of the great Alabama running back Bobby Marlow, a key play that led to Tech's trip to the Sugar Bowl that year and a national title. Rudolph was knocked unconscious on the play. Pictured left, the game saving tackle became known as the time

when Tech's "mouse" (Rudolph) dropped Bama's "elephant" (Marlow). In 1952, Rudolph was named to the *Colliers Magazine* All-American Team.

"He was mentored himself by one of the great college football coaches - Bobby Dodd at Georgia Tech where my dad played and made a name for himself on one of their greatest teams," notes Stephen Rudolph. "The same characteristics that Coach Dodd instilled in his players were taught by Coach Rudolph to his players at MUS. Be humble, play with class, persevere, play smart, make the fewest mistakes, but above all, just do your best. If you did your best and that wasn't good enough to win, there was no shame

In the early '60s, Rudolph developed the MUS Day Camp into the center of summer fun for young boys. Even lunch was an event - you didn't eat just hot dogs, you ate Jake's dogs! Under his leadership, the camp ran for more than 30 years. Below, 1988 camp counselor Andy McCarroll saves a few swimmers, while campers in 1992 attempt to drown Mitch Stem (right) with attention.



Among other honors throughout his career, Rudolph was named the Quarterback Club's Coach of the Year in 1997.



in that. As my dad used to say, ‘Son, there is always some player or some team that is better than you on any given day.’”

After college, he was a player-coach for two years with an Air Force team in Germany that won the European Air Force championship. Before joining MUS, he returned to the Darlington School for one year to coach, garnering wins that would add to his lifetime career total of 302 victories. From there, he was recruited by Colonel Ross Lynn to coach at the new MUS and to begin building a football program and a tradition.

Coach Dad

All three of Rudolph’s sons played football for their father at MUS. Today, all the Rudolph men treasure those memories of their father as their coach.

“He put his heart and soul into the school over a period of almost 50 years, including his retirement,” Courtney Rudolph remembers. “When we were young, my brothers and I sometimes resented the fact that dad rarely could attend any of our little league games because he was always at MUS. God bless my mother for making sure we got to all of those games! However, the three years I got to play for him at MUS more than made up for the early years.

“Those three years were magical,” Courtney continues. “It seemed that we talked football around the clock, and I will cherish those memories with dad forever, especially getting up with him on Saturday mornings to pick up the film from the prior night’s game at Dixie Films. We dissected the film all day on Saturdays. With the invention of videotape, this tradition moved to Friday nights, and for another 18 years until dad’s retirement in 1997, my brothers and I – along with our understanding wives and children – would gather at dad’s house to analyze the game that had transpired an hour earlier. Friday nights in the fall were, and always have been, reserved for MUS football in the Rudolph household. I really miss those Friday night sessions.”

“I loved playing for my father,” echoes David Rudolph. “As a high school coach, he had an incredible feel for the game. When the game was on the line, I totally respected his judgment. Jake always had the ability to get the right people in the right positions and was never afraid to change his game strategy. As a father, he was a steady force and was always

there for my brothers and me. Jake taught me, as well as generations of MUS football players, how to win and lose with class.”

MUS Head Basketball Coach **Jerry Peters** recalls Rudolph’s devotion to his family. “From a personal standpoint, Jake was not only a great person, but first and foremost he was a great family man. He was both a devoted husband and a great father. He truly loved his family.”



Stephen Rudolph played linebacker in 1973.



Against CBHS in 1976, quarterback Courtney Rudolph seeks advice from his father.



Wearing 13 as his father had at Georgia Tech, David Rudolph quarterbacked the 1980 MUS team.

A Legacy Lives

The lessons students learned on the field and in the classroom from Rudolph were ones that would apply long after graduation. A proud proponent of teaching fundamentals, Rudolph often expressed the importance of having a game plan in athletics as well as in real life. He also famously reminded his young men that “the team with the fewest mistakes wins.”

Hallmarks of Rudolph’s teams included perseverance, dedication, and teamwork. He also taught – and exemplified – the traits of courage, excellence, individual responsibility, and discipline. In addition to strong fundamentals, Rudolph’s teams were always well prepared, even when facing opposing teams that might have greater size and more athletic ability. He was also known as a flexible coach, willing to make changes and adjustments on the field whenever necessary.

“Professionally, Jake’s teams consistently overachieved,” Jerry Peters remembers. “His attention to detail and organization oftentimes were the reasons MUS was victorious over teams with superior manpower. I felt very fortunate in being able to learn a lot from Jake about coaching.”

“As I reflect over dad’s successful career as a coach, MUS provided a unique environment and opportunity for

him,” Stephen Rudolph says. “In the early years, his football teams were often out-manned, out numbered, and had less talent than the opposing teams. However, dad had a knack of getting the most production out of the talent the team had to contribute. He would identify the players who had the most savvy or who played with the most heart, and make sure they were in the critical positions during the game.

“Every year it seemed like he would locate a first-year player who would come out for the football team and wind up as All-County or All-Conference by the end of the year,” Stephen continues. “He had a subtle but effective manner in getting the most potential out of his players. As one former player told me, ‘I just didn’t want to disappoint him.’ Nothing frustrated my dad more than when a player failed to live up to his full potential. In these cases, Jake would blame himself and believe there was something he or his coaching staff was not effectively communicating. However, he would continue to work with the player until he felt the player’s confidence level and performance was where it needed to be.”

In spite of impressive success and renown as a player and coach, Jake Rudolph never became impressed with himself. Always a very modest man, Rudolph preferred giving the credit to others, and watching the spotlight shine on them.

“Dad was perhaps the most humble human being that I have ever known. I will never forget a conversation that I had with him on his fiftieth birthday many years ago when I told him, ‘Dad, I hope that I am as successful as you are when I turn 50. You gave all three of your sons a fantastic education, you got to coach all three of them in football, and you got to watch all three of them excel under you. That’s pretty darn successful!’

He looked at me with a puzzled smile and replied, ‘Not bad for a high school football coach, I guess.’ Not bad indeed! I miss him a lot.” says Courtney Rudolph.

“In one of Jake’s last interviews, he remarked on his tenure as a teacher and high school football coach at MUS,”

Stephen Rudolph remembers. “He said, ‘It’s been a good two-way street for me. I certainly have gained a lot of pleasure from it, and the school got a good day’s wages from me.’”

Stephen adds, “Every night that I see the lights shining over Hull-Dobbs Field, I smile knowing he has the best seat in the house.” 🏈

**For when the One Great Scorer comes
To write against your name,
He marks – not that you won or lost –
But how you played the game.**

– Grantland Rice quote used in Ellis Haguewood’s eulogy for Jake Rudolph



On this night, Jake Rudolph (center) knew his team had, indeed, played the game well. In the 1980 season opener, the Owls beat the AAA Briarcrest team 30-26. A celebration erupted in the dressing room and must have lit a fire. The team went undefeated in regular season games, earned a district championship, a state semifinalist finish, and posted a season record of 11-1.



Memphian Mac Cone and Olé Bring the Silver Home... to Canada

by Kimberly Eller
photos by Cealy Tetley



Thanks to Mac Cone '70, Memphis University School can add Olympic Silver Medalist to the long and distinguished list of accomplishments achieved by the school's alumni. Cone won a silver medal for Canada in team show jumping at the 2008 Beijing Olympics, the first time in 40 years that Canada has achieved a team medal in the event.

Cone, a native Memphian, started show jumping at age 11, around the same time he became an MUS student. While competing in show jumping events across several states, he was also competing for MUS in track and field and cross country. As Cone grew more serious about show jumping and it required more of his time, the student-athlete was faced with choosing between the sports.

"I found it difficult to ride in the afternoon after long distance running and practices, because the two sets of muscles required for the different sports don't go together very well," Cone explains. "To Coach Jerry Peters' dismay, I gave up running and went full-time into riding my junior year."

Peters remembers the day well.

"He was a very good runner, probably the most promising I had at the time. But Mac wanted to focus on riding horses. It has turned out well for him. I am so proud of his success before and during the Olympics. I can now say that I coached an athlete who won an Olympic medal. I couldn't say that before!"

After graduation, Cone enrolled in Memphis State University (now the University of Memphis), but found that his freshman classes were mostly repetitive lessons of what he had already covered at MUS. Bored by the first year of classes and preoccupied with show jumping, Cone approached his mother about quitting school and riding full time. She matter-of-factly told him to get a job.

Fortunately, Cone had been in a riding clinic with George Morris, a world-famous instructor who was looking for an associate. Morris remembered Cone from the clinic, and hired the young rider to help drive tractors, work at his stable, and care for horses in exchange for instruction. Within a year, Cone won a place on the U.S. Equestrian Team, an impressive accomplishment in such a short time. Cone rode for the team in 1972 and 1973.

When Cone married his wife, Brenley, a year later, he gained a different perspective. "It was time to get serious and earn a living," he remembers. The young couple went into business in New Jersey and Pennsylvania before moving to Canada, Brenley's native country, in 1978.

In 1981, Cone became a Canadian citizen in order to compete on the Canadian national team and on the inter-



national circuit. Since then, he has ridden exclusively for Canada, becoming the first person to compete on both U.S. and Canadian equestrian national teams. Cone competed in the 1996 Olympic Games in Atlanta, as well as in many other prestigious international competitions. In 2007, Cone and the Canadian team captured the silver medal at the Pan American Games in Rio de Janeiro.

Throughout the years and the competitions, Cone has had some exceptional mounts, but the horse he took to Beijing is a standout. Olé, a 12-year-old brown Dutch Warmblood gelding owned by Sarah Houstoun and Larry Evoy, started showing his championship mettle in 2007, outperforming many top horses on the circuit. When Cone was named to the Canadian Olympic team in June, he

and Olé began training for Beijing.

"Beijing was a hard-fought battle," Cone says. "I have great teammates who did a fantastic job." Cone and his Canadian teammates ended up tied for the gold medal with the U.S. team, facing a jump-off for the gold. Unfortunately, Olé suffered a minor injury to the tendons in one of his legs, and was unable to compete in the second round of the jump-off. This left Canada with a three-horse team and at a significant disadvantage. In the end, the U.S. team claimed the gold medal and Canada took home the silver.

"That's the way things go," Cone says. "We did end up with the silver medal. I've had a lifelong dream of gold for myself, but to end up with the silver at the Olympics just thrilled us to death!"

Today, Olé is recovering in Canada with a positive prognosis. Cone is busy running his business, Southern Ways Stables in King, Ontario, with Brenley and their children, Leighton, 28, Haley, 25, and a 17-month old granddaughter, Avery Jane Maloney. An inveterate competitor, Cone is already looking ahead.

"The next international competition is the International World Championships hosted in Lexington, KY, in two years," Cone says. "I think Olé can still compete; he's a young 12. With proper caution, we should have him ready by then."

Will MUS alumni get the chance to cheer for Cone during the London Games in 2012? "London would be in the cards," he predicts.

Faculty Profile

Sticking to His Guns

by Lauren Oxner

As **Mike Gunn** relates the story of his path from college to his twenty-fourth year of teaching math at MUS, two things are clear. One, this man loves what he does, and two, this man, for lack of a better phrase, sticks to his guns. Though he had planned to dedicate his life to the service of the Christian Brothers, his free spirit led him to change his mind, a choice that has brought him 23 wonderful years of impacting boys' lives at MUS.

A nearly life-long Memphian, Mike Gunn began his career in a highly suspect fashion, according to his students, by attending Christian Brothers High School.

"Yes," Gunn says with a chuckle, "the boys often tease me about that." Out of high school, Gunn joined the Brothers of the Christian Schools, more commonly known as the Christian Brothers, a worldwide community of religious, non-clerical men within the Roman Catholic Church. The Brothers' main focus is bringing the message of Christianity and education to youth. After joining the order, Gunn entered Christian Brothers University in Memphis.

While at CBU, Gunn decided to devote his life to teaching within the Christian Brothers organization. Having been inspired by Brother Joel McGraw, a man who Gunn claims is, professionally, the biggest influence on his life, Gunn prepared for a life dedicated to serving others as a Brother.

Upon graduating from CBU with a degree in math, Gunn received his first appointment at a military high school in



St. Louis, a stint that was to last two years. In the 70s, the school's enrollment and morale had declined due to the effects of the Vietnam War, but Gunn is quick to point out that this experience was enjoyable, and he learned a lot about schools and teaching. However, during his second year of teaching, Gunn decided he and the Brothers should part ways.

"There are three vows a man must take before becoming a Brother: poverty, celibacy, and obedience. Poverty isn't difficult to handle when the community is responsible for housing, food, and medical care. Celibacy is a struggle, but you learn to deal with it. Obedience, that's the one that got me. I just couldn't offer up my complete obedience for the rest of my life. So, I decided that the Brothers' life was not for me."

At that point, Gunn enrolled in graduate school at Vanderbilt University to pursue his doctorate. However, he again changed his mind, never writing a dissertation.

"I didn't like the distance that exists between a college professor and his students. As a professor, my whole relationship with a student would be based on delivering an educational

product. I kind of missed the closer student-teacher connection that exists in a high school."

After interviews with the government for various jobs in security never panned out, the principal at the high school in St. Louis where Gunn had previously spent two years contacted him.

"He asked me to come back and teach, and so I went back for two years, teaching math and serving as chairman of the math department." However, Gunn's true desire was to return to Memphis to teach.

