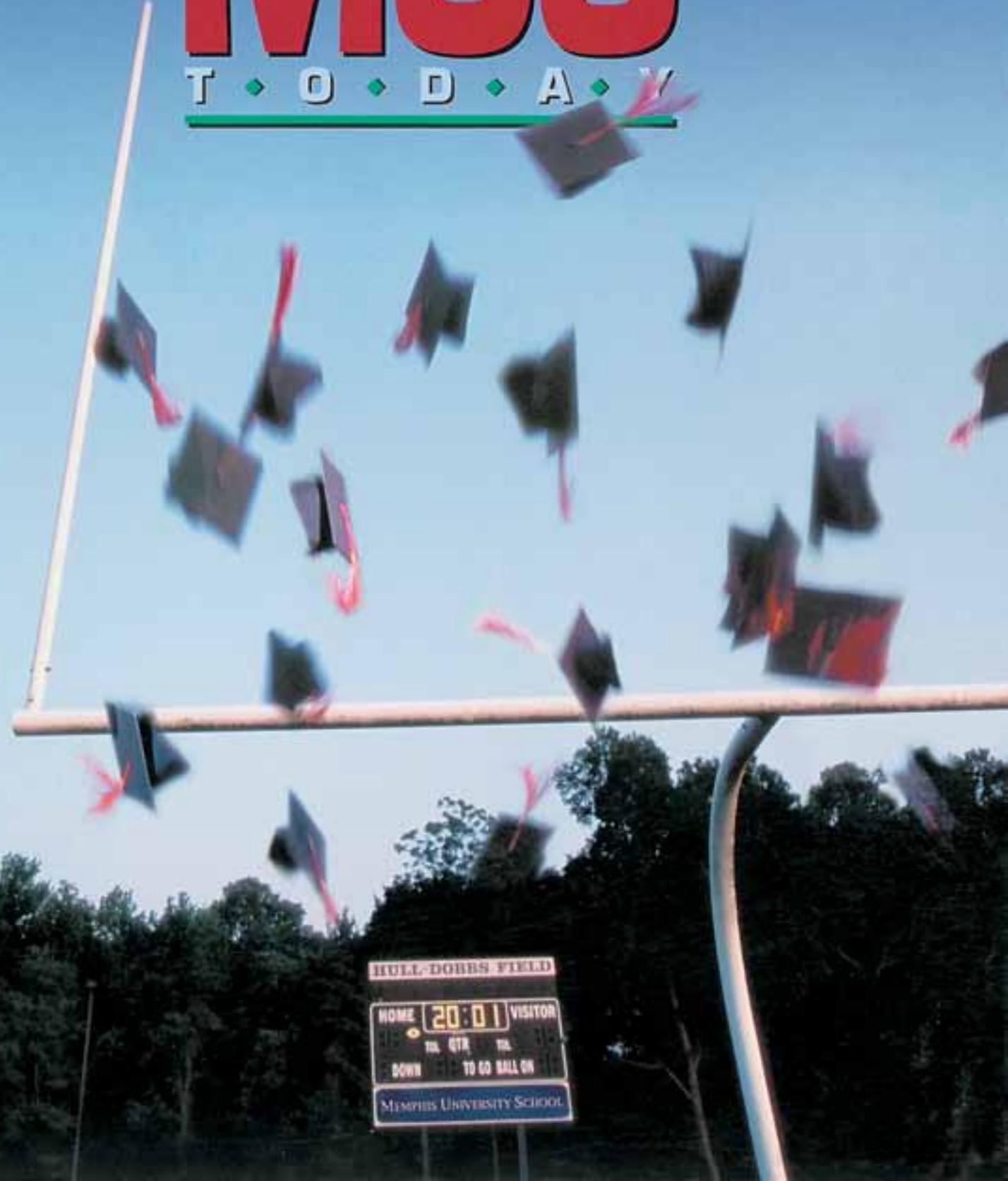


The Magazine of Memphis University School • Summer/Fall 2001

# MUS

T • O • D • A • Y





**MEMPHIS UNIVERSITY SCHOOL**  
Founded 1893

**MISSION STATEMENT**

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

**HEADMASTER**

Ellis L. Haguewood

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

Ben C. Adams, Jr. '74, *Chairman*  
James C. Varner '73, *Vice Chairman*  
W. Thomas Hutton '61, *Treasurer*  
Robert Louis Adams '70  
Russell E. Bloodworth, Jr. '63  
V. Glenn Crosby  
Susan B. Faber  
Richard L. Fisher '72  
P. Trowbridge Gillespie, Jr. '65  
Mark J. Halperin '67  
Harry Hill III '66  
Joseph R. Hyde III '61  
Robert E. Loeb '73  
Musette S. Morgan  
C. Barham Ray '64  
Michael D. Rose  
Charles F. Smith, Jr. '66  
S. Alexander Thompson III  
Alexander W. Wellford, Jr. '60  
Kent Wunderlich '66

**ALUMNI ASSOCIATION EXECUTIVE BOARD**

Wiley T. Robinson '75, *President*  
Judson L. Peters '81, *President-Elect*  
Paul T.J. Boyle '87  
Andrew F. Cates '89  
Henry P. Doggrell '66  
Buchanan D. Dunavant '90  
G. Goodloe Early '59  
Samuel N. Graham II '80  
John H. Grayson, Jr. '78  
Joel J. Hobson III '72  
E. Charles Jalenak '83  
Wise S. Jones '73  
John H. Keesee '69  
Edward C. Krausnick, Jr. '79  
H. Montgomery Martin '73  
Jerry B. Martin, Jr. '79  
Daniel H. McEwan '88  
William P. Morrison '75  
D. Stephen Morrow '71  
Thomas F. Preston '74  
Frederick C. Schaeffer, Jr. '88  
David L. Simpson '80  
Joel B. Sklar '85  
S. Clay Smythe '85  
Robert D. Sparks '79  
Henry P. Sullivant, Jr. '70  
Owen B. Tabor, Jr. '85  
Kelly H. Truitt '81  
Matthew T. Wilson '92  
Gary K. Wunderlich '88

**DIRECTOR OF DEVELOPMENT**  
Perry D. Dement

**DIRECTOR OF ALUMNI AND PARENT PROGRAMS**  
Claire K. Farmer



## From the Editor

Maybe it's a self-fulfilling prophecy. The Alumni Executive Board bestows an honor upon an alumnus for service to the school, and then that alumnus becomes an employee (in my opinion, yet another honor). Consider that **Marc MacMillan '92** was awarded Volunteer of the Year in 1999 for his tireless efforts as volunteer coach of the seventh- and eighth-grade baseball teams and the eighth-grade football team. Shortly thereafter, Marc was hired by the school as head coach of the varsity baseball team and assistant to Skip Daniel in the

Business Office. Today, Marc is business manager in addition to his duties as head baseball coach.

Then there's **Bruce Ryan '80**. In 2000, he received the Alumnus of the Year award for moving MUS into the 21<sup>st</sup> Century, providing endless consultation and donations that have enhanced technology at MUS. Now, after traveling the globe with Microsoft, he's back in Memphis as an MUS faculty member. Read about Bruce's most recent contributions in the classroom and behind the scenes in technology (page 26).

**Clay Smythe '85** is the 2001 recipient of the Volunteer of the Year award. And, yep, we got him, too (page 27). Clay will receive the award this fall for his volunteer work in forming a Bible study for students six years ago. The before-school program boasts four alumni volunteers as mentors, as well as several substitutes, with the goal of building genuine relationships between mentor and students and among the students themselves. You'll now find Clay back in the classroom teaching religion. This time he's the new teacher, just waiting for "payback" from this year's crop of bright, precocious students and hoping they won't play the same tricks on him that he played on his teachers.

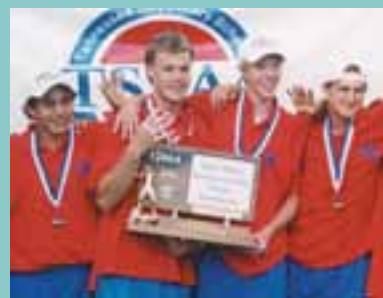
An alumnus who may be too young to receive an alumni award has also returned to MUS in the role of contributing writer to *MUS Today*. **Paul Murray '97** graduated from Rhodes College this spring and has spent the last several months penning several entertaining stories that grace the pages of this issue of the magazine. You can watch for more of his work in future issues as he supplements his income while applying to graduate school in vocal performance. Based on his performance in this summer's alumni production, *A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum* (page 48), we can expect to see Paul thrilling audiences from the stage in the future.

So, if you're looking for a job that is gratifying, rewarding, collegial, and downright fun, get in line for the 2002 Alumni Executive Board awards. If you win one, you have a pretty good shot at coming back; this time, with pay.

**Debbie B. Lazarov**  
Director of Public Relations  
Phone: (901) 260-1416  
E-mail: [dlazarov@musalumni.org](mailto:dlazarov@musalumni.org)



Page 48

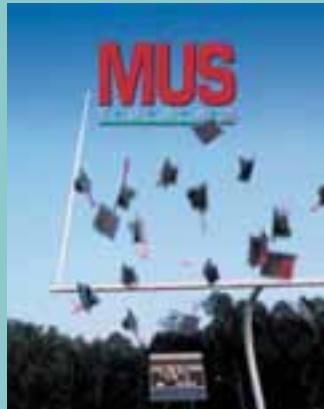


Page 23



Page 16

# MUS TODAY contents



## ON THE COVER

Hats off to our recent graduates. Scoreboard touts their final victory. See graduation highlights on pages 2-7. Photography by Jack Kenner.

**EDITOR**  
Debbie B. Lazarov

**ALUMNI NEWS EDITOR**  
Claire K. Farmer

**CONTRIBUTING WRITERS**  
Andrew Crosby, Susan Faber,  
Edward Felsenthal,  
Suzanne Gibson, Paul Murray,  
Sam Rembert, Gaye Swan

**GRAPHIC DESIGNER**  
Denise Hunt

**PHOTOGRAPHY**  
Gittings/Skipworth Photography,  
Holland Studios, Jack Kenner,  
Kathy Daniel Patterson, and  
various MUS constituents

**PROOFREADING**  
Jean Saunders

## features

2001: A Graduation Odyssey	2
Alumni Capture Top Respect as Professional Writers	10
Eddie Batey's Vision is 2020	17
Lacrosse and Tennis Teams Four-peat State Champions	21
Back to the Future...	26
Mathletes Extraordinaire	28
On the Road Again	44
Variety on Stage	46

## departments

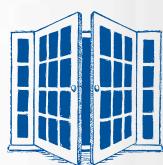
Faculty Profile	8
Memorials	30
Viewpoint	33
Remember When	34
Alumni News	36
From the Archives	37



Page 28



Page 26



**OPEN HOUSE**  
for Prospective Students  
and Parents to preview MUS.

Sunday, October 28, 2001 • 2:00 - 4:00 p.m.  
Student-led Tours of the Campus until 3:30 p.m.  
Tell Your Friends!

## Headmaster's Message



by Ellis Haguewood

It was just another Fourth of July neighborhood street parade, in one sense. Nothing spectacular – no impressive fireworks, no speeches, no politicians, no multitudes of the curious or bored.

But for me, the Pidgeon Estates parade was an epiphany.

It wasn't the two Memphis Fire Department pumpers, one that led the children and their parents around the block, the other that shot a column of water 50 feet up into a high blue sky to rain gently on the crowd below.

It was the two dozen or so *alums*, boys from the 70's and 80's, a few from the 90's, now with wives and sons and daughters of their own, enjoying an idyllic tradition, passing on to their children the joy of holiday celebration, simple, uncomplicated family fun. The hearts of these fathers were turned to their children.

Beginning in the 80's, every year we have graduated sons of alumni; and I believe that when the time is right, the sons of these Pidgeon Estates alumni will take their places on the walls of MUS, behind the glassed frames of senior-class composites, to be studied curiously by generations of students yet unborn.

I want future generations of boys to enjoy MUS, and I want them to have an MUS even better than the one we have today. That goal will require the dedication and involvement and support of all our alumni. All of us must resolve that this great school will be delivered from generation to generation, to our sons and grandsons.

The superb faculty; the tradition of excellence in academics, athletics, and other extracurricular activities; our Honor Code; lifetime friendships forged here day by day; expectations for success – all of these coalesce and make MUS unique, worthy of our staunchest commitment.

"One generation passes away, and another generation comes," said the writer in Ecclesiastes. I'd like to believe that MUS will abide. With your help, it will.

# 2001:

by Gaye Swan

Webster defines the word *odyssey*: "an intellectual or spiritual wandering or quest." When Stanley Kubrick produced his movie *2001: A Space Odyssey*, little did he know that the title would have such significant meaning to graduating seniors in the year 2001. On May 20, 2001, the Senior Class of Memphis University School gathered at Second Presbyterian Church for the last time as MUS students, culminating twelve years of an intellectual and spiritual quest for each graduate.

As they stand on the threshold of their future, whatever it may hold, these graduates stand confidently on the firm foundation given to them

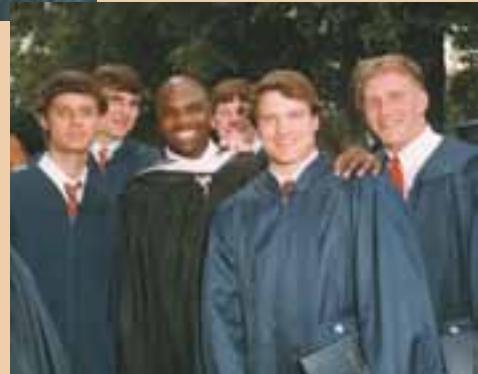


### GRADUATION SMILES

Above: Michael Tom, James Shelton, Will Vestal, Patrick Decker;

Right: Brandon O'Mell, David Frazier, faculty member Glenn Rogers, William White, Brent Blankenship, Scott Vogel;

Below: Justin Willingham, Eddie Wright, Jay Tayloe, John Carr, Joseph Wurzburg



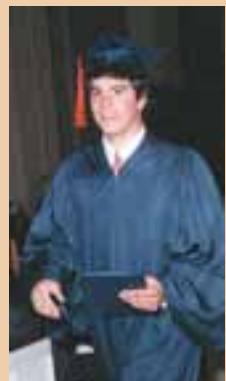
# A Graduation Odyssey

by the school. Reflecting on the past year, Salutatorian **Andy Campbell** stressed that, as much as things have changed at MUS recently, one thing has remained the same. "The foundation of MUS lies not in its walls or in its mortar, not in its old buildings or its new. The foundation of MUS lies in its principles, in its ideals, and in those who live by those principles....This is a foundation that cannot be torn down or destroyed, regardless of what buildings stand at Park and Ridgeway.

Men began laying this foundation before most of us were born, and I



Christopher Vincent and Hunter Mills march out with diplomas in hand.



know that men will continue to build upon this foundation long after we are gone."

The current graduating class has done its part in preserving and building on the foundation of MUS, and they can be justly proud of all they've achieved. Fifty-seven percent of the class received college scholarships for academics, athletics, leadership, or military totaling almost \$3.5 million over four years – and this does not include need-based scholarships. In this class MUS had one perfect 1600 SAT

Laden with four prestigious awards, Neil Mehta enlisted the help of his parents for a picture.

Salutatorian Andy Campbell (center) celebrates with fellow classmates, Paul McClure and Michael McLaren, after graduation.



score, that of Valedictorian **Neil Mehta**. Twenty-nine percent scored 1400 or higher on the SAT, 28 percent scored 32 or higher on the ACT, and 34 percent received National Merit recognition. Over the past five years, the average MUS SAT score is 1305, compared to a national average of 1016, and the average ACT score is 27.8 (national average is 21).

Mehta reflected on the past as well, recalling how eager students are each year to go on to the next level, starting as seventh graders envying the free periods of older students. "Well, at last, we have reached the day that we have all been so impatient for: the end of high school, the end of our careers at MUS. Our teachers, our fellow students, and our parents have brought us this far, and we have much to thank them for. We have accumulated many facts during our time here....But facts will only take us so far, and what we have really learned is something that will take us much farther. We have learned entirely new ways of looking at the world around us."



Mehta and Campbell both placed great emphasis on the principles taught at MUS – principles which both feel are the greatest legacy of MUS. Mehta's address continued, "These things are intangible, yet more permanent than books, classrooms, or even ourselves. These are things like truth and honor. Our generation has seen many tragedies that resulted from a lack of honor, from Columbine to Oklahoma City. But here at MUS, we have also seen honor every day in the actions of our fellow students and teachers."

He concluded, "No one knows where we will find ourselves after we leave this church today, but we will leave here equipped with the skills and values that we have learned at MUS. Today, we have reached an end. But, as Nietzsche said, 'Not every end is the goal...' The end that we are at now is only one step toward the goal. May we continue to be eager to take the next step, may we continue to reach our ends, and may we finally arrive at our goal."

May you indeed reach the goals you set for yourself, Class of 2001. Go with honor, go with pride, knowing you are standing on a firm foundation of more than 100 years. 

*Gaye Swan is a freelance writer and frequent contributor to MUS Today.*

# The Legacy of the Class of 2001

by Gaye Swan

## **Truth and Honor. Scholarship.**

**Service. Respect. Humility.** These are all traits MUS students and alumni hold dear. Now, thanks to our most recent seniors, the school has a formal creed incorporating our most valued characteristics. This is the legacy of the Class of 2001.

The quest began in spring 2000 when a group of seniors led by **Ben Adams** and **Harrison Ford** began searching for ways to improve the quality of life at school. Mindful that each graduating class finds a way to contribute positively to the school, these young men determined to both affirm and give a formal expression to the core beliefs of Memphis University School.

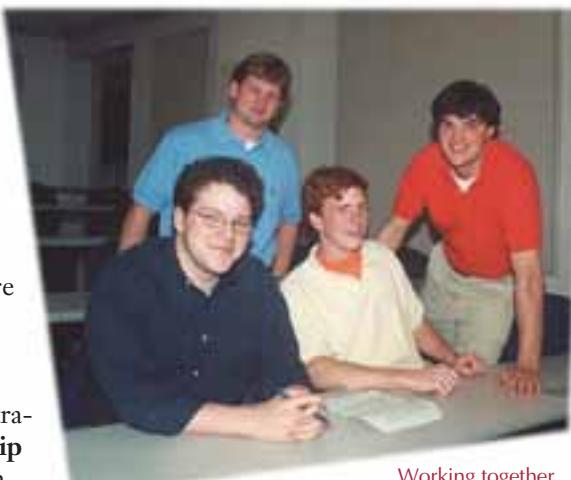
Armed with an idea to clearly define the high ideals MUS has embraced for over a century, the group listed the seven most important principles that MUS students are expected to uphold and titled it the "Community Creed."

