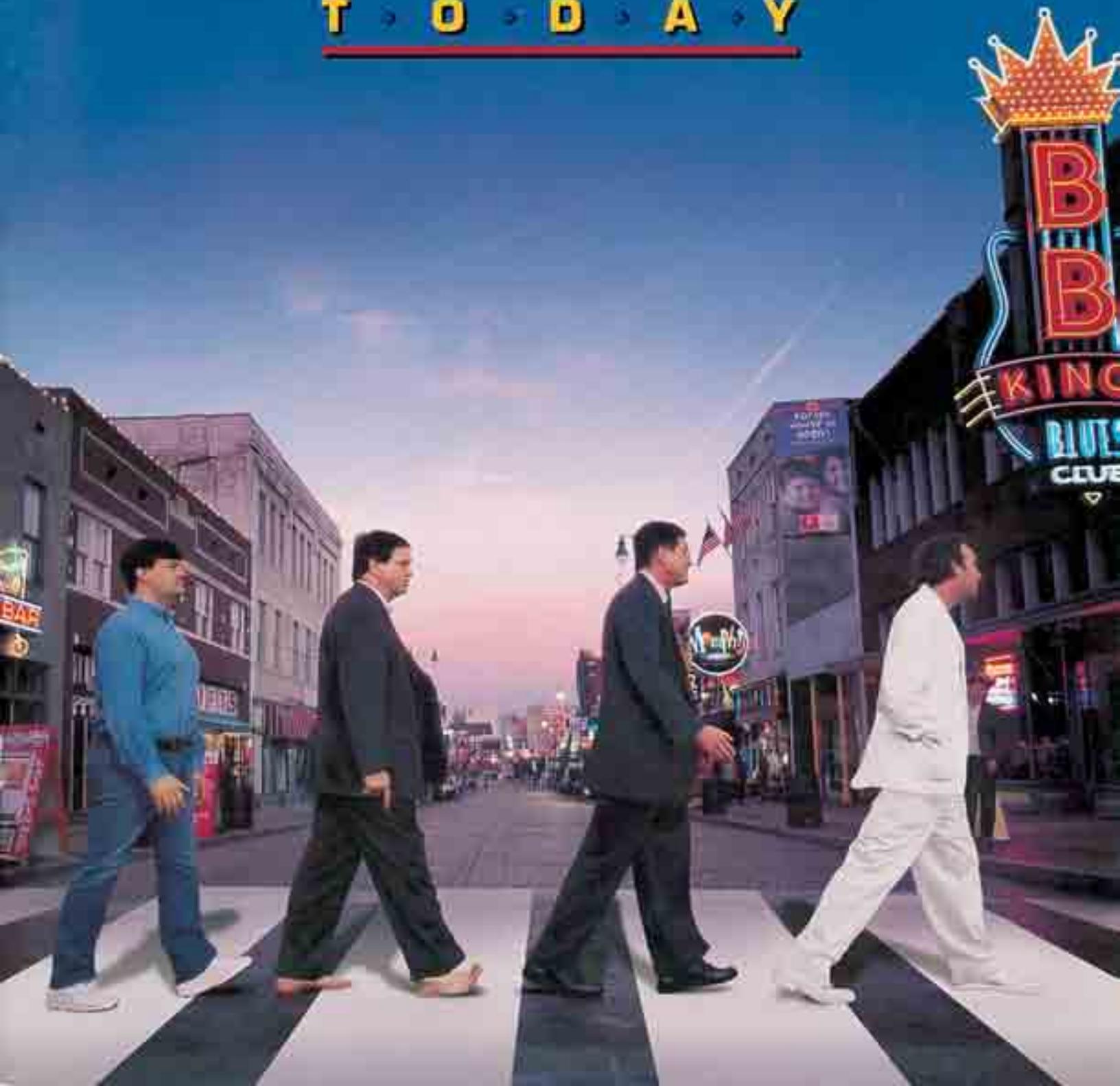


The Magazine of Memphis University School • Spring 2000

MUS

TODAY





MEMPHIS UNIVERSITY SCHOOL
Founded 1893

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From the Editor

When I moved to Memphis in 1977, about all I knew of Memphis music was Elvis Presley — and then he died four months later. It was big news. What I came to realize, however, was that Elvis was only a small part of a very big picture. Memphis *is* music — birthplace of the blues, home to rock and roll, and the heart of soul. From blues legends such as B.B. King, Rufus Thomas, and Bobby Blue Bland to rock and roll greats like Elvis, Jerry Lee Lewis, Carl Perkins, and Johnny Cash to soul artists Otis Redding, Al Green, Isaac Hayes, and Booker T & the M.G.'s, Memphis has a rich musical heritage in which MUS alumni have played a major role. This issue features a story on Memphis music written by Robert Gordon '79, considered one of the most influential music writers in the world today. He touches on those alumni that have broken ground in the development of Memphis music: John Fry '62, founder of Ardent; Tommy Peters '73, partner in B.B. King's and Cadre Entertainment; Andy Cates '89 and Sherman Willmott '84, behind the new Stax Museum of American Soul Music; and Jimmy Ogle '70, director of the Smithsonian's new Rock 'n' Soul Museum, to name a few. It was not surprising for me to learn that alumni from a school steeped in tradition would play such an important role in sustaining the tradition of another great institution, that of Memphis music.

The history of Memphis is further explored by Dr. John Harkins in his article, "Milestones and Myths of Memphis History." However, Malcolm Aste '77 takes us far away from Memphis as he relates his experience as a Peace Corps volunteer in Togo, Africa, a fascinating story of how lessons learned at MUS translate to real life adventure after college. Aste compels us all to think about making a difference in our communities and around the world.

And speaking of "around the world," you'll be interested to read about MUS's first Rear Admiral, Bert Johnston '66. After serving on carriers and bases all over the world, Johnston has achieved the third highest rank in the Navy, an illustrious promotion and one that was very emotional for his family who attended the change of command ceremonies outside of Washington, D.C. last year.

From Memphis to around the world, our alumni are making things happen. Don't forget to let me know what you're doing. Whether you're changing the world or changing diapers, I want to hear from you! E-mail me at dlazarov@musowls.org or call me at (901) 260-1416.

Debbie B. Lazarov
Director of Public Relations

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MUS TODAY contents



On the cover: (left to right) Posey Hedges, Tommy Peters, John Fry, and Sherman Willmott give their imitation of the Beatles on Memphis' own Abbey Road, better known as Beale Street. Look for author Robert Gordon hangin' around.

Photo credit goes to Jack Kenner for the last four covers of *MUS Today* magazine. See more of his work at www.jackkenner.com.

features

Alumni Hit High Notes in Memphis Music	3
To Togo with Love	8
Milestones and Myths of Memphis History	12
Flying High Navy Style	15

departments

Headmaster's Message	2
Faculty Profile	11
Memorials	18
Remember When	17
Alumni News	20
Viewpoint	33



Page 7



Page 8



Page 17



Page 15



Page 29

Headmaster's Message

by Ellis Hagewood



Unlike T.S. Eliot's Prufrock, I have not measured out my life with coffee spoons. It was yearbooks, fifteen of them. From 1973–1987, I served as the faculty advisor to the yearbook staff.

With each book came an editor-in-chief and a staff of section editors with whom I measured out the better part of a year – after school, organizational periods, long weekends. I loved it.

We wrote copy and headlines and captions for pictures; we planned and organized and laid out pages; we developed film and printed pictures. We censored. And eventually we produced a book.

Great memories for me. And opportunities for the boys to learn lessons about responsibility, cooperation, accuracy, meeting deadlines, managing time and people, success and failure.

T.H. Huxley wrote, "Perhaps the most valuable result of all education is the ability to make yourself do the thing you have to do, when it ought to be done, whether you like it or not."

Opportunities for learning such a lesson come daily here, not only in the academic arena but also in the extra-curricular worlds of athletics or journalism or community service or theater. Two-a-day drills in the August heat, deadlines for the *Owl's Hoot*, a canned-food drive at Thanksgiving, or set-building for a musical production – all can teach the great lessons of character and citizenship indirectly, through experience.

Students I have taught and yearbook editors I have lived with may have learned from me, but I learned more from them. "You send your child to the schoolmaster," said Emerson, "but 'tis the schoolboys who educate him."

I often think of the way the apostle Paul described himself: "I am debtor to all people." All of us owe a debt

Headmaster Ellis Hagewood fields questions from Harvey Kay, Spencer Bryan, and Tread Thompson about the future building plans of the school.

Measuring Out One's Life

to many people, a debt which we can never repay directly to them. Our parents, our teachers, our schools, our mentors opened doors of opportunity for us; our debt to them can be repaid only by opening doors of opportunity for those who follow us.

Though the doors we open with our current campaign swing wide with confident hope for the future of MUS, there is always a bit of the unknown, some mystery when we open any door.

What lies beyond the doors of change we are opening at MUS today? What remains constant?

Behind the doors of new buildings and modified parking areas and new technologies and such, some things will always be:

- our Honor Code
- our devotion to a rigorous liberal arts education
- our emphasis on character and leadership
- our deep and abiding friendships
- our gratitude for those who opened doors for us

Whether we measure out our resources for MUS or whether we measure out our lives for MUS, we embrace the solid joy that comes with opening doors for boys, doors to opportunity and real meaning.





Alumni Hit High Notes

in Memphis Music

by Robert Gordon '79



I had a life-changing experience

I was a student at MUS in the latter 1970s, and it

was neither the result of cafeteria food nor the hysteria and merriment surrounding school day picture day. On the porch of the student lounge one Friday afternoon, some upper-classmen arranged for Memphis blues musician Furry Lewis to give a performance during the latter part of lunch. I had been previously exposed to the blues, but that day I realized that hearing the music was just the first of a two-part punch: The knockout was that these musicians were alive, accessible, and living in Memphis.

That afternoon began a process that resulted, about two decades later, in my first published book, a history of Memphis music and culture titled, *It Came From Memphis*. I have encountered a number of fellow MUS alumni who have become immersed in the spirit and world of Memphis music. Owls all, some have favored the night world of clubs

John Fry and Fred Smith started their own recording label when they were in the tenth grade.
From the *Memphis Press-Scimitar*, Jan. 29, 1960.



and bands, while others have taken roles behind the scenes.

Perhaps the longest active MUS alumnus in the Memphis music scene is **John Fry '62** who was a tenth-grade student at MUS when he founded his Ardent record label and recording studio with fellow classmate **Fred Smith '62** and their friend John King (www.ardentrecords.com/www.ardentstudios.com). Fry told *The Commercial Appeal* in 1960 that the project was a "very speculative thing. We issue stock to anyone who wishes to back a record, with returns of hits given out." The original studio was in John's grandmother's sewing room and has been at 2000 Madison Avenue since the early 1970s. It's now a multi-million dollar business and remains among the South's premiere recording

Andy Hummel (left) and Chris Bell (next to Hummel) are photographed with their band Big Star in 1971. Reprinted from *Mojo Magazine*, February, 2000.



Woody Degan with the legendary Rufus Thomas



The Rolling Stones bring down the house at B.B. King's, Memphis 1994.



Posey Hedges makes music behind the scene.



Takin' care of business, Tommy Peters, John Fry, Sherman Willmott, and Posey Hedges take a break during the photo shoot for the cover.

facilities. It has been host to a wide variety of artists, ranging from megastars like Bob Dylan to artists who define their genres — ZZ Top, Leon Russell, Travis Tritt, and Isaac Hayes. Ardent's reputation has always been grounded in its equipment; it's a studio that understands new recording products and stays on the crest of technological advances while maintaining an atmosphere of ease and earthiness. It is an approachable place with great sound.

In the early 1970s, John Fry was friendly with **Christopher Bell '69**, a musician who was bucking the popular trend of self-indulgent progressive rock — songs that were too long, too meaningless, and too boring. Bell felt a musical kinship with the British Invasion, which had long since ceded the charts to Alvin Lee and Ten Years After, Golden Earring, and the Mahavishnu Orchestra. With John Fry's meticulous production techniques and Bell's sense of three-dimensional sound, and with an edge provided by Bell's partner Alex Chilton, a band named Big Star was created. Bell's classmate **Andy Hummel '69** played bass. They created music with an ear to the past, but history proved them ahead of their time. Their albums were critically lauded but poorly distributed, and it wasn't until fifteen years after the band's demise that their music began to take hold. In the 1980s, many popular bands — including both REM and the Replacements, both of whom came to Ardent to record — were citing Big Star as a major influence. Bell died in a car crash on December 27, 1978.

Tommy Peters '73 graduated a decade after John Fry and today is a partner in one of the most exciting new studio ventures in town. Peters met Norbert Putnam — who has produced hit records on Jimmy Buffet, Joan Baez, Kris Kristofferson, and a number of other major artists — and the pair found a shared appreciation for the history of Memphis music. Their new recording facility at Second and Monroe is called Cadre Entertainment, and their record label is named CDMemphis.com (www.CDMemphis.com). "We've formed a Memphis-based entertainment company that involves a record label, a recording

studio, a publishing company, and internet distribution. Instead of being a rental facility, our goal is to be a working production studio, meaning we hope to be like Stax: developing our own talent and producing our own acts." The label is signing new talent and also scooping up established artists. Their first signing was Rufus Thomas, who will also narrate a boxed set that sings the history of Memphis music.

Aware of Memphis' allure overseas, Cadre is also putting together a group of Memphis artists to tour Europe over the summer. The exposure will be good for the artists and for their label. Peters, who heads Progressive Capital Investment Corporation, a venture capital firm, entered the entertainment business in 1990 when the city asked him to raise private funds to back a B.B. King Blues Club on Beale Street. That club, which opened in 1991, is widely credited as the fulcrum which levered Beale Street to the prosperous proposition it has become. There is now a B.B.'s in Los Angeles. "Both of them are profitable!" Tommy adds.

Another former Owl who has created a niche in the recording industry is **Posey Hedges '83**. His Memphis SoundWorks studio (www.MemphisSoundWorks.com), located in Midtown, is a cozy place with hardwood floors and earth tones that belie the nature of the high-tech digital machinery on which he works. "When I was in Choral Music at MUS, the Music Department bought a guitar, and I decided I'd learn to play it," says Posey. "That's how I got into this mess." Soon he was sketching speaker cabinet designs in the back of math class, and teacher Tom Brown caught him. "He picked up my drawings and shook his head," Posey says. "I knew I was in trouble. Then he said, 'Let's talk about this.' He had tons of experience in speaker building, and he turned that afternoon's class into a course on the geometry and mathematics of speaker building. I got real interested in math then." Posey's studio and his technique behind the board have become a favorite for many Memphis bands: Big Ass



Rollin Riggs surrounded
by The Bouffants:
Peggy, Felecia,
Trixie, and Connie

Truck (who played the MUS Homecoming several years back) regularly record there; Yamagata (which includes two MUS alumni; see page 7) hired Posey to help with their first album; and he has tweaked and edited tracks by Emmylou Harris, which were brought to the studio by **Cliff Goldmacher '87**, who is making his way in the world of Nashville music. When Posey is producing a project that requires a larger room, such as the latest Pawtucket's album, he takes the band around the corner to Ardent.