In 1984, Gunn hit a stroke of luck. It just so happened that his sister worked for MUS alumnus **Jim Thomas '58**. When word got to Thomas that Gunn wanted to come back to Memphis, he

invited Gunn to interview with **Leigh MacQueen**, history instructor, and **Christa Warner**, head of the math department, and then for a follow-up interview with Headmaster **Gene Thorn**. Twenty-three years later, Gunn is still here, doing what he loves best: connecting with students and instilling in them a passion for learning.

Gunn lists former MUS teachers **Christa Warner** and **Beth Edmondson**, as well as current math teacher **Nancy Gates**, as the kind of inspiring teachers for whom he has lots of professional respect.

"Each one of them made me want to teach better."

When asked what makes MUS a place he's wanted to teach for such a long period, Gunn said, "Fundamentally, MUS tries to do what it says it tries to do. We mean what we say here. We've got a good group of students, the parents are supportive, my colleagues are supportive, and the administration has been great. Honestly, I have fun here. I tell people that, in the 23 years I've been here, there aren't more than six or eight days I haven't wanted to come to school. I feel so blessed to be here at MUS."

Rising Star

by Kem Pollard

When **Beau Davidson '99** played the lead role in the MUS production of *Oliver* as a seventh-grader, the audience took notice. Today, the Nashville music scene is taking notice of Davidson, with accolades and exposure befitting a star that's clearly on the rise.

Things actually couldn't look brighter for Davidson, who is currently living in Nashville as he pursues a recording contract. His debut single, "More Than I Can Give," catapulted his career with an accompanying music video. Davidson's music can be found on the Web sites of CMT, GAC, MTV, Vh1, Yahoo, and the American Music Channel. The single was also featured on the in-flight audio programs of Northwest, Delta, and Cathay Pacific Airlines and has been played on radio stations around the country, including his hometown station of the Rebel 95.3 Memphis.

Davidson was featured in the August 28 issue of *Country Weekly*, and he was named one of Nashville's 25 Most Beautiful People by *Nashville Lifestyles* magazine. He also won CMT's Nashville-area Music City Madness original song contest with "Mr. Wrong," one of many future hits found in his music catalog.

Born and raised in Memphis and steeped in the traditions of gospel music and Elvis Presley, Davidson has written a repertoire of music reminiscent of the Memphis sound.

"I just try to put a little Memphis muscle into country," is how Davidson describes his style. "Growing up in Memphis, you can't really escape the legendary musical status of the town. You have some pretty giant shoes to fill when you make the claim that you're a singer from Memphis, and you'd better be ready to deliver."

In addition to *Oliver*, Davidson participated in MUS theater productions of *Into The Woods* and *Sweeney Todd*. He also sang in the Central Church choir and appeared in the Mid-South Fair Youth Talent Competition. After graduating from MUS, Davidson earned a bachelor's degree from Northwestern University's prestigious School of Music in Chicago.

Singing isn't Davidson's only talent. While living in California from 2004 until earlier this year, Davidson nurtured a budding acting career as he worked on building his music catalog,



appearing on television in "Days of Our Lives" and "The Gilmore Girls." Davidson sees no reason to choose one career over the other.

"I'm an entertainer in all aspects," he says. "And although the recording industry is tougher to break into than the acting industry, with music I can make my own product. I don't have to wait for someone to call me for an audition, and I have more creative control."

Davidson recently had an interesting twist in his career journey, which gave him international exposure and linked him to country music star Keith Urban and his actress-wife, Nicole Kidman. Nelson Aspen, a Hollywood correspondent for morning news programs in Australia and New Zealand, asked Davidson to write an honorary lullaby for Sunday Rose, the newborn daughter of Urban and Kidman. Davidson complied, writing a lullaby in less than a week that premiered during Aspen's report for New Zealand's top morning TV program, "Sunrise."

The rising star has fond memories of his time at MUS. "MUS gave me a great academic foundation that has absolutely made a difference in my life," Davidson says. "I was active in sports until the tenth grade, when I stopped growing," he remembers. "So I stopped sports, and that disappointment could have been a tough time for me."

Instead, Davidson says, MUS teachers nurtured him in a creative sense. "**Mr. [Andy] Saunders** and **Mr. [Flip] Eikner** have had a profound effect on my career. I have stuck with my pursuit of entertaining largely because of my MUS background. English classes were my favorite ones. I looked up to **Mr. Terry Shelton** and **Mr. Norman Thompson**, and I respect and admire them greatly."

This past fall, Davidson joined other Nashville country artists to organize the "Men Rock for the Cure" benefit show for Breast Cancer Awareness Month in October. That month, he also performed at the Susan G. Komen event in Atlanta and opened for Craig Morgan and Josh Gracin at the Rebel 95.3 FM's RebelFest in Memphis. He was also a celebrity talent and fashion model for Nashville's Fashion for EveryBODY show in September to benefit the Eating Disorders Coalition of Tennessee.

To hear samples of Beau Davidson's music, go to www.myspace.com/beaudavidson, and listen to your favorite country music radio station. If you hear a song with a little Memphis edge, it may be Davidson breaking through the charts at any moment!



Beau Davidson as Oliver and Sean Lyttle '95 as Fagin in 1994

Branching Out

David Sacks '90 has found career success several times over, but the path, or *paths*, he's taken along the way have never been clearly mapped out for him.

He's always gone with what interests him most, allowing for an organic trajectory of "one thing leading to another," he says.

"It hasn't been planned out. I haven't had a 20-year plan."

And how could he, really? Sacks' latest business venture is Geni.com, a Web site that brings families together to share photos, news, and information. But since graduating from MUS in 1990 and Stanford University in 1994, the list of what he's accomplished isn't just varied in scope – it's practically inhuman.

He's co-authored a book, 1995's *The Diversity Myth: 'Multiculturalism' and the Politics of Intolerance at Stanford*; moved to Washington, DC, and worked as a legislative aide to Congressman Christopher Cox of Orange County, CA; joined McKinsey & Company as a management consultant specializing in the telecommunications and financial services industries; earned a law degree from the University of Chicago; helped found PayPal, the Internet start-up he and his partners eventually sold to eBay for \$1.5 billion; and moved to Los Angeles to start his own production company, Room 9 Entertainment.



When *MUS Today* last profiled Sacks in its Winter 2002-03 issue, Room 9, named for Sacks' college dorm room, had yet to release its first major film, which it did in 2006 with *Thank You for Smoking*. Based on the 1994 novel of the same name by Christopher Buckley, the movie starred Aaron Eckhart, Robert Duvall, Katie Holmes, and William H. Macy. At the 2006 Golden Globes, it was nominated for best comedy.

Future projects from Room 9 are in the works, such as a film on the surrealist artist Salvador Dali, but for Sacks, his attention is focused less and less on Hollywood and more on Geni.com. "Making movies is still fun," he says, but "there's just more opportunity right now on the Internet."

Launched in January of 2007, Sacks says his intention with Geni (Geni.com) is to "create a place for families to go on the Internet to build their family tree, to stay in touch with each other, and to archive their personal and family history."

From Writer

to Producer

to Family Tree Director

by Lacey Galbraith

He says, “Everyone has a family. One of the reasons I wanted to do this is that I like products the whole world can use. And this is something everybody can use.”

With more than a million users so far, Geni has grown exponentially in a short amount of time and that’s *without* the benefit of advertising or conventional marketing.

“Bloggers love to promote the site,” he says, and because Geni is about creating what Sacks calls “a social network for your family,” by its very nature, its popularity has spread virally. “People will read about it online,” or “find out about it from bloggers and sign up. They invite their family, and then they invite their friends, and it grows that way.

“One way to think about it would be as a Facebook for families,” he says. According to Sacks, the difference is that though both Facebook and Geni are about communication, Geni is “also appealing to this other human need, which is the need for self-preservation. By creating your family tree and then creating a timeline of your life that then folds into a larger timeline of your family’s history, it appeals to the need to create something permanent.”

Such appeal has been widespread. “Because families span everyone from seven to 70, you’re seeing people of all ages use it,” he says.

The site has even yielded a unique discovery for Sacks personally. “As soon as I set up my tree and [began] inviting other people, relatives from six different countries joined, some of whom I didn’t know well. Geni helped me learn more about them.”

Connecting with long-lost relatives and preserving familial history holds even more importance to Sacks now that he’s married. He wed his wife, Jacqueline, last year, and they had their first child, Reagan, earlier this year, something that, without a doubt, should make a better user of Geni out of him.

Sacks has also been busy with his new venture Yammer (Yammer.com), a microblogging tool for enterprises. Yammer was originally developed at Geni as an internal productivity tool. Over time, the product has evolved into a full-fledged company intranet/social network, adding features not available on consumer microblogging sites. Yammer recently won the 2008 TechCrunch50 and had 10,000 people and 2,000 organizations sign up for the service the first day it launched.

Party Planning Goes High Tech

by Lacey Galbraith



Meet Penelope. She helps with advice, tips, and planning ideas for your next party.

Matt Douglas and Sean Conta '96 are the founders of MyPunchbowl.com.

Along with the fun, there's plenty of hassle to planning a party: there's wrangling a date, sending invitations, and choosing the perfect caterer. **Sean Conta '96** is trying to simplify party planning with his new Web site MyPunchbowl (MyPunchbowl.com). Free to all users, it's what Conta and his colleagues are describing as "software for celebrations."

MyPunchbowl is a Web site full of personality. The design interface is both inviting and colorful, and, in their individual bios, employees of the site provide their favorite events and reasons to host a party; one cites Groundhog Day, another loves the Super Bowl. Conta's favorite event is New Year's Eve.

In 2000, Conta earned both engineering and music degrees from Brown University. Afterward, he says, "I worked for a couple years in IT consulting, but it wasn't my cup of tea." Conta, a drummer who has played in numerous bands, wanted to pursue music. He enrolled in Berklee College of Music in Boston for a professional degree, focusing on performance and the music business. He finished in 2004.

Landing a job which could take advantage of Conta's engineering background while satisfying his love for music would seem like a long shot. Conta, however, is surprised less and less "at how many great musicians I meet who are 'technical' people like computer programmers or engineers. I think there is definitely an underlying connection between the two areas," he explains. "Society sort of puts them at opposite ends of a spectrum, but I think, cognitively, they are closely related."

In Conta's case, he found jobs at both Zildjian, a company that produces percussion instruments, and Bose Corporation. Of the former, he says, "As you can probably imagine, being a drummer and working for Zildjian is like a dream come true." When asked if free cymbals were included as perks, Conta admits that "Yes, I did leave with some beautiful cymbals," but adds, "They certainly don't hand them out regularly!"

At Bose, Conta was part of "a small team that developed an acoustic modeling software program, where I had numerous responsibilities including front-end design."

It was MyPunchbowl co-founder Matt Douglas who recruited Conta to Bose in the first place. Close friends, the two had met through their wives who attended college together. Douglas first conceived MyPunchbowl approximately a year before Conta joined Bose in 2005." When Douglas asked him to come on board with the Web site, it was still "just an idea," according to Conta.

Conta married his wife, Jessie, in July 2006, and today they live in Seattle where he now works full-time at MyPunchbowl and she's a genetic counselor at Children's Hospital.

Since its inception, the accolades for MyPunchbowl have poured in. *Newsweek*, *Consumer Reports*, *The Wall Street Journal*, *PC World*, *MSN.com*, and a host of others have all covered the Web site, lavishing it with high praise. CNBC reported, "They are the developers of one of the hottest Web sites in America and around the world. These are the folks that are at the vanguard of web development."

Naturally, Conta is positive when it comes to MyPunchbowl and its future. "The team is growing," he says, "which is both exciting and challenging. We received a seed round of financing from Intel Capital last year and we are in the process of raising another round of investment."

There are challenges to starting any business, but the Internet and software industries are known to be particularly prickly when it comes to stability. Once again, though, Conta's background as an engineer *and* a musician is coming in handy.

"The experience of playing in bands provides a lot of useful skills for other jobs. You experience the challenge of working together as a team to get something done, and that applies to a lot of life experiences. The other interesting parallel between bands and MyPunchbowl is the struggle to 'make it.' You can have the most talented band in the country, but there is still a lot of luck and good fortune required to be really successful. It's the same with software startups; you do everything you can to make the company successful, but there are always factors that are out of your control," said Conta.

Is New Year's Eve really his favorite reason to party? "I've been to a lot of fun New Year's parties over the years," he says. "I also enjoy the Fourth of July, though most people don't realize that summers in Seattle are sunny and beautiful!"

Remember When

The Honor Code in Daily Life by Scott Wellford '69



When I look back on my experiences at MUS, my thoughts always seem to drift back to Honor Council and how it impacted me. I had the privilege to be on the council, and we often spoke of what it meant and how it affected our lives and those on whom we had to pass

judgment. I didn't fully appreciate this impact until my senior year when I had the opportunity to speak at a forum examining the honor systems at MUS, St. Mary's Episcopal School, Hutchison, Christian Brothers High School, St. Agnes, and Immaculate Conception Cathedral School. I came away from that forum confident that I was in a place where trust, honor, and commitment really meant something.

Whatever I said made an impact because someone from one of the schools invited me to speak on how I thought the honor system impacted students who lived with it. The more I spoke about it, the more I truly believed in it and for what it stands.