The seniors worked with several members of the faculty and administration to hone and refine the creed. **Flip Eikner '77** encouraged them, "With freedom and fun comes responsibility and duty." Jim Russell, Dr. John Harkins, **Manning Weir '90**, Lin Askew, Dr. Emily Baer, Curt Schmitt, Anne and **Patrick McCarroll '92**, and Headmaster Ellis Haguewood were among the supporters. Then the creed was presented to the Student Council, whose members endorsed it enthusiastically, forming a committee to come up with ways to utilize and preserve it: the Community Creed will hang in the hallways of the school, be incorporated into convocation ceremonies, used as a guideline for acceptance into the Red and Blue Society, and added to the *U Book*.

The last step on the seniors' quest was official recognition by the student body. At the last chapel program for the senior class, Student Council President Battle Williford stepped up to the podium to introduce the creed, followed by Ben Adams, Honor Council president and a leader in the development of the creed. Adams explained the motivation

*"These basic principles around which this school was founded are the same virtues that we are striving to uphold today. It is our duty as a community to continue to sharpen the tools that we have been given. It is our responsibility to continue to preserve and build upon this great tradition of excellence."*

— Ben Adams '01,  
Honor Council President



Working together to hammer out the wording of the new creed are (top clockwise) Honor Council President Ben Adams, Michael McLaren, Student Council President Battle Williford, and Harrison Ford.

*"These are the traits of a fundamentally sound person—someone who believes in teamwork, and someone that everyone should strive to become. These qualities cannot guarantee wealth or even success, but they can guarantee confidence."*

— Michael McLaren '01

behind the creed: (1) to clearly state and define the principles and standards to uphold; (2) to instill in students the responsibility of preserving and building upon the school's tradition of excellence; (3) to leave the students with a sense of pride, respect, and appreciation for the traditions and core values that have shaped this school.

Mr. Russell and **Michael McLaren** also spoke about the values and lessons instilled by the school. Adams concluded the program, reflecting on the changes that are taking place at MUS but reminding his audience that one thing remains the same – the traditions that lie at the heart of the school.

Each class departs these halls with the hope of leaving MUS a little better place than when they arrived. Each class strives to both preserve and build upon the traditions laid down by those who have gone before – who in turn were striving to pave the way. With the Community Creed, the Class of 2001 can go forward, knowing they have truly done their part in continuing and improving the tradition of excellence at MUS. 

## **MUS Community Creed**

As students of Memphis University School, we share a duty to preserve our tradition of general excellence by upholding the principles that define and unify our community.

**Truth and Honor:** An MUS student tells the truth, does his own work, honors his commitments, and respects the property of others and of the school.

**Scholarship:** An MUS student actively seeks knowledge and understanding, and he encourages that pursuit among his classmates.

**Service:** An MUS student contributes his time and abilities to the welfare of his school and of the greater community.

**Respect:** An MUS student is courteous and kind and appreciates everyone in his community.

**Humility:** An MUS student may be confident but never arrogant or boastful.

**Involvement:** An MUS student develops leadership, cooperation, communication, self-discipline, and friendships in activities outside the classroom.

**Accountability:** An MUS student takes responsibility for his actions and accepts their consequences.

# GRADUATION AWARDS & HONORS...

## Faculty Cup for General Excellence Benjamin Chinn Adams

The Faculty Cup for General Excellence is the highest honor given to a member of the graduating class. The recipient of the Faculty Cup has demonstrated qualities of leadership and strength of character which have earned for him the highest respect of his peers and his teachers. He must have given generously of his time, talent, and energy in a way that reflects his devotion to the school and his dedication to the ideals for which it stands.

## Ross McCain Lynn Award Chancellor Gene Carlisle Harrison Miller Ford Michael Christopher McLaren William Battle Williford

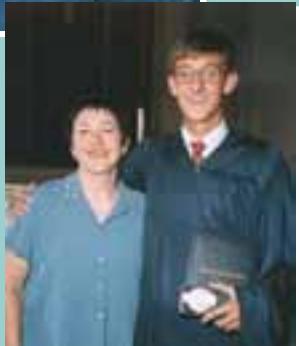
The Ross McCain Lynn Award is given in memory of the school's beloved former headmaster. This award recognizes distinction in the areas of school citizenship, leadership, service, and character.

## Scott Miller Rembert Senior Service Award Austin Kyle Hulbert Christian Robert Schmitt

This award, established by family and friends, is made in memory of Scott M. Rembert '70. It goes to that senior who has shown the most unselfish service to the school. His name is inscribed on the Scott Miller Rembert Senior Service Award plaque, which will hang permanently in the school. In addition, the winner is presented with an engraved medal.



Ross McCain Lynn Award recipients: Michael McLaren, Battle Williford, Chance Carlisle, and Harrison Ford



History Award winner Matthew Sauter with his mother

## Danforth Award William Battle Williford

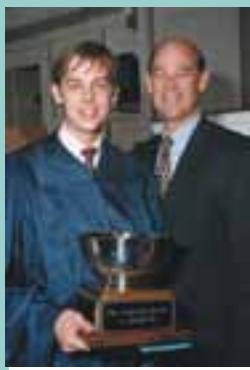
The "I Dare You" Leadership Award is presented nationally by the American Youth Foundation. The award includes a copy of the book *I Dare You* by William H. Danforth, a philanthropist who challenged young people to aspire to their highest potential, to attain constructive lives of service and leadership, and to commit themselves to excellence. The award is presented in recognition of excellence of character and well-balanced personal development as well as leadership potential.

## Mark Cooper Powell Memorial Award Christian Briscoe Reid Hettinger

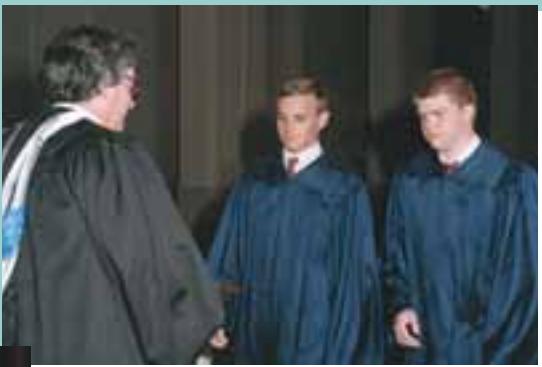
The Mark Cooper Powell Memorial Award is given in memory of Mark Cooper Powell '80, by his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Edward L. Powell, to the graduate who, through persistence and courage, during his career at Memphis University School, has shown the greatest development of character and scholarship.

## Russell Johnson Creative Writing Award Matthew Philip Harrison

The Creative Writing Award, given in memory of Russell Johnson, a former Memphis University School English teacher, honors that student who sees details and meanings in the world around him and expresses his thoughts imaginatively and lucidly.



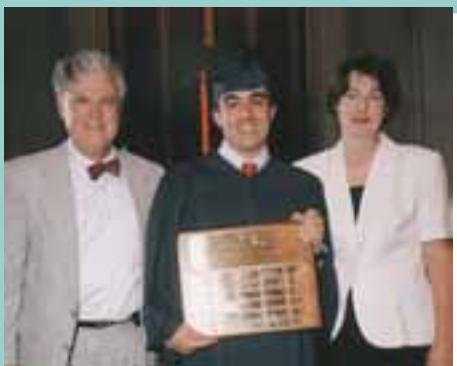
Kip Gordon, winner of the Brescia Award, with his father



Lin Askew presenting the Scott Miller Rembert Senior Service Award to Austin Hulbert and Christian Schmitt



Dalton Rushing, one of three who received the Choral Music Award for Excellence



Reid Hettinger pictured with his parents after receiving the Mark Cooper Powell Award

## William D. Jemison III Award for Excellence in Dramatics

## Harrison Miller Ford Robert Justin Willingham

## Brescia Award for Unselfish Service in Dramatics Alexander Wakefield Gordon III

## Choral Music Award for Excellence Russell Edward Bloodworth III Harrison Miller Ford Dalton Troy Rushing

The permanent cup for this award was given by Dr. Kit and Mrs. Diane Mays.

## William C. Harris English Award Neil Jagdish Mehta

The English Department awards recognition to the outstanding scholar who exemplifies effective writing, keen appreciation of language and literature, and singular achievement in his English courses. The permanent cup for the English Award, given by Mr. and Mrs. Jeff D. Harris, is named in honor of their son, William C. Harris.

## Foreign Language Awards

### French: Patrick Donovan Quinn Latin: Philip Andrew Janowicz Spanish: Neil Jagdish Mehta

Given to the student judged by the Foreign Language Department to be the most outstanding in his language.

## ...GRADUATION AWARDS & HONORS

### History Award

#### Matthew Christopher Sauter

The Department of History and Social Studies recognizes the graduate who has demonstrated exceptional ability and appreciation of the courses offered by the department and whose academic record is in accord with the highest standards of excellence.

### Christa Green Warner Mathematics Award

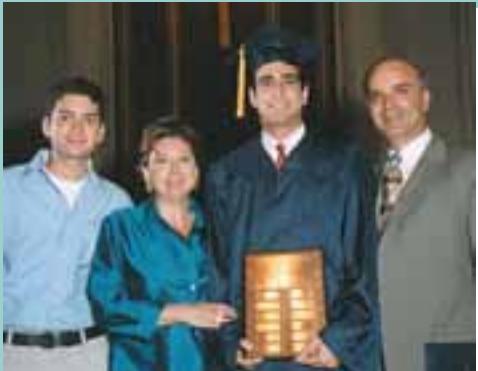
#### Philip Andrew Janowicz

This award in mathematics is represented appropriately by a Möbius strip, an unending surface that symbolizes Christa Warner's unending devotion to her students and love of mathematics. The award is given by Jonathan and Stephen Weinberg in memory of their teacher Christa Warner. It is presented to that young man who not only understands and successfully applies the concepts of mathematics and computer science but has also displayed an unusual spirit of cooperation throughout his high school mathematics career.

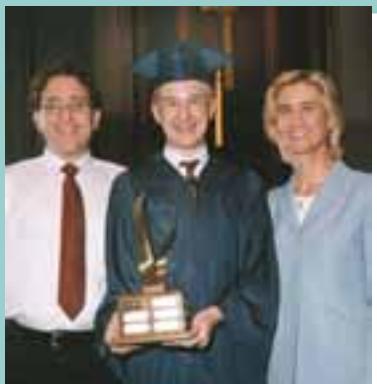
### Margaret Owen Catmur Science Award

#### Mark Mahir Awdeh

The science award, established in loving memory of Margaret Owen Catmur by her husband, Eric Alan Catmur, is presented to that student who, in the opinion of the Science Department faculty, has done the most outstanding work in the field of science at Memphis University School. The student's name is inscribed on a permanent plaque, which remains at the school.



Science Award winner Mark Awdeh and his family



Phil Janowicz, receiving two awards and plenty of admiration from his parents

### The Leigh W. MacQueen Dean's Cup

#### for Academic Excellence

#### Neil Jagdish Mehta

Named in 1998 in honor of the first academic dean of MUS, Leigh Windsor MacQueen, this award was originally donated by Mr. and Mrs. MacQueen in 1967. The award is given to that member of the senior class who, in the opinion of the faculty committee, has demonstrated to an outstanding degree a marked depth of intellectual maturity and curiosity and who, in the minds of the examining committee, has indicated sound intellectual attainment.

### Salutatorian Award

#### Andrew Patrick Campbell

To that senior with the second highest academic average over eight semesters of work at Memphis University School.

### Valedictorian Award

#### Neil Jagdish Mehta

To that senior with the highest average over eight semesters of work at Memphis University School.

### Award for Distinguished Community Service

#### Harvey Leland Kay IV

The Award for Distinguished Community Service goes to the graduate who has made service to others in the Memphis community a very high priority in his life. The recipient of this award has given his time, talent, and energy in a way that demonstrates the school's commitment to community citizenship.

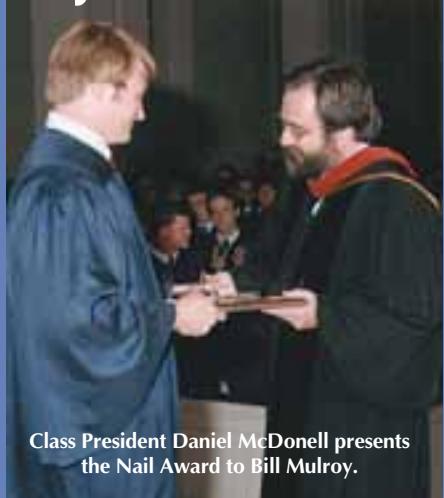


Harvey Kay, Community Service Award recipient, with his parents



Bill Mulroy and his family

## Mulroy Honored by Senior Class



Class President Daniel McDonell presents the Nail Award to Bill Mulroy.

The Senior Class rose to applaud this year's John M. Nail Outstanding Teacher Award recipient, William A. Mulroy. Mulroy joined MUS in 1992 as an instructor in religion and leaves the school this year to rejoin the ministry.

An ordained Methodist clergyman, Mulroy worked in the ministry for about 12 years before coming to MUS to teach in the Upper School. He began at St. Luke's United Methodist Church this summer as the minister of outreach. His primary responsibility will be the programs to reach the indigent and needy in our community, including the Food Pantry, the Soup Kitchen, and building homes.

"It was a hard decision to leave MUS," Mulroy said. "It took a lot of soul searching, thought, and prayer. But I know this is the place I need to be now.

"The award was such an honor and such a wonderful surprise," he continued. "I sat there for a minute, wondering, did Daniel [McDonell] really call my name? What a way to cap my years at MUS!"

The Senior Class selects a teacher from the Upper School to receive this award, established in 1991 in memory of John M. Nail. Nail taught English and History at MUS in the late '50s and is remembered for the special interest he took in each of his students. The award serves as a thank you to Mr. Mulroy for his years at MUS—for his love of teaching, for his care for his students – and we will miss him.



## Class of 2001 and Their College Choices

Logan Abrahams .....	Auburn University
Ben Adams .....	Vanderbilt University
Warren Adkins .....	Wake Forest University
Nicholas Alissandratos .....	Vanderbilt University
Mark Awdeh .....	Rice University
Zachary Bailey .....	University of Tennessee (S)
Eric Beaty .....	Florida State University (S)
Andrew Black .....	Texas A&M (S)
Christopher Black .....	Texas A&M (S)
Brent Blankenship .....	Furman University (S)
Russell Bloodworth .....	University of Virginia
Jonathan Boone .....	Wake Forest University
Wes Brown .....	U.S. Military Academy (S)
Rob Byrd .....	Emory University
Ed Cabigao .....	University of Tennessee
Robert Caldwell .....	Vanderbilt University
Andy Campbell .....	Williams College
Chance Carlisle .....	Yale University
John Carr .....	University of Virginia
Patrick Carr .....	University of Mississippi (S)
Jay Curtis .....	University of Virginia (S)
Patrick Decker .....	University of Tennessee (S)
Justin Duncan-Cody .....	Hampton University
Brian Eason .....	Rhodes College (S)
Harrison Ford .....	Indiana University (S)
David Frazier .....	University of Mississippi
Charlie Gerber .....	University of North Carolina
Paul Gillespie .....	Vanderbilt University
Kip Gordon .....	University of Memphis
Barry Grimm .....	University of Tennessee (S)
Jon Hampton .....	Dartmouth College
Dale Hansen .....	Auburn University (S)
Bink Hare .....	Southern Methodist University

Clay Harris .....	Auburn University
Matthew Harrison .....	Columbia University
Benji Hassid .....	Stanford University (S)
Reid Hettinger .....	Furman University
Matthew Hinson .....	University of Tennessee (S)
Bond Hopkins .....	Southern Methodist University
Jim Hopkins .....	Rhodes College
Austin Hulbert .....	U.S. Naval Academy (S)
McKee Humphreys .....	Southern Methodist University
Phil Janowicz .....	Massachusetts Institute of Technology (S)
Christopher Jones .....	University of Michigan
Michael Jones .....	Tulane University
Jerome Kao .....	University of Illinois
Brian Katz .....	University of Wisconsin
Steven Katz .....	University of Texas
Harvey Kay .....	University of Tennessee (S)
Samer Khuri .....	Berklee College of Music
Devin LaBarreare .....	University of Tennessee (S)
Chris Lam .....	University of Illinois
David Landy .....	Vanderbilt University
Russell Matthews .....	University of Tennessee
Paul McClure .....	Washington and Lee University
Daniel McDonell .....	Northwestern University (S)
Michael McLaren .....	Dartmouth College
Ben McMurtry .....	University of Arizona
Neil Mehta .....	Swarthmore College (S)
Hunter Mills .....	University of Mississippi
Bill Mueller .....	University of Mississippi
Al Newberry .....	Wabash College (S)
Thomas Norton .....	University of Tennessee
Brandon O'Mell .....	University of Mississippi
Bradley Patton .....	Vanderbilt University
Brian Payne .....	Tulane University (S)
William Pegg .....	Auburn University
Karl Petrow .....	Colorado School of Mines
Patrick Quinn .....	Swarthmore College (S)
Dalton Rushing .....	Birmingham-Southern (S)
Matthew Sauter .....	Rhodes College (S)
Jim Sayle .....	Mississippi State University
Christian Schmitt .....	Indiana University (S)
Skipper Seabold .....	College of Charleston (S)
James Shelton .....	University of Tennessee
Eric Shen .....	University of Memphis
Cooper Smith .....	Tulane University (S)
Henry Sullivant .....	University of Georgia
Jay Tayloe .....	University of Miami
Jonathan Thomas .....	University of Tennessee (S)
Tread Thompson .....	Vanderbilt University
Michael Tom .....	Tulane University
Dominic Treadwell .....	Post-graduate work
Will Vestal .....	University of Tennessee
Christopher Vincent .....	Georgia Institute of Technology (S)
Scott Vogel .....	University of Memphis (S)
William White .....	Southern Methodist University
Battle Williford .....	Vanderbilt University
Justin Willingham .....	University of Memphis
Sam Wilson .....	University of Virginia
Eddie Wright .....	Vanderbilt University (S)
Joseph Wurzburg .....	University of Michigan

(S) = Scholarship

## Faculty Profile

### William S. Taylor

Bill Taylor's ties to MUS go way back – his grandfather, Harold Adams Sparr, graduated from the old MUS around 1906. Currently the acting chairman of the Science Department, Biology and AP Biology instructor, and tennis coach, Taylor began his own career here in 1976.

"The MUS tennis coach (CW Stacks) before I came was a teammate from the Rhodes College tennis team. He was leaving MUS to go to the St. Christopher School in Richmond, Virginia, and suggested that I talk to Colonel Lynn if I was interested in coaching tennis and teaching biology at MUS. I did and have been here ever since. Part of the interview ended up being a tennis match between Colonel Lynn and myself against Gene Thorn and CW Stacks. I forgot the details, but I think we were all smart enough to insure that the headmaster won," Taylor recalled.

Luckily his competitive spirit rises for his students. His AP Biology students consistently score well above the national average. As tennis coach, he's led teams to multiple state championships – in fact, 2001 saw his fourth state championship in a row.