A recording studio is involved in the work of **Roy "Woody" Degan '82**, but much of the producing he does is live on stage. Roy's company, Memphis Sound (www.memphissound.com), is the organizing entity behind events as varied as the John Daly Celebrity Golf Classic, all the Peabody rooftop parties, and many of the fundraising events for Vice President Al Gore. His entrance into the business came through a college internship with Capitol Records. Soon he was on the road hauling gear for Michael Bolton. "One of the background singers got mononucleosis, and they knew I could sing," says Woody. "My first night on the stage with Michael Bolton, my legs were shaking so bad I could hardly stand up." He continues to sing and play keyboards with Southern Lights — often heard at the Peabody parties, and he is finishing his first

Photo by Michael Mosby



Degan performing with the
Memphis Sound.



In the fall of '95, Tommy Peters (right) brought Ruby Wilson (left), Little Jimmy King, and B.B.'s house band to perform at MUS. From the first song to the last, they received standing ovations and thunderous applause.

album. He's also lead vocalist with the Memphis Sound band. Within the past year, he has played with Ray Charles, Vince Gill, Chuck Berry, and a host of other legendary names. His company provides bands, lights, sound, and arrangements for all size events in cities across the country.

Not all former Owls are involved in the production of contemporary music. Several spearhead major efforts to preserve Memphis's important role in music history. Two of the city's biggest music museums are overseen by former Owls. The Rock 'n' Soul Museum, curated by the Smithsonian Institution, is slated for a spring opening at the Gibson Guitar plant, under construction at Beale and Third (www.memphisrocknsoul.com). The museum will place Memphis' musical achievement in a cultural context, reflected in the exhibition's title: Rock 'n' Soul: Social Crossroads. **Jimmy Ogle '70** has been named director of the museum. "The Smithsonian set out to determine the source of America's indigenous music, and all roads led to Memphis," says Jimmy, who has worked on musical presentations for Mud Island, the Pyramid, Tom Lee Park, and Beale Street. "Even after all these years, I remember when Rick Ferguson was running for a student council election, we had Rufus Thomas out there. My office last year was on Rufus Thomas Boulevard." Jimmy ran into Tommy Peters last year, and they may have talked more basketball than music; but, says Jimmy, "It's amazing how music is common to all of us."

That sentiment is similar to ones expressed by **Andy Cates '89** and **Sherman Willmott '84**, who are president and vice-president of Ewarton, Inc., the non-profit organization behind the Stax Museum of American Soul Music, a collaboration between themselves and the city, the county, and Lemoyne-Owen College (www.soulsvilleusa.com). "Stax's contribution to pop music is one of the most important facets of American musical history and certainly Memphis' greatest contribution to pop music, except for Elvis," says Sherman, who is also serving as the museum's curator. Sherman dove head first into Memphis music



when he opened Shangri-La Records with partner **Jared McStay '84** in Midtown eleven years ago. The store has spawned a record label, and also a book and documentary film about Memphis blues artist Will Roy Sanders (www.shangri.com). "Stax's body of work is underappreciated by Memphians, and the museum is an attempt to correct that oversight. We want to make the thousands of people who come to Memphis include the museum in their visit and leave with a more positive view of Memphis than they would get by viewing the presently vacant Stax site."

The Stax recording studio, which was active from the early 1960s to the mid-1970s, was located at the corner of McLemore and College, in South Memphis on the way to Graceland. "This is as much a neighborhood revitalization effort as a musical heritage project," says Andy. "My role is to get it built. I got into music through neighborhoods; I work in commercial real estate. To me, the danger that presents itself to Memphis right now is in the form of a barbell: We have a great downtown and a great east, and we need to do more about north and south Memphis.

Until we address the issues where they are, we are not really addressing anything."

Sherman cites the Furry Lewis appearance at MUS as a pivotal experience, but for different reasons than mine. "One of my big regrets was not knowing who Furry Lewis was when I was in seventh grade," he says. As a member of the Lower School, he was not permitted to attend, but the name stuck with him. "Now he's one of my all-time favorite blues musicians, and I regret that I never got to see him play." Sherman also has drawn inspiration from the fact that John Fry made Ardent a part of Stax; that Chris Bell went to MUS, "from one of my favorite bands of all time," he says; and he tips his hat to my Memphis music book, saying, "It makes it easier for others to do things once someone has been down the road." He realized music's power when, at the 1978 MUS talent show, he was moved by a performance by Chip Crawford and His Tarantulas of the Alice Cooper gem, "School's Out." Says Sherman, "I was inspired."

Popular music would be nothing without contemporary bands, and MUS alumni remain active on that front too. As the means of production and distribution of record-

ings evolve with the internet, diversity in the recording industry is at its peak. Punk rock and new age, classic oldies and modern originals, hair bands and balding rockers — we're everywhere.

"I was playing weekends downtown at Lou's Place in eleventh grade," says **Robert Tooms '76**, who plays keyboards (and has an endorsement from the Hammond Organ Company) and is nominated as Harmonica Player of the Year by the local Grammy's. "The Blues Alley All-Stars would come jam with me when their night was done. They'd show me big fat two-handed jazz chords on the organ, and if I didn't get it right, they'd slap me." He soon followed the band to Club Paradise and other blues haunts. Tooms performs under the name Robert Nighthawk, a sobriquet given him by B.B. King's early drummer Earl Forrest. "Most of the dives I played are out of business now."

Tooms has released a number of CDs, including three as guitarist with the Reba Russell Band (currently nominated as Band of the Year). They've recorded several of his songs, including the second's title track, "Buried Treasure." With former MUS football star **Joe Sanders '74**, Tooms has released three CDs as the Memphis Sheiks ("Slow-Cooked Pig Meat," "Diamond in the Bluff"). "The third is called 'I'm Up To

No Good Again,' which hopefully will be very influential and inspirational to the MUS youth of tomorrow," he jokes. He has also released one CD with the band he has led since 1976, Robert Nighthawk II and the Wampus Cats. Playing a downtown riverboat with them one night, B.B. King was inspired to sit in.

"Swapping licks with B.B. King — I couldn't have written a more fun scenario."

The Bouffants are four women who wear sky-high wigs and spangly retro dresses, and while that makes them unlikely candidates for a story on MUS alumni, **Rollin Riggs '78** has found a way in; he married one of them and became the band's business partner. The band has been performing for more than a decade, and since the Riggs's arrival in 1996, the group has become nearly a full-time enterprise. "Our niche is private parties, corporate events, and charity galas," says Rollin. "We've been very fortunate to develop a very broad fan base throughout the region. My talents in management and promotion were able to enhance the existing talents of the band, so we've gotten bookings all over the country. For having fun on Saturday night, we make a very nice amount of money." The band has helped dozens of charities raise hundreds of thousands of dollars. At a Bouffants gig, the dance floor is active from the start. Their motto:



Joe Sanders and Robert Tooms

Cover of their first CD



Influence Extends To Dave Matthews

While still in high school, **Haines Fullerton '79** made his first recordings with the John Byrd Band. While attending the University of Virginia, he formed The Deal, which became popular in the Charlottesville area and released an album called "Brave New World." One of The Deal's fans was an up-and-coming musician named Dave



Matthews, with whom Fullerton struck a friendship. Around Charlottesville, it was not uncommon to see Matthews and Fullerton jamming together on acoustic guitars. Fullerton even brought the band

to Ardent to make some early recordings. As the Dave Matthews Band became a recording phenomenon, Fullerton remained a friend and influence; he cowrote the instrumental song "#34" from the band's second album. Fullerton died in 1996.

The higher the hair, the closer to God (www.thebuffants.com).

Joe Austin '91 and Clay Maddox '91 have been friends since their Lower School days, and that has inspired their songwriting efforts for Yamagata, for whom Joe plays guitar and Clay is the manager. Their music is a comfortable jazz rock fusion. "Yamagata is mostly instrumental," says Clay. "Joe and I do the occasional lyrics. We went to MUS together since seventh grade; we often draw from our realization that the deep friendships we made in those years hang with us now." Joe, while at MUS, played with classmates in The Subliminal Messages, but no others pursued the musical calling. Yamagata has released one album, "Eveland" and is preparing to record their second (www.yamagatamusic.com).

Wise Jones '73 and Joel Hobson '72 perform together in a band called Tumbling Sneakers. **Dick Fisher '72** played electric, acoustic, and 12-string guitar for The 9:45 Worship Band whose two CDs are available as an

"Author, filmmaker, musician, storyteller"

That's how *Memphis Magazine* described Robert Gordon in its 1988 "Who's Who in Memphis Music." *The Memphis Business Journal* included him in its premiere class of Top 40 Under Forty. Basically, **Robert Gordon '79** has been a busy guy since graduating from MUS and the University of Pennsylvania. According to the National Academy of Recording Arts and Sciences, "If there were such a thing as an Honorary Memphis Musician Award, Robert Gordon undoubtedly would be the first lifetime recipient. He may not sing, play in a band, or wield an instrument bigger than a pen, but he is as much a part of the local music scene as anyone."



Besides writing the cover story for this issue of *MUS Today*, Gordon has written for most major music publications in the United States and England, including *Rolling Stone*, *Mojo*, and the E! Channel's web page. He has contributed to several books about American music, as well as written a few himself. In 1995, his critically acclaimed book, *It Came from Memphis*, detailed the works and personalities of many musicians who helped create the city's diverse musical heritage. In 1996, he wrote *The King on the Road*, the definitive book on Elvis' touring years. He is currently finishing a biography of blues musician Muddy Waters to be published by Little Brown in the spring of 2001.

Gordon also works with film, video, and recordings. He produced Al Green's boxed set, "Anthology," for which his liner notes were Grammy-nominated. The four-CD set garnered rave reviews, including a rare five stars from *Rolling Stone*. Gordon's documentary film about Memphis blues, *All Day and All Night: Memories from Beale Street Musicians*, aired nationally on PBS and has been exhibited at the Museum of Modern Art in New York City.

ongoing part of the band's ministry. **Jim Enright '77**, whose talent show performance in 1978 is still spoken of in hushed tones, has been on recordings with several bands in town. **Lon Lazar '78** has released two CDs of original songs (www.hooked.net/~lonl/music.html), and though they haven't officially recorded, concert tapes of **Cam McCaa's '79 blues group, the Big Headed Caladonians**, are traded on the internet. **Joe Boone '89** plays with The Delta Queens. **Ceylon Mooney '93** is also active on today's club scene. **Blake Rhea '94** and **Jeff Burch '94** play together in CYC, and Burch is also a member of the New Memphis Hepcats.

Niche marketing is the wave of the future. A few sources broadcasting to a wide audience is giving way to many sources narrowcasting to specialized audiences. The continued participation of MUS alumni in the music industry is an inspiration to me, and when the time comes, I'll have my agent shopping an ideal book, the sequel to my first: *They Came From MUS*.



The Door to Community Involvement

To Togo



Corral that we built at the central agricultural station to keep more animals for training

Opening of a well that the Peace Corps volunteers helped dig to provide clean water



Ghana family that we helped support financially



“Enough back seat driving, Mother,” interrupted my father.

Long silence...we’re at Airways and Lamar.

“Well, there are plenty of people who need help right here in Memphis. You don’t need to go off to Africa to do that...you certainly don’t have to prove anything to me.” I think Dad never really said that; he just thought it, or maybe I did.

The airport was in view. I was off to two years of voluntary service to my country by helping others in a far-off land.



Standing outside my house with the family I first lived with. They all admired my flowers, a sight they rarely saw. They said the flowers would attract snakes.

WITH LOVE

By Malcolm Aste '77

Long silence...Mother is crying.

“You don’t have to go. You can turn around right now...it’s not too late.” Mother was in the back seat.

We’re on the viaduct just past the Fairgrounds. Dad, sitting next to me, was showing uncharacteristic emotion.

I was driving myself to the airport. In a few minutes I would be airborne, on my way to Togo, West Africa, to be a Peace Corps volunteer.

“We’ll pay for graduate school. You could study law...be a successful lawyer and give money to charities that help feed the Africans.”

“Enough back seat driving, Mother,” interrupted my father.

Long silence...we’re at Airways and Lamar.

“Well, there are plenty of people who need help right here in Memphis. You don’t need to go off to Africa to do that...you certainly don’t have to prove anything to me.” I think Dad never really said that; he just thought it, or maybe I did.

Togo. When I received my invitation from the Peace Corps, I did not even know where Togo was. Many National Geographics later I thought I was ready for an adventure, a cross-cultural experience, a test of my ability to live without any of the comforts of modern life, a test of my commitment to serving others.

I had grown up Catholic and graduated from MUS in 1977. I remember the assassination of John F. Kennedy and his brother Robert. I recall the National Guard troops rolling through the streets of Memphis after the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. These were my heroes. "Ask not what your country can do for you but what you can do for your country." Kennedy's clarion call was to the whole country, but he specifically was calling young people to believe in themselves, in the country, and in the power of the individual to make a difference. Kennedy first proposed the idea of the Peace Corps on the campus of the University of Michigan, and just a few months later on March 1, 1961, the first Peace Corps volunteers stood in the Rose Garden preparing to go to Ghana. He embodied the youthful spirit of American open-mindedness. His words echoed in my mind as I flew over the Alps, across the Mediterranean and the Sahara to Togo.

Hot. I thought Memphians knew what hot meant. Togo is hotter...and more humid.

The sounds of straw brooms whisking the brown, dusty roadsides. The sounds of women setting up their wares in the open-air marketplace. The cock crows. The whitewashed cinder-block walls of my room seen filtered through the mosquito netting came into view in the early sunlight. I awoke in Lome, the capitol of Togo. It must have been 6:00 a.m. I ventured out.

Relying on the French I had learned from Mrs. Robinson, the French teacher at MUS (though she did not teach using Dr. Reginald Dalle's fluent and brilliant immersion methodology, she did engender in all her students a love of the language and a life-long curiosity about other cultures), I greeted one of the street vendors.

"Bonjour."

"Bonjour," she replied.

"Yovo! Yovo! Bonjour, Ca Va, Merci, Donnez-moi cinq francs," came a chorus of little voices as a crowd of young Togolese children surrounded me. They were

smiling and chanting out this refrain, which I later found out to be a litany of the few French expressions they knew, or heard, calling the Yovo, that would be me (the white guy), and asking for money.

For the next 2 1/2 years, I would be the white guy. I would be the stranger, the minority, the admired and the despised, the sought after and the ignored, the one who (like so many others before me) came and went and left these people in their world that had changed little in hundreds of years.

For the next 2 1/2 years, my job would be to work with them, to serve them, to help them help themselves.

So what did I do?

My official job title was Directeur Technique du Projet Culture Attelee. You, no doubt, understand the technical director part. The "Projet Culture Attelee" was a project financed by the French government and staffed by the U.S. government (i.e., Peace Corps volunteers) to reintroduce the use of draft animals (oxen, horses, donkeys) into the farming systems of rural Togo.

Most Togolese were farmers. Most were subsistence farmers, just growing enough food to feed themselves and their families and, if they were lucky, having enough to sell in the market to make a little money with which they would buy clothing, soap, food luxuries, medicine, and school supplies.

My unofficial job was to show the world a different and more humane face of America. I was to conduct one-to-one diplomacy. I was to work 24/7 learning everything I could about their culture, their languages, and their dreams and share with them my own.

After three months of intense language and technical training, I settled into a small adobe-walled house with a thatch roof in the little village that was to be my home, Gando Namoni. No running water. No electricity.