Several years after college, I was standing in a lobby and a man approached me. He called me by name. His name seemed familiar, but I couldn't place him. He proceeded to tell me that I had suspended him from school when he was in the seventh grade. At that point, it all came rushing back; I remembered the room, what he was wearing, his circumstances, and my disappointment in him and his actions. He told me I changed his life and he wanted to thank me for explaining to him what honor and integrity meant. We shook hands, and he turned and walked away.

Today, as I evaluate and build teams within our company, one of the first things I look for is trust and honor. It doesn't matter what else you have, if you are not to be trusted, then nothing you do will matter. As I told my sons, your name is what you are judged on daily.

THE GRIDERS

AN MUS FAMILY'S TALES OF TWO WARS

by Dr. John E. Harkins

Unsurprisingly, many MUS alumni have dramatic stories to tell. Some of these histories can be recovered via standard, easily accessible sources. Among my favorite MUS tales are those of **John MacGavock** (“Mac”) **Grider** and his two sons, **John M., Jr.**, and **George W.** All three lads attended the original MUS, and each of them served in a world war as a combat officer. Remarkably, two of these young warriors left book-length treatments of their wartime experiences.

Young Mac Grider was killed in France late in World War I when his plane was downed behind German lines. Grider’s close friend, fellow aviator, and aspiring writer, Elliott White Springs, revised and amplified Mac’s wartime diary and got it serialized in *Liberty* magazine in 1926. Entitled *War Birds, the Diary of an Unknown Aviator*, this series was quickly republished in book form. Initially a popular success, it has also received enduring critical acclaim. Subsequently, Springs turned over \$12,500 in royalties (a significant sum at that time) from *War Birds* to Mac Grider’s sons.

After completing their college prep educations at MUS, both of Mac’s boys attended the U.S. Naval Academy and served as officers during World War II. George commanded the submarine *Flasher*, which sank the greatest tonnage of enemy shipping of any sub during the war. He relates his adventures as a sub skipper in his memoir *War Fish*, a collaborative effort with Memphis *The Commercial Appeal* columnist Lydel Sims.

Following the war, George’s older brother John made a career of the Navy and retired at the rank of captain. In his later years, John became a realtor and devoted much of his time to causes and organizations for public betterment in Memphis. Upon his death in 1984, Grace-St. Luke’s School established a scholarship in his honor. John, however, cut much less a public figure than his younger brother.

George might also have continued his military career, but health issues forced him out of the Navy in 1947. After graduating from the University of Virginia School of Law, he returned to Memphis and practiced law. A devoted community activist and reform Democrat,

George became involved in politics at the local level. After he managed Edmund Orgill’s successful mayoral election campaign in 1955, George himself won election to the (now supplanted) Shelby County Quarterly Court in 1960. George capped his political career by defeating Congressman Cliff Davis, a thirteen-term, Crump-machine-holdover, in the 1964 Democratic primary election. George also won the general election, but served for only two years before losing to Republican Dan Kuykendall. George then served as a corporate official for the Carborundum Company before returning to Memphis to practice law until his final retirement.



This photograph shows a handsome young Mac Grider in his military uniform.

I provided most of the above story in my 1993 *MUS Century Book*. Recently, however, significant additional information has surfaced. This past summer, George W. Grider, Jr. (also an Annapolis graduate and former U.S. naval officer, but not an MUS alumnus) informed me of his participation in a 2003 documentary about *War Birds*.

War Birds is a 57-minute documentary by Robert Clem, a former fellow of Robert Redford’s Sundance Institute and an independent filmmaker and producer. Clem’s award-winning documentary tells a very powerful story, but one largely at variance with traditional accounts from and about the book.

The documentary’s story begins as the book does: with Mac Grider leaving home to become a British pilot during World War I. Mac quickly became close friends with fellow volunteers Larry Callahan and Elliott White Springs. All three were “born hell raisers.” Entering flight training in December of 1917, they devoted themselves primarily to eating, drinking, fighting, womanizing, braggadocio story telling, adolescent pranks, and the thrill of flying. Springs was the recognized leader of the three, but Grider was apparently the most popular. Ultimately, they were assigned to the command of Col. Billy Bishop, who, like these “Three Musketeers,” was considered a maverick and imposed scant discipline on his flyers.



George W. Grider (seated) and his friend and “as told to” collaborator Lydel Sims signed books when *War Fish* was published in 1958.

The mortality rate for pilots in World War I was horrendous; in 1917, the average Allied pilot survived only about three weeks at the front. Our three lads completed their training and arrived at the front in May of 1918. As they saw a large percentage of their cohorts killed in action, they soon viewed their own deaths as just a matter of time, but each was determined to “die well” when his time came. A raw and growing fear began to obsess each of them between flights.

When aloft, searching out and destroying enemy targets, however, they felt intensely alive and found temporary relief from their fears. On the ground, they were becoming “basket cases.” Before the war ended, the 24-year-old Springs was said to have looked 40 and felt 90.

On June 18, 1918, Grider and Springs were airborne about 16 miles behind enemy lines. They had headed back



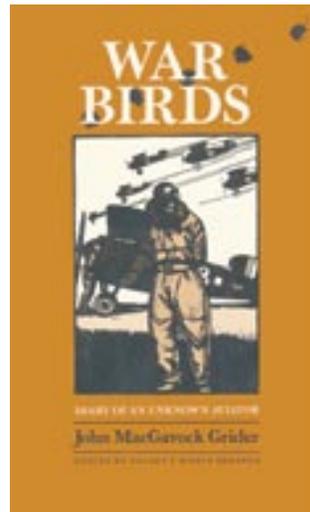
toward base when Grider peeled off to chase a German plane. They became separated in the clouds; Springs returned to base but Grider was shot down and killed. Springs seems to have felt an irrational and enduring guilt regarding Grider’s death.

Defying the odds, both Callahan and Springs survived the war, but emerged badly traumatized. Later, Springs achieved minor celebrity status with the publication of *War Birds*. Thought to be the “most accurate and wrenching” story of fighter pilots to emerge from the war, it inspired dozens of aviation movies, including *Wings*, the 1927-28 Academy Award-winning picture. T. E. Lawrence termed the book “immortal” and William Alexander Percy proclaimed that it possessed all “the ardor, idiocy, and heartbreak of youth.”

In his documentary, Clem claims that *War Birds* is really the story of Elliott Springs, rather than that of Mac Grider. Accordingly, Clem makes Springs the central figure of his documentary, and also includes some of the latter’s troubled life following the war.

The MUS Archives currently holds copies of the books *War Birds* and *War Fish*, a DVD of Clem’s documentary film, and a folder of relevant newspaper clippings. In an effort to complete our published holdings on this topic,

we are seeking a copy of Mac Grider’s letters home. His aunt, Josephine Grider Jacobs, edited and published some of Mac’s letters in her 1933 book *Marse John Goes to War*. MUS would be pleased to acquire a copy of Jacobs’ book or to learn of any other sources shedding light on this story. Contact Dr. John Harkins at john.harkins@musowls.org.



The 1988 edition of *War Birds* cites John MacGavock Grider as author and Elliott White Springs as editor.

Robert Clem’s powerful 2003 DVD of *War Birds* significantly revises the book’s story of three World War I aviators.

Alumni Generosity Creates Journalism Fellowship

Last spring, a coalition of generous *Owl's Hoot* editors and staff members from years past joined forces to endow the Journalism Summer Fellowship. Spearheaded by **Robert Davis '82**, the fellowship honored **Norman Thompson's** thirty-fifth anniversary at MUS. Thanks to the contributions of these men, every new editor-in-chief of the *Owl's Hoot* will attend the Columbia Scholastic Press Association journalism workshop at Columbia University each summer.

Thompson came to MUS to teach English in 1972. He became the advisor to the school newspaper, the *Owl's Hoot*, in 1978 and has been helping to hone the skills of new editors for 30 years.

At a toast (and roast) in Thompson's honor, Davis (pictured here) presented examples of his own writings from days-gone-by laden with Thompson's red pen comments. All kidding aside, Davis said that he spearheaded this tribute because Thompson had a profound influence on his writing. He found many alumni felt as he did, and support for the fellowship came together quickly.

"To be honored by so many highly accomplished, professional, ink-stained wretches is daunting to a high school newspa-

per advisor," said Thompson. "My only job these many years has been to correct grammar, keep character assassinations of faculty to a minimum, and then to get out of the way of the juggernaut of youthful creativity. I enjoyed everyone's comments immensely because they were examples of the kind of writing I admire and wish that I could instill in my students."

Several alumni who contributed to the fellowship commented on the impact Thompson had on their lives.

"I would not have chosen, nor likely been qualified for, the career path I took had it not been for Mr. Thompson, the MUS English Department, and the blissful year I spent putting out a newspaper with my friends and for my friends," said **Edward Felsenthal '84**. "It's hard to know how to thank someone for that, but for all of us who are indebted to him, tonight is a start."

"Because of Mr. Thompson's tireless efforts to instill a sense of honor and greatness in each of us,

I have the will to be a miner of wisdom and to strive for great things for as long as it takes," said **Faris Haykal '03**. "Mr. T is certainly among the many teachers at MUS whose guidance I will always look back on in appreciation. I've always said there should be larger-than-life, Ozymandias-like statues of Mr. Thompson and Mr. Shelton towering over the athletic building, and when I get rich enough off of writing for a living, I'll pay someone to build them."

Anyone interested in contributing to this endowment should contact Perry Dement, director of advancement, at (901) 260-1350 or perry.dement@musowls.org.

While discussing their school days, Robert Davis, Scott Snyder, and Rollin Riggs enjoy Norman Thompson's version of the past.

While discussing their school days, Robert Davis, Scott Snyder, and Rollin Riggs enjoy Norman Thompson's version of the past.



Norman Thompson (center) is surrounded by participants at the dinner: Robert Duffley '09, Roger Chu '08, Andrew McDermott '88, Steve Threlkeld '82, Owen Tabor '85, Robert Davis '82, Avery Reaves '00, Rollin Riggs '78, and Scott Snyder '83. The dinner honoring Thompson was the first ever held in the Morgan Foyer of Humphreys Hall.

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Crash Course in Journalism 101

by Robert Duffley '09

As the first recipient of the Journalism Summer Fellowship, I traveled to New York City for five days in June to participate in Columbia University's annual Scholastic Press Association conference.

Registration was the first step to attending. The convention is open to, and attended by, school newspaper and yearbook editors and staff from across the country. Delegates pick one class from several offerings, including layout, reporting and writing, and yearbook classes. I took a class for high school editors-in-chief.

The five-day program began on Sunday, June 22. Upon arrival, students were assigned to a dorm before sessions began that afternoon. As the only student from MUS at a conference mainly attended by school groups, I was something of an orphan, but a group of students from Connecticut "adopted" me.

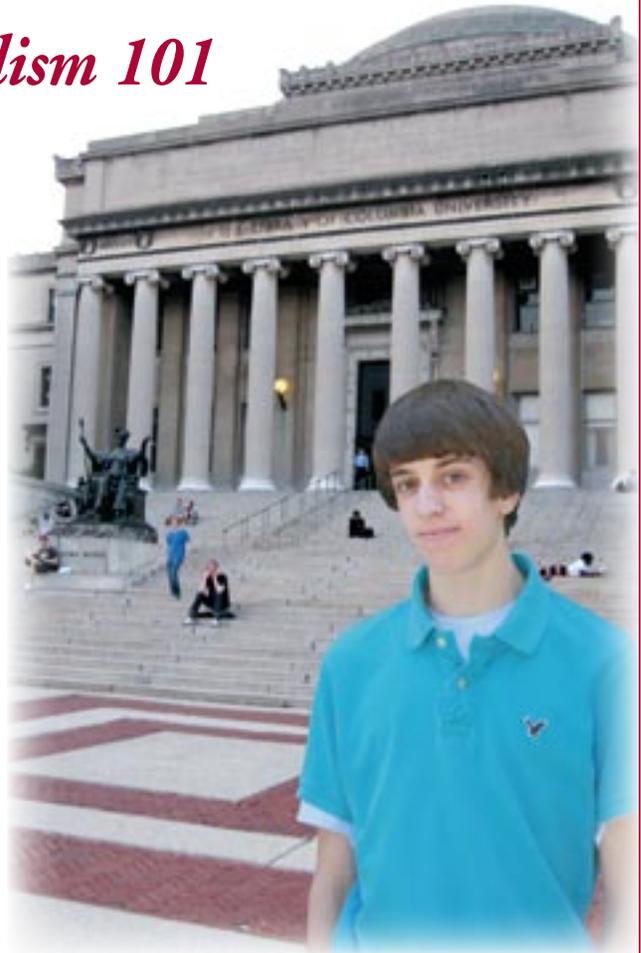
I imagine life at the program is typical of college, except perhaps that we weren't allowed in the cafeteria. Students were unleashed upon the neighborhood restaurants and simply expected to return to class on time. I was pleased to find that there were very few problems with this policy. All the students genuinely wanted to be at the program, learning about journalism.

At first, I was overwhelmed – I had never been to New York, and the only journalistic education I'd received had come from working on the paper. Many of my fellow students were from schools in the general New York area where journalism classes are offered, so neither endless torrents of cars nor journalistic terms like "lead," "AP Style," "butting headlines," and "dollar bill rule" fazed them. However, I soon gained my bearings and a functional fluency in the language of journalism and began to put my MUS English skills to work.