In addition to his coaching and teaching duties, he, along with Dr. Reginald Dalle, developed the MUS in Europe program. The two continue to coordinate the yearly trip, including all planning, organization, and promotion.

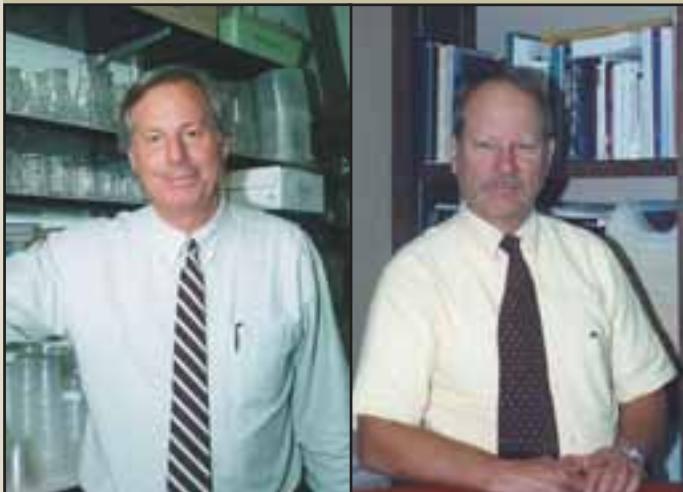
His sons have followed the scholastic tradition begun by his grandfather. Taylor and his wife, Nancy, have three boys: **Michael '98** (Vanderbilt Class of 2002), **Andrew '02**, and **Will Shirey '02** (Nancy's son).

The second of four sons of Sara and Jack Taylor, he was born in Baltimore, Maryland, while his father was in graduate school at Johns Hopkins; but he has lived his whole life in Memphis. He received his bachelors' degree in Biology from Rhodes College.

"Part of the reason that I came to MUS and stayed initially was because of the encouragement of people like Gene Thorn, Bob Boelte, and Tom Brown. Now the reason is that I enjoy working with MUS students," Taylor said. "On the 'good days' I enjoy the humor, creativity, and challenges you find in a boys' school."

### Two Teachers Reach 25-Year Milestone

This year, two of our faculty members received 25-year Service Awards for their long and distinguished careers at MUS. Bill Taylor, science instructor and tennis coach, and Tom Brown of the math department have been teaching here since 1976, and the award recognizes their commitment to the school and to excellence in teaching.



### Thomas L. Brown

The road to MUS for Tom Brown was a long one, with twists along the way, but he navigated it in style – most probably in one of the restored “hot rods” that are one of his passions.

The son of “true pioneers,” Brown was born in Kansas, raised in an environment to “get things done.” “My first three years of college, I attended Friends University in Wichita. The university was on the way to the factory where I worked painting four Cessna airplanes a night. I got about three hours’ sleep, but the factory paid for the college,” Brown remembered. “I finished my undergraduate work at Harding College in Searcy, Arkansas – along with Headmaster Ellis Haguewood and faculty member Andy Saunders.”

Brown graduated in 1965 with a degree in math. He received his masters’ degree in Mathematics in 1972 from Wichita State University, which he attended during the summers while teaching during the school year.

In the fall of 1968, he came to Memphis to teach at Harding Academy. He left Harding to work at Ellers Engineering as a civil engineer and computer programmer. Then, he finally made it to MUS in the fall of 1976. Hired as a science, physics, and chemistry instructor, he taught computer science for most of his years here and began teaching math again this past year.

The philosophy of his childhood has carried over into his personal life as well and is reflected in his hobbies of restoring and rebuilding cars and making furniture. “My first couple of years at MUS, I drove a ‘48 Ford, Corvette-powered, two-door coupe that I had restored.” He continues to build his “hot rods” and work with wood.

Brown has also found time to indulge in another passion – travel. “I’ve seen thirty-five countries,” he related. “I was on one of the first American tour groups to Russia. I’ve been to Europe three times, to Israel, and to Greece. I went to Egypt and got to go in King Tut’s tomb.”

He continues to enjoy travel, and this summer he and his wife traveled to California to watch his daughter Emily, a high school junior, play soccer at Pepperdine University. He and his wife, Jeannine, also have a son, **Jeremy '99**, a junior at the University of Tennessee.

After 25 years at MUS, he continues to find satisfaction in seeing boys achieve success. "A big challenge in the classroom of today is finding a meaningful way to use technology and not to use it just because it's there," he said. "I see my biggest challenge as teaching my students to be responsible, to think creatively, and to express that thinking accurately."

"I was impressed from the beginning of my career at MUS at the freedom and support I received to be the best teacher I possibly could be," he concluded. "And after roughly 20 years of teaching computer science, it is great to be back in math. This math department is capable and bright – I think the very best math department MUS has ever had."

## Joan Ryan Receives Hale Award



Joan Ryan accepting the award from Ellis Haguewood

her energy, efficiency, and no-nonsense approach to life and her responsibilities here at MUS.

Retired Business Manager Skip Daniel recalled, "When Joan began her present job, she felt she needed a refresher course in accounting, since she had been out of accounting several years. So she took classes at the University of Memphis. Afterward, no doubt, the university's accounting department was far more efficient.

"Joan is blessed with an abundance of energy, and she never hesitated to come in early or stay late," he continued.

Headmaster Ellis Haguewood agreed. "She is dependable and 'pre-punctual.' I admire her strength and good humor, but most of all I honor her integrity. Joan is never afraid to speak her mind, and she is almost always right."

The Hale Award is made possible by the generosity of the Hale family. When Jean Hale retired from MUS after 24 years of service to the school, her husband sought a way to honor her high level of loyalty and commitment to the school. The endowment recognizes those who embody the qualities displayed consistently by Mrs. Hale and awards the honoree with a cash stipend.

The Jean Barbee Hale Award for Outstanding Service is awarded yearly to a member of the MUS staff who demonstrates great loyalty, responsibility, dedication, and commitment to excellence in service. This year's recipient is Financial Secretary Joan Ryan, known for

## Molly Burr is Applauded for Her Distinguished Teaching



Molly Burr (center) was not only surprised by the award, but by her attending family: parents Coke and Nan Williams, husband Bubba, and mother-in-law Laura Burr.

The Distinguished Teaching Award was established and provided by the generosity of John Murry Springfield, who served MUS faithfully and capably as both teacher and principal of the Hull Lower School.

Recipients are selected yearly by a committee chaired by the headmaster and served by both principals and a Board of Trustees member. We are pleased to announce this year's honoree, Spanish instructor Molly Burr.

The committee must consider many aspects of a candidate for this award. A teacher must have expertise in his or her field and at the same time make the subject interesting for a class. He or she must have a positive attitude toward students, viewing each one as an individual, and be willing to go above and beyond the call of duty to help them. Contribution to the overall goals of the school and an interest in personal growth are also expected of an outstanding teacher.

Burr joined MUS in 1992 and has quickly become a popular teacher, both for her involving class sessions and for the interest she takes in her students outside the classroom.

"She is dedicated, responsible, and enthusiastic," said Headmaster Ellis Haguewood. "She is a first-class person in every way and a superb role model for students."

Her interest in languages came early – she was a Rotary exchange student to Costa Rica in 1983. An undergraduate of the University of Alabama, she received her master's degree from the school in 1990. While in college, she was a member of several honor societies, one for excellence in the Spanish language.

Here at MUS, she has continued to be involved in organizations to improve her grasp of the language and her teaching skills. Burr attended the Governor's Academy for Teachers of Foreign Languages and AP Linguistics in Spanish. She also participated in seminars on using technology and the Internet in foreign-language classrooms, and she practices what she learned in her own class.

"I am very humbled and very honored to receive this award," Burr said. "I am grateful to be at MUS. I have so many opportunities to grow as a person and as a teacher."



# ALUMNI CAPTURE TOP RESPECT AS PROFESSIONAL WRITERS

or How *The Owl's Hoot* Predicts Future Success

by Suzanne Gibson



Make no mistake, MUS produces phenomenal graduates in the world of writers. Take for example **Hampton Sides '80**, author of *The New York Times* bestseller, *Ghost Soldiers*; **Edward Felsenthal '84**, associate editor of *The Wall Street Journal's Weekend Journal*; and **Sid Evans '87**, editor of *Men's Journal*. Not a bad lineup.

## Hampton Sides '80 considers it

outrageous that his latest book, *Ghost Soldiers*, spent the entire summer high on *The New York Times* bestseller list. Sides thought the story too gruesome an account of what happened during America's first significant WWII battle to ever become a bestseller.

In a front page story appearing in *USA Today*, the *Ghost Soldiers'* story characters are depicted as follows: "They were survivors, perhaps the ultimate survivors – not of a television game show, but of the Bataan Death March. They call themselves 'ghosts,' abandoned after the largest surrender in U.S. military history. They had marched 70 miles through the Philippines, while those too slow or weak were bayoneted by Japanese soldiers or died from dysentery and lack of water. They had survived more than three years in a hellish prisoner-of-war camp. But by early 1945, the 513 men, mostly Americans, still alive at Cabanatuan prison camp were giving up hope.

They heard that prisoners were being executed as the Japanese retreated from the advancing U.S. Army...."

"I would like to say the book is a success because it's a tremendous book," grins Sides. "However, there's been a resurgence of popularity in WWII literature, a last great gasp of interest in a war fought by our fathers and grandfathers whose lives are coming to an end."

No matter how humble Sides' demeanor, the critics love his book, and Sides has been warmly received during his whirlwind tour across the U.S., which includes interviews on NBC's "The Today Show," NPR's "Saturday Morning Show," CNN, C-SPAN, the BBC, and book signings at national and local bookstores. He is also visiting all of the major military bases across the country. Chuckling about one of his more interesting talks in Oxford, Mississippi, Sides mentioned that he was briefly interrupted when the town drunk fell off his chair. Of course, Sides tactfully resumed his talk

only after he realized the guy wasn't having a seizure.

The provocative book, *Ghost Soldiers*, has also captured the attention of Universal Pictures, which has optioned it as a possible movie. A screenwriter has been selected to write the screenplay. Sides comments: "I was politely given the impression that I wouldn't be needed for the movie – a standard maneuver when movie companies take books to film."

"In terms of duration, scope, and scale, this battle was a very big ordeal," terms Sides. "I first learned about the Bataan Death March when I moved to New Mexico and kept encountering the word Bataan on street signs, parades, places of business. Out of curiosity, I started asking questions, and, frankly, I didn't understand the connection between the Bataan Death March and New Mexico."

Upon further investigation and research, Sides was appalled at his own ignorance and became determined to retell this phenomenal story, which had been somehow left out of most current WWII history lessons. "Because the entire National Guard from New Mexico was sent to fight this initial battle during WWII, it is well recognized by people of New Mexico. Unfortunately, these young men were very ill-prepared to fight.

"It's amazing to me that we have a whole generation of people who don't know about this important piece of American history," remarks Sides. "Very few books were written about the surrender – the books that were written were not geared for the general-interest reader. They were written more as military text books." Sides notes that his interest in the subject and in writing the book is more from a literary perspective than from a military perspective. "The story goes from the lowest of lows to the highest of highs. It's a powerful account of 121 hand-selected troops from the elite U.S. Army 6<sup>th</sup> Ranger Battalion who marched 30 miles in an attempt to rescue 513 Americans and British POWs," says Sides.

Sides believes that the popularity of his book is also due to the fact that Americans love books on survival and true-life adventure. "My book is a confluence of the two genres – WWII and survival. In many ways, the enemy ceases to be the Japanese and rather becomes malaria and starvation for the POWs."

Completion of the proposal for *Ghost Soldiers* took one year. Once finished, Sides' agent took the idea to three publishers and, amazingly enough, sold it to Doubleday within two hours.

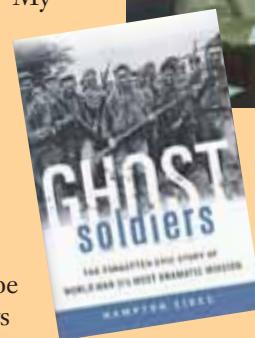
"I can't help but think there was something bigger going on – something mysterious to have received the response we got from publishers," confides Sides. With an advance to travel to the Philippines and Japan and the agenda to set up interviews with WWII veterans all across the U.S., Sides spent three years writing the book.

Although Sides has an office in downtown Santa Fe, he is pleased to have a career where he can work from home and have the opportunity to be with his three sons, ages four, six, and eight, and his wife, Anne. His new book has also meant travel opportunities for the family. "My boys have never been to New York, so while we're there for 'The Today Show,' we're doing New York 101 – visiting all of the classic places. We will also have an opportunity to go to Ireland for one month this summer since the book will be printed in England. The boys are thrilled that we are staying right next to a castle."

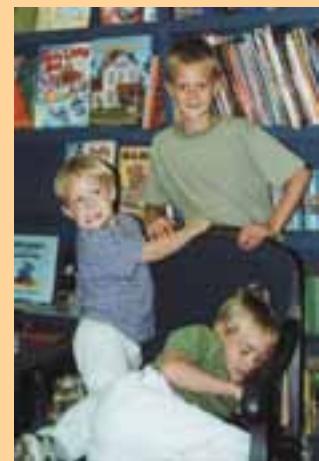
A history graduate of Yale University, Sides confirms, "My interest in American history took root at MUS, and sometimes you never know where life is going to take you. Mr. Deaderick was my earliest history mentor and a great teacher. He influenced my selection of history as a major in college.

"I have also always had a deep, inexplicable love of writing," explains Sides. "I discovered during high school that I would be a writer whether it would be in television, radio, magazine, or fiction vs. non-fiction. Mr. Haguewood was one of my most influential writing teachers. He made us master a simple, tried-and-true form – an introduction, three points, and a conclusion paragraph. It was a tremendous little exercise for focusing the mush of adolescent minds. We had to write a number of these in Mr. Haguewood's and Mr. Pettigrew's classes."

Sides recalls that he formally decided to become a writer while finishing up a term paper in Mr. Pettigrew's tenth-grade class. "The book that I reviewed was about the Romanov family and the Russian Revolution. At the time, I thought this was a



Hampton Sides chats with an admiring reader at his book signing at Burke's Book Store in Memphis while his sons, McCall (standing), Griffin (hamming it up for the camera), and Graham (shunning publicity), entertain themselves in the children's book section. When asked about their travels, McCall said they were going to New York City next. He wasn't sure why they were going, but he knew one thing – he was getting out of school for a whole week!



cool way to make a living – you can travel, ask a lot of nosy questions, write it up, and get paid for it. And in the end, you get a book with your name on it,” laughs Sides.

Becoming editor of *The Owl's Hoot* was also a boost to Sides' self-esteem as a young writer. “Norman Thompson, ‘Stormin Norman,’ was our advisor and still is the advisor today. We had a wonderful time with that paper. I’m so glad that they’ve never changed the name, *The Owl's Hoot*. I love that goofy, archaic name,” says Sides.

“Mr. Thompson was supportive of our ideas. My year we became frustrated with the format of producing a newspaper, and we decided to do a magazine. Even though we only produced one issue, we learned a lot, and the magazine gave us an opportunity for attempting longer narratives.”

In addition to his most current works, Sides has been a contributing editor for *Outside* magazine and author of *Stomping Grounds*, a book of stories about American subcultures. His work has also appeared in the *New York Times Magazine*, *DoubleTake*, *The New Republic*, the *Washington Post*, and on NPR’s “All Things Considered.” His latest book, which is soon to debut, is titled *Why Moths Hate Thomas Edison and Other Urgent Inquiries into the Odd Nature of Nature*. This book is a collection of “Wild File” columns that he wrote for *Outside* magazine, answering questions like “Why do moths fly around light bulbs?” and “Do beavers ever get killed by falling trees when they gnaw them down?” Sides deems this current book as a 180-degree turn from *Ghost Soldiers*. Sides plans to make an MUS chapel appearance this fall.

## Edward Felsenthal '84

believes that having Terry Shelton, Norman Thompson, and Lin Askew as English teachers is “enough to make anyone want to become a writer.” Without a doubt, Felsenthal makes a clear correlation between his successful journalism career and the influences he had while at MUS.

Currently, Felsenthal is associate editor of *Weekend Journal*, a new section of *The Wall Street Journal* that comes out each Friday. Included are stories on cultural issues, travel, entertainment, personal technology, sports, and a weekly “catalog critic” column on shopping by mail (including one this summer on Memphis barbecue!).

“When I think back, the things that I love about my job at *Weekend Journal* are exactly what I loved about working on MUS’ publications, *The Owl's Hoot* and *Half Hoot*. My guess is that if you took a poll, an awful lot of professional writers today were high school paper reporters,” adds Felsenthal.

Upon graduating *magna cum laude* from MUS, Felsenthal attended Princeton University, majoring in

history and public affairs. Next, Felsenthal entered law school at Harvard. “Even while I was in law school, it was on my mind to become a journalist. I’ve always loved writing. The opportunity to write is what attracted me to law school more than anything.” During law school, he worked part-time doing production work and research for PBS’s “McNeil Lehrer NewsHour.” He also worked summers for CBS News and twice as an intern for *The Wall Street Journal*.

After graduation from Harvard Law School, Felsenthal went to work for a private law firm where he stayed for a whole two months until being hired by *The Wall Street Journal* – thus beginning Felsenthal’s career track as a professional journalist. “Although my days of practicing law were limited, I spent six years covering politics and law in different writing capacities,” says Felsenthal.

He moved to Washington in 1995, where his brother **David '88** lives (brother **Marty '87** lives in Nashville). After covering everything from the Supreme Court to

Monica Lewinsky, “I guess you could say I was ready to write about something different from politics,” notes Felsenthal, who landed his job at the *Weekend Journal* in late 1998. “This publication was a complete change of pace for me, and one that I welcomed.”

The *Weekend Journal* section is art driven with attractive and creative color photography. “One of our main objectives is to broaden our readership. We’re trying to give our readers a break from the standard business format that we offer throughout the week.

“We’re careful, however, to deliver substance and not fluff,” emphasizes Felsenthal. “Our stories have to be grounded in fact – the research is as important as a well-written story. This

lesson was instilled in me early on by Mr. Askew and Mr. Shelton and has been invaluable to my career.” In fact, Felsenthal adds, he’s still learning from MUS: Director of College Guidance Bob Boelte has been a helpful resource for *Weekend Journal* on education-related stories. “We’ve done several stories about college admissions,” says Felsenthal, “and there’s no better expert on that subject than Mr. Boelte.”

With today’s readers being pulled in all directions, Felsenthal sees to it that the stories are gripping, well-written, informative, and useful to people’s lives. “Our goal is for people to take the weekend section home with them on Friday afternoon. We want to be seen as helpful and yet relaxing. Today there is so much competition for the reader’s attention that we have to be on our toes at all times to put out a compelling product.”