Fluent in French and fairly fluent in a way of farming that Americans had abandoned over fifty years ago, I began my daily routines of meeting with the Ministry of Agriculture staff in my region and, through them, meeting the farmers of the area that already used or were likely to adopt this revolutionary method of farming with a plow pulled by oxen.



Threshing and harvesting the millet

You see, they farmed by hand...a hand-held hoe called a daba. Bent over eight to twelve hours a day, they labored in the fields to eek out a living of peanuts, potatoes, ignames (a large tuber, similar to a potato), beans, rice, and cotton.

In the seventies, under the banner of what was then called the Green Revolution, the French government had sent down over four hundred Massey Ferguson tractors to Togo, accompanied by tons of fertilizers and a handful of agricultural experts. Ten years later, upon my arrival, there were maybe two dozen working tractors in the whole country. Nobody could afford replacement parts. Nobody could afford diesel fuel.

So this idea, which was called "appropriate technology," was to take one step backward, but a surer step forward, by introducing the use of animals to pull plows, teaching the blacksmiths how to repair the plows, and thereby helping the farmers raise enough food and cotton to pay the whole thing off. We were introducing the concept of agricultural credit.

Fun.

It was fun. Don't get me wrong. It was great.

I got up at dawn every day. I worked until noon, came home, and ate lunch. I took a nap every day (this is very civilized). I worked in the afternoons mainly on my own farm and garden plot of tomatoes, lettuces, and eggplant. I played soccer every afternoon on a dusty, gravel-covered field (I was the only one in soccer shoes). I ate dinner that was cooked on an open fire. I listened to the BBC on my short-wave radio and went to sleep not long after sunset. It was the best and probably one of the most meaningful experiences of my life.

Sick.

There was the time I was bitten by a scorpion, and Pere Pierre, the French priest, was not in town to use the magical black rock that would suck the venom out. So I just bit on a towel, took a handful of aspirin, and passed out. The second time it happened, Pierre was there and he expertly cut me where the scorpion had bitten and placed the magical black rock, which was in fact a carbonized piece of bone (very porous). I could feel the venom descending my leg and exiting my bloodstream immediately.

There were the bouts with malaria, giardiosis, amoebic dysentery. But it was all worth it. Not a day goes by that I do not think of my time in Africa or use some piece of wisdom I learned there. I will never view America the same, and I can never hear a ridiculously narrow-minded news report on war or starvation in Africa without thinking of the beautiful, hard-working, gracious, and hospitable people who took me into their lives from the summer of 1982 until Christmas of 1984.

Epilogue.

So now I am Director of Marketing for Contemporary Media Inc., a small publishing house that publishes *The Memphis Flyer*, *Memphis Magazine*, and *Memphis Parent*. And yet I am always in touch with Africa in some way.

Africa's warm winds infuse my belief that serving one another can be the fire that fuels the American melting pot of the 21st Century. Once upon a time, it was public school education or military service that functioned as the great leveler and unifier in American society. What contemporary institution could possibly bring people of different ethnic groups, religious backgrounds, social groups, or economic classes together? Community service. One person getting off their butt and making a difference.

It is already happening. Teach for America, Americorps, Summerbridge, service learning (community service programs linked to the academic experience) and a thousand other programs on high school and college campuses across the country are again calling young people to do something for their country. It is a way of validating and humanizing the lessons of liberal arts (the lessons that liberate men's minds and hearts) taught at Memphis University School. What better way to share the bounty of resources that MUS embodies? What better way to have an adventure and to have fun? What a great way to take the first steps that might lead to a drive to the airport where your plane awaits you to go....



*Editor's Note:
After graduating
from MUS in
1977, Malcolm
Aste received a
B.A. in Urban
Studies from the
University of
Tennessee,
Knoxville. He
worked in Togo,
West Africa, as a
Peace Corps
volunteer from
1982-84 and
continued his stay
in Africa work-*

ing for the University of Florida. Upon his return to the United States, he taught French at high schools in Memphis and New Orleans. After receiving his M.A. in French from the University of Memphis, Malcolm moved to New York where he worked for the Peace Corps in public relations and recruitment. Malcolm and his wife, Kristin Beizai, a practicing psychiatrist, moved back to Memphis in 1997. They now reside in Central Gardens with their two sons, Paul, age 4, and Joseph, age 1. Malcolm is Director of Marketing for Contemporary Media, Inc. 

Faculty Profile

Dr. John E. Harkins

Colonel Ross M. Lynn hired John Harkins out of the Master of Arts program at Louisiana State University in the summer of 1968. Harkins taught Modern European History, World Area Studies, and Mexican and Russian history electives at MUS for two years before accepting a teaching assistantship at the University of Memphis to pursue his Ph.D. in history. In the doctoral program, Harkins shifted his emphasis to American History, later opening an avenue to research and publishing interests on Memphis area history. (See accompanying article, "Milestones and Myths of Memphis History," on page 12.)

The fourth of five sons of a widowed mother, John Harkins entered the U.S. Navy right after finishing high school in 1956, traveling extensively in the U.S. and abroad. At age 26, he returned to Memphis and resumed his formal education, earning a B.S. in history from the University of Memphis, and completing course work for the M.A. from LSU between 1965 and 1968. Harkins then taught two years at MUS, four years at the U of M, and an additional year at MUS. During 1975-76, he taught part-time at U of M and wrote his dissertation on Spanish colonial government in Louisiana.

For eight years after receiving his doctorate, Harkins worked in local colleges and libraries, serving six years as the Memphis/Shelby County Archivist. He enjoyed research aspects of the work and being in public service, but he longed to return to full-time teaching. Over those years, he stayed in touch with MUS colleagues, making occasional chapel talks and hoping for a history opening. He wanted dearly to return to the institution that he had grown to love



and respect. Friends said he seemed a bit like an urchin with his nose pressed against a candy store window. Finally, in the spring of 1986, Mr. Thorn called and offered him essentially the position that he had vacated sixteen years earlier. Upon his return to MUS, Harkins remarked that the school had improved so greatly over the intervening years that he needed his additional credentials just to be rehired.

During his undergraduate days, John had found time to marry his sweetheart, Georgia Strain, whom he credits as his greatest inspiration and influence. They share a love of history, and she has helped him in every aspect of his academic and popular writing. They have collaborated on several articles, and she gave invaluable editorial assistance on all three of his books: *Metropolis of the American Nile*, *The MUS Century Book*, and *The New Orleans Cabildo*.

In addition to research and writing, Dr. Harkins has been active in local history organizations. He is

recording secretary (and a past president) of the West Tennessee Historical Society, president of the Descendants of Early Settlers of Shelby County, and a member of the Shelby County Historical Commission. He lectures to civic and service groups on historical topics and recently served as a consultant to *Memphis Magazine* for its "Celebrating the Century" edition, as well as consultant and commentator for WKNO's "Memphis at the Millennium" special.

On the MUS campus, Dr. Harkins currently teaches regular and advanced placement European History courses. He holds the Ross McCain Lynn Chair in History and serves as chairman of the History Department. He served for five years as advisor to the yearbook and currently has responsibility for the school's archives. He also contributes regularly to Wednesday chapel programs. His passion, however, is for history in the classroom. He thinks that, "Most people take a pure delight in learning and in sharing their knowledge and perspectives with others. Teachers who view their work as adventures in learning with their charges are often the most effective. Although my students and I usually reach the events of the 1990s, 'covering all of the material' is not nearly as important as answering that perceptive question from a balky student. Getting students to think about history and to view the present in its historical perspective is extremely important. Seeing them advance in grace, intellectual maturity, knowledge, sophistication, and wisdom, and knowing you have been a part of that, is among the most rewarding experiences possible."



Milestones and Myths of Memphis History

By John E. Harkins

What exactly is a historic milestone? It is something which keys a major change in patterns of living, a watershed.

Usually such turning points are about a generation or so apart. A myth is something that people believe to be true, whether or not there is sufficient basis for such a belief, or even despite good reasons to disbelieve it.

For example, there is a persistent myth that Hernando DeSoto "discovered" the Mississippi River on the site of today's Memphis, but there is no real proof that it was not a hundred miles or so up or down river from here. Even if true, was it a real milestone? Probably not.

Nothing of historic importance issued from that event, no matter where it took place.

I usually say Memphis is about "seven miles long," because that's the number of milestones apparent to me. My turning points are:

1. THE FOUNDING OF MEMPHIS, c. 1820 (OR EARLIER?)
2. THE FLATBOATMEN'S WAR, 1842
3. THE CIVIL WAR, 1861-65
4. YELLOW FEVER, 1878-79
5. E. H. CRUMP TAKES POWER, 1909 AND AGAIN IN 1927
6. WORLD WAR II, 1941-45
7. CIVIL RIGHTS MOVEMENT AND SANITATION STRIKE, 1968

The Founding of Memphis

When was Memphis actually founded? The standard answer is 1819. We celebrated our centennial in 1919 and our sesquicentennial in 1969. But, what actually marks a town's founding? Is it when people start living there? If that is the case, and I think it is, then May of 1795 is the time of our city's founding. Manuel Gayoso del Lemos and a party of Spanish soldiers began building Fort San Fernando de las Barrancas then, and there has been proven continuous habitation here from that date. There were Anglo-American squatters here under the Spanish, some of whom stayed on and were the earliest inhabitants of Memphis and Shelby County a generation later.

So why don't we date Memphis from 1795? Reasons include: the Anglo-centric biases of our earlier historians, the prominence of our three early speculators-proprietors (Jackson, Overton, and Winchester), and a good bit of ignorance about Spanish activities in the area until late-20th-century historians published research on Fort San Fernando.



This 1796 map of Spain's Fort San Fernando is a remarkable document giving an extremely detailed plan of the settlement. A French soldier made the map in secret as a contingency measure against the possibility that France would go to war against Spain. It never came to that and the American Army occupied the site soon after. Later when the military moved downriver, squatters stayed on the bluff site which eventually became Memphis.



This romanticized painting of Memphis in 1832 by J.H.B. Latrobe reflects the favorable accounts given in traveler's journals about the small town on the bluffs.

Certainly the 1818-19 Chickasaw Treaty giving up West Tennessee and the subsequent laying out of Memphis' streets and lots were also major turning points. At that time, regular settlement of this area on a legal and expanding basis began. Of course, these events are riddled with myths, too, but let's save those for another day — and jump ahead to the so-called "Flatboatman's War."

The Flatboatman's War

The story goes that during the 1830s numerous flatboatmen came down river annually enroute to New Orleans. When they tied up at Memphis, they ran roughshod over the town. Although they took advantage of the city's amenities, they vehemently refused to pay the assessed wharfage fees. They numbered as many as 2,000 at a time, outnumbering the city's adults. Locals just hunkered down and gave in to the boatmen's lawlessness, like in the western cowtowns of a later era.

In 1842, however, Mayor Speckernagle organized a couple of militia companies, appointed a new wharfmaster, and insisted that the rule of law be upheld. Then, according to local historian, Professor James Roper, wharfmaster Davis encountered a flatboat bully named Trester, who refused to pay the wharfage fee. Davis made a hasty exit but summoned the militia companies to back him up. As they approached, Trester pulled his boat out into the river, brandished a knife, and made stupid threats. One of the militia men shot and killed him. (There is probably a moral here about the advisability of pulling a knife on a group of people who are pointing guns at you). According to Gerald Capers, dean of Memphis historians, with the militia's action the rule of law came to Memphis, and this opened the road to a huge boom in the city's growth and importance.

Well, not exactly! The true story of Memphis' rise to prominence in the 1840s is much less dramatic. The competing city of Randolph, TN, upriver declined markedly. The opening of northern Mississippi to settlement meant a virtual doubling of the Memphis trade area. There was a huge boom in cotton production. Military installations including the Federal Navy Yard and Western Army Headquarters made it certain that the area's railroads would intersect in Memphis. Developers like Robertson Topp gave Memphis great amenities like the luxurious and famed Gayoso House. Such things attracted other capitalists. By 1850 Memphis merged with its sister city of South Memphis and as a result was briefly the fastest growing city in the U.S.

While the timing for the myth of the Flatboatman's War is about right (although one killing hardly seems a war), it was hardly the keystone event in the rise of Memphis. Because of other developments, Memphians would have

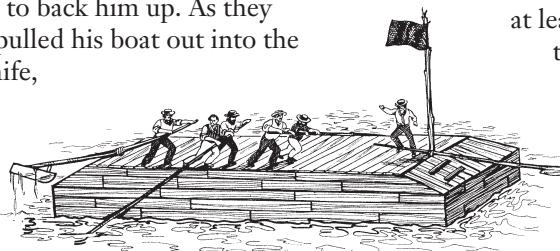
soon curbed lawlessness anyway, and the boom would have gone forward pretty much as it did.

The Civil War

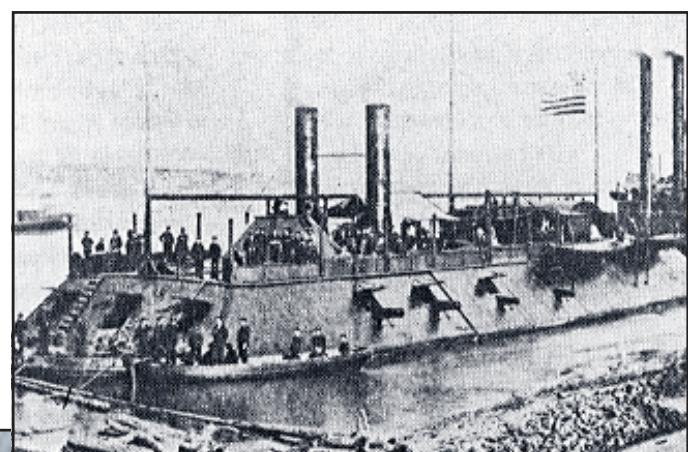
The American Civil War, of course, brought profound changes to the city of Memphis. Archly pro-Union, at least through November of 1860, the city cast more than 90 percent of its presidential votes for either John Bell or Stephen Douglas, both viewed as anti-secession candidates. Yet, by the spring of 1861, the city voted overwhelmingly to secede from the Union. Moreover, if Tennessee had not seceded, then Memphis planned to secede from Tennessee and join with Confederate Mississippi.

How could a people change so drastically in such a short time? Part of the answer was the shifting population. At least 3,500 anti-slavery, pro-Union people left the Mid-South and went north as the crisis deepened. More important, however, the nature of the city's choice had changed. It was no longer a question of whether to preserve the Union. That option was shattered with the firing on Fort Sumter. War was imminent. The new issue was, on which side would Memphis fight? Its citizens became rabid rebels.