In the class, we spent a majority of time discussing strategies for organizing staff members, and we also covered topics such as journalism ethics, writing and reporting skills, the basics of newspaper design, and the future of journalism as a profession.

I can safely say that, in one week, I probably haven't learned as much about a single subject as I learned about journalism at the conference. The teachers at the program and the guest speakers, professional journalists, taking time to visit us and talk about their careers, presented a vibrant picture of the profession, much different than the crumbling ruin depicted recently in the news.

Looking back, I cannot praise the men who spearheaded this effort enough. Not only will the program be a source of many beneficial ideas for the *Owl's Hoot*, both



Robert Duffley at Columbia University

its content and its management, but it will also give MUS a foot in the door of high school journalism, an extracurricular with several annual national gatherings. As they taught at Columbia, journalism is a business all about networking, and until now, MUS's journalism network had been limited to local schools, if that. Now, thanks to the summer program, the school will have an extensive contact list of other schools with which we can exchange publications.

That said, I hope that other students interested in working on the paper and yearbook, not just the editor of the *Owl's Hoot*, also take advantage of the summer program, which is open to all high school students who work for a school publication. Having just experienced the impact of the knowledge one person can bring home from an event like this, I envision that more participants from MUS, perhaps led by the recipient of the fellowship award, could bring back enough journalistic know-how to positively change MUS's publications as much as the stadium transformed the campus a couple of years ago.

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Why I Give by Don Drinkard '98

When I attended MUS, the teachers always told us students that we would one day be the leaders of our communities. At the time, I thought it was nothing more than lip service, but I am now seeing that it is indeed true.

I witnessed a true testament to MUS's connection to our community earlier this year at a reception for the Thorn Society Emerging Leaders. The reception allowed some of us younger alumni to meet with older alumni who are established leaders in our community. This wasn't a cocktail party for the "good ol' boy" network, but rather a chance for us to learn from people who have made and continue to make incredible contributions to Memphis. For a 28-year-old like me to connect with a roster of men who are at the pinnacle of our business and civic community was not only a rare privilege, but also an inspiration. I have learned that an MUS education makes us capable of being leaders, but also affords us the opportunity to effect positive changes in our communities. Any school can produce leaders, but it is a rare and special school like MUS that can give these leaders the tools they need to do great things. This is why I give to MUS.



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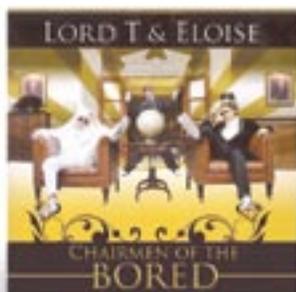
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COVERS

by Lauren Oxner



Elliot Ives '96 and Cameron Mann '96

The aristocrunk is back again. The hit crunk rap group Lord T and Eloise, made up of Robert Anthony, aka Eloise, and MUS alumni **Elliot Ives '96**, aka Myster-E, and **Cameron Mann '96**,

aka Lord T, have released a new CD, "Chairmen of the Bored." The CD consists of 20 songs featuring Memphis rappers such as 8Ball, Kin Folk Kia Shyne, Gangsta Boo, and Al Kapone. The highly successful group has been busy touring for the past year and a half, gaining fans as well as the respect of street rappers in the music industry.

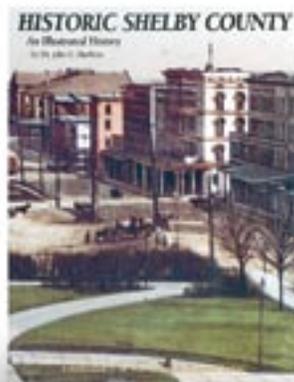
Lord T and Eloise, which has received high critical praise, is an unusual mixture of performance art, hip hop, and storytelling delivered by mythical, fraternal twin brothers, Maurice Eloise XIII and Lord Alouicious Treadwell. Though many of their lyrics take stabs at the privileged lifestyle around which they grew up, as Mann explained, the term "aristocrunk," which the group coined themselves, describes a type of lifestyle as well as "music that is a blend of some classical elements along with the signature Memphis dirty South crunk sound."

Ives, the group's producer, said, "The characters Lord T and Eloise rap from bottomless trust funds and have gained the respect of some local and national rappers, who are the purveyors of crunk music. We are the purveyors of aristocrunk."

Of releasing this latest album, Mann said, "My favorite part has to be the culmination of a lot of really exciting collaborations we've been able to have with various Memphis rap legends. We feel like we've been charting new creative territory."

When they're not performing, Mann works as the director of the Musicians Resource Center, which is part of the Memphis Music Foundation. Ives, who is part of several music groups, has signed onto Justin Timberlake's record label, Tennman Records; he frequently travels to Los Angeles to work with Timberlake on various projects.

They recently played SXSW, the South by Southwest Music Festival in Austin, TX; the Bonnaroo Music Festival in Manchester, TN; and the MUS Homecoming dance. In October, the group performed at the CMJ Music Marathon in New York City.



Dr. John E. Harkins

To add to his already extensive list of accomplishments, **Dr. John E. Harkins**, long-time MUS history teacher and Memphis-area historian, wrote *Historic Shelby County: An Illustrated History*, the first history of the county to be published since 1887.

Historic Shelby County

includes information on Mid-South life prior to the county's creation, political history from 1819 to the 1890s, a slave's perspective on the area's plantation life, Civil War and Reconstruction, and the E.H. Crump political organization. The book also includes numerous points of distinction in Shelby County's history.

Harkins, a fifth-generation Memphian and career teacher at MUS, worked on *Historic Shelby County* for three years and intends for this book to appeal to a variety of readers.

"The book is designed for the general reader, but its research draws on such a wealth and variety of information that it should be of interest to scholars and dedicated local history enthusiasts as well," according to Dr. Harkins.

MUS and the West Tennessee Historical Society hosted a book signing for Harkins in July, the first faculty book signing to be held at MUS. Dr. Harkins currently serves as MUS Archivist and Writer-in-Residence and holds the Ross McCain Lynn Chair of History. He is the author of *Metropolis of the American Nile* and the *MUS Century Book*, both illustrated local history books. Harkins also writes a monthly history column in *The Best Times* and has published numerous scholarly and popular articles on local history. He served for eight years as president of the West Tennessee Historical Society, which commissioned *Historic Shelby County*.

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'58

Les Nicholson (right) writes "on June 9, 2008, at the request of the Office of Presidential Personnel at the White House, I accepted an appointment as general counsel of the United States Government Services Administration. GSA, through its 11 regional offices around the country, is responsible for constructing, owning, and operating the buildings occupied by the federal government and contracting with more than 17,000 companies to obtain the computers, vehicles, and other goods and services used



by virtually all federal employees to carry out their duties." Les took time off from his new job to return to the 50th Reunion. His greatest pleasure this summer was serving as tournament chairman for tennis matches hosted this year by the U.S. Chapter of the International Lawn Tennis Federation, which was celebrating its 75th anniversary.

'60

Robert Dillard now has three children living in New York City: Mary, Rob, and Catherine. Rob and his wife Lindsey's one-year-old is Robert's first grandchild, Yvonne (Yvie), which has prompted more frequent trips by Robert and his wife, Laura, from Winston-Salem to the city. Catherine started studying international studies at Columbia this fall.

Marriages

Ken Bryant '78 to Graham Adams on May 17, 2008

John Dobbs '85 to Katherine Stobbs on May 31, 2008

Jonathan Rowe '90 to Lynn Brown on November 8, 2008

Evan Johnson '95 to Brandi Jones in August 2007

McCown Smith '98 to Caroline Virgin on September 6, 2008

Will Hunt '03 to Alexandra Liggett on October 5, 2008

Gatlin Hardin '04 to Breen Howell in June 2008

Births

Jennifer and **Joel Hobson '72**, twins, Jennifer Jane (died March 31, 2008) and Joel Jones Hobson IV, born March 17, 2008

Meg and **Scott Crosby '82**, a son, Thomas Glenn, born May 12, 2008

Lara and **Scotty Scott '83**, a son, Gwin Chalmers Scott III, born August 29, 2007

Ali and **Edward Felsenthal '84**, a daughter, Sophie Ann, born June 24, 2008

Gina and **Thomas Johnson '90**, a son, Nathan Kimbrough, born March 20, 2008

Jacqueline and **David Sacks '90**, a daughter, Reagan Nicollette, born January 21, 2008

Marjorie and **Nicholas Getaz '91**, a son, Arthur Simon, born June 19, 2008

Lisa and **Josh Lawhead '91**, a daughter, Louise Webb, born August 8, 2008

Heidi and **Stephen Austin '91**, a daughter, Lindsey Claire, born February 22, 2008

Jocelyn and **Oscar Atkinson '96**, a son, John Walker, born August 12, 2008

Emily and **Spike Treadwell '96**, a daughter, Virginia Margaret, born July 17, 2008

Brittany and **David Spence '97**, a son, Austin Allen, born September 25, 2008

Laura Lee and **Trey Jones '97**, a daughter, Ann Charlotte, born September 4, 2008

Jennie and **John Brooks '98**, a son, James Whitman, born June 18, 2008

Molly and **Griffin Beard '98**, a daughter, Mary Drew, born March 24, 2008

Missy and **Harley Steffens '98**, a daughter, Elinor Pierson, born August 18, 2008

By the time this column comes out, Kathy Ledbetter may (or may not) have made it to the top of Mount Kilimanjaro in Tanzania with six other Memphis women. She and **Scott Ledbetter** may (or may not) have completed work on all the facades of the buildings in Bolivar, TN, where they have spearheaded a redevelopment/restoration of the town square. Bass Pro may (or may not) have put its banner on the front of the Rameses statue at the Pyramid as a result of Scott's persistent efforts to keep that project on target.

At the end of January, **Allen Morgan** will attend a banquet where he will be inducted into the Tennessee Tennis Hall of Fame. In addition to a lifetime of participating in tournaments, Allen and Musette quietly provided the primary support for over a decade for Tennis Memphis, which enabled more than 10,000 children, mainly

from poorer neighborhoods, to attend a summer tennis camp. More publicly, his company, Regions-Morgan Keegan, serves as the lead sponsor for the Memphis ATP tour event, currently ranked as the fifth-highest tennis tournament in the United States.

Carol and **Carl Olsen** have a five-year-old granddaughter, Taylor, in Knoxville. We recalled Carl winning a new Jack Kramer wood tennis racquet when several classmates were ball boys for the Jack Kramer/Pancho Gonzales tour through Memphis when we were in the eighth or ninth grade.

Sandra and **Ned Smith** had close contact with the summer flooding, happy that their son Jeffrey's home in Iowa City stayed above water, though the rising river exceeded the 500-year mark. Jeffrey's employer, the Cedar Rapids School Board, was not as fortunate. Ned and Sandra's two

granddaughters were glad to have a long visit in Memphis this summer. Sandy, their other son, works in Knoxville for an electric power consulting firm. Sandy's expertise is in wind power.

'61

Dove season opened in Arkansas with **Tom Hutton, Scott May, and Hammond Cole** all at their club, Hatchie Coon Hunting and Fishing Club. Tom and Scott were joined by their sons, **Tom, Jr. '91** and **Kirby '94**. The MUS grads were all glued to the computer watching the live broadcast of an MUS football game. This modern marvel took place miles from the nearest paved road, in the middle of a 35,000-acre swamp. The doves cooperated the next day.



Class of 1958 Celebrates 50 Years

Thomas Amphitheater Dedicated to Classmate



Class of 1958: (front) Cash King, (second row) Worth Brown, Kerry Patteson, Claude Crawford, Clyde Patton, (third row) Bill Butler, Jack Henard, and Les Nicholson

Homecoming 2008 was the setting for a major milestone for the Class of 1958 and for Memphis University School – the first 50th Reunion for a class from the “new” MUS. Headmaster **Ellis Haguewood** hosted a luncheon for the members of the class, their families, and special guests. During the luncheon, Haguewood addressed the classmates and reminded everyone what life was like 50 years ago at MUS and across the nation, citing specifics about several members of the Class of '58. He closed his remarks by saying, “We are what we are because of the tone you set as the first graduating class of the re-established Memphis University School. You began the tradition of excellence that we are trying to maintain and build



Left: Jimmy Thomas's family gathered for the dedication of the amphitheater: (front row) Meg Crosby, Andrew Crosby '14, Elizabeth Laws, Mack Montgomery, Porter Montgomery, Cannon Montgomery, and Scott Montgomery; (back row) Stephen Laws, Scott Crosby '82, Tom Crosby, Nancy Thomas, Richard Thomas, Debbie Thomas, and Taylor Hewgley '94.

Below: Laureen Nicholson (wife of Les), Chipsy Butler (Bill), and Susan Crawford (Claude) try out one of the new benches.

on today, know that you will always be a part of us who remain at MUS. We hope that MUS will always be part of you. We want to believe that your habits of mind, your pursuit of excellence in that which life has called you, and your self-reliance and perseverance were informed by the intellect you sharpened here, by the moral sense you quickened here, by the challenges you met here, and by the judgment you developed here.”