As a writer and editor, Felsenthal confides that people are what keep him interested in the profession. “What I love most about writing and journalism is working with



people. It's less about the actual writing. I enjoy the collaborative effort that goes into putting a publication together," says Felsenthal.

He also enjoys the chance to give something constructive back to the community. "Newspapers get a bad rap and often deservedly. However, when they're done right and responsibly, they can be an important voice," Felsenthal adds. "For me, there's real satisfaction out of doing something helpful for people – that's a value my parents instilled in me early on, and it's an important reason why I like what I do."

The *Weekend Journal* enlists an impressive array of veteran writers on its 30-person staff including several

long-time business journalists, one from a national women's magazine, one from a national food publication, and another who wrote the gossip section for the *New York Post*. "We have a remarkable group of people working on this particular publication – it definitely keeps things interesting," he says.

MUS remains an important part of Felsenthal's life. He's in touch with many alums in Washington and New York, including fellow journalist **Robert Davis '86**, **Gary Wolf '83**, and classmate **Adam Kriger '84** (see story about "The Guest Who Wouldn't Leave"). This summer, he visited classmate **Donald Austin '84** and his wife, Kelly, in Hong Kong where Donald works for PriceWaterhouse Coopers.

THE WALL STREET JOURNAL

## WEEKEND JOURNAL.

### The Guest Who Wouldn't Leave: Confessions of a Guest from Hell

by Edward Felsenthal  
from *The Wall Street Journal*, May 26, 2000

Allow me to introduce myself: I am your worst nightmare. Actually, I'm the worst nightmare of restaurant executive Adam Kriger, my closest childhood friend. One day, when I learned I would be traveling to New York regularly, he graciously invited me to stay in the spare bedroom of his apartment "for a while." A year and a half later, I'm still there. So is my underwear, my shaving cream, and a set of my sweatiest running clothes. I keep my favorite no-pulp orange juice in the refrigerator and have been known to help myself to the homemade cheesecake his mother sends. (Don't worry, Adam, I'll replace the Haagen-Dazs.) I even get mail there sometimes. I figure, why not? After all, he's never quite come out and asked me to leave. Though I live in Washington, my job as a *Weekend Journal*/editor requires me to be in New York a few days a week. I could always stay at one of those standard-issue corporate hotels, but that seems so faceless and boring. Being a guest offers intimacy and familiarity, not to mention somebody who's willing to watch "West Wing" with me every Wednesday night. And I'm not exactly Kato Kaelin. I keep the guest quarters scrupulously neat, try to bring thoughtful gifts, and even make dinner once in a while. While I may not lend prestige to the place, we get lots of quality time together, and Adam's other buddies certainly marvel over the depth of our friendship. I also am careful never to complain about my

accommodations, no matter how much I wish he'd replace those wobbly knobs on the bathroom sink.

Of course, there have been a few rubs. Last week, I forgot to call on his birthday, and he briefly threatened to have the locks changed. And once, very politely, he asked me to stop inviting guests over without asking first. The dickest moment came in March: Adam got married. I was sure I'd get shipped off to the Marriott, but things only got better. When his wife, Samantha, moved in, her furniture — an antique redwood bureau, a decorative mirror with sconces and a 29-inch TV — went straight into the guest room. She even put a wicker hospitality basket in the guest bathroom. The highlights: cotton balls and peaches-and-cream body lotion. Some people say I should insist on getting out of the way. But I did give them a two-week break after their honeymoon and didn't even stay there the week of the wedding. And spending so much time together has been a wonderful bonding experience for Samantha and me. Besides, they just installed cable in the guest room. In fact, I've become such a fixture that sometimes I forget I don't actually live there. Samantha's parents have taken to calling the guest quarters "Fuzz's room," after my high-school nickname. And recently, a colleague asked me how Adam was enjoying married life. "Oh, we really love it," I replied.

Edward Felsenthal and Adam Kriger are MUS classmates from the Class of 1984.

Felsenthal sees his job as an opportunity for creativity and the chance to interact with interesting people – for these reasons, he feels certain that in life he's doing exactly what he wants to do. "I've been fortunate to have great parents, great friends, and, thanks to MUS, a great education," says Felsenthal. "In fact, sometimes when I'm editing a story, I can still hear Mr. Thompson calling out *Harper Handbook* grammar rules."

**According to Sid Evans '87,** an immense amount of hard work and the good fortune of strong mentors have been the defining cornerstones in his successful magazine career.

Evans states with conviction: "Talent follows interest." As editor of *Men's Journal*, a gutsy, full-color men's magazine that focuses on thrills, adventure, fashion, and other topics of interest to men, Evans loves his craft.

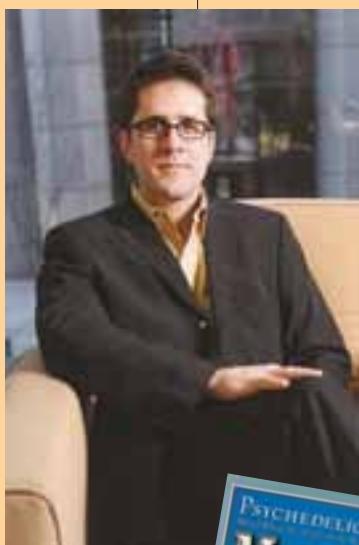
Chosen for this high-profile position at the rather tender age of 32, Evans tracks his career interests to his experiences while at MUS. "Ellis Hagewood and Terry Shelton were definitely the ones responsible for drawing me into my current profession," states Evans. "Fortunately, Mr. Hagewood was my homeroom teacher all four years of high school. He was hilarious, and he was responsible for getting me excited about literature. Mr. Hagewood had an uncanny way of making the books that we read come to life," recalls Evans.

"Through Mr. Hagewood's encouragement, I became editor at large for *The Owl's Hoot* and a writer on the yearbook staff. Those high-school experiences had everything to do with my choosing English as a major at Connecticut College. In college, I continued writing for the campus literary magazine," says Evans.

"Mr. Shelton was brilliant, funny, and tough – yet sarcastic. He had a refreshing teaching style that was perfect for high school students. I remember how Mr. Shelton opened the world of literature for me with books like *Catcher in the Rye*, *The Sound and the Fury*, *Heart of Darkness*. I immediately identified with those stories.

"In life you end up doing what you like – what comes naturally to you," says Evans. "Reading and writing were a natural for me because of my strong literary upbringing at MUS. Writing was always an easier grade. Throughout the school's history, MUS has been known for its stellar English department," says Evans.

Evans' father, **John Evans '58**, a member of MUS' first graduating class, is an additional testimony to the school's legendary English department. Says Evans: "Even though my father ended up choosing banking as his career, literature is something that deeply enriches his life. Because of his experiences at MUS, my father wanted to be an English teacher. He too inspired my literary interests."



Evans recalls the late Mr. Hatchett, who taught John Evans and was still teaching when young Evans entered the Lower School: "The longevity of the English instructors at MUS is rather unusual. I'm amazed at how the same, extraordinary instructors remain year after year. As a student,

I was fortunate to have mentors who saw their role as a calling rather than merely a job."

Today, as editor of a successful national magazine, Evans feels fortunate to have worked at publications that have subject matters he "cares about a great deal." Other career experiences include writing for *Sport AField* and *The Oxford American*. Evans recounts: "My writing assignments were on subject matter that I understood from growing up in the South."

As far as more recent mentors, Evans credits Terry McDonnell, editor of *Esquire* and former editor of *Outside* and *Men's Journal* magazines. "To have someone who is

willing to teach you is everything.

Terry has been extremely helpful to my career. I guess he saw me as a talented work slave," laughs Evans. "As a writer, you have to expect to work and rework articles – it's the only way to get better."

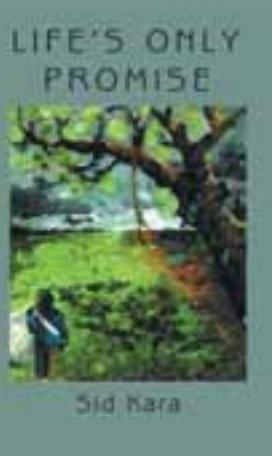
Although the occasion for writing becomes more limited as editor-in-chief, Evans looks forward to producing his 500-word editor's letter each month. "I love to write, and unfortunately I don't have the opportunity

to write as much as I would like now. I have, however, varied the style of my letter from the traditional editor's letter which tends to be only a recap of the magazine's content. Personally, typical 'letters from the editor' bore me. My article each month covers things that I'm passionate about, things that interest me – it's a lot more fun. In my experience, people enjoy hearing stories and a point of view."

An example of Evans' "unusual" editor's letter is in the October 1999 issue of *Men's Journal* where he describes an afternoon encounter with a "flying boat." Evans actually goes airborne on the contraption and terms it a complete "adrenaline rush." This same issue features an engaging article by Hampton Sides where a long-distance runner becomes lost in the Sahara Desert and survives. Evans and Sides originally met in New York at *Outside* magazine and quickly traced their roots to MUS. Both writers express equal admiration for the other's work.

Evans' "golden rule number one" for editors: no matter what level an article comes in, it can always get better. "If an editor doesn't correct anything, he either doesn't care or

## Kara Publishes First Novel



**Sid Kara '92** is on the fast track as a professional writer with his first book, *Life's Only Promise*, a screenplay, and another book to boot. His current book is a heart-breaking yet uplifting story about Mississippi convict leasing during the turn of the century. Kara came up with the story idea after reading a William Faulkner book which makes mention of convict leasing.

"At the time I knew nothing of the practice of convict leasing. After looking up the subject, I became intrigued by the idea as a fiction story and kept it in the back of my mind for a couple of years," says Kara. "Almost instantly, I knew how the book would start and finish – it did, however, take me a good bit longer to know what would come in between. I spent time carefully researching the topic before writing," adds Kara. While the book is fiction, it is historically accurate about a real place and a real time.

While at Duke University, Kara majored in English and philosophy. After receiving his un-

dergraduate degree, Kara worked in the non-profit sector for a year and then in investment banking with Merrill Lynch for two years. He has just completed his MBA degree from Columbia University.

When asked about his gravitation toward writing, Kara says, "I've always enjoyed reading. MUS is where I discovered a real passion for literature. Outstanding teachers like Mr. Shelton, Mr. Thompson, Mr. Askew, and Mr. Russell helped me gain a deep appreciation for literature. I also learned a lot as editor of *The Owl's Hoot*.

"Mr. Shelton was a wonderful mentor; he really took me under his wing. There was always a brilliance to Mr. Shelton's class in terms of opening up a text for high-school students and making it exciting. He knew exactly which writers to select – we would read a book and thoroughly investigate it.

"It wasn't until I got to college that I realized how well prepared the MUS English department had made me. *The Owl English Handbook* will be forever ingrained in my mind – it contains all of the nuts and bolts that you need to write. Once you have the grammar foundation, it becomes much easier to match your creative output.

"I was able to stay at the top of my class all the way through the undergraduate program at Duke

because of the groundwork I received during high school. It really showed how much I knew about grammar once we started critiquing each other's papers in college," says Kara.

As a writer, Kara believes the most important discipline is to block off time each day to write. "First drafts are easy," claims Kara. "You must, however, be willing to go over your copy again and again in order to edit. Also, read everything you can get your hands on, and surround yourself with good readers that can offer feedback. The process of feedback is the only way to get better."

Kara cautions to never get disheartened by rejection when trying to get a book published. "Make sure there is a point to your writing, and don't become discouraged with how difficult it is to get published," says Kara.

Currently, Kara is living in Los Angeles and in the process of writing both a screenplay and his second novel. He claims his subject matter of both projects "is entirely different from his latest book." Obviously, Kara's wish to be involved in creative endeavors is inexhaustible.

*Editor's Note: If you are an MUS alumnus who has published a book, please consider donating a copy to the MUS Hyde Library. It would be our pleasure to share your work with MUS students.*

isn't paying attention. Even when I was a writer, I expected to be trashed. Every piece can get better. We work up to the last second to make every article the best it can be under the time restrictions. Press deadlines are what force me to let go," says Evans.

Currently, Evans lives in Brooklyn Heights, a tree-lined, upscale neighborhood overlooking the East River in New York City. His favorite pastime, when he gets a rare break from editorial deadlines, is striped sea bass fishing. "Whenever I can sneak away, my favorite place to fish is Jamaica Bay which is a beautiful wild-game preserve situated underneath the JFK airport."

Any advice for aspiring young writers? "Don't let anyone tell you that you can't do it," recommends Evans. "It is enormously difficult to be a writer; however, all of the best things in life are difficult. Be willing to work your craft. Be relentless about getting better – then, there's no way you can't succeed." 

*Suzanne Gibson has been a freelance writer for more than 15 years. She lives in Memphis with her husband, Ralph, and their three children, Max Prokell (14), Eva (7), and Trip (4). Ralph graduated from MUS in 1984, while Max is an eighth grader at MUS this year.*

# Pilgrimage to Oxford

## May Inspire Future Writers

by Suzanne Gibson

Lin Askew, Upper School English instructor, gave his Southern Renaissance Literature class a reprieve when they visited William Faulkner's home in Oxford, Mississippi, this past spring.

"We are fortunate to have a Nobel Prize winning author's home located only 75 miles down the road," says Askew. "His country home, which he named 'Rowan Oak,' meant a great deal to Faulkner as he aspired to be a country gentleman.

"It is important for students to see the physical surroundings of Faulkner's life which had a great deal to do with his entire persona. This home is where Faulkner wrote *Light in August*, the book we study in depth during class. It's quite an experience for the students to walk into the parlor and see exactly where Faulkner developed the story we've been living and breathing all semester."

The house, built in 1844 with slave labor for Colonel Robert Sheegog, stands on four acres covered by hardwoods and cedars. Faulkner remained stimulated by stories of the old South including tales about local Indians, runaway slaves, old colonels, and spinsters who gave china-painting lessons at Rowan Oak. He lived in the house with his family from 1930 until his death in 1962. One of his favorite pastimes was telling his children ghost stories.

"Many people agree that Faulkner is the greatest American writer of the 20<sup>th</sup> Century," says Askew.



After visiting Rowan Oaks, these Southern Renaissance men (Andrew Black, Brian Katz, Warren Adkins, Russell Matthews, Zach Bailey, Bink Hare, Brian Eason, and Ed Cabigao) came away with renewed interest in Faulkner and his writings.



Below: James Shelton couldn't resist having a chat with Mr. Faulkner on the square in Oxford.

"I would concur with Flannery O'Connor when she claimed all trains move out of the way when Faulkner is on the tracks. Faulkner is certainly the number one author when it comes to Southern renaissance authors, and he is the main focus of my class.

"His home was a classic example of Faulkner leading a life that he envisioned which, in many ways, fell short. Faulkner was known for 'putting on certain airs,'" states Askew. "People in Oxford called him 'Count No Count' because he wore a Royal Air Force uniform and sported a British accent after WWI even though he never fought."

Faulkner remains one of the most studied authors in the world, with conferences, societies, and journals all over the globe dedicated to his work.

While Askew emphasizes the educational aspect of the trip to Faulkner's home, he jokingly calls it a "public service" to take restless seniors away from campus during

their last few days before graduation.

Askew has been teaching Southern Renaissance Literature for the last ten years of his 22-year teaching stint at MUS. In addition to William Faulkner, other Southern authors including Eudora Welty, Flannery O'Connor, and Walker Percy are studied during class.





## The Door to Community Involvement

# Eddie Batey's Vision is 2020

by Paul Murray '97

*"The significant problems we face cannot be solved at the same level of thinking we were at when we created them."* – Albert Einstein

In my high-school days, I remember going over to Lichterman Nature Center every week or so and spending the day shoveling mulch and refurbishing trails with my two best friends. No, I wouldn't have come up with that by myself; and although I couldn't deny the satisfaction I felt after a grubby day's work, I didn't do it for the fun. I did it in fulfillment of my civic service requirement. Back in those olden times, MUS students had to accrue civic service points every semester by doing civic service projects, such as working at the soup kitchen, playing basketball with under-privileged kids, or volunteering around town. There were various opportunities to fulfill the requirement. The lack of variety in projects I undertook reflected my immature attitude toward civic service at the time: it was a requirement, not altogether unpleasant; but nonetheless, there was no real initiative on my part to reach out and change something, to make it better through my time and travail.

I think what I was missing was the sense that my effort was really making ripples in the community. I'm sure at least one person, while meandering the trails on a balmy Saturday afternoon, might have looked down and remarked, "Say, nice mulching"; but the importance and impact of civic service needs to be driven home at a deeper level. Beyond casual acts of kindness, Memphis University School's standards of excellence require impeccable civic service initiatives. Only recently, two programs have been engineered with precisely that goal in mind: to inject MUS students into the Memphis community, make them aware of civic service organizations, show them the areas of town that need revitalization, and allow them to design and execute a service-based learning project which will affect the greater Memphis community. The Visioneering program and the Civic Service Organization Day Camp are allowing our students to make a difference, not only for our school, but for our city. They are both brilliant programs, and they are both the brain-children of Eddie Batey, MUS Director of Counseling Services.



Eddie Batey gives Marlon Foster a donation to Knowledge Quest from money raised by MUS students.

It all began with a conversation. Batey and Headmaster Ellis Haguewood were discussing the need for intentional leadership training at MUS. Batey mentioned the possibility of a summer program with curricular implications, and the wheels were rolling. It soon became apparent that no other man was as suited to design this program as Eddie Batey. He brings to the project not only his genuine love of community service, but also a vast network of connections, allowing him to make the program as diverse and far-reaching as possible. For ideas and support for his budding plan, he turned to some of the best minds in the field of leadership development.

"The Visioneering program would not have been possible without the love and support of Gary Gore from Team Trek," remarks Batey. "He's passionate about leadership training as well as improving the quality of life in general." Team Trek is a leadership/teamwork experience in Arkansas, complete with high- and low-ropes courses designed to build healthy and supportive team attitudes. Participants, in order to complete certain obstacles, must learn to listen to their peers, exercise their own ideas, and function as team members. Eventually, this is where the Visioneers would start their summer experience, so they could take the cooperative skills learned here and apply them to formulating a beneficial community-service project.

To seek out some of the top minds in leadership education, Batey corresponded with Dr. Frances Kairns at the University of Southern Mississippi, then traveled to White Plains, New York, to meet with Dr. Robert Mayer, principal of Briarcliff High School. Both run renowned leadership-training programs out of the classroom. From them, Batey got many ideas pertaining to the education of effective leaders, but the scope of his plan was not limited to classroom instruction. For the program to be truly effective, it must be intimately woven within the community of Memphis. Batey knew he had to talk to Scott Morris, doctor, Methodist minister, and founder of the Church Health Center, an organization which administers medical care to people who would

otherwise not be able to afford it. "In my opinion, Dr. Morris is the quintessential Visioneer—a man who had an idea on how to improve his community and the faith and perseverance to see his vision through to fruition." He also talked to Dr. Kenneth Robinson, minister at St. Andrew AME, who was instrumental in setting up "The Works," a community-revitalization program; Marlon Foster, founder of Knowledge Quest, a community-service project in the Fowler Homes neighborhood; as well as Kemmons Wilson, entrepreneur and businessman who has given much to the improvement of Memphis. All of these men embody not only a desire to give back to their hometown, but a deep spiritual conviction that Batey felt was necessary to convey to the Visioneering participants.