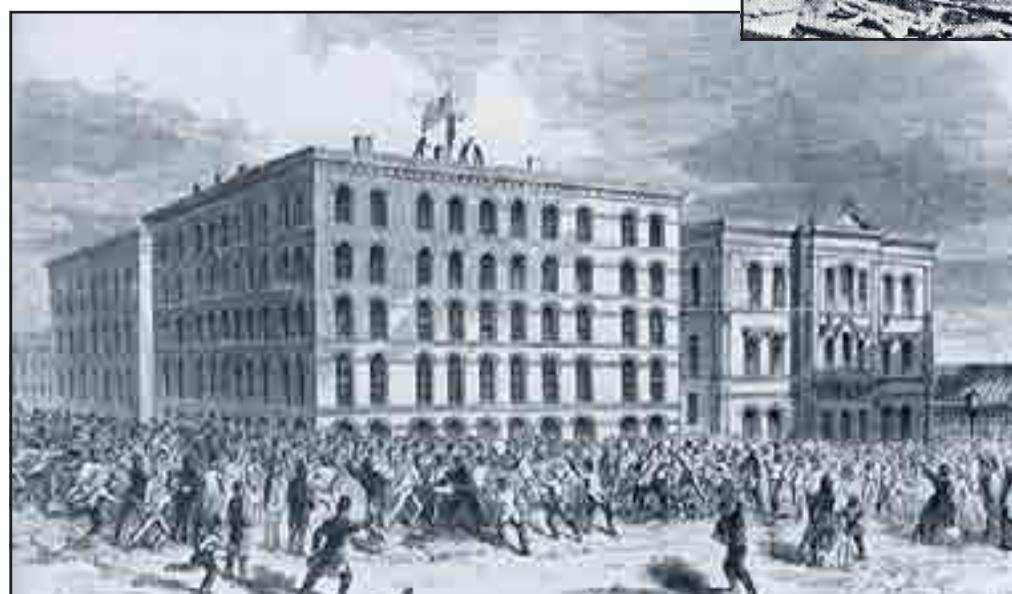
In the summer of 1862 the Confederate army deserted the city. With the army withdrawn, the naval Battle of



Cheapest and easiest method of carrying bulk goods downstream was by a flatboat.



The U.S.S. Cairo was one of the Union riverboat class of ironclads known as "Pook's Turtles." This slow, heavily armored vessel is an example of Union naval superiority that meant surrender for Memphis and defeat for the South. Using the river arteries of the South, Union forces fragmented the Confederacy and subdued it. From the Memphis/Shelby County Room (M/SCPLIC)



During the Civil War Memphians resisted surrendering their city, but eventually it fell into Union hands. Here, the "Stars and Stripes" are being raised over the post office. From Harper's Weekly, 1862

Memphis lasted a mere ninety minutes. Shortly afterward, Federal occupation brought martial law and about 15,000 rural black refugees to the city. The influx of Union functionaries and blacks markedly changed the character of 19th-century Memphis and the nature of relations among its citizens.

Perhaps the most frequently repeated Civil War myth is that Nathan Bedford Forrest, during his famous 1864 raid on Memphis, rode his horse up the stairs of the Gayoso House to capture a Union general. Actually, it was his brother William whose horse's hoofs made the historic scars on the Gayoso's stairway. In any event, the Yankee official was absent.

The end of the war brought Reconstruction and the notorious race riot of 1866. By 1869, however, conservative rule in Tennessee had been restored, and Forrest ordered the disbandment of the state's Ku Klux Klan. Race relations were pretty good through the 1870s and 1880s. In fact, odd as it seems,

N. B. Forrest was the featured speaker at the black-sponsored racial harmony picnic on July 4, 1875. The onset of Jim Crow segregation and the subordination of blacks' civil rights began in the 1890s, a full generation after white southerners had regained control of state and local politics.

Yellow Fever

The era of yellow fever, bankruptcy, and loss of the city's charter in 1878-79 is perhaps the most misunderstood and myth-ridden of all Memphis stories. Yellow fever did not come out of the blue in the late 1870s. It had struck Memphis earlier and fairly often. Bouts of it are confirmed in 1855, 1867, and 1873, as well as the climax years of 1878 and 1879. During all of these plagues, the statistics were grim, descriptions of the stricken were terrifying, and dramatic stories of selfless sacrifices abound. Most notable were the heroic efforts of the Episcopal and Catholic clergy and nuns, the Howard Association*, the Citizen's Relief Committee, and the city's black militia units. Even a local brothel, under madam Annie Cook, was converted into a hospital. Many of those ministering to the sick lost their lives in the process.

Although some Memphians genuinely believed that the city's site had proven so pestilential that it should be abandoned, most of them hung tough. The major myth at this juncture is that the fever caused the city's bankruptcy



Five children grieve at the bedside of their dying mother.



Caskets outnumbered the gravediggers during the Yellow Fever epidemic.

Children were more likely to survive the disease than adults and many were left orphans.

Sisters of Charity and other organizations cared for homeless children. Illustrations from *Harper's Weekly*

and that its charter was yanked over the objections of its citizens. Actually, Memphis government had been on shaky financial ground for years before 1879. Citizens were anxious to surrender their charter in the hope that doing so would allow them to default on part of the city's massive debt. One of the most persistent myths is the story that black millionaire Robert R. Church stepped forward to buy the first \$1,000 bond to restore the city's solvency and halt its decline. It is a good story, and Church may have made some gesture, but no such bonds were ever issued.

Even though the fever did not wreck the city's finances, it did profoundly change the city's ethnic and cultural make up. Many Irish died of the disease, and many Germans moved away to healthier climes. Post-1879 foreign immigrants usually avoided Memphis, although Jews and Italians proved minor exceptions. Major growth came from a huge migration of poor black and white farm folks to the city, giving Memphis its essentially provincial character for decades to come. White Memphians



developed a fervor for the "lost cause" of the Old South, which fostered racial animosity arising in the 1890s.

The image of Memphis rising Phoenix-like from its own ashes and putting its sanitation affairs in order is a powerful one, but luck mainly accounted for the fact that there were no more outbreaks of yellow fever. Probably the ridiculous cures and efforts to contain the disease had had little effect. However, the general cleanup that took place afterward did destroy many of the disease-carrying mosquitoes' breeding grounds.

...to be continued in next issue of MUS Today

*The Howard Association was a group of young, local gentlemen who dedicated their lives to helping the suffering during the yellow fever epidemics. Their founder was an Englishman who started the service in his home country. It was imitated in the United States with chapters in Memphis, New Orleans, and other cities. A good percentage of the local members died in the epidemics of 1878 and 1879.

Flying High Navy Style

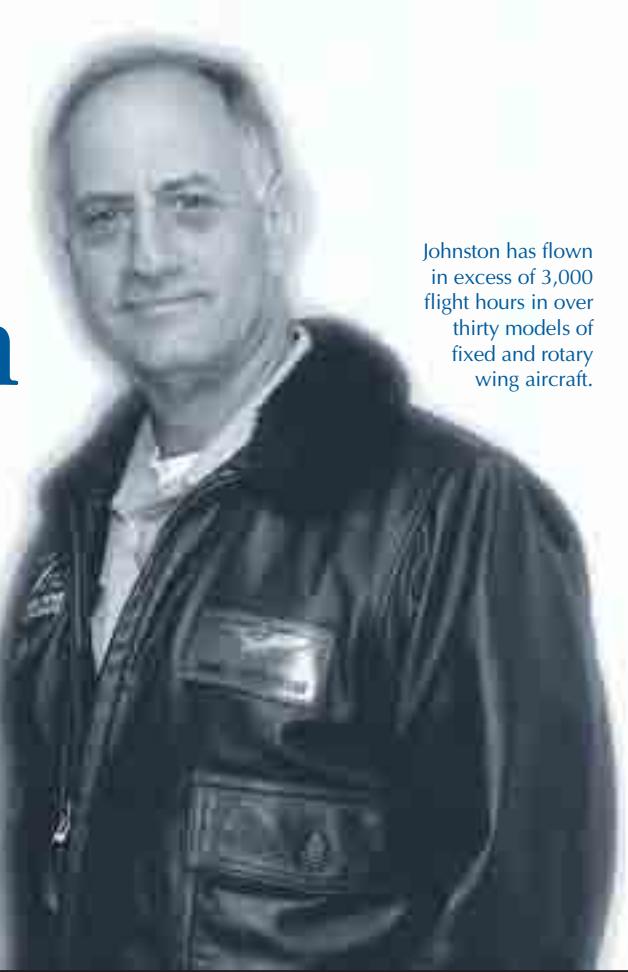
Recently, Mrs. Martha Ann Johnston stopped by the MUS offices to chat about her son, **Rear Admiral Charles Herbert Johnston, Jr.** (Some of our readers may remember him just as Bert Johnston, Class of 1966.)

"Bert made straight A's in elementary school – by charming the teachers, but not doing a thing," Mrs. Johnston reminisced with a smile. "My husband Charles said that a man has got to earn a living, so we are going to send Bert to the best school he can go to. Charles was in the business world and had run across many people who had attended MUS, and he had the greatest admiration for the school."

"After graduation from MUS, Bert attended the University of Virginia, majoring in aerospace engineering; but he didn't apply himself," Mrs. Johnston continued. "Even in college he knew that he wanted a military career, and he wanted to fly."

Johnston entered the U.S. Navy through the Aviation Officer Candidate Program and was commissioned in October 1973. He earned his M.S. degree in Aeronautical Systems from the University of West Florida, at the same time earning his Naval Aviator Wings.

"He married his wife Beverly in 1972, and they lived in Jacksonville first," Mrs. Johnston said. "Their two children were born there." Daughter Sally attends graduate school at the University of Tennessee, and son Hunter gradu-



Johnston has flown in excess of 3,000 flight hours in over thirty models of fixed and rotary wing aircraft.

ates this year from Saulsbury State in Maryland.

"Beverly is the perfect naval wife," praised Mrs. Johnston. "Bert always says she is due as much credit as he is for his promotion to Rear Admiral. The life is not always easy – you never know where you are going to go or for how long."

After three tours of duty on carriers in the Mediterranean and Persian Gulf, that statement is certainly borne out by the Rear Admiral's naval career. While based in Florida, he served aboard the aircraft carrier U.S.S. America. In 1981, he was accepted as an Aerospace Engineering Duty Officer and went to sea on the U.S.S. Forrestal. After earning his M.S. degree and graduating from test pilot school, he served at the Naval Air Test Center in Patuxent River, Maryland.

The next port of call was Australia. "The Australian government bought seventy fighter planes and Bert was the chief test pilot, commanding an office in Melbourne. All these planes had to be converted from carrier-base planes to land-base planes. They spent three years there – the

family loved it," commented Mrs. Johnston. "Then he spent three years at a desk job in Washington. He and Beverly purchased a home in Fairfax, VA, so Bert commuted by train. He hated that!"

He next returned to Patuxent River and served as the Military Director for Systems Engineering and later as the Director of Engineering for the Naval Air Warfare Center, Aircraft Division. He was there five



years and owned a home on the Chesapeake Bay, built in 1782 by a doctor on George Washington's staff.

In August 1996, Bert became Program Manager for Conventional Strike Weapons. In January 1999, he went to China Lake, CA, in the middle of the Mojave Desert, where he assumed additional duties as acting Commander for the Naval Air Weapons Center, Weapons Division, and Assistant Commander for Test and Evaluation for the Naval Air Systems Command. In the spring of 1999, he became the full-time commander of the Weapons Division, with bases in California and New Mexico.

On March 1, 2000, he achieved the rank of Rear Admiral (the third highest rank in the Navy) and now has a command of 7,500 people at the three sites of the Weapons Division. He is the head of the Weapons Division at the Naval Air Warfare Center and Assistant Commander for Test and Evaluation for the Naval Air Systems Command.

JOHNSTON HAS BEEN AWARDED

- the Navy Meritorious Service Medal
- the Navy Commendation Medal
- the Navy Achievement Medal
- and nine unit commendation/campaign awards

Johnston has flown in excess of 3,000 flight hours in over thirty models of fixed and rotary wing aircraft. He has been awarded the Navy Meritorious Service Medal, the Navy Commendation Medal, the Navy Achievement Medal, and nine unit commendation/campaign awards.

"We look back on his years at MUS very fondly," Mrs. Johnston said. "I remember quite clearly sitting on the hard benches to watch

him run track and play basketball. Bert has been back a couple of times to speak to the students here. MUS has a special place in all our hearts."

Besides her son, Mrs. Johnston can boast two sons-in-law and two

grandsons who are MUS alumni, two grandsons here now, and one grandson who plans to enter next year. Her daughter, Elizabeth, is married to Trow Gillespie '65, and their sons, Paul, Class of 2001, and Stuart, Class of 2004, are current students; daughter Nancy and her husband, Steve Morrow '71, will send their sixth grader here in the fall. Her grandsons Richard and Thomas Garner, sons of daughter Barbara, graduated in 1985 and 1988.

"All the family was present for Bert's change of command in April of last year. The rank of Rear Admiral is a great honor and responsibility, and the ceremony is very emotional and awe-inspiring." In addition, the family celebrated two birthdays and the fifty-seventh wedding anniversary of Martha and Charles Johnston. "We married on April 24, 1942," said Mrs. Johnston. "Three weeks after the wedding, Charles was drafted and then sent overseas when we had been married only eight months. He was overseas 2 1/2 years. We always say we've been blessed with such a long life together because we had three years taken away from us."

"We had a lovely party at the Ritz-Carlton in Washington to celebrate our anniversary," Mrs. Johnston continued.

"Charles had a good laugh over how well they treat Rear Admirals at the Ritz – he had to ask at the front desk for an elevator key to go up to see his own son!" 



Charles and
Martha Johnston

Good Teachers Good Schools

by Mack Ray '74

Whenever I think about what I remember most from my days at MUS, it wasn't the buildings or the equipment. Whatever I learned in high school was learned from good teachers, not from electronic gadgets.

I remember when the new language labs were unveiled around 1971. Our Spanish teacher, Vince Mutzi, had a big glitzy Tom Swift control panel. Mr. Mutzi would turn a dial, and booms with headsets would impressively descend from the ceiling. We would all obediently put on our headsets and microphones and respond to a taped Spanish lesson while Mr. Mutzi listened in at random. But it didn't take us long to figure out that if we lip-synced the words while making hissing and gargling noises into the microphones, we could send Mr. Mutzi into a twitching fit of switch flipping and dial twisting; and if enough of us kept it up, we could sometimes send him running from the room.

I was and still am impressed by the leeway that talented, proven teachers were given at MUS. My first English teacher in seventh grade was Bill Hatchett, and Mr. Hatchett was a showman: we were all amused at his portrayals of Willie Loman or the weird sisters from *Macbeth* or the simpering Osric from *Hamlet* or Juliet's nurse. I also remember him playing guitar and singing Hank Williams' songs, and his cornball rendition of "Casey at Bat" in chapel, when he sobbed and dabbed his eyes with a hanky, then wrung out about a gallon of water onto the floor. But when it came to writing themes, Mr. Hatchett was all business. He taught us to be clear, concise, and organized. We had to rewrite every theme over and over until it was perfect. If you did a poor job at first, you had to work more and more until you got it right. We learned that "all writing is rewriting." Mr. Hatchett taught me again in the ninth grade, when we worked on term papers. By the time I got to college, I could improve my grade in any course by writing a paper.

Another of my favorite teachers was Grady Garrison, who taught me Latin and geometry. I always liked geometry because it was the only kind of math where you could have more than one correct answer. Mr. Garrison was young and tolerant and informal, but his intellect demanded respect. In Latin class, he declared Fridays "unbearable;" so instead of studying grammar, we studied



Roman culture and Latin derivatives. Today, I confess I don't remember as much about declining nouns and conjugating verbs as I do about the republic and the senate and how the word "salary" was derived because Roman soldiers were once paid in salt.

In Ellis Haguewood's eighth-grade English class, we watched *Lonely Are the Brave* and saw Kirk Douglas playing an emblem of the vanishing

West. He was beat up by a one-armed war vet, two cops, and a prison guard, only to get run over eventually by Carroll O'Connor in a trailer truck. That movie was based on a novel by Edward Abbey, who became one of my favorite writers as I got older. When I asked Mr. Haguewood a few years ago his reasons for showing us that flick, he said, "I just thought it was a good movie." Fair enough.