Following the luncheon, the guests assembled in the Thomas Amphitheater for the dedication of the facility in memory of **James A. Thomas III '58**, who died in 1999. The naming of the amphitheater was made possible by generous gifts from Thomas's daughters, Scott Montgomery and Meg Crosby, and friend and business partner, **Trow Gillespie '65**. At the ceremony, Gillespie remarked that “So much can be said about Jimmy – he was truly one of the unique individuals I've known – bright, witty, charming, clever, creative, and articulate. He was also a true intellectual with a thirst for entrepreneurship and he might have been the smartest person I have known. So, the naming of this amphitheater recognizes a life well-lived, but it also recognizes how much MUS meant to Jimmy.”



In presenting the gift, Thomas's daughters also expressed how much their father loved MUS and that the amphitheater, located in the heart of the school, was a fitting tribute to him; “the kind of place you would likely find him with his nose in a book.”

Worth Brown '58 spoke on behalf of his classmates and presented the school with two benches from the class to be placed in the amphitheater in memory of all three classmates who have passed away: Thomas, **John Edwards**, and **Bob Walters**.

In closing, Headmaster Haguewood said, “Jimmy Thomas was an educated man, a man of wit and grace and generosity, a man who gave more to the world than he took from it. All of us at MUS are honored to accept this amphitheater, which will always remain a tribute to an alumnus whom we all loved and admired.”

'62

A few of us got together recently at Canon and **Jamie Hall's** upon the occasion of a couple of St. Mary's girls from Canon's class being in town. This was a consequence of the great time we had in April at their reunion. It was another pleasant evening with Sandy and **Russell Patterson**, Billie and **Dan Work**, Sallie and **Gary Ford**, and Kathy and **Jerry Bradfield**, as well as Tina Heslip Cliliberto and Jackie Whiteleather who live out of town, and Donna Lansing Plummer who's back in Memphis. **Dan Copp** was in town, too, visiting his mom, but didn't get the news until too late to attend. Dan and Jerry Bradfield got a chance to catch up earlier in the summer when they went for a fast walk around Audubon Golf Course. It was a great opportunity to visit and get some good exercise in, too. They hope to repeat it next time Dan's in town. Classmates are welcome to join in!

Fred Smith was an at-large delegate at the Republican National Convention in September in St. Paul, MN.

'66

Two classmates, **Hank Hill** and **Chuck Smith**, have sons who are contributing to the success of this year's varsity football team. Playing for the undefeated Owls, **Hank Hill IV '10** returns punts and plays wide receiver, while **Austin Smith '09** anchors the defensive line. Go, Owls!

Kent Wunderlich has been named chief executive officer and co-chairman of the board of Financial Federal Savings Bank.



Eight alumni, **Johnny Adams '66**, **Malcolm McRae '67**, **Jack Roberts '66**, **Kent Wunderlich '66**, **Parks Dixon '69**, **Dwight Drinkard '66**, **Chuck Smith '66**, and **Hank Hill '66**, traveled to Kohler, WI, for a golf outing. Six of the eight collectively celebrate their 60th birthdays this year.

'67

Lance Minor was elected treasurer of the Memphis Rotary Club for 2008-09.

'68

Mike O'Brien is living in Austin, TX, where he is a professional photographer. His interesting Web site is www.obrienphotography.com.

'70

John Catmur was elected as chairman of the Remodelers Council of the Memphis Area Home Builders Association. He is president of Catmur Development Co.

In Beijing, China, **Mac Cone** won a silver medal competing in the equestrian competition for Canada. See article on page 12 for more information.

'72

Jim Corkren relocated to Birmingham in February 2007 with Laboratory Corporation of America as a senior medical technologist. He worked for Lab Corp in Memphis for ten years, was laid off, and rehired last year to work in Birmingham. Go, Crimson Tide!

Mary Ben, **John Heflin**, and family queued up at Wimbledon this summer starting at 8:00 a.m. to get 60£ seats at fifth row center on Court One. They watched 12 hours of tennis and reported that Wimbledon is perhaps the most beautiful sports arena in the world.

'73

The Class of '73 came in second overall in the Alumni Golf Scramble and won TOP class team honors! Congratulations to **Elmer Stout**, **John Bryce**, **Bill Adams**, and **Cummings Marlow**.

Andy Baker continues his house renovation business and also works with clients on brand marketing. He splits his time between Bernardsville, NJ, and New York City.

40th Reunion for the Class of 1968



Bloodworth and Varner Recognized for MUS Service

THE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION EXECUTIVE BOARD RECOGNIZES ALUMNI WHO BEST SYMBOLIZE THE IDEALS OF HONOR, SERVICE, AND INVOLVEMENT IN THE LIFE OF THE SCHOOL. AT ITS ANNUAL LUNCHEON, ALUMNI EXECUTIVE BOARD PRESIDENT **BOBBY WADE '84** PRESENTED **RUSTY BLOODWORTH, JR. '63** WITH THE ALUMNUS OF THE YEAR HONOR AND NAMED **JIM VARNER '73** THE VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR.

Alumnus of the Year

"It's hard to measure the impact that MUS had on my life," said Rusty Bloodworth. "I didn't realize what a gift it was, but I am thankful that in the 50s, there were men who had a vision and were willing to make sacrifices to re-establish MUS. I had some of the very best faculty, and since being bitten by the MUS bug, I've had the opportunity to work with the best alumni all these years. I am thankful to be a graduate."

Bloodworth came to MUS in the fall of 1959. He edited the annual, was assistant editor of the newspaper and published the first "MUSE" literary magazine. After graduating in 1963, he entered the architecture school at the University of Virginia. He was a member of the IMP Society, TILKA, ODK, Scarab, and also served as president of the Raven Society and editor of the first edition of the architecture magazine, "Modulus."

He graduated in 1968, worked that summer with Boyle Investment Company, and then went to Sweden for a fellowship studying new community development. He served as an officer in the U.S. Marine Corps, and later did graduate work at Yale in environmental design.

Bloodworth spent the last 40 years working closely with a host of MUS alumni. As part of Boyle, he helped **Mark Halperin '67** and **Henry Morgan '64** develop more than 25 major office buildings and 2 million square feet of space in Memphis, while adding many special neighborhoods to the Memphis and Nashville areas.

In 1973, he married Fran Tully, and they have four children, Elizabeth, Faith, **Russell III '01** and **Christopher '08**, and four grandchildren.

He is a founding member of the Thorn Society and has served on countless committees as a trustee, including the Doors to New Opportunities Task Force, and the steering and physical facilities committees for the strategic plan.



Jim Varner and Rusty Bloodworth

Volunteer of the Year

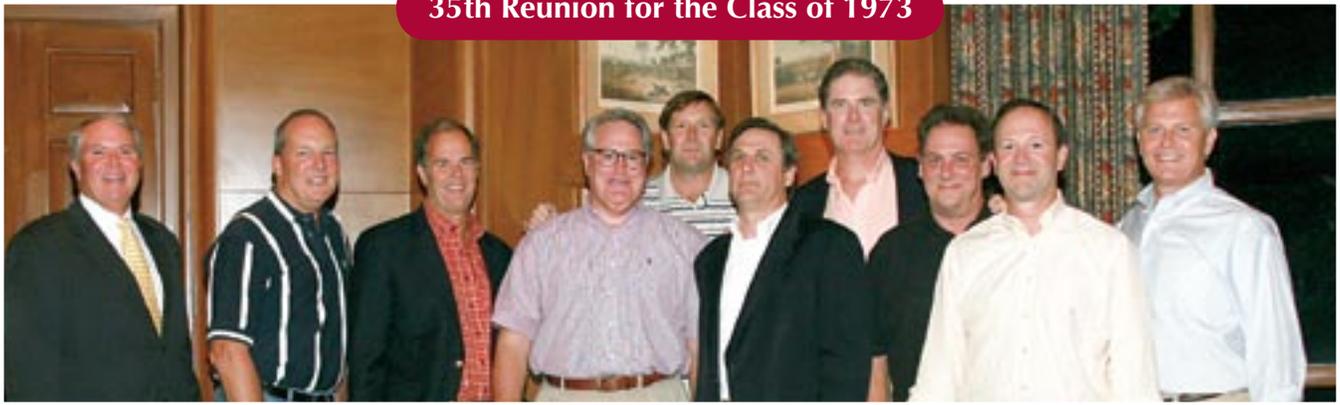
"MUS provided me with a great education, great memories, and great friends," said Jim Varner. "To quote **Ellis Haguewood**, 'We have been great beneficiaries of a legacy at MUS and we drink from wells we did not dig.' We've received more than we have given."

Varner graduated from MUS in 1973 and served as Honor Council president. He made first team on the All Memphis Basketball Team. He took the dribbling skills that **Coach Jerry Peters** taught him to Ole Miss and lettered in basketball there for three years. He graduated from Ole Miss in 1977 and went to UT Medical School. Finishing UT in 1981, he completed his residency at Campbell Clinic in 1986, and a year later, finished a sports medicine fellowship at the University of Virginia. He is now in private practice as an orthopedic surgeon with The Office of Bone & Joint Surgery, P.C.

Varner served on the MUS Board of Trustees for 16 years and was chairman of the athletic committee. He is a founding member of the Thorn Society and was its president from 1996-98. He was also on the steering committee for both the Doors to New Opportunities and the Multi-Sports Complex campaigns. From 1987-99, he served as football team physician.

Jim and his wife Suzanne have one daughter, Austin.

35th Reunion for the Class of 1973



'74

Ben Adams was named in Lawdragon's list of "100 Managing Partners You Need to Know." He is chairman and CEO of Baker, Donelson, Bearman, Caldwell & Berkowitz law firm.

Frank Crawford and his wife, Janet, have moved to Somerville, TN, where he is senior pastor of First Baptist Church. He invites his classmates to come hear him preach anytime.

Buck Wellford was a delegate from the 9th Congressional District at the Republican National Convention.

Jaye Wells lives in Tucson, AZ, where he owns and operates Rooster Sporting Company. The company designs and manufactures apparel and gear for shooting sports. Rooster Sporting is the official supplier of the Scholastic Clay Target Program.

'76

John Phillips of Strategic Financial Partners qualified for the New England Financial's Annual Leaders Award.

Kim and **Johnny Pitts** celebrated their 24th wedding anniversary in Italy this past spring. Their oldest daughter, Jennings, is a senior at Belmont in Nashville; their youngest son, Rob, is a freshman at High Point University in High Point, NC; and their daughter, Mary Carson, is in the eighth grade at Hutchison. Johnny's company, Lipscomb & Pitts Insurance, LLC, is the largest privately held insurance agency in the Mid-South. Johnny will be president of Carnival Memphis in 2009 and just completed his first triathlon. Kim is on the LeBonheur Hospital Board and teaches Pilates. They still have a goldfish that Mary Carson won at the fair six years ago – that's 150 human years, but the fish doesn't know it because of his ten-second memory.

'78

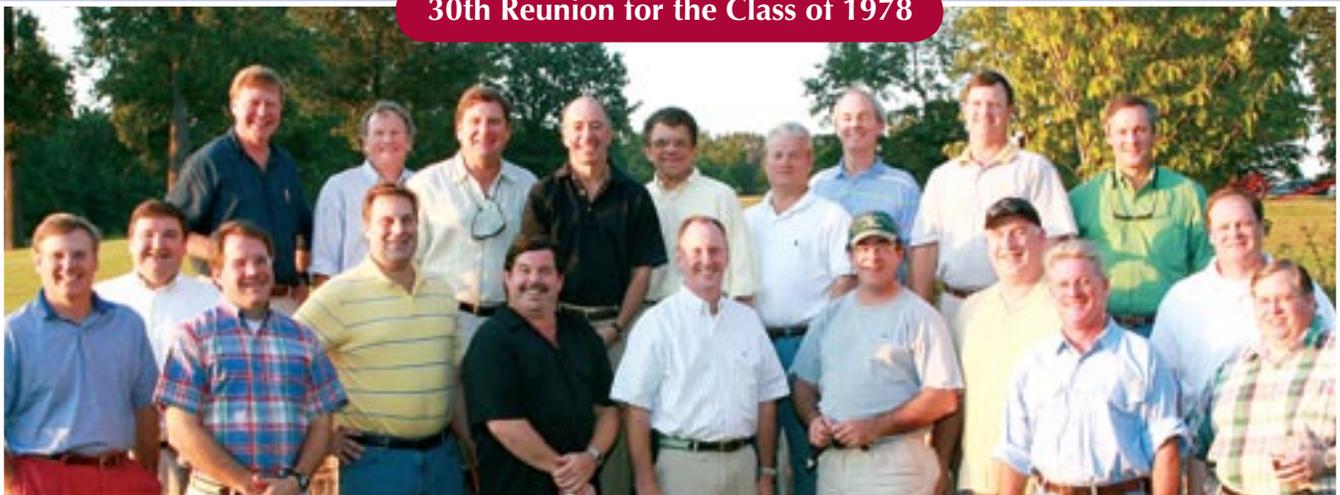
Newton Allen still lives in Nashville where he is a practicing physician at the St. Thomas Medical Group. Newton has passed a milestone: his oldest child, Sarah, has graduated from Davidson College and is living in Washington, DC. His son, Newton III, is a sophomore at Princeton. His youngest child, Mary, a poet and songwriter, is preparing to leave the nest.

Diane and **Jim Barton** have two children, Jack (12) and Josie (10). They live in Atlanta. Jim still hopes to become an astronaut.

Clay Beach lives in Nashville with his wife, Roberta, and their three children, Katie (15), Henry (12), and Emily (8).