Kemmons Wilson (center) talks with Visioneers.

values. Mine are faith based. I believe that we are creatures who cannot truly understand who we are until we are in contact with the Holy Spirit. I didn't want to saturate the program with religion, but I couldn't avoid emphasizing the spiritual aspect of the Visioneer's lifestyle."

Despite the collaboration of all these prominent visioneers, the program would not get on its feet until the summer of 2000. A string of circumstances, including the resignation of Melinda Merkle, Batey's contact at Team Trek, forced the delay of the project. But every cloud has a silver lining, so they say. Batey switched gears, transferring the momentum he had for Visioneering into a day camp for inner-city children, which took off the next summer and enjoyed much success. More on this later.

It would be two more years before the Visioneering program would see fruition, but Batey is not a man who wastes time. He attended various leadership seminars, read a lot of books on the subject, and continued making contacts. Particularly through Love Thy Neighbor, a city-wide Easter service designed to desegregate worship in Memphis, he met Steve Allison, Cassandra Webster, Jackie McHenry, and others who would help to make the program a reality. He saw "The Memphis Road Show," a PowerPoint presentation by Larry Jensen, president of Commercial Tennessee and chairman of the Chamber of Commerce, discussing the state of Memphis in terms of natural assets, infrastructure, capital, and community developments. Batey knew he would have to include Jensen in the program, since he was obviously motivated to improve his community from a business perspective.

In the summer of 2000, through the effort and perseverance of Batey, in collaboration with **Darrel Cobbins '91**, **Andy Cates '89**, Rudy Miles (instructor of Hub Operations at FedEx), Musette Morgan, Kim Blankenship, Cassandra Webster, **Will Deupree '91**, all the people previously mentioned, and countless others, the Visioneering program became reality. The foundation of the program is itself a lesson for its participants—a testament to the foresight, hard work, and dedication of many different people coming together, listening to each other, and creating something worthwhile for the community. It is also no small testament to the ingenuity, dedication, and resources of Eddie Batey. The final product is an inter-high-school, co-educational, two-week course in leadership development, designed to allow an intimate look at and a unique chance to change Memphis, Tennessee.

The program takes place under the supervision of Batey, and also **Manning Weir '90** and **Jeff Koehn '89**, counselors in the MUS Counseling Department. Following a week at Team Trek, where the group comes together, learning to respect each other's unique viewpoints and abilities, participants are exposed to the underbelly of our city. I speak from experience when I say that there is a large part of the Memphis community whose struggle can easily go unnoticed by an

## IN SUPPORT OF THE VISIONEERING 2001 PROGRAM, several donors provided awards in honor of adult presenters in this year's program. Here are the 2001 honorees and the student recipients.

<u>DONOR</u>	<u>HONOREE</u>	<u>RECIPIENT</u>
Anonymous MUS family	Coach Verties Sails, Sr.	Brandy Woods (BTW*), Buck Lawson (MUS)
Lori and Gary Gore	Kemmons Wilson, Sr.	Larissa Gross (BTW), Joel Iglesias (MUS)
Will Deupree '91	Dean and Kristi Jernigan	Joy Ray (Central), Mark Chen (MUS)
Gayle Rose	Dr. W.W. Herenton	Sherry Cooks (BTW), Chase Carlisle (MUS)
Dr. and Mrs. R.A. Batey	Scott Morris	Kim Williams (Ridgeway), Greg Sain (MUS)
Jason Dunn '95	Marlon Foster	Kate Battle (Hutchison), Conor Quinn (MUS)
MUS Faculty	Rev. Dr. Kenneth Robinson	Naree Chan (St. Mary's), Adam Delconte (MUS)
Friend of "Facing History and Ourselves" and MUS	Rachel Shankman	Justin Hill (Ridgeway), Dara Chan (MUS), Shahzad Khan (MUS)

\*Booker T. Washington High School

average high school student. The schedule of the second week is intentionally designed to show students these parts of the city, to expose them to the elements which have caused or perpetuated



economic dysfunction, and to introduce the people who have the Visioneer's instinct to fight back against these social shortcomings. This past year's visits included the Church Health Center and a meeting with Dr. Scott Morris, the Hope and Healing Center, the Soulsville revitalization project with a talk from **Sherman Wilmott '84**, the Calvary Street Ministry for the Homeless, the Mental Health Drop-In Center, the SMART Daycare program, Knowledge Quest, and the Civil Rights Museum. Since the recent NBA vote carried vast economic implications for Memphis, students were given the opportunity to see the NBA vote on taxes and to hear presentations from Marty Regan and Charles Ewing, two men involved in the process of bringing what they feel is a healthy addition to our city. In short, each activity was designed to give the students an insight into the economic and social imbalances in Memphis and to showcase some of the Visioneers who are working every day to tilt the scales.

All of this in two weeks time, and the most exciting part of the program did not culminate until the end of August. The last Friday of the session is spent in forum. The students share ideas, deliberate, and vote. Their goal is to devise a service project based on the insights into Memphis' community that they have had over the past week. This is the part of the Visioneering program which, in my humble opinion, makes it the best leadership-training program I've ever seen or heard about. Rather than volunteer their time to another organization, as beneficial as it may be, the students are challenged with creating a difference themselves, right then and there. But they have an extreme advantage in that they have newfound relationships with most of the influential programs and people in the city. This year's group decided to take their strengths back to Fowler Homes.

Fowler Homes is a housing project located in Census Track 50, which has the lowest per capita income in the city, averaging at \$5,700 per year. Marlon Foster, founder and head of Knowledge Quest, has dedicated all of his energy and time to revitalizing that neighborhood. Effort is underway to repopulate the strip mall in the community and to reconstruct some of the housing into safer and more comfortable units. While the Visioneers haven't the resources to bring any of these changes about, they do have a wellspring of personal values and a desire to do good. That's all you really need.

Every year, the Fowler Homes neighborhood, aided by Knowledge Quest, puts on a back-to-school



Visioneering participants at Team Trek try their skill at wall climbing and ropes courses.



celebration. In the past, it has been limited to a small parade and get-together. This year, in conjunction with the Visioneers, the first annual "Fowler Fest" took place. The back-to-school celebration was in full swing on August 24, with a parade, talent show, and carnival-type booths.

More important, there was a job-fair element to the proceedings. In addition to speakers who addressed the neighborhood concerning revitalization efforts, some of the booths were run by companies giving out employment information or information regarding educational opportunities. The ultimate goal of the Visioneers was not only to bring the neighborhood together and make them aware of opportunities to change their lives, but to start a trusting relationship among Knowledge Quest, the Fowler Homes residents, and the Visioneers. This newfound relationship will create the possibility of taking the neighborhood children on field trips during the school year; but more significantly, it will establish the return of "Fowler Fest" as an annual event, which is a primary goal for everyone involved. Says project supervisor Jeff Koehn, "Through the collaboration of various organizations, we hope to take initial steps in meeting the needs of Fowler Homes and creating opportunities for its residents."



Manning Weir with boys from the Fowler Homes neighborhood

It is this service-project component of the program which I feel will carry the most lasting impressions for all involved, and which makes Visioneering the most progressive leadership-training program I've ever seen at the high school level. I might further add that Memphis University School is deserving of no less. At a school where

so many other elements and programs are topnotch, we finally have a leadership-development program to truly challenge and temper our students to be the civic leaders of tomorrow.

## Peripheral Vision

The Visioneering program is not the only fledgling program at MUS designed to send our students into the community. As mentioned earlier, the CSO Day Camp was a spinoff, a sister star, to the early conceptions of Visioneering. I imagine that the summer of '98, following the delay of the first Visioneering camp, could have been disappointing for Batey. However, it was not long before he was able to channel his energy and thought into a different, wonderful program to have at MUS.

Discussing the philosophical under-tones of the Visioneering program, Batey remarks, "One of the primary goals of Visioneering was to help people find out what their core values are, what really resonates in their lives—and also to help them find out where they see themselves playing a significant part.

Another large part of it was the thought that if you could bring together South Memphis and East Memphis, then just about anything is possible." All of these considerations translated well to an "outreach day camp," an idea that Director of Admissions Lin Askew had been peddling at the coffee maker.

So Batey got busy again, meeting people, making contacts, making plans. Through Sherry Brown, liaison between Locke Elementary and Streets Ministry, he met Nancy Sissman, the principal of Alonzo Locke Elementary, located near the Emmanuel Episcopal Center. (As an added benefit, he was able to meet Father Colenzo Hubbard at the Emmanuel Episcopal Center. Father Hubbard runs a non-profit silk-screening t-shirt operation to help the center and the surrounding community. Batey, recognizing Hubbard's Visioneer instinct, was able to include him in the first Visioneering program a year later.)

At the heart of the day camp are the mentoring relationships that our MUS boys establish with the Locke Elementary youth. This summer, there was one MUS counselor for every two children, so each child received lots of attention. The week is spent on various field trips of either a recreational or educational nature, with transportation provided on the new MUS bus. The campers went to the Pink Palace to see the planetarium and the IMAX, to the Memphis Zoo to see the "Spiders" exhibit, to the Pyramid to see the "Eternal Egypt"



Day campers and their counselors bonded quickly during the week as they worked, played, and learned.



step closer to a vision of Memphis that so many people are struggling for—a desegregated, prosperous community "with liberty and justice for all."

If there is any moral to this story, it is that none of this can be accomplished by one person acting alone. Every program discussed—the Church Health Center, Knowledge Quest, TeamTrek, the Calvary Street Ministry, even the Visioneering program—is the result of coordinated efforts by many gifted and persevering people. But they all have one thing in common—a catalyst, an idea, a "eureka!"—one person who thought it all up and got started. In short, they have all required a Visioneer. At MUS, we are very fortunate to have the time and talent of Eddie Batey. Through his direct effort, there are now in place not one but two new programs which emphasize MUS' desire to produce leaders in the area of community service. "Opening Doors"—it's on the walls, it's on the pamphlets that you get in the mail, it's woven into the ideology of our school. For a Visioneer like Eddie Batey, the most exciting doors to open are the ones that haven't been built yet, and the future is the best place to be. 

*Paul Murray graduated from MUS in 1997 and received a B.A. degree in music from Rhodes College in 2001. He worked at MUS in the Development Office after graduation and will be pursuing graduate study for vocal performance next fall.*

exhibit, as well as to MUS for basketball and Batey's house for swimming. As in previous years, the highlight of the camp is the Friday night campout at the Folk's family farm near Walnut, Mississippi. There, the kids enjoy various outdoor activities including fishing, swimming, and telling stories around the campfire.

Now three years old, the CSO Day Camp has enjoyed much success and has established itself as a fantastic MUS program. By forging bonds of friendship and respect between our boys and Locke Elementary children, by making one more tie between East and South Memphis, we are all carried one

# Lacrosse and Tennis Teams Four-peat State Champions

by Paul Murray '97

The MUS tennis and lacrosse teams returned home this year to a symphony of applause and a place in Memphis University School history, both teams emerging victorious from the state finals. There are new trophies in the hallways, handshakes and smiles all around, and an undeniable "can't-wait-for-next-season" buzz in the air. Congratulations are in order, and everyone involved is proud to have been part of the state-championship club, with all of the hard work, dedication, team support, fan support, able coaching, and talent that membership represents. What makes this spectacle even more astounding is that it has seemingly become the new tradition here at MUS. For both teams, this past season marked the fourth consecutive state championship. Just as eagerly as we spectators to this phenomenon applaud our boys and their accomplishments, we wonder if there's something in the water. How exactly does a pattern like this emerge? There are always the edge-of-your-seat plays, the last minute goals, the comebacks, the shutouts, the star players, the inspirational speeches, and the victory dances; but out of all this, what makes a state-championship club four years running? Some switch was switched, some alchemy was reached in 1998, and it hasn't abated yet.



## LACROSSE – from Club Sport to State Titles



For the lacrosse team, the answer to their success may be hidden in a series of dramatic changes to the sport at MUS. First of all, in the spring of 1996, the sport made the transition from club sport to a school-sponsored varsity sport. Previously, boys who wanted to play had to finance all of their equipment themselves; but with financial support from the athletic department, anyone who wanted to play had access to equipment, and interest in the sport took off among the student body. Now, it is not uncommon to have 60 or more guys coming out for the team at the start of the season—more than any other sport at MUS. But this seems not to have been the most significant factor in MUS' repeat success.

"For MUS lacrosse, full-time coaching made the difference. Before Elliot Dent arrived, the program was stable, but he gave it the extra push to put us over the edge," says David Gearhardt, who founded MUS' lacrosse program in 1990 and ran it with the assistance of Bill Wilson '81 until 1993. In 1994, Pat DiMento came on as a volunteer assistant coach. Gearhardt is a veteran of the Men's Club lacrosse team, and Coach DiMento

played lacrosse for the Air Force. Among these two men and Dent, MUS now has a full-time coaching staff which has extensive knowledge of the game. "This program is run more like a college club than a high-school one," says Gearhardt.



Chase Carlisle #8, Harvey Kay #19, and Trevor Weichmann #27 defend the goal from the "Big Red" offense as goalie Dominic Treadwell makes one of his many saves that earned him Defensive MVP of the tournament.

Ken Farmer #10, Logan Abrahams #21, and Tim Dean #17 rejoice just moments after the state-championship-winning goal in sudden-death overtime against MBA.



When Dent came to the team in 1997, no one expected fireworks. The team had just lost 14 seniors and had gained a new head coach. But by the end of the season, they had marched all the way to the final game, which they lost to McCallie by a narrow margin of 5-4. That's quite an accomplishment in itself. But by the '98 season, Coach Dent's contributions to the team began to take hold, and the Owls were ready to take the championship.

"Before '98, you came to practices when you could, ran some drills, played some scrimmages, and left. In '98, Coach Dent really took control of the practices," says **Clay Harris '01**, a member of the team from 1997 to 2001.

Among the changes Dent brought were minute-by-minute breakdowns of practice time, setting team goals based on one-upping team statistics, and a competitive approach to practices designed to make the boys more comfortable performing against opposition. **Jason Lewin '98**, lacrosse player from 1995 to 1998 (captain), remembers that "practices were set up to include all sorts of fundamental skills, like footwork or groundballs, but also six-on-six playing drills, which helped us function better as a team. He [Coach Dent] made sure we stayed with each other and nurtured our team focus."

"The theme of the practices was 'fundamental development,' and the boys were getting better and better every single week," says Coach Gearhardt. The coaching staff's emphasis on the "muscle memory" of the basics extended well beyond the scheduled season. Players were encouraged to pick up their sticks during the off-season, and physical-development routines accentuating basic stick drills or ground balls helped the team's skill level stay up while practices were not in session. "Our boys just love to play. A lot of them go to lacrosse camps during the summer or play other sports. What really pleases me is the dedication to the game. There is always lacrosse going on around campus," Dent says, "and I always encourage the boys to play other sports during the off-season. Not only do other sports keep the boys in shape, but playing under different coaches and with different teams makes for greater growth and development as a person and a team player."

In '98, the lacrosse team took state. In '99, the outcome wasn't even really an issue. Dent recalls, "In '99 we had a big senior class. They had team experience, they knew they were the best, and they weren't afraid to be the best. They were ready to take state from the first day of practice." But what about '00 and '01? With a constantly graduating roster of players, every coach has to face the "rebuilding" season now and then. The only lacrosse player to play all four state championship years, Clay Harris, remembers the '00 season: "There were a lot of long, hard practices. We had just lost most of our starters. We really didn't come together as a team until the end of the regular season." Coach Dent remarks, "The first few months of the season were confidence builders. You lose a few times, you get used to your teammates, and you get better."

Based on his highly successful "rebuilding" seasons, it seems appropriate to state that Coach Dent's greatest talent may be his ability to foster a team view and to rouse in his players a passion for the game. **Ben Bailey '99**, team member from 1996 to 1999 (captain), says, "Coach Dent had a lot of control and influence over the players. He was a really versatile coach. He knew when to let the reigns loose and let us be *our* team." Along those lines, Coach Dent remarks, "You have to empower the players. First, you have to let them know that you believe in them because they look to you for their confidence. But at the same time, you have to get the players to realize that the game is in *their* hands," as it has been for four years now.

Consistent results. Next season? We'll see. Coach Pat DiMento says, "Each year is different—there's a different group of guys on the team, there's a different turning point where they really start to work together, there's a different emphasis that needs to be made in practices. But the boys work together and develop over the years."

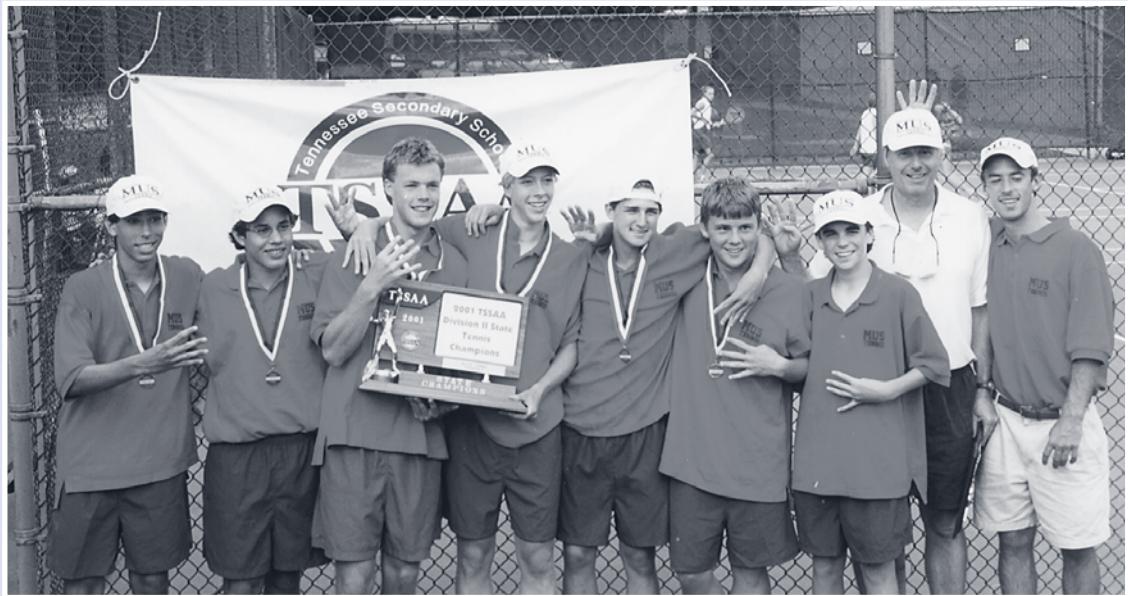
Over the years. Perhaps therein lies the secret. Coach Gearhardt states, "Especially with Coach Dent, we've gained a new concentration. It's no longer about a *team*. What we have now is a *program*."