I'll never forget taking tests in Bob Boelte's history classes. He was no librarian. He didn't tiptoe around shushing people, but would crank up his Gregorian chants on the stereo and stride around the room braying along with the monks in Coptic. Then he'd snatch up a little statue and say something like, "Behold the Dying Gaul! A perfect example of the Hellenistic style! Note the suffering, the contorted grimace!" while those in the class who were excessively proud of their grade-point averages would grimace and nearly stroke out because the teacher was distracting them from their serious performances. But Mr. Boelte knew that the real world doesn't respond with a reverent hush whenever we need to concentrate.

Coach Larry "Ducky" Shurlds was another teacher who made you work harder if you were negligent the first time around. In his biology class, if you made below a "C" on a chapter quiz, you had to outline the chapter. We learned a lot. Some of it was science, but not all. For Coach Shurlds, biology covered a lot of territory, such as hygiene, sex education, and drug education. We learned how to correctly use dental floss, different methods of birth control, and we got an unhygienic review of the effects and dangers of all the popular recreational drugs. Maybe all of it wasn't covered on college boards, but Coach Shurlds thought we needed to know those things, and looking back, I think he was right.

When I remember my years at MUS, I wish all of my property taxes and any meager donations I make to schools would go to teacher salaries. After all, Jesus taught on a hillside. Plato taught in a cave. But we learn from them still.

"When we look back five years ago

at what we, as new MUS parents, expected from this school and what

MUS has delivered, we are genuinely pleased.

We determined MUS had an outstanding faculty with excellent credentials. Our son has enjoyed a rich and rewarding educational experience based on relationships with deeply committed educators.

We beheld an institution with outstanding facilities. Our son has experienced a complete environment which continues to foster a sense of safety, comfort, and encouragement.

We expected students with a diversity of interests and talents. Our son has continued his education with childhood classmates and forged new, lasting friendships with all of them sharing the common goal of accomplishment.

We selected MUS five years ago because we believed it was an educational institution which met the criteria to provide our son the opportunity to succeed in his academic endeavors. What we received was far more. MUS transcended from an institution of education to a living entity that has become an inexorable part of the life of our son."



Alan and Elaine Hare,
parents of Bink Hare,
Class of 2001

Your gifts in honor of special friends or in memory of loved ones directly enable young men at MUS to receive the best education available. Memorials to Memphis University School support the Annual Fund program. Families of those whose memories are honored will be notified by an appropriate card with an acknowledgment to the donor. We gratefully acknowledge the following gifts to the school:*

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MUS teaches its students to pursue every opportunity in life.

A student at MUS is given much: an excellent education, a chance for growth, and an opportunity to realize his potential. We also teach them to give something back — to give back to their school and to the community that nurtures and supports them.

Support through the Annual Fund will ensure that MUS continue to attract and keep distinguished faculty and that it keep pace with technology, teaching equipment, library collections, and all

that goes into offering an education of the highest quality. Your gift to MUS supports and enhances all the important resources that make Memphis University School a leader in college-preparatory education.

A student's responsibility to society is a priority at MUS. Continue the tradition through your support of the Annual Fund.



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*"It takes a noble person to plant
a tree that will one day provide
shade for those whom he may
never meet."* — Author Unknown

You can ensure the future of Memphis University School, benefit generations of students yet to come, and link your name permanently to MUS with a gift through an estate plan.

The Crest & Cornerstone Society recognizes individuals who have ensured the future strength of the school by including Memphis University School as a direct beneficiary of a variety of estate plans, including will provisions, charitable gift annuities, charitable remainder trusts, and life insurance policies.

If you would like more information on how a gift to MUS may also provide income for life for you or your loved ones, result in a current income tax deduction, and reduce estate and capital gains taxes, contact:

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IN MEMORY

Walker Hall '35 on December 27, 1999. Hall was the driving force in the development of Raleigh Plaza shopping center and other businesses stretching several miles along both sides of Austin Peay Highway. A second-generation developer, Hall built his first home in the Memphis area in 1938. He was a former member of the City and County Industrial Development Board and the Downtown Exchange Club.

Philip A. Perel, Jr., '60 on December 15, 1999. In the early '70s, Perel got his start in the restaurant business by co-founding Trader Dicks restaurant in Overton Square. In 1997, he and his family bought

the downtown restaurant, the Arcade, offering custom pizzas and Southern cooking in a family, café-style atmosphere. Mr. Perel's interest in anthropology led to his involvement in the 1980s in the archeological dig of Nonconnah Creek when the bones of a mastodon, now on display at the Memphis Pink Palace Museum, were discovered. He also volunteered for Action Auction and Art Auction for WKNO-TV and was a former performer for Playwrights Forum at Theatre Works.

William M. Ross, Jr., '64 on November 4, 1999. Ross earned his wings at Columbus Air Force Base and flew jet fighters for the Marine Corps. He received his degree in Mechanical

Engineering at UT Knoxville and became president of Gaskell Company in Memphis. In 1979, he joined Holly Farm Corporation in Wilkesboro, NC, and then in 1994 founded Sun River Service Corporation and built a plant for processing animal by-products in Wilson, NC.

William W. "Bill" Wilder, Jr., '72 on April 7, 1999. Wilder, brother of **Jim Wilder '82**, graduated from UT Knoxville with honors and then earned his medical degree from UT Medical School in Memphis. He interned at Methodist Hospital and was in family practice in Somerville, TN. Wilder died in a car accident near Durango, CO.

Alumni News

KEEP IN TOUCH — ONLINE!

Many of you have been waiting for us to get our e-mail address so you could send us information directly. We are now online. Send information on marriages, births, changes in employment, accomplishments, honors, affiliations, and college news. We never hear from many of you, and this is your chance to let your fellow alumni and the MUS community know the great things you are doing. E-mail cfarmer@musowls.org.

Also, much of our information on alumni who have recently graduated from college is outdated. We still have many parent addresses listed for your home addresses. If you have graduated from college and have your own place, please send us your new address, phone number, e-mail address, place of business, etc.

'60

Met Crump
Class Representative

Phillip Patterson is proud to report that he has two sons attending the Naval Academy in Annapolis, MD.

Marriages

Phil Wiygul '71 to Ragi Doggweiler on December 18, 1999

Barton Thrasher '82 to Cristin Cowan on February 12, 2000

Manning Weir '90 to Susannah Rogers on December 18, 1999

Spence Dillard '91 to Valerie Parker on November 27, 1999

Matt Diehl '92 to Kristen Ladner on August 14, 1999

Chris Alexander '94 to Heather Gannaway on December 17, 1999

Paul Novarese '94 to Stephanie Courtenay on January 15, 2000

Gus Mealor '95 to Kimberly Kent on November 27, 1999

Births

Holmes Pettey '69 and Nicole, a daughter, Beverly Grace

Kent Ihrig '77 and Cynthia, a son, Oliver

'66

Bob Lee
Class Representative

Dwight Drinkard is now working for ALSAC-St. Jude Children's Research Hospital as Director of Sports Marketing.

'67

John Pettey
Class Representative

Bill Jordan is still working at the Environmental Protection Agency in Washington, D.C. He and his wife, Josie, have a son who is a junior in high school and a daughter in the eighth grade. **Lance Minor** and his wife, Mary, stay very busy with their family. They have a son, Lance, 12, and four younger daughters. Lance serves as an elder at First Evangelical Church where he often sees **Russell Kostka** and **Rusty Wilson**. **Hugh Sprunt** and his wife, Eve, may be moving since Mobil Oil, where Eve has worked for twenty-one years, is being bought by Exxon. Having completed his undergraduate degree from MIT, their son, Alex, is about to enter MIT's graduate school. Their daughter, Elsa, is

a freshman at Dartmouth, so they are now empty nesters. Hugh's hobby is industrial espionage.

Walter Sprunt is enjoying a somewhat slower business year after three years of constant travel on behalf of his Dutch client for whom he was helping to buy U.S. real estate companies. He and his wife, Libba, have three daughters, one at Wake Forest, one at University of Texas, and one who is a sophomore in high school in Dallas where they live.

'68

Bill Ferguson
Class Representative

David Cunningham ran into **Charlie Chapleau** in the Belize International Airport in March 1998.

Jimbo Robinson was appointed by Governor Don Sundquist to serve as General Sessions Criminal Court Division 12 Judge while Judge Horace Pierotti is on disability leave. Jimbo has served as prosecutor of the Frayser Community Court since September and is president of Memphis Area Neighborhood Watch, Inc.

Ken McCowan '77 and Sarah, a daughter, Allison

John Wilbourn '77 and Jeanne, a son, John Kellogg, "Jake," on October 31, 1999

Bill Dunavant, III, '78 and Michelle, a son, Harry Pemberton, on August 31, 1999

David Rudolph '81 and Liz, a son, Thomas Carson Rudolph (pictured with his brothers), on May 17, 1999



The Rudolph Team: Myers, 6, Gardner, 4, Wise, 2, and Carson

Bob McEwan '84 and Emily, a son, Robert Christie McEwan, IV, "Bo," on November 20, 1999

Bobby Wade '84 and Helen, a son, Robert Baldwin Wade, Jr., on October 4, 1999



Andy Rainer '87 and Keith, a son, Drew, Summer of 1999

Michael Skouteris '88 and Amber, a daughter, Grace (pictured left)

Wren Greene '88 and Libby, a daughter, Morgan Kathleen, on August 21, 1999

Robert Sharp '88 and Amy, a daughter, Ivy Farish, on August 20, 1999

Swift Treadwell and his wife, Sally, have two sons, **Spike '96** and **Hunt '99**, who are both at Mississippi State.

Terry Wilson is busy selling cypress at Wilson Lumber as well as directing and performing in plays. He is the new president of the Memphis Lumberman's Association.

John Witherington and his wife, Lynne, have a son, **John Drew '99**, who is a freshman at Duke.

Ames Yeates visited with **David Cunningham** when he ran in the Marine Corp Marathon in Washington, D.C. Ames also has run in the New York and New Orleans marathons.

'69

John Keesee
Class Representative

Webster McDonald and his wife, Cynthia, have a son, Webster, Jr., who is a freshman at Georgia Tech, and a daughter, Gwynne, who is in the seventh grade at Hutchison.

Peter Roop reports that after twenty-five years as an educator, he is now a full-time author. By 2000, he will have sixty children's books published. He also makes over three hundred speeches a year at schools and conferences.

Scott Wellford and his wife, Donna, have two sons at PDS, Peterson, who is 8, and Crewes, who is 6.

'70

Hunter Humphreys
Class Representative

Ralph Braden is vice-chairman of The Emmanuel Episcopal Center and chairman of the Neighborhood Christian Center Christmas Baskets, which delivers 13,500 food baskets to families. He and his wife, Genie, have two daughters, Sarah Virginia and Elizabeth Christine. Ralph is senior vice president at Prudential Securities in Memphis.

Bill Carpenter and his cat, NYRO, live in St. Petersburg, FL. Bill works for West Marine in retail marine supply. He enjoys sailing, singing, canoeing, theatre, and reading.

John Catmur is president of Catmur Development, Inc., in Memphis, and he and his wife, Mary, have two boys, John, 12, and Eric, 8.

Wakefield Gordon states that he is an officer with the Air Line Pilots Association at Airlink. He adds, that means he is a UNION officer and was on the negotiating committee during their last contract negotiation. He has earned the

rank of captain and is having the time of his life.

Rick Johnson is a senior vice president for an environmental engineering consulting company. He and his wife, Mary, have four boys, Richard, Jr., 13, Alex, 10, Brady, 9, and Nick, 6. Rick was the outstanding alumnus at Ohio University where he is an adjunct associate professor. He is also involved in several charitable organizations, Rotary, and on the board of the Chamber of Commerce.

Joe Lovejoy and his wife, Lenee Anna, live in San Marcos, TX, and have approximately seventy goats, three dogs, and five chickens. Joe is with Federal Express.

George Madison has written and published several articles and books. He is also the chairman of the Wilberforce Foundation. He and his wife, Carol, have two children, Zach, 9, and Hannah, 7.

Lawrence McRae and his wife, Rebecca, have a 13-year-old, Loren Davis. Lawrence is an oral and maxillofacial surgeon in Memphis.

Walker Milnor writes that his children, Jesse, 21, and Barbara, 18, are both in college. Jesse is a junior at Millsaps and Barbara is both working and attending classes at State Tech. Walker adds that he recently sold the business he founded, Gas To Go, Inc., which had become the largest propane grill bottle exchanger in the South. While in the propane business, Walker was elected to the board of directors of the Tennessee Propane Gas Association and to the Technology and Standards Committee of the National Propane Gas Association. His current business is PeakAir, LLC, which is an aircraft trading and brokerage business. He and his wife, Gregg, have bought a place in Crested Butte, CO, where they spent the better part of last summer and are planning to do a lot of skiing this winter.

David Morris is chairman of the Overseas Dental Mission, specifically in the Ukraine, and a member of Second Presbyterian Church. He and his wife, Beth, live in Olive Branch, MS, with their two daughters, Anne, 18, who is an art major at Ole Miss, and Elizabeth, 13, who is an eighth-grader at Briarcrest.

Mike Murphy lives in Germantown with his wife, Nancy. They have two children, Suzanne, 20, who is a junior at Ole Miss, and Michael, 14, who is a freshman at MUS. Mike is owner of Mike Murphy Builders.

Jimmy Wetter is a cotton merchant with Dunavant Enterprises, Inc. He and his wife, Alison, have a son, William, 4.

'71

Phil Wiygul
Class Representative

Mark Schandorff, who lives in Eatontown, NJ, reports his daughter, Anna, is a freshman at University of North Carolina, Wilmington, son Phillip is a 6'4" tenth-grader and is still growing, and son Sam is an eighth-grader and may end up bigger than his big brother. Mark states he is trying to get back to Memphis so Coach Peters can get his coaching hand on these boys.

Phil Wiygul married Ragi Doggweiler on December 18, 1999. Ragi is a practicing urologist with the University of Tennessee Medical Group and clinical professor with the Urology Department at University of Tennessee Medical School in Memphis. Ragi is from Switzerland and went to medical school in Florence, Italy. Phil and Ragi plan to stay in Memphis and visit Ragi's home in Switzerland frequently.

'73

Montgomery Martin
Class Representative

Class Rep **Montgomery Martin** reports that the Class of '73 should be congratulated for their participation in the Annual Fund. The class was among the top five participants in both percentages of participation and total dollars given. Thank you to all contributors. Members of the Class of '73 also should be congratulated for their fund-raising efforts on the Doors to New Opportunities Capital Campaign. This is a very time-consuming task for which **Edward Atkinson, Bob Loeb, and Jim Varner** should receive a tremendous "thank you" for their leadership efforts.

Leon Bell is living in Huntsville, Alabama. He and his family moved there in the early '80s for Leon to pursue his medical work. He is associated with Radiology of Huntsville, PC. Leon enjoys hunting on their family's Texas ranch, recently returning from a trip with **David McDonald '74**.

Jim Korbel lives in Jacksonville, Florida. He moved there after graduating from Lambuth University. He is currently Senior Systems Analyst with Homeside Lending. Jim owns the distinction of being probably the only grandfather in our class.