Graham and **Ken Bryant** live in Nashville with a combined family of six children, Betsy (16), Mark (14), and Alex (11) Bryant, and Griffin (13), Elizabeth (11), and

30th Reunion for the Class of 1978



25th Reunion for the Class of 1983



Katherine (6) Adams. Ken is an attorney with the Miller & Martin law firm.

George Sousoulas has joined Wunderlich Securities as chief operating officer of the firm's private client group.

'81

Billy Orgel was elected president of Temple Israel.

Boyd Wade is the director of bank relations for Financial Institution Consulting Corporation and is still an active CPA. He and Rob Browne won the Memphis in May canoe race last May in the 80 and over division. That means the combined age of your boat has to be at least 80. They plan to be there again this year to defend their title. As an inspiration to the cross country team, he wanted them to know that he ran the Midnight Marathon in Alaska in 2006 and the St. Jude Memphis Marathon last year. Let those long distance runners know they are cursed for life. He is also the treasurer of the Wolf River Conservancy. Boyd has a fifth-grader and an eighth-grader at St. Mary's Episcopal School.

'82

David Montague has taken a job with Poplar Foundation. He says he doesn't have a title or a big salary, but he does get to eat lunch in the Southeastern Asset Management lunch room!

Bill Proctor has been named president of nexAir, a distributor of atmospheric gases with 21 sites in six states.

Lewis Elected to Tennessee Bar

by Kimberly Eller

The Tennessee Bar Association (TBA) recently elected **Buck Lewis '73** (right) as president. Lewis's focus during his tenure is on the TBA's 4ALL Campaign which



Photo by Suzanne Robertson/Tennessee Bar

combats the denial of access to legal services caused by poverty, domestic violence, the economy, and the ever increasing cost of legal services. The TBA will involve legal groups across the state in a four-pronged attack on the problem focusing on education, collaboration, participation, and legislation.

"Most lawyers, like most MUS graduates, have been given many opportunities. We're strongly encouraging Tennessee lawyers to give back to their communities," said Lewis. His reasoning is that "about two-thirds of these legal problems are either problems with creditors or problems with medical bills. As legal service attorneys and administrators will tell you, a high percentage of these clients are women left alone to care for children. Many are victims of domestic violence, and there are ripple effects. Tennesseans who cannot resolve basic legal problems often end up requiring more resources from other state and federal agencies."

Lewis has been very active in the Memphis and Tennessee legal community. He served as TBA vice-president in 2006 and as president-elect in 2007. In 2004-2005, he served as president of the Memphis Bar Foundation. In 2006, the Tennessee Judicial Selection Commission recommended Lewis to the governor for appointment to the Tennessee Supreme Court. He was recently listed in "The Best Lawyers in America" in the fields of appellate law and personal injury litigation and in "Mid-South Super Lawyers" in the area of business litigation. In 2007, Lewis was named to the Honor Roll of the American Bar Association torts and insurance practice section.



M.D. x 2

by Kimberly Eller

After graduation, MUS alumni and brothers Lester and Larry Lee went into medicine, and both are now successful doctors working in their own specialties to improve medical care across the country. **Lester Lee '89** (left) is a radiologist working with veterans and **Larry Lee '83** (right) combines practicing medicine with the management of medical services and health insurance to make medical care more affordable.

With an impressive listing of academic achievements and professional successes, Lester Lee focuses on teleradiology, the process of sending radiological patient images, such as X-rays, CAT scans, and MRI scans, from one location to another for interpretation and consultation.

Lester Lee works with the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) in California, and is involved in developing a national teleradiology program with radiology offices that use secure networks to provide services for VA facilities nationwide.

"Patient care is optimized by providing subspecialty expertise to geographic areas which otherwise would not have access to such high-level care. Using my medical and teleradiology experience, I consider it a privilege to have the opportunity to provide medical care to our nation's veterans," said Lester Lee.

Lester Lee attributes some of his success to what he learned at MUS. "My experience at MUS taught me the importance of not only striving for excellence, but also working in a team environment and providing service by giving back to others."

In addition to his work at the VA, Lester Lee maintains a faculty appointment at the University of California in San Francisco. He currently lives in Palo Alto, CA, with his wife, Angela, and their daughter, Kiran, 1.

Also with an impressive resume of accomplishments and success, Larry Lee uses his background in health care and his MBA to improve the quality of medical care.

He works for HealthPartners, Inc., a large integrated health care delivery system. There, he continues to practice internal medicine and serves as one of the medical directors in the company's health insurance division. This allows him to "continue in what has become the theme of my life: combining clinical medicine, scientific methods, and business concepts to improve the quality and affordability of health care," Larry Lee said.

Larry Lee is grateful for what he learned at MUS. "Besides the excellent academic preparation, MUS instilled the system of values and ethics that has served me well in all my pursuits."

He lives in Minneapolis, MN, with his wife, Cynthia, and their two daughters, Lydia, 3, and Lauren, 1.

'85

Hudson Adams reports "this will be my 15th season with Georgia Shakespeare. I will be acting in two of the three repertory shows for the summer season, *As You Like It* and *The Merchant of Venice*. Also, I was just added to the board of Georgia Shakespeare for a one-year, ex-officio position. The board is including a representative from the group of Associate Artists. I am pleased and honored to have been the first selection."

Bill Chapman owns Chapman Sales & Marketing, which distributes dry goods and candy to retailers across the Southeast and Texas. Since 1995, he has made his home in Monroe, LA, which is not only where his company is based, but also where his wife Allison's parents live. Bill has been spending his free time recently honing his golf skills, as evidenced by finishing first in his flight in a recent tournament at Frenchman's Bend Country Club, his home course. He and Allison have a daughter, Ainsley (7), and a son, Whit (11).

David Disney writes: "I have a beautiful wife of 13 years, Angelia, and three wonderful kids, Ty (11), Anna (8), and Ainsley (5). Still living in Dallas, they recently moved into some larger digs (finally finished a two-year house project) after living too small for too long with three kids, three pets (and a partridge in a pear tree...). On the business side, I've had my own commercial real estate company for the last 12 years... my primary focus continues to be on investment sales brokerage with an emphasis on retail/shopping center transactions. Closer to Memphis, I recently closed on the sale of Countrywood Crossing Shopping Center in Cordova, across the interstate from Wolfchase Galleria. That was a fun deal for me given that it's in the Memphis area and happens to be around the corner from my mom's house."

Chris Sullivan has married the former Laura Whitby, whose grandmother **Pallie Hamilton Brown** served as head librarian at MUS for more than 20 years. Chris, who has been a fireman with the city of Memphis for 14 years, is currently based at Fire Station No. 44, located on Humphreys Boulevard just north of Walnut Grove Road.

Chris Teague sends greetings from Oxford, MS. He is the general manager of North Mississippi for Southern Concrete Products, which manufactures concrete blocks and landscape products and distributes clay bricks. He and his wife, Leigh Ann, have a ten-year-old son, Elijah. He writes that “**Phil Burnett** joined our tailgate in the Grove this year, so I do see him on football weekends, where anyone is welcome to come join us as we watch the Rebels rise from the ashes to the top of the SEC West... maybe...probably not.”

The owner of Potalot Pottery in New Orleans, **Alex Williams**, tells us he “is still eternally grateful for all that you guys did for me after the federal levees failed. My wife, Cindy, and I are buying the commercial property that has been our studio’s location since 2003. We couldn’t have done it without the flotation devices from MUS alumni and the hospitality of Memphis.” Be sure to visit 3818 Magazine Street the next time you’re in the Big Easy.

'86

Paul Anderson is managing director and chief operating officer of Centennial Partners, LLC. Centennial is a hedge fund that manages capital for both individual and institutional investors. Fellow Owls also working at Centennial include **John Apperson '85** and **Shannon Rhodes '90**.

Bartlett Durand, a long-time vegetarian, is now marketing organic artisanal cheese, meats, and artisanal sausages for Otter Creek Organic Farm (www.ottercreekorganicfarm.com). The farm was named “Organic Farm of the Year” and is a model for sustainable, organic agriculture. Bartlett also owns a small abattoir in Black Earth, WI, and is able to ship organic- or grass-fed meat across the country, although his focus is on local foods and redeveloping connections between farmers and consumers in the same region. Bartlett, Leilani, his wife of 17 years, and their 3-year-old son, Monroe, live outside of Madison, WI, on five acres. You can contact Bartlett at bartlett_durand@hotmail.com.

Ricky Heros has started a new company, ACA Communities, which is engaged in providing housing and full-time care to developmentally disabled adults.

Chad Parker sold his waste management company to Elysian Fields Disposal, LLC, a solid waste/oil and gas services company in Shreveport, LA. He is also going to be a grandfather in February (wow, are we that old?).

Trip Roberts recently started a new job as regional development officer for the Carolina Lowcountry Chapter of the American Red Cross. In a seven-county region of South Carolina, he is responsible for directing a development department to support Red Cross efforts in rebuilding

the lives of home fire victims and providing shelter, clothing, and supplies to families left homeless by natural disasters. His efforts also enable deployed military personnel to receive emergency messages from home and much more.

Andy Wright and **David Warlick** are now senior vice presidents with Pulaski Bank. Andy also reports that he has earned his private pilot license.

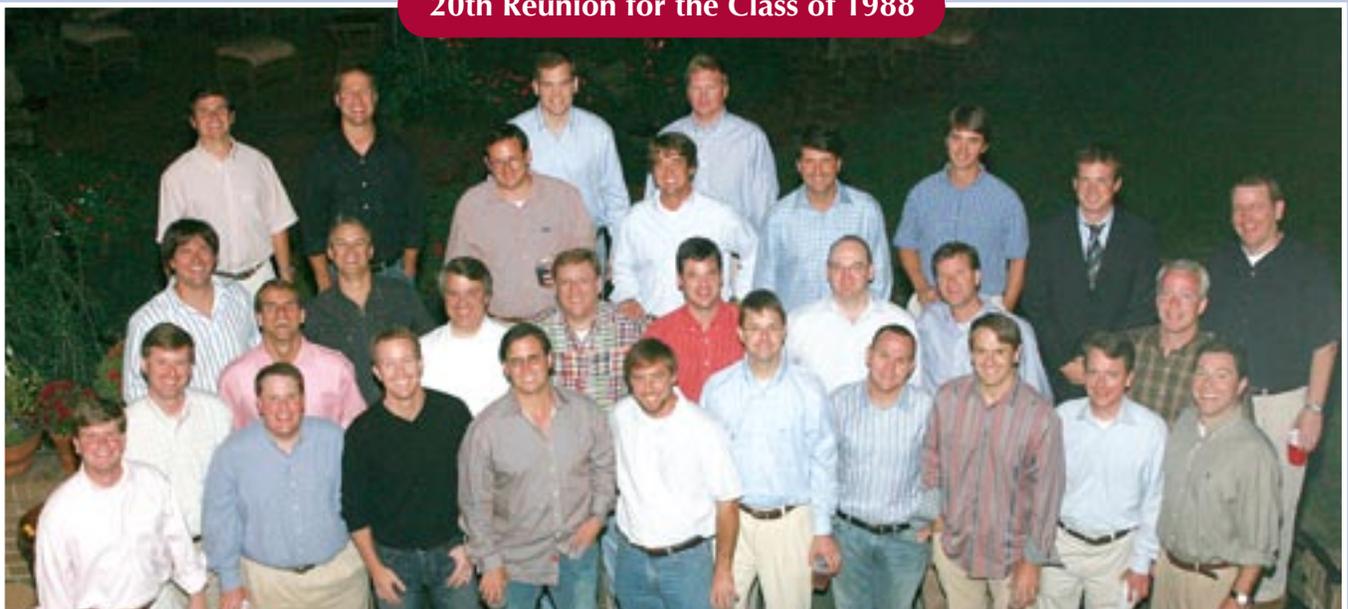
'91

Peter Jaques directs the San Francisco-based Balkan brass band, Brass Menazeri, and had a busy fall producing their second CD, holding a CD release party at San Francisco’s Great American Music Hall, and playing the Monterey Jazz Festival, all in September. The band was also nominated for “Best International Music” for 2008 by the *SF Weekly* newspaper. After all this activity, Peter spent a month in Barcelona for a well-earned vacation.