## MUS Lacrosse Grads Still Scoring



The Usual Suspects: Coach Pat DiMento, Coach Elliot Dent, Jason Lewin '98 (he scored the winning goal for the state championship in overtime that year), Rushton Garrett (he did the same thing, only in 2001), and Coach David Gearhardt with daughter Loring.

With such a reign of success by the lacrosse team, it's no wonder that several of our recently graduated players have distinguished themselves as competitors at the collegiate level—perhaps none better than **Jason Lewin '98**. After his graduation, he proceeded to the University of Tennessee, where he has been named the Southeastern Lacrosse Conference Offensive Player of the Year for three years running. This was also the third year that he has been named to the SELC All-Tournament Team. And this past year, as a member of the U.S. Lacrosse Intercollegiate Associates All-American 1st Team, he led the team to a pre-season ranking of sixth in the nation. Also this past year, **Emmel Golden '97** was named to University of Georgia's 2nd Team Midfield. Currently **Ben Bailey '99** is playing for the U.S. Naval Academy, and **Whit Tenent '00** is on the team at Lynchburg College. All of these young men have carried a tradition of fine sportsmanship with them from MUS. We congratulate them and wish them future success.



The tennis team's hand signals tout their pride at capturing the state title for the fourth year in a row: Alex Guyton, Hays Mabry, Jay Curtis, Paul McClure, Greg Sossaman, Michael Flowers, Bo Ladyman, Coach Bill Taylor, and Zach Dailey '00.

## TENNIS STATE CHAMPS

*Again, Again, Again, and Again!*



So, it seems that the addition of a very able and dedicated head coach has helped the lacrosse program to thrive at MUS. It certainly seems the most available explanation. How then does one explain another thriving sport which has had the same head coach since the 1970's? Coach Bill "He Doesn't Look That Old" Taylor offers his best explanation: "Bottom line, we just had a lot of really good talent." Well, he's modest, if not totally accurate.

Memphis University School has carried a proud tennis tradition since its founding. To date, MUS tennis teams have brought home ten state championships, more than any other sport at the school, eight of which were under Coach Taylor's leadership. "MUS is the type of school that attracts good tennis players. A lot of these kids come from country clubs and have experience playing competitive tennis. Generally, we are expected to play in the championship match every season."

In tennis, more so than in lacrosse, the team dynamic is limited to observation and verbal support. Beyond drills and matches, what in practice addresses this relationship between the players in a sport which

is based on solo performance? Coach Taylor answers, "High school tennis is a team sport. It takes six good guys to win it. There's a different pressure on you when you're playing for the team points: you want to win it not only for yourself, but for your teammates and your school. Practices are set up to simulate as much pressure as possible. The matches we play to see what order the boys are on the team get especially intense."

**Jay Curtis '01**, member of the tennis team from 1997 to 2001, remembers, "Around '98, practices became more frequent, more competitive, just more intense than they had been before. There was a big stress on supportive team membership." Coach Taylor offers his explanation: "In '97 we had a good team. They lost to Baylor in the semi-finals. You could say it was a pretty sound beating. That seemed to act as a catalyst and get our boys motivated in subsequent years."

For the four subsequent years, MUS' tennis team has been solid. **Paul McClure '01**, team member



### *Déjà Vu for Dads*

In 1968, Paul McClure, Sr. '69 (left) won the state doubles title paired with Holmes Pettry '69 against John Curtis '70 (right) and Webster McDonald '69. This year, they watched as their sons, Paul and Jay, took the state doubles title.

from 1998 to 2001, remarks, "The thing that has made our team so strong is the depth of our players. Against national teams, team members four, five, and six would always win." In tennis, where the team is comprised of the six best-ranked players at the school, this means that while we may not have had the best one, two, or three players, our team talent was more consistent than that of our opponents.

Another thing that makes MUS boys exceptional tennis players is the quality of their practice. Coach Taylor says, "You've got to find the best available competition to practice with. You've got to play someone

better than you in order to improve. Alumni who have come back and practiced with the team have lent an invaluable service to our boys. For the last four years, **Keith Tonkin** '93 and **Ben Cousins** '95 have volunteered their time and energy to help make us a great tennis team." Couple that with the fact that most of our players are involved in tennis tournaments year-round through clubs in town, and there is ample opportunity for our players to improve.

But the point has been made earlier that talent comes and goes as kids grow older and graduate. Or other circumstances may remove talent from your roster, as they did in '01 when both Jay Curtis and **Greg Sossaman** suffered injuries which put

them on the bench. Curtis remembers the season: "In '99 and '00 we were favored heavily to win. In '01 we weren't favored as much. We really had to up our competitive spirit and our team effort. Coach Taylor was great at managing all our different personalities and building a team spirit. He was always a positive force and helped us all keep focus."

So was it simply a rash of good players, a coincidence? Coach Taylor would tell you that that was "the bottom line." The author thinks that the bottom line is a little bit lower: MUS has an able tennis coach who has led our boys to eight state championships and a TSSAA record. Our tennis teams have brought home at least one state championship for

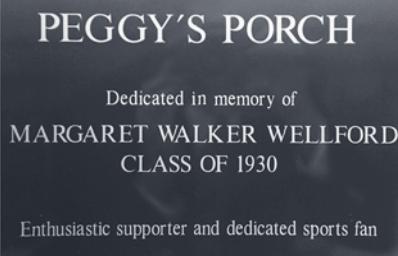
each decade that the TSSAA has been in existence. No other school in Tennessee can list that accomplishment. So it's fair to say that a rash of talent on the tennis team has resulted in numerous state championships, as long as "team" means more than just the players.

Four years is a long time to be the best. It represents a commitment to hard work, a consistent winning attitude, and an exemplary coaching staff. In the years to come, whether or not we bring home the championship trophy, our boys will be learning some of life's finest skills—teamwork, dedication, persistence, and optimism—from some of the finest men to pick up a lacrosse stick or tennis racquet in the state of Tennessee. 

## MUS Honors Peggy Wellford

Those who know MUS know the name **Alex Wellford**. A graduate of the original MUS in 1930, Wellford served as a founder and chairman of the board of the new MUS. Among so many other things, he was an avid tennis player, becoming the first Memphian ever to compete in Wimbledon in 1953. Following his death in 1993, money was raised to build a new tennis center for students of MUS and Hutchison. Ground was broken on that project in 1998, and the Dunavant-Wellford Tennis Center now occupies the space between the two schools.

There is another hero in this story, and that is Peggy Wellford. Peggy was Alex's silent partner, as he consulted with her on many major decisions concerning the foundation of the new school and its establishment. She was a wife, mother, and grandmother to three generations of MUS graduates. She was also a permanent fixture, along with Alex, at MUS



sporting events for over 40 years. Following his death, she continued to be an active and faithful supporter of the school and of the Memphis community until her passing in August 2000.

It is very fitting, then, that she be remembered with the dedication of Peggy's Porch. The porch is located at the back of the Dunavant-Wellford Tennis Center and overlooks the facility's central tennis courts. This dedication ensures that her name will live on along with her husband's and that we will not forget the generosity and dedication that the Wellford family has shown to MUS.

The view from Peggy's Porch is ideal for tennis fans. Family members on hand for the dedication were Alex Wellford III '88, Alex Wellford, Jr. '60, Christina Wellford Scott, and her daughter, Beckett.



# Lynn and Thorn Society Members Honored

The Memphis Hunt and Polo Club was the setting for this year's annual gatherings of both the Ross M. Lynn Society and the D. Eugene Thorn Society.

Cary and **Rick Moore '63** hosted the Lynn Society dinner on May 3 (members pictured right). Moore has served for the past two years as president of the society. Members were saluted for their generous financial support toward the operation of the school (annual, unrestricted gifts of \$5,000 or more) as well as their leadership, loyalty, and expertise throughout the year. This year, society members were treated to a surprise performance by the school's award-winning *a cappella* group, Beg To Differ. The Lynn Society is named after Ross M. Lynn, who served as headmaster from 1955-78.



Marjorie and Al Wunderlich



Andrea and Doug Edwards



Debbie and Barham Ray '64



Steve '71 and Nancy Morrow, Trow Gillespie '65, and Halcyon Lynn



Lissa and Randy Noel and Jim '77 and Missy Rainer



Michael and Kathy Kastan



Shea Flinn '91, Amy Raiford, and Brett Grinder '91

Members of the Thorn Society (pictured left) were honored April 19 at a reception hosted by Lisa and **Bayard Snowden '68**. Snowden completed his first year as president of the society, which saw a record increase in new members during the course of the school year. Membership in the Thorn Society is accorded to those whose unrestricted gifts of \$1,000 - \$4,999 enhance the operating budget of the school. The Thorn Society is named in honor of Headmaster Emeritus D. Eugene Thorn, who began his career at MUS in 1955 and served as headmaster from 1978-92. Now in its fifth year, the society provides the majority of unrestricted gifts to the Annual Fund.



## The Door to Knowledge

# Back to the Future...

And Bringing Technology With Him

The phrase "Back to School" is everywhere as summer comes to a close here in Memphis, but it has a special meaning for at least one MUS faculty member. **Bruce Ryan '80**, who has spent the last decade working in the computer software and entertainment industries and traveling the globe, is now coming home. He'll be "back to school" this fall and starting a new career adventure by joining the school he graduated from 20 years earlier.

Ryan's first experience with MUS was in 1977, and it was a little traumatic. "I had just moved down to Memphis with my family and was entering tenth grade. I'd attended only one school up to that point, so changing to a new school was a big deal. Of all the adjustments, the hardest was finding an all-new wardrobe. In Boston, I had worn t-shirts, jeans, and sneakers to school every day, and I found out that none of those were allowed at MUS. At first I thought that uniform restrictions reflected inflexible thinking on the part of the school, but I soon came to realize that a dress code created a positive, more serious atmosphere for learning. In the end, I became quite appreciative of both my new button-down, khakis, and Topsider attire and my new school."

After graduating from MUS, Ryan went on to Harvard University (Economics '84) and Stanford University (Law '89, MBA '89) before starting his first career adventure at Microsoft. "When I arrived at Harvard and saw students from famous New England prep schools, I was a little intimidated. But after freshman year and winning an award for academic performance, I knew that my MUS education had prepared me to compete effectively with anyone."

After a summer internship in 1988 at a then relatively unknown but successful software company, Ryan chose to join that company, Microsoft Corporation, upon graduation. "There were only about 3,000 employees when I joined, and when I came back for my tenth reunion at MUS in 1990, most of my classmates had never heard of Microsoft. Of course, by my twentieth reunion, there were 35,000 employees and things had changed a little."

Ryan's first introduction to computers came when he was a senior at MUS. "Back then, we didn't even have a computer at MUS, just a teletype connected to an off-site computer somewhere. But even with the primitive facilities of that time, Mr. Brown managed to instill both a strong groundwork in pro-



gramming fundamentals and an enthusiasm for the

power of computing. My MUS computing class led me to computer science classes in college, and things started to snowball from there."

Ryan has often remembered those "primitive" MUS facilities with generosity and has been a major donor of computer software to MUS during his years at Microsoft. "I had a lot of help. Microsoft has a very generous program to support employee software donations. I found out that there were actually two MUS alumni at Microsoft (**Jim Springfield '83**), so we joined forces and were able to meet MUS' fast-growing needs. It's great to see the first-class computing facilities at MUS today, think back to the MUS of my era, and see what a difference vision and resources can make."

Even in the fast-paced world of Microsoft, Ryan often thought of his MUS education. "I was leading the marketing team for a project sending software to PCs over satellites, and I remember sitting in a room with my engineering team. Those engineers were incredibly intelligent and had come from Harvard, MIT, and all the top colleges. Well, they were arguing over how long it would take to send a CD-ROM over the satellite, and I got up at the board and showed them the answer. The only thing that shocked them more than the marketing guy beating them to the solution was when I told them I learned the methodology from Mr. Omundsen, my high school chemistry teacher!"

Ryan worked at Microsoft for ten years and traveled the world, but his MUS ties traveled with him. "*MUS Today* was my umbilical cord. Wherever I was, I could read through each issue and feel like I wasn't so far away at all. And, of course, **George Skouteris '80** and his resourceful phone-a-thon volunteers would always manage to track me down across the time zones with news from MUS and an always-persuasive request for a donation."

In conversation, Ryan often uses the word "adventure," and he managed to adventurously squeeze a second career in

between his two five-year stints at Microsoft. With some experience from his business school days at a high-tech entertainment company in Silicon Valley, Ryan was interested in the television business. In 1994, he left Microsoft to work as production coordinator of *American Gladiators*, a syndicated athletic game show. He also went on to work as assistant director of *Sandblast*, an MTV athletic game show, before returning to Microsoft in 1995 to join its interactive television and internet teams.

"Now that I think about it, both of my careers came from seeds planted at MUS," Ryan



Before school started, faculty members were in class learning new computer skills from Bruce Ryan.

speculated. "One of the most unusual opportunities when I attended MUS was provided by the Davis Studio in the Hyde Library. Like many boys who had spent hours in front of the television, I had dreams of someday working in that business. MUS allowed me to experiment with that passion by participating in our student TV news productions. Maybe it was my experience with crazy, low-budget television that led to me years later working in crazy low-budget television," Ryan laughs.

So what about Ryan's latest career adventure? "I'm incredibly excited to have this opportunity to teach at MUS as I have a tremendous fondness and debt of gratitude to the school. Many of the most influential people in my life were MUS faculty members, and the chance to work alongside them is a dream opportunity. And with the completion of the McCaughan Science Center during my senior year at MUS, I recognize the important contributions alumni can make to the ongoing success of the school."

"Several years ago, one of my Microsoft colleagues left to teach mathematics at his high school, and he's been there happily ever since. That dream has been in the back of my mind for years, and periodic conversations with Mr. Haguewood kept them alive. Now, those dreams are real." Ryan, who won the senior mathematics prize during his MUS days, will start off his MUS career teaching Algebra I. "I've been blessed with great, enthusiastic math teachers over the years, and I hope that I can draw from those experiences and share my love of math with my students."

Ryan will also be heavily involved in MUS' technology planning effort. "MUS, like many high schools, is facing exciting opportunities and daunting challenges from technological advances, particularly computing. One of the

catalysts for my return was the ability to use my past career experience to contribute to the technology planning process at the school. It probably surprises people when they hear I'm a Microsoft alumnus, but I am a 'technological pragmatist.' I appreciate the incredible power of computing and communications technology, but I also realize that they are tools to help achieve goals, not goals themselves. I'm hoping that my experience

teaching and working on a day-to-day basis with the MUS faculty, combined with my career perspective from Microsoft, will allow me to contribute some unique insight."

There's one other important catalyst to Ryan's return home: his family. "I made the decision when I left Microsoft that my family was very important to me, and I wanted to pursue a career that would offer me more time with them. My mother, sister, and newborn niece are all here in Memphis, and my father is just a few hours away in Hot Springs. Now, instead of measuring my time between visits in years, I'll be

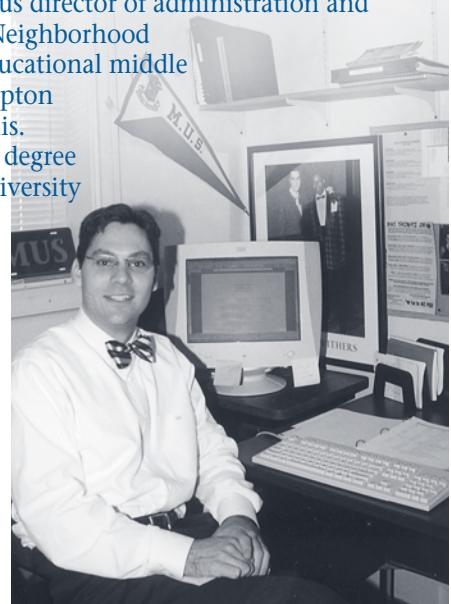
measuring them in weeks or days."

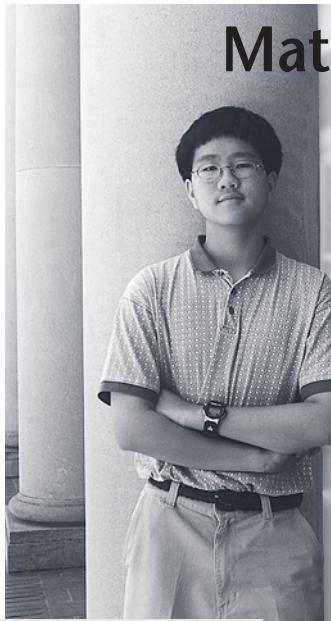
Well, with the beginning of school, Ryan is once again having to cast aside his t-shirt, jeans, and sneakers uniform – this time, the one from Microsoft. And hopefully, he'll get to spend a long while enjoying both his new, more formal attire and his old school, MUS. 

## Welcome Back, Kotter

MUS also welcomes another MUS alumnus back to school as a member of the faculty. Clay Smythe '85 is teaching religion classes and is acting chair of the Religion Department. Smythe was the previous director of administration and development for The Neighborhood School, a private co-educational middle school in the Binghampton community in Memphis. He earned a bachelor's degree in history from the University of Tennessee and a master's degree in theology from Covenant Theological Seminary in St. Louis. Welcome back, welcome back!

Clay Smythe, adjusting to his corner office which he says is an improvement over the locker he had when he was last here.





# Mathletes Extraordinaire

by Paul Murray '97

In a recent *Inside MUS* newsletter, Headmaster Ellis Haguewood writes, "We've done well in academic competitions, especially in mathematics, which seems to offer more contests than other subjects. In tests given by the Tennessee Mathematics Teacher's Association [TMTA], our boys took sixteen of the top fifty places across the state, more than twice as many as any other school." Despite this impressive field of math competitors, two of our boys this past year, **Austin Chu** and **Parth Sheth**, rose head and shoulders above the rest, proving themselves exceptional mathletes.

**A**ustin Chu is a sophomore. As unassuming as he is about his accomplishments, it's hard to believe that he has set records for MUS' Math Department and has conquered tests on a national level in his freshman year. In the TMTA tests, Chu placed first in the city in his division, Advanced Topics I. He proceeded to take second in the state. Impressive? He's only getting started. The American Mathematics Competition is a 25-question exam designed to test problem-solving abilities. At the AMC 10, given to

As a result of the American Mathematics Competition (AMC), Parth Seth (above) received the honor of having the best score in the state in the AMC 8; Austin Chu (top) made a perfect score on the AMC 10, a first in MUS history.

ninth- and tenth-graders, Chu received a perfect score, the first in MUS history. Based on these results, Chu proceeded to the American Invitational Mathematics Exam. His efforts there qualified him for the U.S.A. Mathematics Olympiad, a six-hour, six-question test that only 200 students nationwide take. Although Chu was not one of the ten students selected from that field to represent the U.S. in international competition, our nation had not yet heard the name Austin Chu for the last time. The High School Math League is a series of six tests taken throughout the school year. It is open to all students, but only the top six scores are sent in as the team total. This was the first year that MUS has competed in this particular test; but out of the 95 participating schools nationwide, Chu led our team to a fifth place finish. Most impressive were his individual scores, which tied him for first in the nation.