Buck Lewis has been appointed by the Tennessee Supreme Court to the Advisory Commission to the Supreme Court on Civil Procedure. Lewis has also

been elected to the Memphis Bar Association Board of Directors and appointed to the Executive Committee of the Board of Directors by the president of the Bar Association. He was recently featured in a *Daily News* personal profile article. The article was quite kind in pointing out his successes over the last twenty-plus years, not the least of which is being married to Melinda Allen. Congratulations to Buck on being recognized as a distinguished lawyer, for his effort in the Democratic Party organization, and for being eyed jogging down Central to retain that trim look. **Harris Quinn** has recently opened the Memphis office of Williams and Prochaska. A progressive law firm with the home office in Nashville, they specialize in protecting a company's interests related to bankruptcies. Harris says that he is working really hard and looking for help. So if you are looking for a job, call him.

'74

Mark Ruleman
Class Representative

Will Chase has gotten back into traditional banking as senior vice president asset-based lending for National Bank of Commerce in Memphis. He also is an investor in a blind-manufacturing business and is still playing golf whenever he can.

Mike Gordon has written two books, *Bigtime*, published in 1989, and his new book, *Junk*, has just been released. He and his wife, Buffy, have three children, Luke, 4, Spencer, 2, and Emory, 3 months.

Albert Laabs is the manager of Professional Development and Research for the State of Tennessee Small Business Bureau.

David McDonald and his wife, Marion, are celebrating the birth of twin girls. Their son, Davo, is now 2. David is a stockbroker for SmithBarney and can be reached at marionsey@cwix.com.

David Yawn has moved to International Paper as supervisor of publishing, a position that encompasses publishing the company's magazine which is distributed to 118,000 employees worldwide. He can be reached at editorwriter@hotmail.com.

'75

Lee Marshall
Class Representative

Lee Marshall who will be assuming the role of class representative for the Class of 1975, would like to thank **Kenny Kyle** for his five years of outstanding service (Lee was told this position is normally a one- to two-year assignment, and he accepted on that basis). The twenty-fifth class reunion is scheduled for the Fall of 2000, and Lee hopes to have an organizing committee established within the next couple of months. If you want to assist in the reunion planning, please contact him via e-mail at lrmgarbage@aol.com or call directly 901-452-6491. He looks forward to keeping you up to date on the happenings of the Class of '75. **Hadley Butler** is still enjoying his work at La Baguette. He invites everyone to come enjoy some fresh bread. **Vic Guess** is a self-employed day trader and will be moving to Seattle.

'76

Cage Carruthers
Class Representative

If you have any news for your new class representative, please e-mail to Cage.Carruthers@jcbradford.com.

Keith Anderson reports that he and his wife, Kay, have two daughters at St. George's.

Roy Bell is hard at work at Bell/Memphis Ace Pumps.

Mark Duke states he has a son about to enter college.

Hugh Francis and his wife, Lizbeth, have two sons, Hugh and Kent, both at PDS.

John Hammons is chairman of the board of deacons at Second Presbyterian Church and continues to be active with Street Ministries. His son, John, is a seventh-grader at MUS.

Steve Hickman and his wife, Mary, live in Gainesville, GA, and have three children, Leigh, 12, Steve, 9, and Andrew, 7.

It was good talking with **Bob Hoehn** and his wife, Cindy, during the phonathon.

Robin Hyde was a great asset at the recent phonathon. He and Laura are very active at St. George's.

Jay Norfleet is secretary/treasurer of Guaranty Loan and Real Estate Company in West Memphis, AR. He is

involved in Mardi Gras 2000 in New Orleans where he is with the Krewe of Tucks, named for Friar Tuck from Robin Hood.

Bill Oates has moved his firm, Oates Design, to a new location for his graphic design/illustration work.

John (Peep) Peeples and his wife, Susan, are nearby in Arkansas. Many thanks to **John Phillips** for his many years of service as class representative. John's son, John, is very active at MUS.

Fred Piper is straightening many mouthfuls of teeth with his orthodontic practice, and he is married to Jill.

Johnny Pitts is very busy with his insurance business, duck hunting, and Cub Scouts.

David Preston and his wife, Shelley, live in Kansas City, MO, where David is partner with the law firm of Lathrop & Gage, specializing in corporate law. Shelley is a graduate art history student at the University of Kansas. They have two children, Sarah Allen, 14, and William, 11, both of whom are avid athletes and possess better jump shots than their father. David spends what spare time is available hunting and maintaining a golf game that will permit him to regularly beat his brothers, **Tom '74** and **Rob '78**.

Gib Wilson and his wife, Nancy, have daughters at St. Mary's.

'77

Bruce Moore
Class Representative

Malcolm Aste is the new advertising director of Contemporary Media. He and his wife, Kristin, have two sons, Paul, 3, and Joseph, 8 months.

Russell Eaton was hired as Professor at the University of Memphis in the Herff College of Engineering. Previously, he worked for the General Electric Corporation as an engineer.

'80

George Skouteris
Class Representative

Cotter Cunningham and his wife, Edie, moved in March to Palm Beach from Kansas City. They have two daughters, Hailey, 5, and Peyton, 3. Cotter is the senior vice president for marketing for ilife.com, an Internet publisher. He states that Florida is very nice and that it's great to avoid the Kansas City winters.

'82

Bill Lansden
Class Representative

Edward Bearman is a partner in his own law firm of Branson & Bearman, performing mostly plaintiff, commercial and domestic litigation. He marched down the aisle with Terri Shew last month.

Phil Canale is living in Greenville, SC and is still in the cotton business. He left Dunavant about two years ago and is co-owner and president of Eastern Trading Company with offices in Greenville and on Front Street in Memphis, so he makes it back on occasion and is looking forward to the reunion. He and Mignon have two children, Philip IV, 7, and Sophie Russell, 2.

After three years of teaching and coaching at Presbyterian Day School, **Ron Howard** is now recreation director at Hope Presbyterian Church in Cordova, which is the fastest growing Presbyterian church in the nation.

Bill Lansdon is now working as a marketing coordinator for the Memphis St. Jude Classic.

Louis Lettes left CNN Interactive in August to open an Atlanta office for Homestore.com, an Internet company based in Thousand Oaks, CA. He and his wife, Amy, have two children, Sarah, 3, and Sammy, 1.

Barton Newton is currently living in Richmond, VA, where he is sales manager for IKON Office Solutions in Newport News. He and his wife, Susie, married in 1991 in Annapolis, MD, and have since lived in Maryland and Costa Rica before coming to Virginia. He is planning to attend the 20th reunion and says they don't have children but he could bring his yellow lab named Jack.

Scott Smith is still living in Nashville and is Chief Technology Officer for empactHealth.com, a leading supplier of medical and surgical supplies on the Internet. Right before Christmas, he bought an eight-passenger twin engine Cessna 412C. He is building a small aircraft charter company called Regional Airways, Inc., and he will be chartering planes out for regional on-demand travel. Some of his classmates may remember when he and **Steve Mook** borrowed (really stole) Steve's dad's ultra-light airplane and buzzed their tenth-year

reunion picnic. He rates that as one of the dumbest things he has done, but it did get both of them into flying. Scott assures us that his charter operations are much safer. He is looking forward to seeing everyone at the twentieth reunion.

'83

Wyatt Isbell
Class Representative

Taylor French, Jr., has been awarded the Accredited Buyer designation by the Real Estate Buyer's Agent Council of the National Association of Realtors.

Danny Mansberg is a vice president of NBC Capital Markets Group in Memphis.

'84

Bob McEwan
Class Representative

Chris Beard and his wife, Gwen, moved back to Memphis in July after spending a year in Philadelphia. He hopes to lose the extra one hundred pounds, mustache, and gold chain he gained while in Philly.

Troy Benitone just published his first book, *Making a Church from Scratch*, published by Bristol House, Ltd. He has also been asked to write a new book entitled *The Essence of Ministry* and to co-write a complimentary resource to the *Spectrum 2000 Report*. The *Spectrum 2000 Report* is a granted study by the General Board of Global Ministries, Mission Education, & Leadership Development Unit, which Troy designed and participated on under the supervision of Dr. Roderick McLean. In May, Troy will receive a Doctorate of Ministry from SMU in the area of church development and evangelism. He has recently been moved by his bishop to start his second church in the St. Louis metro area. He and his wife, Beth, have four children, Heather, Joshua, Caleb, and Megan. He adds that he is still coaching youth football in his Owl tradition. His son, Joshua, is a third-grader and a defensive tackle for the Columbia Blue Jays and had four solo tackles in his last game of the season, a 26-0 victory. He states his family will have to start plotting their return to Memphis soon so Joshua can do the same for the Buzzards!

'85

Joel Sklar
Class Representative

Class Rep **Joel Sklar** says save the date for the fifteenth reunion! Mark your calendar for the weekend of September 22, 2000—you'll be receiving more information regarding the festivities.

Mike Armstrong is a material control manager for OEA, Inc., a manufacturer of air bag inflators in Aurora, CO (outside Denver). Mike met his wife, Patty, in Denver; however, Patty is originally from Wyoming. In his spare time, Mike enjoys playing goalie for his company's in-line hockey team. Mike encourages his classmates to give him a call at 303-766-9729 (home) or 303-693-1248 (office).

Phillip Burnett is the branch manager and the divisional vice president for Paine Webber in its Cleveland, OH, suburban office. Phillip and his wife, Anna, recently had their third son, Benjamin, born July 6, 1999. Their two other sons are Phillip and John Grady. Currently, he is remodeling a 100-year-old home. When he is not working or remodeling, he takes his kids to Cleveland Indians games, coaches Phillip's tee-ball team, plays a little golf, and has taken up fly fishing on Steel Head Alley, which is a tributary of Lake Erie—only forty-five minutes from his office. If you haven't talked with Phillip in a while, please call him at 216-321-1985 (home) or 800-274-7862 (office).

Robert Grossman began working for McNeill Investment Company at the beginning of 1999.

Dede Malmo has recently opened his own real estate firm, MalmoMemphis Real Estate, Inc., located at 5050 Poplar Avenue, Suite 2400, Memphis, TN. One-half of Dede's work is comprised of representing tenants in the negotiation of leases for office, industrial, and retail space, and the other half consists of representing buyers of land and income-producing properties. If you want to contact Dede, give him a ring at 901-537-7447.

Lee Schaefer and his wife, Ann, moved from Memphis to Los Angeles approximately two years ago so that Ann could pursue a post graduate degree in psychology. Before their move to Los Angeles, Lee worked as an architect for JMG. Upon their arrival in tinsel town, Lee and Ann settled in the Hollywood Hills and Lee began working for Walt

Disney Imagineering as an independent consultant. Imagineering is the division of Disney that began in the 1950's with the conceptualization and development of Disneyland. Ann works independently as a psychologist. Recently, Lee said goodbye to Mickey and the boys and began working for a real estate investment trust (REIT) named Essex Property Trust. Essex buys older multifamily properties, rehabs them, and manages the rehabbed units. Lee is a redevelopment property manager and really enjoys the new challenges of his job, although he said that he has experienced a fair amount of road rage getting to and from work. Being somewhat new to the area, Lee said that he and Ann, in their spare time, enjoy traveling around southern California checking out their surroundings. Lee said he wanted to hear from his classmates. Please give him a call at 818-223-3434 X12 (office) or 323-512-2550 (home).

Alex Williams promises to send SSIK videos to all people who assisted in production in 1985.

'86

Paul Anderson
Class Representative

John Tully has founded a telecommunications company in Riga, Latvia, called Microtique International.

'87

Jonny Ballinger
Class Representative

Special thanks go out to **Bo Brooksbank, Brian Browder, Allen Graber, Jody Graham, and Stewart Hammond** for assisting **Jonny Ballinger** with this year's phonathon effort.

Michael Blen and his wife, Marcy, live in Memphis where Michael is a pediatric dentist. They celebrated the birth of their first son, Max, in June.

Winston Brooks married the former Shanna Bobo of Tullahoma, TN, on May 22, 1999. They live in North Chattanooga where Winston works for UnumProvident. Winston is also working in his spare time as the associate editor for the *Chattanooga Outlook*, a newspaper similar to the *Memphis Flyer*. After starting their own e-commerce consumer on-line destination venture,

GotTheGift.com, Stewart Hammond and his partners recently combined resources with USgift.com, an Atlanta-based gift, garden, and home products company. Stewart is director of Business Development and works directly with USgift's e-tailer and web host site partners.

John Van Heiningen is back in school at San Diego State studying to be a math teacher. He plans to remain out West after completing his studies.

Kevin Johnson and his wife, Michelle, live in Knoxville where Kevin is a minister. They recently celebrated the birth of their first child, Rebecca Ann. Kevin completed his M.B.A. in December 1999.

Mason Jones, his wife, Sybil, and first child, Ivy, are enjoying life in Denver.

Pat Kelly lives in Memphis and works as a leasing director for American Mall Properties.

Kepler Knott is a manager with Andersen Consulting and recently transferred from San Francisco to Atlanta.

Mitch Loescher is working in product research development in Kemah, TX.

Will McGowen recently opened his own furniture shop in downtown Memphis. Will is designing and building custom furniture, as well as developing his own line of furniture.

Craig Nadel is enjoying life in Dallas and is working for MBA Ventures.

Lee Nelson and his wife, Stephanie, are living in Nashville where Lee works for Nichols as a SAP consultant.

Joel Pope is living in Orange, CA, where he is completing his masters in Physical Therapy at Chapman University. Joel is due to graduate in the summer of 2000.

Jeff Ruffin is the head coach for the Magnolia Heights High School basketball team in Mississippi. **Wade Harrison** is Jeff's assistant coach.

Don Smith and his wife, Lloyd, have two daughters, Georgia, 4, and Natalie, 1. Lloyd is a first-grade teacher at Hutchison, and Don works for Data Companies.

Bill White is based in Dallas as a manager with International Paper in the Export Operations and Marketing division for wood products. Bill is enjoying life in Texas and recently traveled for work to London, Amsterdam, and Hamburg, Germany.

'88

Gary Wunderlich
Class Representative

Jon Van Hoozer, Class Agent

Peter Goldmacher currently lives in San Francisco where he works for Merrill Lynch in their Global Equity Research department as an analyst.

Robert Knapp has moved yet again. Apparently, he took a wrong turn on his way to New York and ended up in New Orleans again. He encourages all alumni to drop him a line if planning a visit to the Big Easy.

Scott McArtor and his wife, Lexi, recently had a bouncing baby boy, Trusten. Scott works at Legend Airlines in Dallas along with **Kevin Ogilby**.

Jason Peters is the varsity boys and girls basketball coach at Lausanne Collegiate School in Memphis. Last year Jason led the Fighting Lynx to their best season ever in the history of the boys hoops at the school. This year both the boys and girls have already eclipsed the success of last year's teams. **Jon Van Hoozer** is helping the younger Coach Peters by coaching the junior varsity and assisting with the varsity boys' squad.

Bill Smith is the Director of Business Development at Alex Bakes.com, an on-line retailer of women's hosiery. Bill and his fiancée, Liz, live in Los Angeles.

Chris Sullivan is an attorney in Denver, CO. He reports that he made it to the West Coast finals of "Who Wants to Be a Millionaire" auditions before bowing out in the last round. Should have used those lifelines, Chris!!