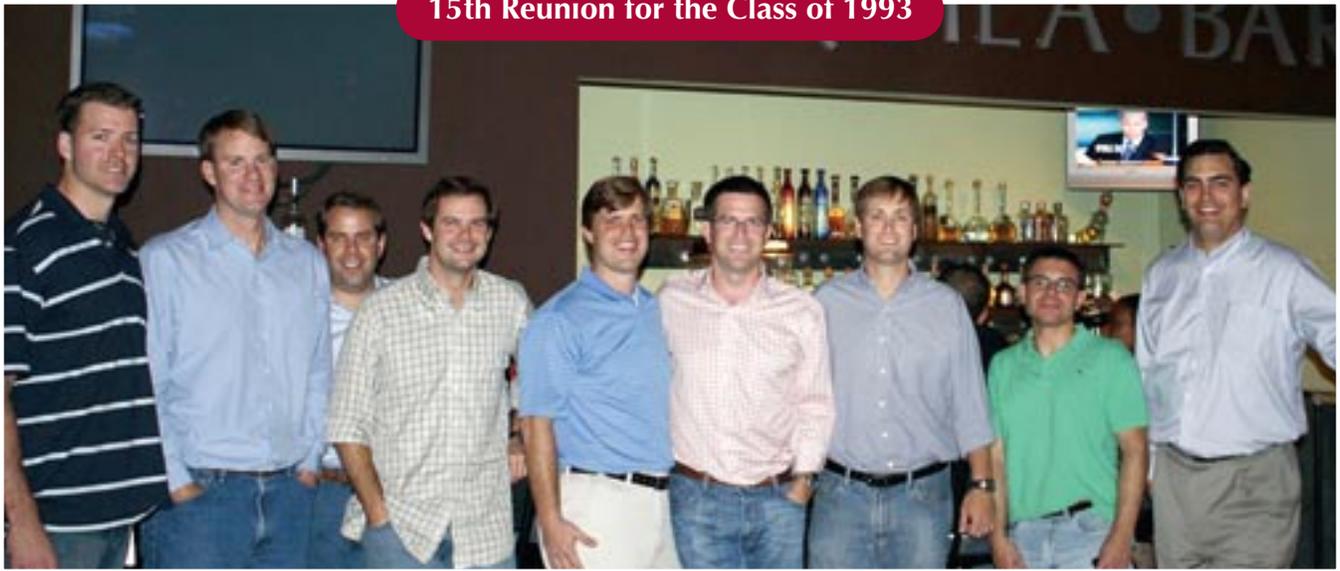
'92

Sid Kara has written a non-fiction book, *Sex Trafficking: Inside the Business of Modern Slavery*, published by Columbia University Press. It is expected to hit the stores January 2, 2009. The book is available on Amazon.com.

20th Reunion for the Class of 1988



15th Reunion for the Class of 1993



Marc MacMillan has been named Crichton College's new baseball coach.

Michael Stringer is using a new Web site he created, www.velocommuter.org, to help fight global warming by encouraging people to leave their cars at home and bike to work, if only for a day. His goal is for Americans to keep one million pounds of carbon dioxide out of the atmosphere by biking to work instead. Currently, he estimates that people who have taken part in his Web-based initiative have reduced their collective carbon output by 176,807 pounds.

Duncan Galbreath has been elected president of The Phoenix Club, a civic organization that sponsors the Boys and Girls Clubs of Memphis.

In July, **Pat Hickman** and his family moved to an area in Denver called Stapleton. He and others have planted a new urban church, Denver Presbyterian Church, where Pat is an assistant pastor. They are still in the process of informal worship and fundraising.

Hunt Taylor recently accepted a position at Strategic Wealth Management where he doubles people's money.

'95

Lex Broyles, capitalizing on his success with Broyles Development in Fayetteville, AR, has recently opened up The Fayetteville Wine Cellar. The bar serves a wide variety of wines from around the world and light tapas. If you are ever in town for a football game or traveling through, please stop by.

Chuck Gilliland and **Trey Carr** caught up with **Jeff Murray** this past spring when they were in Washington, DC, for the Society of Interventional Radiology meeting. They helped Jeff celebrate his new position as director of legislative affairs for The Nickles Group, a lobbying firm in DC.

'93

Cey Mooney was presented with the Dr. Gerard A. Vanderhaar Student Peace Award at Christian Brothers University. The award is given annually to a Mid-South university student who best exemplifies the spirit and practice of nonviolence consistent with Dr. Vanderhaar's life and work. Cey is a senior mathematics major at CBU.

'94

Ben Clanton works at Duncan Williams as an account executive. On the side, he coaches baseball at MUS as the head coach for the seventh-grade and eighth-grade teams and the assistant coach for junior varsity and varsity.



While vacationing in Guatemala this summer, **Brian Kelsey '96** (left) and **Andrew Schaeffer '94** (right) were walking the streets of Antigua when they spotted the familiar red "U" on a field of blue. They knew immediately that they were among friends — five MUS students (Clayton Furr, Cameron Crawford, David Hernandez, Elliott Bryant, and Emmett Montgomery) who were participating in the MUS in Guatemala program.



Teed for Golfing Greatness

by Kimberly Eller

Walter Chun '97 is taking the golf world by storm. He is now in his fifth year as the assistant men's golf coach at the University of California at Berkeley and, recently, he won the 2008 Jan Strickland Award, an honor presented annually to the nation's top assistant coach in men's golf by TaylorMade-adidas Golf. The award is given to the NCAA Division I, II, III, or NAIA coach who has excelled in working with his student-athletes both on the course and in the classroom.

"It is really an honor to be recognized by my coaching peers. We spend every day trying to out-recruit, out-play, out-strategize, and out-work each other, and to be recognized and respected as doing a good job is a special feeling," said Chun.

Chun's other recent honor is that he was named assistant coach for the United States for the Palmer Cup, the annual eight-man team competition between American college and European college golfers. Chun and his team start competing the first week of June 2009 at Cherry Hills Country Club in Cherry Hills Village, CO.

After graduating from MUS, Chun served as a member of the University of California at Berkeley Golden Bears men's golf team from 1997 to 2002.

He was a two-time team captain and competed in three NCAA Western Regionals and the 2000 NCAA Championship. He qualified for two U.S. Amateur Championships, the first in 1999 at Pebble Beach and the second in 2002 at Oakland Hills Country Club.

He received his bachelor's degree from the Walter A. Haas School of Business in 2001 and earned a master's degree from the University of California at Berkeley's Graduate School of Education in 2004. Chun was a three-time Pac-10 All-Academic selection (2000-2002) and a two-time All-America Scholar (2001, 2002) for the Golden Bears.

As an administrative assistant for the Golden Bears in 2004, Chun saw them win the 2004 NCAA title, their first NCAA Championship

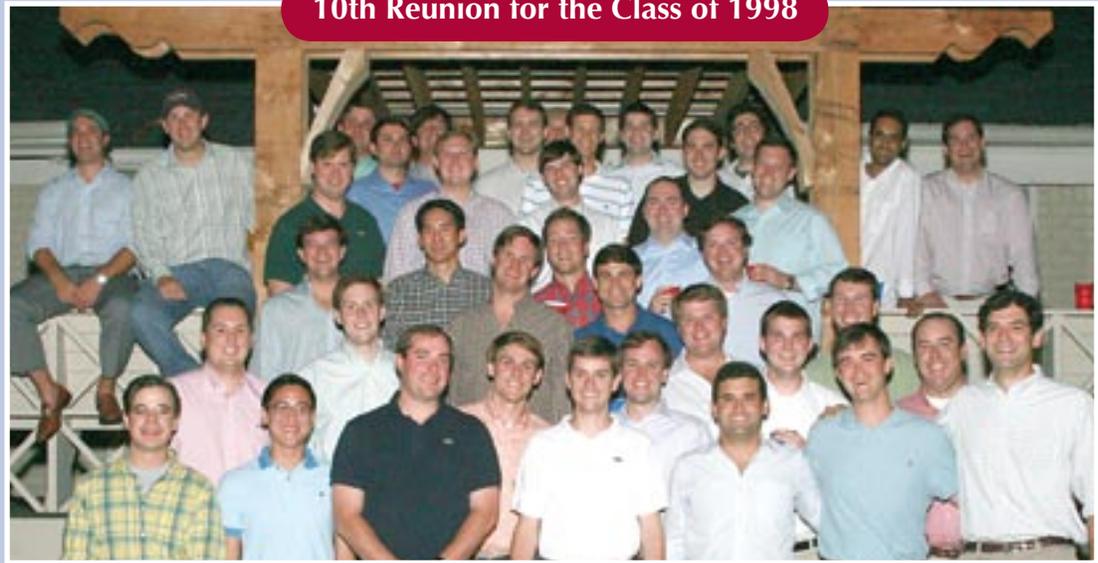
in the university's men's golf history. After such a glorious 2004 season, most of the players were graduated, and Chun, then an assistant coach, and his fellow coaches shifted their focus to rebuilding the program. The first few years were what Chun described as "slow," but things are looking up; the team posted a third-place finish at this year's Pac-10 Championships, their best finish since Chun was a player in 2000. The Golden Bears ended the 2008 season ranked nationally No. 41, but Chun is confident they will move up into the top 25 by the end of the 2008-2009 season.

All of this, he says, would not have been possible without MUS. "Getting a degree from MUS paved the way for my college successes. MUS taught me how to manage my time as a student athlete. The framework the teachers set for students is phenomenal," said Chun.

Looking toward the future, Chun strives to be the head coach of the Golden Bears men's golf team some day, but if an opportunity to be head coach at another university arises, he would consider it. He got engaged to girlfriend Grace Lee of Riverside, CA, in August. After they are married, the two plan to live in Emeryville, CA.

Evan Johnson graduated from the University of Houston School of Law in May where he was named to the law review. He and his wife, Brandi, moved to Austin, TX, where Evan took a position at the law firm of Clark, Thomas & Winters in the utilities law section.

Stephen Weinberg has started a new job as an assistant professor in the public administration department of SUNY Albany, where he is teaching economics classes to Master of Public Administration students and is trying to be an even harder teacher than **Terry Shelton**.



Walter Chun has been named the recipient of the 2008 Jan Strickland Award presented by TaylorMade-adidas Golf. See article on page 39 for more information.

Alex Strong is living in the Washington, DC, area. He is director of government affairs for the National Association of Home Builders.

Jason Lewin has been named director of marketing for American Paper Optics.

Richard Moore returned to Memphis with an MBA in hand from Vanderbilt University. He is employed with the Lehman-Roberts Company.

Van Morris graduated from the College of Medicine at the University of Tennessee Health Science Center in Memphis and is now in his first year of residency at Duke University.

Wade Rhea is working in Correspondent Services for FTN Financial.

'96

Michael Faber has found the lady of his dreams and married Alexis Scott this past June in Martha's Vineyard. Alexis is from Boston and a huge Red Sox fan, so she was instantly well liked. Alexis works for Willis Insurance measuring executive risk, which she deployed to measure up her future husband, and Michael helps run the family business, Royal Furniture.

Cameron Mann has a new position with the Memphis Music Foundation as director of music industry programs. As *The Commercial Appeal* put it, this is his day job.

Neil Roberson has recently purchased his first house and is enjoying the throes of home ownership. If anyone knows a good landscape architect in Memphis, please contact Neil with their name.

'97

Ron Ansley is proud to announce, "I own Stickhead Lacrosse, and we are doing very well! Play lacrosse, and shop at Stickhead Lacrosse!!!" He and his wife, Brooke, celebrated their first wedding anniversary in September.

'98

It was great to see everyone who came to our Tenth Year Reunion. In case you missed it, we hope to catch up with everyone in another five years. Special thanks to **Richard Moore** for hosting the party on Saturday night. Also, thanks to **King Rogers** who brought his own special touch serving as official photographer.

Philip Cruzen started a new job at Shamrock Plank Flooring, a hardwood flooring manufacturer. He is an inside sales representative covering the Southeast and Southwest United States. Philip also completed his fourth triathlon in April.

Robert Faber left Wachovia Capital Partners in Charlotte, NC, and headed to Hanover, NH, this fall where he enrolled in the Tuck School of Business at Dartmouth College.

Jonathan Hassid is getting his doctorate in Chinese politics at University of California at Berkley. He and his wife just returned from a long stay in China where they were able to catch some of the Olympics.

'99

Lou Arrindell graduated from the College of Medicine at the University of Tennessee Health Science Center in May and will be moving to Savannah, GA, for an internship in pediatrics at Memorial Medical Center.

Andrew Steffens was accepted into the Owen Graduate School of Management at Vanderbilt University where he started classes this fall. This is exciting news for Andrew as he's wanted to go back to college since graduating from UT in 2003.

Bert Stemmler graduated in May from New York University School of Law. He plans to work in New York City.

'00

Nelson Adrian graduated from the University of Memphis School of Law in 2007. He is an attorney at Goodman, Glazer & Kremer, P.C. in Memphis and is focusing on commercial real estate and corporate law.

Blake Barnes took a position with the Austin Wranglers arena football team in Austin, TX, this past May as the director of ticket sales and operations.

Zach Dailey took a vacation from his day job at Morgan Keegan in August to accompany wildcard entrant, Sam Warburg, to the U.S. Open and serve as his coach and supporter. Zach and Sam traveled together on tour and have been friends since they played against each other in college (Zach at Vandy and Sam at Stanford). Sam lost in the second round to world-ranked No. 17 Nicholas Almagro of Spain.

Scott Fletcher has been living in Los Angeles for the past two years while pursuing an acting career. He is a member of the Screen Actors Guild and his movie *Live Animals* was featured at the Hollywood Film Festival in the fall.

Jay Kaufman is living in Chicago while he is working on his MBA in finance at the University of Chicago.

Jeff Morgan and his wife of three years, Courtney, are living in South Hamilton, MA, where Jeff is in his second year of divinity school at Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary.

Andrew Shelton recently graduated from the London School of Economics with a master's degree in economics. He is now working in London as a management consultant. He adds that his door is always open to any classmates ever traveling through.

Kyser Thompson is still working at LesserEvil Brand Snack Company in New York where he is now the marketing and public relations manager. In September, Kyser took to the streets of Oxford, MS, to promote his company's Vote the LesserEvil '08 Campaign during the first presidential debate at the University of Mississippi. The campaign was a success, and Kyser managed to make front page news in *The Commercial Appeal* due to the large crowds he drew on the Oxford Square with his red, white, and blue van, McCain/Obama cardboard handouts, and tons of free snacks.