Remarkably, Chu admits that he doesn't even study math that much. "If I pay attention in class and keep up, it just sort of soaks in." This school year, Austin will be "soaking up" BC Calculus, the highest level AP math course offered at MUS. (Just a reminder here that he just started the tenth grade.) One of the reasons Chu is so comfortable with mathematics has to be the influence of his parents. His father, Dr. Quentin Chu, teaches finance at the University of Memphis, and his mother, Dr. Valerie Chu, used to teach math at LeMoyne-Owen College. With such a background saturated in math, it's no surprise that in the fourth grade, while other students were learning fractions and division, Chu was learning Algebra at home from his mother.

It may surprise some to learn that math isn't even Chu's favorite subject. Like so many young people these days, he knows his way inside and out of a computer and looks forward to his Computer Science class this year. He also anticipates taking more science courses. "I didn't really like [Introductory Physical Science] that much, but Chemistry is starting to get interesting."

Beyond academics, Chu is very active at MUS. He is a member of the Chess Club and the Latin Club and has written for *The Owl's Hoot*. He competes on the swim team and was in the chorus of this past spring's production of *Evita*. He also enjoys surfing the web and programming for the TI-89, a graphing calculator used in upper-level math courses.

What does the future hold for young Chu? "Well, I'm not really into pure mathematics or theory. I'm leaning toward computer programming, or maybe physics."

**T**earing up the circuit one year behind Chu is Parth Sheth. He is just entering the ninth grade this year, but his list of accomplishments is already impressive. In the TMTA tests, he took third in the city in his division, Geometry. Statewide, he took seventh. He was a member of this past year's MathCounts team, which swept local competition and went on to take first in the state competitions. Sheth's individual scores on these tests were good enough to tie for first in the state and earn him a spot on Tennessee's team for the national competition held in Washington, DC. At the AMC 8, like the AMC 10 but given to seventh- and eighth-graders, Sheth placed first, answering 24 out of 25 questions correctly. Like Chu, he proceeded to the next round, participating in the American Invitational Mathematics Exam. In the Math League Press, a team competition for students from fourth grade to high school, Sheth led our eighth-grade team to a first-place finish in the state. His individual scores on these tests tied for first in the state and fifth in a region comprised of Tennessee and 19 surrounding states. The Continental Mathematics League Competition is a series of after-school tests designed to test problem-solving skills. In the seventh- and eighth-grade division, Sheth had a perfect score on each segment of the competition and received a medal as a National Award Winner.

While he was doing all of this, Sheth was taking two math courses, Geometry and Accelerated Algebra II, simultaneously. Why two math classes? "In the seventh grade I had a study hall, and that got really boring; so I decided to take two math courses last year instead of having another study hall."

Math classes have come easy for Sheth since the first grade, where his accelerated performance prompted his parents, Dinesh and Pinakini Sheth, and school administrators to drop all second-grade courses from his curriculum. Since then, he has consistently proven himself able in all his math classes and plans to take all the math he can while at MUS. But despite his obvious dedication to mathematics, Sheth expresses much interest in science and looks forward the most to Introductory Physical Science, which he is taking this fall.

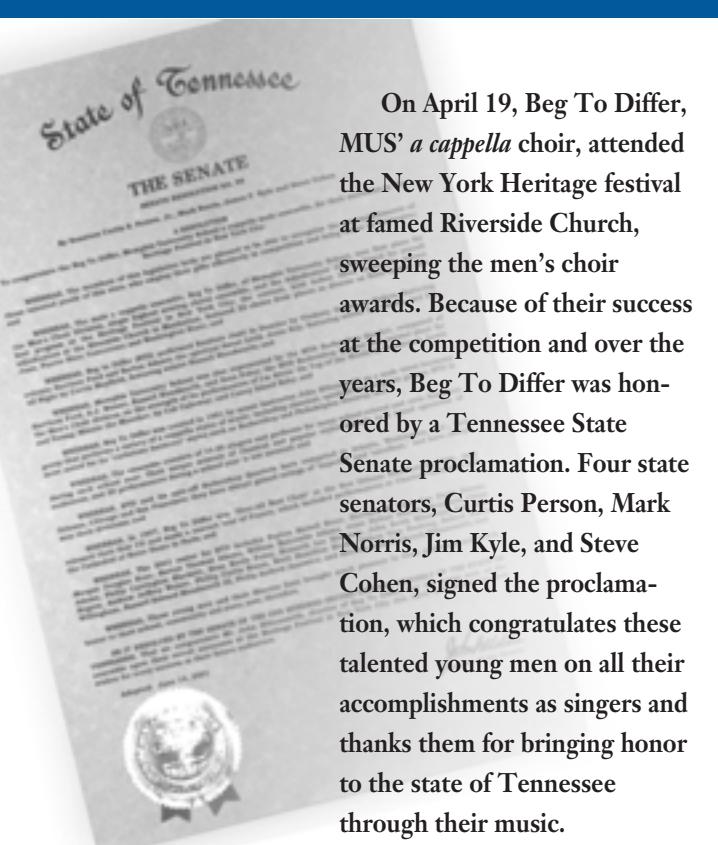
Sheth also enjoys playing the piano, playing soccer, and spending time on his computer. He is a Boy Scout and

recently completed a service project to earn his eagle badge. For his project, he collected computers to donate to the Neighborhood Christian Center and led a series of classes there to train people in the basic functions of the computer, such as word processing and spreadsheet generation.

Where will his talents take him? Well, from his vantage point as a ninth-grader, he can see himself as a research scientist or doing "something with finance."

The best part of the story is that it's not nearly over for either of these boys. Austin Chu and Parth Sheth have seven more years at MUS between them. So expect to hear more from these exceptional math students in the years to come. And just think, in the future, when spaceship taxis take people from their jobs on earth to their homes on Mars, or when there's a cure for cancer, or perhaps when the Space Shuttle breaches the Event Horizon, one of these two boys probably had something to do with it. ☺

## State Senate Sings Beg To Differ's Praises

On April 19, Beg To Differ, MUS' *a cappella* choir, attended the New York Heritage festival at famed Riverside Church, sweeping the men's choir awards. Because of their success at the competition and over the years, Beg To Differ was honored by a Tennessee State Senate proclamation. Four state senators, Curtis Person, Mark Norris, Jim Kyle, and Steve Cohen, signed the proclamation, which congratulates these talented young men on all their accomplishments as singers and thanks them for bringing honor to the state of Tennessee through their music.

## WANTED:

BTD Alumni for Ten-Year Reunion Concert

In 1991, MUS music instructor John Hiltonsmith invited eight guys to assemble on stage at the Winter Concert to try an experiment. The octet sang an *a cappella* arrangement Hiltonsmith had done of James Taylor's "Lonesome Road." Ten years later, with 23 national awards, two CD's, a State Senate proclamation in their honor, and plans for a second tour of France, Beg To Differ has become not only an MUS tradition, but an institution.

Now it's time to celebrate. Hiltonsmith and the current Beg To Differ members are inviting all Beg To Differ alumni to join in concert on **Thursday, December 13, 2001**, in honor of its tenth anniversary. If you're one, we hope that you'll join us on stage singing some of the old arrangements. You can probably bet on Willie Mays '94 teaching some tags, too. Watch for more information, and respond as soon as possible so we can send you some music and a schedule of events. If you have any questions, contact John Hiltonsmith at [jhiltonsmith@musowls.org](mailto:jhiltonsmith@musowls.org).



**Y**our 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 acknowledgement to the donor. We gratefully acknowledge the following gifts to the school:\*

## MEMORIALS

\*Includes gifts received April 1–August 31, 2001

MAURICE MASON ACREE III '78  
John Stewart '78

RAMELLE EASON BELL  
Mr. and Mrs. Ronald E. Wenzler

RALPH E. BRADEN  
Judy and Steve Akins  
Daniel F. Fisher, Jr. '68  
Nancy, Foster '98, Lewis '00,  
and Rhett Smith

JAMES T. CARNEY '96  
Lee Akins '96  
Dr. and Mrs. Steven L. Akins  
Catharine and David Alexander  
A. Robert Boelte  
The Henry Cannon '68 Family  
Dr. and Mrs. Marty Carr and Patrick '01  
Mr. and Mrs. John B. Coleman  
Gale Luck Crider  
Adrienne and David Davis  
Susan and Richard Faber  
and Michael '96 and Robert '98  
Mike, Anne, and Angela Garretson  
Peggy and Ellis Haguewood  
Dr. and Mrs. John Harkins  
Mr. and Mrs. George B. Krieger, Jr.  
Thomas B. Luck  
Bobbie and Bob Riche  
Kay and Jim Russell  
Jean and Andy Saunders  
Paula and Curt Schmitt  
Dr. and Mrs. Leslie B. Shumake  
Dr. and Mrs. Daniel C. Shumake  
Dr. and Mrs. Robert F. Taylor  
Carole and Norman Thompson  
Betty and David Williams

MR. AND MRS. NATHAN A. CARTER  
William D. Evans, Jr. '61

SADIE COOK  
Mr. and Mrs. Ronald E. Wenzler

JEANNE PARHAM COORS  
Daniel F. Fisher, Jr. '68

CARROLL COWAN  
Nancy Welsh Smith

JAMES RICHARD DERN  
Mr. and Mrs. William T. Freebing  
and Children

CHRISTINE WILLIAMS DUKE  
Faye and Skip Daniel

ED ELEAZER '94  
Daniel Warlick '93

MR. AND MRS. CASEY EVANS  
William D. Evans, Jr. '61

WILLIAM D. EVANS  
William D. Evans, Jr. '61

BRITT FOUNTAIN  
Mr. and Mrs. William T. Freebing  
and Children

ROBERT GOODWYN GARDNER  
Nancy W. Smith

JOHN W. HACKNEY  
Mr. and Mrs. William T. Freebing  
and Children

BILLY HARKINS  
Dr. and Mrs. John Harkins

CAROL FELSENTHAL BACH HINCHIN  
Judy and Steve Akins  
Mr. and Mrs. Dick Fisher '72  
Peggy and Ellis Haguewood  
Debbie and Ron Lazarov  
Mr. and Mrs. C. Barham Ray '64  
Nancy W. Smith

CYNTHIA HULBERT  
A. Robert Boelte  
Dr. and Mrs. Marty Carr and Patrick '01  
Susan Faber

VIRGINIA LEE HUNT  
Mr. and Mrs. Harvey Cook  
Kay and Jim Russell

ORIN RUFUS JOHNSON  
Perry D. Dement

CHARLES HERBERT JOHNSTON  
Sally and Bobby Alston  
Foster '98, Lewis '00, Rhett,  
and Nancy Welsh Smith

BETTY CUMMINS KAISER  
Faye and Skip Daniel  
Perry Dement  
Peggy and Ellis Haguewood  
Debbie and Ron Lazarov and Family  
Kay and Jim Russell  
Jean and Andy Saunders

CHARLES BLACK LANSDEN  
Sally and Bobby Alston  
Carole and Norman Thompson

ROSS M. LYNN  
Dr. Barry C. Hendon '77

WILBURN WILEY O'NEAL III '68  
Mr. and Mrs. C. Curtis Taylor III '68

CARLISLE S. PAGE '28  
Mr. and Mrs. Alexander W. Wellford, Jr. '60

HARRY PHILLIPS  
Robert and Mary Tabor Engel

MARY JANE RAY  
Sue and Ray Brakebill '64  
Susan and Butch Faber  
Mr. and Mrs. P. Trowbridge Gillespie, Jr. '65  
Wallace E. Johnston, Jr. '70  
Nancy W. Smith  
Louis C. Spencer '61  
Mr. and Mrs. Alexander W. Wellford, Jr. '60

ELIZABETH ROBINSON  
A. Robert Boelte

GEORGE W. SAMMONS, SR.

George Sammons Clark Burrow '95

FRANK SLAUGHTER  
Bob and Corinne Adrian and John Adrian '02  
Claire Farmer  
Mr. and Mrs. Matthew Rutherford and Matt '04  
Marilyn and Winton Smith  
Ruth and Edward Taylor and Edward Taylor '04  
Pal and Bob Wilson '70 and Lee Wilson '00

JOHN M. SPRINGFIELD  
Shelton Harrison '86

ELI SPRINGS  
Faye and Skip Daniel  
Perry Dement  
Claire Farmer  
Kay and Jim Russell  
Jean and Andy Saunders

SARAH THOMAS  
Sally and Bobby Alston

JAMES R. THOMSON, SR. '21  
Dr. R. David Thomson '72

CHRISTA WARNER  
Shelton Harrison '86

MR. AND MRS. ALEXANDER  
WHITE WELLFORD '30  
Robert and Mary Tabor Engel  
Janet and Bill Granot

PEGGY WELLFORD  
Jere L. Crook III '63

JAMES R. WELSH  
Dr. and Mrs. Charles W. Parrott '79

BILL WILDER '72  
Dr. R. David Thomson '72

DOROTHY WILSON  
Mr. and Mrs. Alexander W. Wellford, Jr. '60

## HONORARIUMS

2001 STATE CHAMPION LACROSSE TEAM  
Ann Clark Harris and Clay Harris '01

BEN ADAMS '01  
Julie and George Ellis and Family

MR. AND MRS. J. GARY ALBERTINE, JR.  
Mr. and Mrs. William T. Freebing  
and Family

LEAH ALLSION  
Jeanne and Warren Wurzburg,  
Joseph '01 and Brian '06

BOBBY ALSTON  
Shelton Harrison, Jr. '86

GUY AMSLER  
Jeanne and Warren Wurzburg,  
Joseph '01 and Brian '06

LINWOOD ASKEW  
Shelton Harrison, Jr. '86

MATTHEW BAKKE  
Jeanne and Warren Wurzburg,  
Joseph '01 and Brian '06

TERRY BALTON  
Jeanne and Warren Wurzburg,  
Joseph '01 and Brian '06

EDDIE BATEY  
Mr. and Mrs. William T. Freebing  
and Sons  
Shelton Harrison, Jr. '86

VINCENT BECK  
Ryan Spicer Freebing '05  
Mr. and Mrs. William T. Freebing

DR. AND MRS. NEAL S. BECKFORD AND  
CHILDREN  
Mr. and Mrs. William T. Freebing  
and Family  
Daren T. Freebing

NANCY BLAIR  
Shelton Harrison, Jr. '86

RUSSELL BLOODWORTH '01  
Julie and George Ellis and Family

ROBERT BOELTE  
Shelton Harrison, Jr. '86

TYLER BOONE '02  
Mr. and Mrs. Clyde E. Bringle

PETER BOWMAN  
Shelton Harrison, Jr. '86  
Jeanne and Warren Wurzburg,  
Joseph '01 and Brian '06

RICK BROER  
Mr. and Mrs. William T. Freebing  
and Children  
Breton Stewart Freebing  
Ryan Spicer Freebing '05  
Jeanne and Warren Wurzburg,  
Joseph '01 and Brian '06

TOM BROWN  
Shelton Harrison, Jr. '86

LYNN BRUGGE  
Shelton Harrison, Jr. '86

JOHN CADY  
Shelton Harrison, Jr. '86

JANE CALDWELL  
Shelton Harrison, Jr. '86

CLAYTON CAPSTICK '05  
Mr. and Mrs. Alfred L. Cowles, Jr.

DIANNE AND BRAD CHAMPLIN  
Mr. and Mrs. William T. Freebing

POLLY COOPER  
Mr. and Mrs. Leslie D. Campbell, Jr.

MR. AND MRS. JOSEPH COSTA  
Mr. and Mrs. William T. Freebing

MR. AND MRS. LESTER CRAIN  
Mr. and Mrs. William T. Freebing  
Ryan Spicer Freebing '05

REGINALD DALLE  
Shelton Harrison, Jr. '86  
Jeanne and Warren Wurzburg,  
Joseph '01 and Brian '06

LESLIE 'SKIP' DANIEL  
Shelton Harrison, Jr. '86

MICHAEL DEADERICK  
Shelton Harrison, Jr. '86

JULIA DEBARDELEBEN  
Mr. and Mrs. William T. Freebing  
Breton Stewart Freebing  
Daren Thomson Freebing

ELLIOTT DENT  
Ann Clark Harris and Clay Harris '01  
Jeanne and Warren Wurzburg,  
Joseph '01 and Brian '06

PETER DENTON  
Shelton Harrison, Jr. '86

JEAN SPICER DERN  
Mr. and Mrs. William T. Freebing  
Breton Stewart Freebing  
Daren Thomson Freebing

COURTNEY AND NATHAN DERN  
Mr. and Mrs. William T. Freebing  
and Children

MR. AND MRS. MICHAEL J. DERN  
Mr. and Mrs. William T. Freebing  
and Children

PATRICK DIMENTO  
Ann Clark Harris and Clay Harris '01

MARY NELL EASUM  
Shelton Harrison, Jr. '86

BETH EDMONDSON  
Shelton Harrison, Jr. '86



*"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 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:

**Perry Dement**  
Director of Development  
**901-260-1350**

## HONORARIUMS

*Continued from page 31*

BETTY EDWARDS  
Shelton Harrison, Jr. '86

FLIP EIKNER '77  
Shelton Harrison, Jr. '86

RICHARD ELLIS  
Ryan Spicer Freebing '05  
Mr. and Mrs. William T. Freebing

DR. THOMAS A. EPPLY, JR.  
Mr. and Mrs. William T. Freebing  
Ryan Spicer Freebing '05  
Kelsey Aldrich Freebing

CATHY EVANS  
Shelton Harrison, Jr. '86

MR. AND MRS. DAVID L. EVANS  
Mr. and Mrs. William T. Freebing  
and Sons

EILEEN MCKENNA EVANS  
William D. Evans, Jr. '61

MARLON FOSTER  
Jason E. Dunn '95

TROW GILLESPIE '65  
Mr. and Mrs. Charles H. Johnston

JEFFREY GROSS  
Jeanne and Warren Wurzburg,  
Joseph '01 and Brian '06

JEANNINE FREEBING HACKNEY  
Mr. and Mrs. William T. Freebing  
and Children

ELLIS HAGUEWOOD  
Shelton Harrison, Jr. '86  
Jeanne and Warren Wurzburg,  
Joseph '01 and Brian '06