'89

Andy Cates
Class Representative

Jason Fair, Class Agent

Caldwell Calame and his wife, Parmele, are still living in Charlotte, NC, where Caldwell will finish his M.B.A. in December.

Andy Cates is not a real estate broker, as reported in the last issue. Andy is in Commercial Real Estate Development/Redevelopment and returned to Memphis from Dallas to work on the Soulsville Revitalization at Stax Museum (see cover story). Our apologies to Andy for confusing him with someone else in Memphis by the same name.

Class news continues on page 27.

An Alum with *Heart*

On a usual morning, Dr. Edward Garrett '71 pushes through the doors of surgery. On a recent Friday, however, he walked through a different set of doors – the doors to Hyde Chapel to give a presentation on his specialties: heart disease, transplantation, organ donation, and aortic aneurysms. His son, ninth-grader Andy, was in the audience.

According to Dr. Garrett, there are 2,000 heart transplants every year. And every year heart transplant patients wait up to 130 days for a heart. However, thanks to new technology, a device is now available for waiting patients. In patients for whom a transplant is the only hope, an implantable ventricular assistive device inserted into the chest keeps patients alive until a transplant becomes available. Garrett was quoted in a recent issue of *Agenda Magazine* as saying the device reduced the death rate among seriously ill patients by 75 or 80 percent.

Dr. Garrett went into detail about the transplant procedure, walking the MUS audience through each step with the help of slides, from the time the organ is retrieved through the operation to place the heart into a recipient. He discussed new, less invasive techniques of surgery as well. The techniques allow a surgeon to avoid the major opening of the body cavity usually associated with heart surgery. For example, one option involves the use of a catheter and instruments to make a small incision right at the site of the problem. Another method is used for aorta repair, where surgeons use a catheter to introduce a graft to an affected area, rather than open the body.

Dr. Garrett went on to emphasize the importance of forming good health habits to prevent heart disease and challenged the students to sign the back of their drivers licenses for organ donations.

He also encouraged the students to consider a career in medicine and discussed the educational aspect of



preparing for that career. Garrett is a graduate of Emory University and Vanderbilt University Medical School. He completed his internship and residencies in general surgery and cardiothoracic surgery at the Washington University School of Medicine and his residency in peripheral vascular surgery at UT Memphis. Dr. Garrett is currently the Division Chief of Peripheral Vascular Surgery at Baptist Memorial Hospital and is an assistant professor for the department of surgery at UT Memphis. A recipient of several honors and awards, his professional memberships include the Christian Medical Society, the American College of Surgeons, and the International Society for Cardiovascular Surgery.

Oh Where, Oh Where Can They Be?

Help us find our lost alumni! If you know the whereabouts of any of your following classmates, please let us know. E-mail fwilliams@musowls.org or call the Development Office at (901) 260-1350.

Oscar Hurt, Jr. '24
 W. William Beckman III '60
 Larry Chamberlain '60
 O. John Norris, Jr. '60
 Daniel T. McGown, Jr. '61
 Ronald R. Chamberlin '62
 James G. Place II '62
 Robert H. Crump '63
 Charles H. Hull, Jr. '63
 John M. Hutchison '63
 William F. Adams '65
 Robert H. Howe '65
 Raymond H. Larson, Jr. '65
 Gregory C. Warren '65
 William H. Bryant '66
 Gregory K. Davis '67
 Robert Barruel '68
 John B. Booth '69
 Paul R. Jobe '69
 Shaun B. McIntosh '69
 R. Scot Cherry '70
 Allen N. Howe '70

David M. Jones '70
 Don V. Alexander '71
 David R. Bull '71
 Frank T. Kirkpatrick '71
 P. Layton Sanders, Jr. '71
 Keith D. Alexander '72
 Thompson G. Kirkpatrick '72
 Charles J. Ivins '73
 Jonathan P. Bailey '74
 Stephen Bedford '74
 Ronald A. Caldwell '74
 James C. Humphries '74
 J. Russell Matz '74
 Frank R. Stubblefield '74
 Keith P. Barksdale, Jr. '75
 Joseph C. Boals IV '75
 Fun H. Fong, Jr. '75
 John W. Owen III '75
 W. Lawrence Richmond, Jr. '75
 Peter T. Banta '76
 Olen C. Batchelor III '76
 Jeffrey H. Marker '76
 Harvey C. Reese '76
 Alan Scott '76
 William C. Threlkeld, Jr. '76
 William R. Winkelman '76
 Charles B. Allen '77
 Andrew M. F. Cannon '77
 John H. Coop '77
 William B. Bonner '78
 Thomas K. Creson III '78
 Redmond R. Eason III '78
 Michael W. Holt '78

Bruce A. Stein '78
 W. David Stinson III '78
 John H. Allen, Jr. '79
 Joseph E. Baker, Jr. '79
 Kent W. Boler '79
 Roy R. Bratton, Jr. '79
 Steven E. Corlew '79
 H. Tucker Dewey '79
 David M. Dunlap '79
 John R. Jennings '79
 H.M. Brinkley Sprunt '79
 Stuart C. Adams '80
 Roy J. Barnes, Jr. '80
 Mark H. Bilsky '80
 Jerry L. Bryson '80
 Charles W. Burrow, Jr. '80
 Christopher J. Cartmill '80
 Coldwell Daniel IV '80
 Richard F. Jackson '80
 Robertson G. Morrow III '80
 Gregory E. Parker '80
 David L. Pepple '80
 Andrew P. Allen '81
 Peter B. Amminger '81
 Michael A. Howlett '81
 Keith F. Johnson '81
 Thomas C. Kimbrough III '81
 Charles C. Sullivan IV '81
 Bradley J. Bolton '82
 Hunter B. Eagle '82
 Michael W. Marsh '82
 Steven A. Mook '82
 P. Martin Teague '82
 Kenneth J. Byrd, Jr. '83
 James H. Howdeshell '83
 D. Kevin Isom '83
 James T. Rantzow '83
 Blake A. Ross '83
 Palmer K. Bartlett, Jr. '84
 Scott D. Blen '84
 James R. Carter '84
 Thomas W. Cooke '84
 Thomas F. Faires, Jr. '84
 James F. Hudson '84
 Robert B. Sullivant, Jr. '84
 Thornton E. Bryan III '85
 Robert W. Campbell '85
 W. Christopher Crosby '85
 Ian A. Jones '85
 Frank J. Steed, Jr. '85
 Michael E. Thomas '85
 Robert F. Thompson III '85
 Howard B. Turner '85
 William A. Barksdale '86
 Kouross Esmaeli '86
 Shelton E. Harrison, Jr. '86
 John E. Matthews '86
 Barry R. McCullar '86
 Milton Medeiros '86
 Michael B. Pickens '86
 Wade A. Robertson '86

M. Brett Waddell '86
 Richard E. Werman '86
 James S. Branyon, Jr. '87
 David F. Evans, Jr. '87
 Mark E. Hopper '87
 Henry E. Newton '87
 W. Matthew Yarbrough '87
 David P. Buchalter '88
 J. Michael Cisneros, Jr. '88
 G. Ford Earney, Jr. '88
 Meyer A. Horn '88
 A. Todd Keathley '88
 David S. McCollough '88
 Peter A. Molettire '88
 Carlos W. Smith '88
 William S. Stratton, Jr. '88
 Rudolph H. Holmes IV '89
 John D. Kelley '89
 Gordon B. Slappey III '89
 Brian A. Webber '89
 Jonathan P. Berz '90
 Leslie L. Buck, Jr. '90
 Darrin V. Gulla '90
 Channing D. Hamlet '90
 E. Eugene Horner III '90
 John D. Kirkscey '90
 Bobby F. Kuo '90
 Ryan J. Lieberman '90
 Rajeev Memula '90
 David K. Roddy '90
 David O. Sacks '90
 John W. Arnold '91
 Wayne W. Chang '91
 J. Jeffrey Coons '91
 Damon C. Desio '91
 John R. Dyer '91
 John W. Effinger '91
 Eric L. Elms '91
 J. Wesley Perkins '91
 Christopher T. Conrad '92
 Brandon T. Dane '92
 Timothy L. Davis '92
 Daniel J. Moore '92
 Willem H. Bermel '93
 John B. Carter, Jr. '93
 M. Howard Gober, Jr. '93
 Lee J. Huff '93
 John H. Lederhouse '93
 James W. Summers '93
 C. Chris Allen '94
 Donald L. Crank III '94
 James K. Dickinson '94
 Vinay U. Kini '94
 Timothy R. Mainardi '94
 W. Clay McCullar '94
 Jeremy E. Daugherty '95
 Bryan K. Parker '95
 Aaron A. Ewert '96
 Joseph A. Inman '96
 Eiji Matsumoto '96

From the Archives



1974 Student Council

Seated: Dale Wells, David Preston, Walker Sims, Charles Stockley, Jimi Overbey, Bucky Wellford, Stilly McFadden, John Wepfer, and Kenny Kyle. Standing: Russell Deaton (snazzy outfit), John Phillips, Frank Crawford, Sam Blair, Wiley Robinson, Mack Ray, Ben Adams, and Charles Day.

A L U M N I N E W S

Jason Fair has moved to Paine Webber where he continues to work as a financial advisor specializing in management of 401(k) and retirement assets. Jason's new e-mail address for sending class news is jason.fair@painenwebber.com.

Christopher Hughey reports that in his ongoing attempt to live in a record number of cities, he has moved yet again—this time to southern Spain. He is still a project manager for Manugistics, working remotely now from his home.

Reginald Richter has recently moved back to Memphis and is working in Mergers and Acquisitions at Morgan Keegan. After graduating from Howard University, Reginald received his law degree from The University of Pennsylvania.

Andrew Shipman is an analyst at Morgan Keegan and is now focusing on the technology sector. He has guaranteed that "Class of '89 Ten Stock Picks for the Year 2000" will appear in the next issue. You are assured either to make 2000% or to lose all of your money!

William Wunderlich is co-owner of Southern Progressive Properties which is restoring and converting an old building in Arkansas into apartments. William is engaged to marry Virginia Ivy in April.

'90

Andrew Sutherland
Class Representative

Patrick Burnett has been hired at Glankler Brown, PLLC, as an associate. Patrick concentrates his practice in the areas of civil, commercial, and criminal litigation. He received his J.D. degree (*Cum Laude*) in 1999 from the University of Tennessee and his B.A. degree in 1994 from the University of Mississippi. He is a member of the American, Tennessee, and Memphis Bar Associations.

Philip Wunderlich, equity research director of Wunderlich Securities, has been awarded the Chartered Financial Analyst (CFA) designation by the Association for Investment Management and Research.

'91

Brett Grinder
Class Representative

Darrell Cobbins, Class Agent

Joel Baskin reports he is in his first year of medical school at the University of Tennessee, Memphis where he is president of his class.

Spencer Dillard has joined the ranks of the married people. He married Valerie Parker at Grace St. Lukes on the Saturday after Thanksgiving. (He joined the ranks of the debauched people a few weekends before that in Tampa at his bachelor party.) After a honeymoon in St. Lucia, the couple is settling down into their new life. Spencer is vice president of the Investment Management Consulting Group at Morgan Keegan, and Valerie is Communications Coordinator at Baker, Donelson, Bearman, and Caldwell.

Christopher Lamberson has joined Glankler Brown, PLLC, as an associate, concentrating his practice in the areas of business and commercial real estate transactions. He received his J.D. and M.B.A. degrees in 1999 from the University of Memphis and his B.S. degree in 1995 from Washington & Lee University. He is a member of the Tennessee Bar Association.

Chris Laster is engaged to Amanda Aldridge. We haven't been able to talk her out of it. Amanda and Chris work together at TekSystems as information technology recruiters in East Memphis but will live in a new river-view apartment over the train station downtown.

Whit McCrary has become a captain of industry. Whit and seven other principals purchased their Nashville commercial real estate firm from its parent, Highwoods Properties, a Raleigh-based real estate investment trust (REIT), in August of 1999. Eakin & Smith provides leasing and management services for building owners, as well as tenant representation, development, and corporate services. Whit specializes in representing office tenants looking for space.

Rhodes Scott has changed jobs and is no longer with Turner Sports, though he is still living in Atlanta. He is now doing advertising sales for Go2Net, Inc., an Internet portal based out of Seattle. He joined the dot com portal in November '99. Also, he and his wife, Betsy, are expecting their first child in late July. If your company is interested in advertising on-line, please email rhodess@go2net.com. Given recent market performance, Rhodes should have several million dollars worth of stock options within a few months, which his dad says is a few dollars short of what Rhodes owes him for sending him to MUS.

Graham Sexton is engaged to be married to Jennifer Ray. Graham is working to complete his medical degree at UT Memphis.

Matt Tutor performs jazz and acoustic gigs at various locations in Memphis. He is considering getting a masters in jazz. **Tal Vickers** recently moved to Mobile, AL, to work as a sales manager for Springhill Toyota and Lexus of Mobile. He and his wife, Julie, have two sons, Sims, 4, and Dobbson, 1.

'92

Preston Miller
Class Representative

Brandon Westbrook, Class Agent

Matt Diehl recently married (see Marriages) and is living in Gainesville, FL, where he is a physical therapist.

Richard Essex, Jr., is an associate with BCI Partners, a venture capital firm in New Jersey. He currently lives in New York City.

William Tayloe has left MUS for a new position at Financial Federal Savings Bank, where he is working with all the lending departments in business development.

While William was Director of Annual Fund at MUS, contribution reached a new record as did alumni participation. We will miss William at MUS, but wish him much success in his new career.

'93

Gil Uhlhorn
Class Representative

Thomas Quinlen, Class Agent

Cam Hillyer and **Zach Luttrell** are second-year law students attending the University of Mississippi Law School.

Casey Nolan is a project engineer for Clark Construction and is currently building a 16,000-seat tennis stadium in Palm Springs, CA. In between year-round golf, he has been training for the Honolulu Marathon in December.

Drew Banks

Spins Success with Simple Concept

MUS alumni **Drew Banks '79** is the co-author of a new book offering a unique view of organizational communications. *Beyond Spin*, published in October 1999, defines a strategic brand of corporate communications designed to help you hire a knowledgeable workforce, manage constant change, and align your organization.

"*Beyond Spin* is a book with a seemingly simple premise: Honesty is the best policy. Organizations that use honesty (more particularly, the journalistic tenets of openness, accuracy, and timeliness) as a foundation for communications will have a competitive advantage over organizations that rely on 'spin' or internal propaganda," explained Drew.



Why write a book with such a simple premise? "Because a publisher asked me to" is the simple answer, but the more

accurate answer requires a little personal context," Drew continued.

After graduating from MUS, Drew earned two B.S. degrees in Computer Science and Electrical Engineering from North Carolina State University. Near the end of his five-year college career, he saw the play *A Chorus Line*. Veering slightly

from computer science and electrical engineering, he signed up with a dance company the very next day. One year later, he was dancing and acting in New York City.

"I loved NYC drama; I hated NYC drama," Drew said. "Although I did well and even got to Broadway, I opted for a less competitive career path — I went back to business school."

After graduating from Massachusetts Institute of Technology's (MIT) Sloan School of Business, Drew settled on the San Francisco area as the perfect place to live and work ("I turned down an option-laden Microsoft offer because it rained in Seattle — ouch!") and ended up at SGI (aka Silicon Graphics, Inc.).