Reid Thompson is in his second year of Darden Business School at the University of Virginia after spending the summer working at BB&T Bank in North Carolina. Prior to business school, Reid worked in Mexico for two years.

Josh Tom graduated from Boston University School of Law with *cum laude* distinction in May. He is now living in New York City where he is a practicing attorney with the firm Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher, & Flom LLP.

Witt Wittenberg received his CCIM (Certified Commercial Investment Member) designation in fall of 2007. He is doing commercial mortgage origination and client development with the CBRE Capital Markets Group in Memphis.

'01

Nick Alissandratos and his wife, Amy, have moved to Atlanta, where Nick will be entering a two-year MBA program at Emory's Goizueta Business School this fall.

Eric Beaty is assistant treasurer of The Phoenix Club for 2008-09.

Chance Carlisle has been promoted to vice president of strategic initiatives for Carlisle Corporation.

Bond Hopkins is an oil analyst for PICO Energy in Cairo, Egypt.

Brian Payne is in his third year of medical school at the University of Tennessee in Memphis.

Battle Williford has been elected treasurer of The Phoenix Club for 2008-09.

'02

When **Gene Bledsoe** married Anne McGhee in April at Myers Park Presbyterian Church in Charlotte, NC, it was a regular MUS reunion. The best man was **Steve Bledsoe '70**. Groomsmen included his classmates **Tom Bledsoe** and **Herbo Humphreys**. Ushers were **Robert Gardner**, **Seth Holm**, and **Charles Thompson**. The Bledsoes live in Memphis.

Gene Douglass is working for Global Security Systems out of Jackson, MS.

Cody Jameson is working for the Institute of International Education as a program coordinator for the KAUST Scholarships. He is currently working in student

advising, but will likely move to student support services/events in the fall. The King Abdullah University of Science and Technology (KAUST) is a new university being built in Saudi Arabia.

Andy Juang got out of the big-time investment banking industry just in time and is working for Perry Capital, a hedge fund in New York City with a focus on public equities in health care. Prior to Perry Capital, he finished his undergraduate work at Penn in '07 and worked at UBS Investment Bank for a year.

Joe Pegram is using the pen to defend the might of the sword as part of the National Rifle Association's lobbying arm in Washington, DC.

Justin Sharpe is working in Memphis as an affiliate broker for Henry Turley Realtors.

'03

Eli Atkinson graduated Phi Beta Kappa and magna cum laude from the University of the South with a bachelor's degree in economics.

Chase Carlisle is back in school full-time after working as an associate with Mercury Investment Management, a private equity real estate fund management company in Memphis.

When asked about his new bride, Alexandra, **Will Hunt** says, "she is from Clinton, MS. She's absolutely beautiful and wonderful. She graduated from Mississippi College in 2006 and now works at Christ United Methodist Church as the associate director of female student ministries. I'm at Standard Construction Company doing accounting. We got married on the beach in Kiawah Island, SC, on October 5, and will reside in Cordova once we come back from our honeymoon in Cabo San Lucas."

Joel Iglehart is working as legislative aide and correspondence manager in the office of Senator Lamar Alexander in Washington, DC.

Doug Owings is an account manager for Coyote Logistics.

Gray Sain is living in Washington, DC, where he is an account executive for United Business Technologies.

'04

Brandon Arrindell graduated from Harvard University in June with a degree in economics. He'll be heading to New York for a position with Morgan Stanley.

Rich Bollinger enrolled in the Master of Science in accounting program at Southern Methodist University.

John Collier is working for Collier Insurance as an insurance broker.

Elliot Embry has joined NAI Saig Company as an affiliate broker. He graduated from the University of Mississippi in May with a degree in marketing.

Justin Forman graduated from Rhodes College and is working for Inferno Marketing.

Matt Ganier is an analyst and will be underwriting insurance for Travelers in Nashville.

Alex Gates is a singer and guitarist with local band The Barbaras.

Stuart Gillespie is in law school at the University of Colorado at Boulder.

Jason Goldstein is attending the University of Miami Law School.

Gatlin Hardin graduated from the Naval Academy in May, married the former Breen Howell of Charlotte, NC, in June, and is now in Pensacola, FL, starting flight school.

Mikell Hazelhurst is in Spain teaching English for a year.

Ben Kastan is traveling the country in a tour bus encouraging voters to get the facts about candidates and issues from a nonpartisan, unbiased, and accurate source. The bus belongs to Project Vote Smart, the highly-regarded nonprofit group celebrating its 16th year of helping citizens cut through the attack ads, spin, and clutter of election campaigns.

Hays Mabry has moved back to Memphis where he is working for Morgan Keegan.

Cash McCracken graduated from Brown and is headed to London for a master's degree in comparative politics and markets from the London School of Economics. He recently passed the last step of the incredibly lengthy process to become a diplomat in the U.S. Foreign Service with the State Department. After graduation from LSE, he will undergo diplomatic and language training at the Foreign Service Institute in Washington, DC, and then begin his diplomatic work as an economic officer somewhere in the world.

Joseph Robinson enrolled in the Master of Science in economics program at Southern Methodist University.



Conor Quinn (far right) letting some of his students have the spotlight

Inspiring Students One Day at a Time

by Lauren Oxner

Conor Quinn '04 loves math and always has. Now, he's trying to impart that same passion to his high school students at TEAM Englewood Academy in Chicago where he has taught for one year. Quinn, who graduated from Williams College in 2007 with a major in mathematics, spent the following summer training to be part of Teach for America, a program designed to train the nation's most promising future teachers by placing them in an inner-city school for two years. The program is perfect for someone like Quinn who does not have an education degree but wants to make an impact in urban schools, many of which are in great need of motivated teachers.

When asked what is most rewarding about his job as a teacher, Quinn shared this example. "On the last day of school, I found a handwritten letter in my mailbox from one of my more difficult students. I had

this student's mother on speed dial and often called her up to the school for conferences. The student had written to thank me for all of my hard work with her, telling me how much she appreciated that I was her math teacher and how much she had learned from me. Coming from such a challenging student, the note was incredibly rewarding."

Of course, the job does not come without its share of challenges. Quinn cites the need to stay positive at all times as the hardest part of his job. "My kids would recognize immediately if I didn't believe in them or in the importance of what I was teaching. They really feed off of my attitude."

Quinn, who eventually wants to get involved with school leadership as a principal or by starting a school, is quick to point out the value of his MUS experience. Not only did his great teachers serve as excellent role models, but he also credits MUS with his motivation on this journey. "MUS pushed me to be selfless and dedicated to excellence in everything I do."

'05

Rob Heflin was inducted into Omicron Delta Kappa national leadership honor society, Mortar Board honor society, Blue Key honor society, and the Order of Omega Greek leadership honor society. Rob is a senior at the University of Alabama where he'll serve as a 2008-09 student leader in the University Honors Program.

Andrew Olinger has been named as a President's Scholar at Millsaps College.

'06

Bowers Clement made the Dean's List, *summa cum laude*, for the spring semester at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville.

Drew Davenport was named to the Dean's List at Samford University.

Matt Dowling was named to the Dean's List at Furman University.

Walter Klyce spent his summer traveling around the world with the Harvard Krokodiloes (Harvard's oldest *a cappella* singing group). The group sang on six continents and more than 40 venues.

Keith Parsons has been named a President's Scholar at Millsaps College.

'07

West Askew and **Zach Scott** took an eight-day road trip across the United States from California to Tennessee, as well as a two and a half week backpacking surf safari in Costa Rica.

Alex Olinger was named to the Dean's List at Millsaps College.

Ed Porter was named to the Dean's List at Rhodes College.

'08

In July, **Sayle Atkinson** competed as part of the USA West Under-19 lacrosse team at Eton College in London. He was joined by three former CBHS lacrosse players for the two-week trip to compete in the tournament, which was billed as the elite lacrosse event of the summer.

Mr. Morgan Goes to Washington

by Lauren Oxner

For most people, catching a glimpse of the president and speaking on the phone with Tony Blair's secretary would be a once-in-a-lifetime experience. For



Worth Morgan '05, it was just another day at the office. This past summer, Morgan, a sophomore at the University of North Carolina Chapel Hill, spent 12 weeks working as an intern in the White House Office of Faith-Based and Community Initiatives. This department is responsible for teaching smaller faith-based groups how to best work with the government in an effort to get federal grants.

The job, which provided Morgan with valuable experience and an opportunity to serve the president, did come with its challenges.

"When answering the phones, I'd always have to be ready because I would get calls from the top to the bottom. One call I received was from a man just wanting to know some general things about our office. The very next call, I talked to Tony Blair's secretary."

Morgan is no stranger to service. As the president of philanthropy for his fraternity at UNC, he led a fundraiser that brought in a record \$280,000 for the U.N. Millennium Promise village project in Kenya, part of the larger U.N. Millennium Project spearheaded by students from UNC and Duke. Money raised through these projects goes toward ending hunger in parts of Africa.

Morgan, a religious studies and philosophy major at UNC, has long had a heart for service, and credits his days at MUS with encouraging that drive. "MUS really fed a passion for me in service. I was the chairman of the Civic Service Organization, and the people I met and worked with really helped me along in this area."

Rise and Shine!

Young Alumni Holiday Brunch for Classes 2004-08

Friday, Dec. 19 • 11:30 a.m. • Campus Center Dining Hall



Homecoming 2008



Members of the Class of 1998 enjoyed the Alumni Terrace during the annual barbeque dinner: Molly, Kate, and Hunter Witherington with Melissa, Thompson, and Matt Saenger, and Mary Drew, Molly, and Griffin Beard.



Fourteen foursomes vied for more than a dozen prizes and awards at the Alumni Golf Scramble. First place went to (above) Andy Wright '86, Jody Scott '87, Jim Howell, and Bobby Tribble '77. Taking second place and Best Class Team award were (below) John Bryce, Cummings Marlow, Bill Adams, and Elmer Stout, all from the Class of '73.



More than 300 alumni and their families attended the annual barbecue, including the following: (top row, left) Christy, Owen, and John Sharp '81; (top row, right) Swift Treadwell '68 flanked by his sons, Spike '96 and Hunt '99; (second row, starting left) Charles Crump '30 and Worth Brown '58; Hank Hill '66 with Lee and James Rantzow '83.

Homecoming Court and their escorts: Meg Stephenson with Will Carter, Jane Simmons with Michael Brennan, Amelia Brown with James Long, Homecoming Queen Jennie Walker with Peter Rainer, Rachel Aiken with Philip Aiken, and Carol Stout with Carl Krausnick



Community Volunteer

Drafted by MUS Board

by Vicki Tyler

Suki Carson has to be one of the most organized women on earth to keep up with her four sons who, between them, are on nine different sports teams at MUS. And she is now lending her organization and talent to the MUS Board of Trustees.

"I'm excited about joining the board and am anxious to learn how I can help move us forward," said Carson.

Carson also represents the first time that either a board member or a parent has had four sons at MUS at the same time. **Seth** and **Jared** are in the eighth grade, **Cale** is in tenth, and **Johnny** is in the twelfth grade.

"Suki Carson brings a wealth of experience and energy to our board. As an engaged parent of four current students, Suki is plugged into student life. As an active leader in our community, Suki knows how to contribute in non-profit governance. Suki will be a valuable addition to our education committee and our admissions and public relations committee," said **Bob Loeb**, chairman of the MUS Board of Trustees and chairman and chief executive officer of Loeb Properties.

The Carsons moved to Memphis 14 years ago when her husband, **John**, joined Morgan Keegan after working for Morgan Stanley in Tokyo and New York City. She said that Memphis was a very welcoming place with a strong sense of community.

Carson was an Army brat, born at Ft. Riley, KS, who lived in Taiwan and other far-flung countries. She received her bachelor's from the University of Virginia and then, worked in DC for three years before earning her master's in business administration from UVA and heading to Wall Street to work for JP Morgan. The Carsons married 21 years ago and moved to Japan before returning to New York.



Suki Carson and sons Jared, Johnny, Cale, and Seth

They moved to Memphis from Westchester County, NY, in 1994 and wanted the best school for their sons. "The education was the make or break thing for us coming here," Carson said. "I did the research and looked at where MUS sent its boys to college. MUS had the best college prep program for boys. We knew that MUS was where we wanted our sons to go to school."

Carson said she also loves the way Memphians volunteer. She is very committed to volunteering and is currently the board chair for the Foundation for the Library, a nonprofit group that supports the Memphis library system. "We raise the funds in order to provide the sort of enhancements that make the library special," Carson said about her work with the foundation.

She is a Leadership Memphis graduate and past president of the Junior League of Memphis.

"MUS is more diverse than most people think and the teachers really teach the way that boys learn. I have four sons who are all very different, and the way MUS teaches individuals is what sold me on the school," said Carson. "We talked to some of the alumni and they said they felt so well prepared for college thanks to MUS."

"MUS is committed to maintaining a standard of excellence. It knows what needs to be done, and that's why we are here," Carson said.

Make a Wish and Bowl!



MUS Civic
Service Organization
needs your support at the

Wish Bowl Tournament

Saturday, January 31, 2009

2:00-5:00 p.m.

Billy Hardwick's All Star Lanes
1576 South White Station

Form your own team or be drafted by one.
Several prizes will be given – top prize for
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at www.musowls.org/wishbowl.

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