"When I was asked to be Director of SGI's Worldwide Employee Communications department, I had no communications background whatsoever. I just assumed since organizations were mini-societies, one would use the same communication models that societal communicators used. Thus, the concept of strategic corporate journalism," Drew explained.

He hired a foreign correspondent/bureau chief from *Newsweek* and an independent publisher to create a "free press" within SGI. "We started publishing internal news and reporting external SGI press — good and bad. The executive team, used to controlling internal communication and creating 'rah rah SGI' corporate speak, weren't necessarily thrilled at airing any problems, but in the end they saw the benefits and supported us," Drew continued.

Drew and his colleagues continued to improve upon their journalistic communications model and were approached by publishing company Jossey Bass to write *Beyond Spin*.

"And there you have it," Drew said. "The blazingly fast three-month book writing process was fascinating. And the notoriety and success of *Beyond Spin* has been, in some ways, baffling to me because again, the premise is so simple."

If you'd like to read more about *Beyond Spin*, including the preface and the prelude, written by James Adams, CEO, Infrastructure Defense, and former CEO, United Press International, logon to www.beyondspin.com.

What's up next for Drew? After ten years with SGI, he left to dive into the burgeoning Internet space and is now the vice president of

community at ThirdAge Media. With a non-fiction book under his belt, he would love to give fiction a try; but working for an Internet start-up leaves one very little personal time. Drew's partner is moving to New York City, so he will spend more time back in the Big Apple. "Everything comes full circle," Drew concluded.



Authors of *Beyond Spin*, Drew Banks, Kim Daus, and Markos Kounalakis

Occupation: Vagabond



Hampton Sides with sons
McCall, Graham, and
Griffin standing in front
of Matsumoto Castle in
Nagano Prefecture, Japan

Before moving to Korea, he lived for years in London, where I guess a ‘willie’ is something else entirely.”

For Hampton and his wife, Anne, home nowadays is Santa Fe. Hampton lived in Washington and Chicago before moving to New Mexico five years ago to work as an editor for *Outside*, the monthly adventure magazine that has hatched such recent

We recently caught up with **Hampton Sides '80**, who just returned home from a three-month stint in Tokyo researching his new book, a story about a Japanese-run American prisoner-of-war camp during World War II. “My wife and I decided to bring along our three small children (McCall, 7; Graham, 4; and Griffin, 2) which was a perfectly insane thing to do,” says Hampton. “Our apartment was the size of the Lower School bathroom; but unlike the Lower School bathroom, it came equipped with a bidet curiously operated by remote control switch — which my boys just loved!” Hampton says his boys also loved the food they encountered in the backcountry of the Japan Alps — exotic dishes like pregnant snail, fried locust, and raw horsemeat. “Horse isn’t bad; it tastes a bit like. . .horse,” he says, then adds, cryptically, “But don’t tell **Davant.**”

One of the high points of his stay was hooking up for a late night with Seoul Cotton Council “honcho” **Willie Bettendorf '81**, who came through Tokyo on business. “Best I can recall, we had a great time,” Hampton says. “But you have to call him ‘Will’ these days.

bestsellers as *Into Thin Air* and *The Perfect Storm*. Hampton’s first book was *Stomping Grounds* (William Morrow & Co.), a collection of stories about American subcultures — like Tupperware salesladies and Airstream trailer owners — later adapted as a documentary series that aired for three years on the Discovery Channel. For the past two years, Hampton has been writing a column for *Outside* called “The Wild File” which addresses such esoteric questions as “Why do llamas spit?”, “Why are yawns contagious?”, “Is the earth leaking anything into space?”, and “Do beavers ever get squashed by the trees they gnaw down?” (answer: all the time). A compilation of his “Wild File” columns will be published in early 2001 by W.W. Norton & Co.

Lately, you might have seen Hampton’s byline in *Men’s Journal*, *The New York Times Magazine*, *DoubleTake*, or *Sports Illustrated* or heard him on National Public Radio’s (NPR) “All Things Considered.” Aside from Japan, his last few assignments have taken him to the Philippines, Sicily, Austria, Morocco, and Chiapas, Mexico. “I’ve been as much of a vagabond as my wife will tolerate,” says Hampton. “It’s hectic, but it’s not a bad life. And to think this all started with Mr. Haguewood’s ‘five paragraph theme’!”

'94**Kirby May**
Class Representative**Jason Whitmore**, Class Agent

Jeffrey Block is living and working in Atlanta. He is an account manager for chemical sales with Isotec.

Brad Cohen and **Justin Kaplan** are doing very well in their first year of law school. Brad is at Harvard Law School, and Justin is at the University of Texas.

R. P. Dempsey has taken a position with International Paper in Memphis.

Duncan Galbreath has entered into the working world by joining National Bank of Commerce. He lives across from East High School with Frank Crump, McCallie '95.

Kirby May is a second-year law student at the University of Mississippi Law School.

Josh Martin and **Bo Summers** are living it up in Washington, D.C. Rumor has it that **Bill Warnock** did very well on his LSAT and is planning to attend law school in the fall.

'95**Jeff Murray**
Class Representative**Blake Bourland**, Class Agent

David Bradford graduated from Mississippi State University in May 1999 with a bachelor's degree in Mechanical Engineering. Currently, he is back at Mississippi State University pursuing a master's degree in Mechanical Engineering.

Trey Carr has been accepted to medical school at the University of Tennessee, but has deferred his enrollment for a year until August 2000. In the meantime, he has worked for Senator Bill Frist in Washington, D.C., for four months and is now working for Mammoth Mountain Ski Resort in Mammoth Lakes, CA, until spring.

Kelly Ensor graduated May 1999 from Rhodes College, was selected to the "Who's Who Among Students in American Colleges and Universities," and now works as an investment analyst at Wallace Morrison Capital Advisors in Memphis.

Trevor Herndon is now teaching English in Shenzhen, China, and working on an advanced degree. **Albert Tat** is working as a programming analyst for Nissan Motor Acceptance Corporation in Torrance, CA. He is also engaged to Shanon Chettle who he has been dating for over four years. **Will Thompson** caught a pass for a touchdown at the Virginia Cavalier's Micron PC.com bowl game this year.

'96**Robert Dow**
Class Representative**Kennon Vaughn**, Class Agent

Spike Treadwell has been named a Dean's Scholar at Mississippi State University where he graduated in December 1999.

Richard McCluney graduates in May from Wake Forest University cum laude with a major in biology and chemistry minor. He has been accepted into the University of Tennessee School of Medicine for the fall.

'97**Trey Jones**
Class Representative

Emmel Golden was recently mentioned in the *USLIA Preview* as returning member of the starting attack of the University of Georgia soccer team. Emmel will be handling the midfield duties for the Bulldogs. He is also a member of Sigma Alpha Epsilon Fraternity.

John Pettey and **David Hwang** are studying this year at prestigious Oxford University.

David Spence was recently named Junior Greek Man of the Year at the University of Tennessee at Knoxville. David is a member of the Phi Gamma Delta Fraternity, and is currently serving as President of the Intrafraternity Council.

Michael Thompson was elected vice president of the Phi Delta Theta Fraternity at the University of Mississippi.

Please e-mail Trey Jones at whjones@olemiss.edu with Class of '97 news for *MUS Today*.

'98**Don Drinkard**
Class Representative**Eric Clifford**, Class Agent

Jason Dowdy is a sophomore at Vanderbilt and pledged Alpha Tau Omega. Jason spent last summer doing an internship with Coca-Cola.

'99**Chip Campbell**
Class Representative**Norfleet Thompson**, Class Agent

Scott Erb is a freshman at Ole Miss. **Lee Grimm** is president of his pledge class at SMU.

Jim Johnson has become a member of "The Dukemen," one of the thirteen registered undergraduate a cappella groups at Yale University. The group was voted the best men's a cappella group in the country by the A Cappella Society. Jim will be with the group for four years full of hard work, a busy tour calendar, and life-long friendships.

Chad Keller is a newcomer on the University of Tennessee soccer team and is expected to step into a key role for the Volunteers this season.

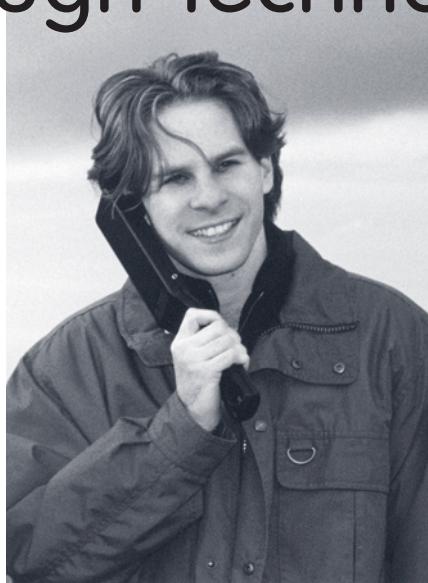
Michael Lee was elected SGA representative at Emory University. Michael was surprised and "quite overwhelmed" at having garnered the most votes in his election. He has been busy trying to help with the transportation problems students face when going back and forth to class.

Alan Pinstein Pilots His Way Through Technology

After graduating from Washington University in St. Louis, **Alan Pinstein '92** had trouble deciding on a career direction. Rather than getting a "real job" (his words) in which he had no serious interest, he decided to get some sales experience. "That's when I began working at Circuit City Express at the mall," Alan explained.

Little did he know this job would lead to his own company, creating software for one of the latest computer technologies, the Palm Pilot. "This was in November 1996, which was just about six months after the original Palm Pilot was released. We sold them at the store, and I bought one because they were cool to play with," he continued. (A Palm Pilot is a computer small enough to fit in the palm of your hand.)

After looking around on the Internet, Alan realized that there were no commercial businesses and very few hobbyists involved in developing software for the Palm Pilot. "And at this point, I was beginning to be bored with work and started thinking about doing something more substantial than working retail," Alan said. "One night, out with some Kappa Sigma fraternity brothers, I got to talking with a friend who worked at the investment firm, Stifel Nicolaus, about my new discovery. I shared with him my excitement for this new 'gadget' and how I believed that the Pilot was the device that would be the breakthrough product for the handheld computing industry. He agreed that there was potential for a big opportunity, and before I knew it, we were writing a business plan. A few weeks later, he helped us secure some seed capital and a free office at an Internet company in downtown St. Louis. Another fraternity



brother who had just graduated with a Computer Science major agreed to help co-found the company, and Synergy Solutions, Inc., was born!"

Over two years later, Synergy had grown into a successful software company for the Palm Operating System. Offering six software products and excellent customer service, the company's sales doubled each year. They were known in the industry for superior products, as well as commitment to the customer and the industry.

Recently, an Internet comparison-shopping site, Barpoint.com, Inc., acquired the company. Barpoint.com wanted to build a group for delivering their services to mobile platforms and recognized the abilities of Synergy. Synergy Solutions continues as a wholly owned subsidiary of Barpoint.com, and Alan, now living in New York City, serves as Vice President of Mobile Development.

Alan credits MUS for "shaping my life in more ways than I imagined it ever would. MUS taught me much more than what I learned in class. Over my four years there, the teachers, coaches, and other students taught me how to learn, how to think, and how to always be a good person. I really think that my life wouldn't be close to what it is if I hadn't gone to MUS."

"Looking back, I really appreciate the relationships I had with some of my teachers. They made me work harder than I'd ever had to before, and taught me to appreciate things I hadn't before — things that are really important to learn as a young man," he concluded.

Atlanta Alumni Gather

Jan and Kip Caffey '73 hosted a reception in December 1999 for Atlanta area alumni. This first-time event for MUS alumni drew over 40 of the 75 Owls who live in the Atlanta metropolitan area. It was a great opportunity for alumni from all decades to meet or to renew old friendships. In addition, those present were treated to a presentation by Headmaster Ellis Haguewood, who provided an update on the school.



Chad Graddy '88, Stewart Hammond '87,
Jonny Ballinger '87, and Kepler Knott '87



Betsy and Rhodes Scott '91
with Jim Calise '84



Jeff Siewert '83, Matthew Daniel '84,
and Scotty Scott '83



Marlon Starr '81, Ellis Haguewood,
and Andy Meyer '81



Charles Day '74, Jan and Kip Caffey '73



Bentley Long '79 and
Vance Overby '78



Pam and Todd Miller '72 with
Robert McCallum '63



Brian Armstrong '98, Michael Lee '99
and Lisa Haguewood Phillips

Homecoming Reunion Weekend

FRIDAY, SEPT. 22, 2000
*Alumni Golf Scramble
Barbecue Dinner
Football: MUS vs ECS*

SATURDAY, SEPT. 23, 2000
*Reunion parties for the
Classes of '60, '65, '70, '75,
'80, '85, '90, '95.*

Contact your class rep for more information.

Let's Get Organized!

MUST C
Alumni Summer Theater
ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING
Wed., May 31, 7:00 p.m.
to plan a summer show

If you wish to be in or work on a summer show, call Flip Eikner at 260-1320 or e-mail him at peikner@musowls.org and come to the meeting on May 31.

Viewpoint

By Kent Wunderlich '66

There is no question that MUS has been one of the greatest influences in my life. I now realize how important a person's high school years are to the development of character. The process starts at home but is greatly influenced by what is taught and demonstrated at school. I do not think it is the school's sole responsibility to make sure that the boy or girl succeeds. Success depends on the effort of the individual coupled with help from the parents. It appears to me that one of the things that has changed over the years at MUS is the degree of parent involvement. Parents are more involved. This is good. However, there needs to be the right balance between their involvement and the school's programs. This will be a continuing challenge for all our constituencies.

What is it about MUS that produces leaders, friends, lasting relationships, successful businessmen, lawyers, doctors, etc.? Obviously, it begins with the leadership of the school, from Colonel Lynn to Ellis Haguewood. We have been blessed. Over the years, I have tried to determine my greatest lesson learned at MUS. I really did not figure it out until I heard Coach Alston say, "do right." This is one of the great messages instilled in every MUS student. What greater example could there be than Gene Thorn? Through his mannerisms and actions he portrays this simple quality.

We as alumni and parents need to remember Gene Thorn's example. It has been a tradition at MUS, and I know it will continue to be so under the watchful eyes of our Board of Trustees and administration. There is so much pressure on our young people now, and we as parents put a lot of it on them. Not everyone has to have an A or get into Harvard or be the star on his or her athletic teams. If we have a good foundation, I think we will be successful, no matter how success is measured. There is something for everybody at MUS, and I hope parents and future parents will encourage their sons to take advantage of the many opportunities here. Good guys don't always finish last.



KENT WUNDERLICH
was elected to the Board of Trustees in 1983. He was subsequently elected Chairman of the Board in 1988 and served in that role for nine years. He still provides leadership to the board and to MUS as a member of the Doors To New Opportunities Capital Campaign Steering Committee and as a founding member of the Ross M. Lynn Society. After graduating from MUS in 1966, he received a B.S. degree from the University of Virginia and earned his J.D. degree from the Memphis State School of Law. He currently is executive vice president of Financial Federal Savings Bank. Kent and his wife, Susan, have two sons: Gary, who graduated from MUS in 1988, and Philip, who graduated with the MUS Class of 1990.



Jimmy Ogle met the "real" Ringo Starr in April 1987 (see cover photo for Ringo impersonator). Ogle is the newly-named director of the Rock 'n' Soul Museum, curated by the Smithsonian and scheduled for a spring opening at the Gibson Guitar plant, under construction at Third and Beale Street. See cover story, page 3.

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