MR. AND MRS. ELLIS HAGUEWOOD  
Mr. and Mrs. William T. Freebing  
Breton Stewart Freebing  
Ryan Spicer Freebing '05

DOT HALLIDAY  
Shelton Harrison, Jr. '86

PALLIE HAMILTON  
Shelton Harrison, Jr. '86

CLAY HARRIS '01  
Julie and George Ellis and Family

WILLIAM C. HARRIS '89  
Jeff Harris

TOMMY HARRISON  
Jeanne and Warren Wurzburg,  
Joseph '01 and Brian '06

ROB HEFLIN '05  
Mrs. William B. Huie

BETTY JO HIGGS  
Shelton Harrison, Jr. '86

JOHN HILTONSMITH  
Ryan Spicer Freebing '05  
Mr. and Mrs. William T. Freebing  
Shelton Harrison, Jr. '86

BOND HOPKINS '01  
Julie and George Ellis and Family

JANIE AND BRUCE HOPKINS  
Mr. and Mrs. William T. Freebing  
Ryan Spicer Freebing '05

MARY HUCKABA  
Shelton Harrison, Jr. '86

McKEE HUMPHREYS '01  
Julie and George Ellis and Family

MAXEY CARTER JACKSON  
William D. Evans, Jr. '61

KRISTI AND DEAN JERNIGAN  
William W. Deupree III '91

HARVEY KAY '01  
Julie and George Ellis and Family

NELL LENTI  
Shelton Harrison, Jr. '86

MR. AND MRS. ALPHA L. LYONS II  
Mr. and Mrs. William T. Freebing  
Ryan Spicer Freebing '05

MARGARET MACPHERSON  
Shelton Harrison, Jr. '86

LEIGH MACQUEEN  
Shelton Harrison, Jr. '86

LEE MARSHALL  
Shelton Harrison, Jr. '86

JOHN MCGEE  
Shelton Harrison, Jr. '86

MRS. DAN MCGUIRE (MARTHA)  
Mr. and Mrs. William T. Freebing  
and Family

MR. AND MRS. JOHN MINERVINI  
Mr. and Mrs. William T. Freebing  
and Family

DR. AND MRS. DAVID M. MOINESTER  
Mr. and Mrs. William T. Freebing  
and Family

MR. AND MRS. ROBERT W. MONTGOMERY  
Mr. and Mrs. William T. Freebing and Family  
Ryan Spicer Freebing '05

SCOTT MORRIS  
Dr. and Mrs. Richard A. Batey

WILLIAM MULROY  
Jeanne and Warren Wurzburg,  
Joseph '01 and Brian '06

LOYAL MURPHY '86  
Jeanne and Warren Wurzburg,  
Joseph '01 and Brian '06

MUS COACHING STAFF/ATHLETIC  
DEPARTMENT  
Ryan Spicer Freebing '05  
Mr. and Mrs. William T. Freebing

VINCENT MUTZI  
Shelton Harrison, Jr. '86

CHARLOTTE AND BOB NEAL  
Mr. and Mrs. William T. Freebing

JOHN OLSON  
Jeanne and Warren Wurzburg,  
Joseph '01 and Brian '06

JERROLD OMUNDSON  
Shelton Harrison, Jr. '86

JERRY PETERS  
Shelton Harrison, Jr. '86  
Jeanne and Warren Wurzburg,  
Joseph '01 and Brian '06

BARRY RAY  
Patrick Carr '01  
Shelton Harrison, Jr. '86  
Jeanne and Warren Wurzburg,  
Joseph '01 and Brian '06

REVERAND DR. KENNETH ROBINSON  
MUS Faculty

JAKE RUDOLPH  
Shelton Harrison, Jr. '86

JIM RUSSELL  
Patrick Carr '01  
Shelton Harrison, Jr. '86  
Jeanne and Warren Wurzburg,  
Joseph '01 and Brian '06

JOAN RYAN  
Shelton Harrison, Jr. '86

ANDY SAUNDERS  
Shelton Harrison, Jr. '86  
Jeanne and Warren Wurzburg,  
Joseph '01 and Brian '06

CURT SCHMITT  
Shelton Harrison, Jr. '86  
Jeanne and Warren Wurzburg,  
Joseph '01 and Brian '06

MELISSA SELF  
Shelton Harrison, Jr. '86

TERRY SHELTON  
Ryan Spicer Freebing '05  
Mr. and Mrs. William T. Freebing  
Shelton Harrison, Jr. '86

LAURA SHEPPARD  
Shelton Harrison, Jr. '86

MR. AND MRS. STEVEN E. SPIRO  
Mr. and Mrs. William T. Freebing  
and Family  
Ryan Spicer Freebing '05

WESLEY SPIRO '05  
Mr. and Mrs. Avron Spiro

# Viewpoint

by Susan Faber



**SUSAN FABER** graduated from Indiana University, Phi Beta Kappa, with a Bachelor of Arts degree. In addition to her Board of Trustee responsibilities at MUS, she is co-chair of the Doors to New Opportunities Capital Campaign Special Gifts Committee, a founding member of the Thorn Society, and past co-chair of the Parents' Association and has been a participant in strategic planning, Task Force 2001, and Annual Fund Phonathons. She is also very involved in the community as a board member of Ballet Memphis and a former board member of St. Mary's Episcopal School. Faber and her husband, Butch, have three children: Robert '98, Michael '96, and Carey, a junior at St. Mary's.

When I received a call in the spring of 1998 asking me to serve on the Memphis University School Board of Trustees, my first thought was that the call was intended for my husband, Butch. Although appointing a woman to the MUS board in 1998 was a historic decision, it has never affected the way I have been treated on this board. The first function to which I was invited in an official capacity was the dedication of the Dunavant-Wellford Tennis Center. A Board of Trustees meeting followed that event. I was the only woman in the room, but every one of the men who I did not know individually introduced himself and welcomed me prior to the business meeting. I soon forgot that I was the only woman. Fortunately, the transition from "mom" to "trustee" was not a difficult one for me because I was also on the St. Mary's board. I knew only that the members of

the MUS Board of Trustees expected me to be the best person and board member that I could be – much like the philosophy of the school that is ingrained in each young man that attends MUS.

It has been so exciting for me to see the growth and maturity that takes place in a boy from seventh grade to twelfth grade at MUS. It is obvious in a student's mannerisms and stature. The school does an outstanding job of developing curious preadolescents into gentlemen with exemplary characters. My experience as a parent at MUS was so rewarding. I am honored to serve MUS as a trustee and am privileged to give my time, treasure, and talent to uphold its reputation and reinforce its mission.

HANK SULLIVANT '01  
Julie and George Ellis and Family

BILL TAYLOR  
Shelton Harrison, Jr. '86

SANJAY K. THAKKAR '97  
Mr. and Mrs. Pravin J. Thakkar

NORMAN THOMPSON  
Shelton Harrison, Jr. '86

EUGENE THORN  
Shelton Harrison, Jr. '86

MR. AND MRS. THOMAS  
HARDY TODD III '67  
Mr. and Mrs. William T. Freebing  
and Children

DAX TORREY '94  
Jeanne and Warren Wurzburg,  
Joseph '01 and Brian '06

JOE TYLER  
Ryan Spicer Freebing '05  
Mr. and Mrs. William T. Freebing

DON WALKER  
Shelton Harrison, Jr. '86

GINA AND JEFFREY G. WEBB  
Mr. and Mrs. William T. Freebing and Family  
Breton Stewart Freebing

MR. AND MRS. JAMES H. WETTER, JR.  
Mr. and Mrs. William T. Freebing

WILLIAM WHITE '01  
Julie and George Ellis and Family

MR. AND MRS. LEWIS C. WILLIAMSON  
Mr. and Mrs. William T. Freebing  
and Family  
Ryan Spicer Freebing '05

BOB WINFREY  
Ryan Spicer Freebing '05  
Mr. and Mrs. William T. Freebing

DR. J. PHILIP WIYGUL  
Mr. and Mrs. William T. Freebing  
Ryan Spicer Freebing '05  
Kelsey Aldrich Freebing

MAJOR WRIGHT '92  
Jeanne and Warren Wurzburg,  
Joseph '01 and Brian '06

KENT WUNDERLICH '66  
Mr. and Mrs. George E. Cates

## Remember When

# Don't Be a Squirrel

by Andrew Crosby '89

When I remember my years at MUS, two thoughts come to mind: 1) Forget the idea of playing professional sports – concentrate on management; and 2) Don't be a squirrel. Both come from my experience playing basketball for Coach Jerry Peters, but the second requires some explanation.

I have played basketball since I was four years old. Unfortunately, I played basketball like a four-year-old for most of my adolescence. In fact, it wasn't until tenth grade that my feet finally left the ground for what many could debate was my first "jump shot." But I always wanted to play varsity basketball for the school that all three of my older brothers had attended and for the winningest coach in Tennessee history. So I decided to try out for the team.

My best friend and varsity co-hopeful **Andy Cates '89** was in the same situation, but his jump shot was still a mere "double-heel lift," toes firmly on the floor. So where could we possibly play on varsity? The answer was . . . nowhere. But as it turned out, there were several other players who showed some potential that year, and so Coach Peters decided to reinstate the long-forgotten "C-Team."

For those who are not MUS sports historians, the C-Team is comprised of tenth graders and disguised as the farm club for the junior varsity. A C-Team arises every decade or so when Coach Peters has a hunch that a few random players might one day develop enough talent to dribble with both hands, make

the team, and provide an audience for the starters at away games.

Following varsity tryouts in the fall of 1986, where I had managed to demonstrate, if not talent, surely a sincere determination and willingness to practice, I noticed on a small white paper tacked to the corkboard on the gym wall: *The following have made the C-Team.* I saw my name (along with Andy's) . . . and asked no questions. After a fairly short season, with more wins than losses, I was at least a stron-



*Andrew and his wife, Molly, live in Washington, DC. Remembering to concentrate on management, he currently serves as president of Crosby-Volmer, a public relations and marketing firm based in Washington.*

ger candidate for the junior varsity the next year. Coach Peters gave me some valuable advice: "You've got to toughen up a bit, Crosby, and be more aggressive. Take it in strong! And for goodness sakes, don't be a squirrel!"

Don't be a squirrel? After some thought I realized that Coach Peters wanted me to work on my fundamentals – stop using "squirrely" tactics to move around the court, and score. That summer, in 1987, I decided to change my game.

Every morning, I rode my ten-speed downtown to play outdoor hoops at Lamar Terrace, a public-housing community. I learned a few things about being aggressive and toughening up. It was a humbling experience. I became known as "Bird" for obvious reasons not related to skill. Everyone wanted to guard me. "I got Bird!" "No, I got Bird!" For the first few weeks, I was on the receiving end of many blocked shots, steals, and dunk-overs building the stats of everyone else. But eventually I became a solid player. I received a few bloody lips and swollen eyes as well but was rewarded in the fall when I started for the junior varsity along with Andy. He had spent his entire summer lifting weights and drinking body-building milkshakes. He gained four pounds. "The Twin Towers" Coach Peters called us. The JV went nearly undefeated that season and won the city championship, defeating CBHS. It was a great season and prepared me well for my senior year on varsity.

I learned many lessons playing for Coach Peters that have helped me in my life far beyond the basketball court. He constantly reminded us to play as a team and to keep working toward higher and higher goals. He gave us incredible confidence. No matter how strong our opponent, we always thought we could win – even when we were up against Treadwell High and their star player, Anfernee Hardaway. He made us want to play our best, not just for ourselves, but also for the school we represented and for those who had worn the uniform before us. Today, I remind myself to remain dedicated to my goals, to stay focused, to remember the fundamentals, and above all – to not be a squirrel.

# DON AUSTIN

## RETIRES AFTER 21 YEARS OF SERVICE



No one has given more time to Memphis University School than **Don Austin '59**. He arrived at MUS from Houston, Texas, his junior year and graduated in 1959, one year after the first graduating class of the "new" MUS. Back then Austin was known as a football player who threw parties in his basement, but today he is known as a great contributor of time, energy, and financial support. Now, after a 21-year term on the Board of Trustees, Austin, a founding member of the Thorn Society, has retired. "I believe in turnover," Austin said, "and I've got the longest tenure on this board, so it's time."

When Austin graduated from the University of Virginia, he never envisioned that he would go back to his high school alma mater and be so involved. In fact, after college, Austin didn't come back to Memphis at all but returned to Houston with his wife, Claire, whom he married while at UVA. It wasn't long, however, before Austin returned to Memphis to work for the Federal Reserve Bank. Soon he went into the home-building business with his friend **Worth Brown '58**. After Brown moved to Chicago, Austin remained in the business for awhile, then moved on to residential and commercial construction.

Austin always maintained a relationship with MUS through Gene Thorn and Bob Boelte. When Austin was asked to be on the board in January of 1980, he was flattered. His involvement on the board began as a small one but grew to a crucial role. It was during a period of transition that Austin saw his involvement on the board grow. When **Kent Wunderlich '66** took over as chairman, he brought with him the idea of total involvement and more civic responsibility for each board member. Then and there, the board turned their attention to strategic planning for the future of the school, because they were fully aware that the school had to maintain and upgrade its academics and other school functions. What resulted from these plans are all the improvements on the MUS campus of today.

Austin and his fellow board members wanted to make sure that MUS wasn't "playing catch up" with out-of-town preparatory schools, including McCallie and Baylor. Thus, early on in their planning, they made many visits to other campuses to get a sense of what transformations and improvements needed to be accomplished at MUS. Austin became one of the school's most significant contributors in the areas of property management and

building projects, which became two of his ongoing responsibilities. Austin enjoyed working for what he refers to as the "Skip Daniel Property Management Company." Austin credits Daniel with always having the best financial interests of MUS at heart. Through his role as representative of the school on the building committee, Austin worked closely with the contractor and architect, developing relationships with the two major companies involved in the new construction at MUS, MCDR and The Crump Firm.

Austin has been very pleased with the campaign and enjoys seeing the completion of each new facet of the construction.

Austin's works have not gone unnoticed; he is widely known as a reliable and conscientious contributor to MUS. "We have relied tremendously on his expertise in building," said Kent Wunderlich. "He has been instrumental in projects being completed on time, properly, and within budget." Austin has also made contributions to the school through service on the membership committee, making it his priority to have a well-balanced board. And General Contractor Austin has made as many improvements to the campus as Board Member Austin through such projects as constructing the Dunavant-Wellford Tennis Center and renovating the Todd-Snowden Gym, the library roof, the track, and sidewalks.

Austin and his wife, Claire, have one son, **Donald Austin III, '84**, who was in high school just as his father's 21-year term began. He now resides in Hong Kong, where he works in management consulting for PriceWaterhouseCoopers.

The last board meeting of the fiscal year was in April 2001, and Austin's term ended in July. As he leaves the board, Austin points out that the board's main agenda is to finish funding the campaign. "I have a lot of confidence in the board, and I would not be leaving if I felt differently. They are young guys with great ideas." Austin is grateful for the relationships that developed out of his tenure on the board and always enjoyed seeing each individual's supportive and giving nature. "I feel like I've gotten more out of the board than they've gotten out of me."

Don Austin has shown an extraordinary commitment to this school for many years. "He has served tirelessly and always did more than his fair share," said Kent Wunderlich.

The *MUS Century Book* quotes, "Certainly, a knowledge of the past is requisite for planning for the future, for without knowing where we have been, it is impossible to work out where we are going." Don Austin has been with MUS since the beginnings of the new school; he has lived most of his life with strong ties to the school. As a member of the Class of 1959, he has knowledge of the school's past; as a member of the Board of Trustees, he has helped MUS make the improvements of today and left significant contributions that will lead MUS into the future. 

# Alumni News



## We Want Your E-dress!

Often, we want to let you know about something fast. For example, we contacted alumni living in New York City to invite them to come watch Beg To Differ, the MUS *a cappella* singing group, compete in the Big Apple. If the Development Office does not have your e-mail address, you miss immediate opportunities to stay in touch and learn about special events. Send your address to Claire Farmer at [cfarmer@musowls.org](mailto:cfarmer@musowls.org).

**'60**

**Met Crump**  
Class Representative

**Allen Morgan** will continue in the capacity of chairman and CEO of Morgan Keegan & Co. and will join the Regions board of directors as a result of the acquisition by Regions Financial Corporation in March.

**'67**

**John Pettey**  
Class Representative

**Mark Halperin** has been promoted to executive vice president of Boyle Investment Company.

**'68**

**Bill Ferguson**  
Class Representative

Lifelong friends and classmates **George Alissandratos** and **Bruce Hopkins** are pictured at this year's graduation ceremony where they had the pleasure of watching their sons graduate from MUS.



**'72**

**Denby Brandon**  
Class Representative

**David Thomson** is enjoying his practice in private pediatrics in Auburn, GA.

**'76**

**Cage Carruthers**  
Class Representative

**Jody Bellott**, his wife, Sharon, and their three daughters live in Memphis where Jody practices family dentistry.

**Lane Carrick** is president of Sovereign Wealth Management, Inc., and serves on the board of directors for Make-a-Wish Foundation. He and his wife, Mary Louise, stay busy with their three children's multitude of activities. Lane says he can still dunk a basketball backwards over classmate **Walter Jones**. **Cage Carruthers** and his band of merry men have been working diligently on the 25<sup>th</sup> Class Reunion. You should have already received your awesome invitation.

## Marriages

**William Howard** '77 to Frances Clark on May 5, 2001

**Curt Cowan** '80 to Sarah Bliss on May 5, 2001

**Palmer Bartlett** '84 to Ashling Joye Durkan on March 10, 2001

**Allen Halliday** '85 to Grace Moore on May 12, 2001

**Rob Williams** '86 to Caroline Elizabeth Smith on February 17, 2001

**Chris Gossett** '88 to Lauren Elizabeth Sampietro on March 10, 2001

**Kevin Ogilby** '88 to Kristine Marie Orlando on May 11, 2001

**Max Painter** '88 to Kathryn Sutton on July 21, 2001

**Jon Van Hoozer** '88 to Donna Chambers on July 21, 2001

**Chuck Hamlett** '92 to Jenni Russo on April 28, 2001

**Frank White** '92 to Elizabeth Picano on April 21, 2001

**Chip Brown** '95 to Noel Cowan on July 14, 2001

**Chris Lupo** '95 to Amy Stonestreet on May 19, 2001

**Michael Nussbaum** '95 to Judy Smith on August 11, 2001

**Jacob Vezina** '95 to Amanda Leigh Corkern on May 5, 2001

**Spike Treadwell** '96 to Emily Margaret Leake on May 19, 2001

## Births

**Ray Brandon** '77 and Dana, a son, Ben Wilson Brandon, born March 27, 2001

**Jimmy Allen** '80 and Lisa, a son, Daniel James, born February 12, 2001

**John Ogle** '80 and Christina, a son, David Welch, born December 22, 2000

**Charles Yukon** '84 and Marina, a daughter, Olivia Marie, born February 1, 2001

**Howard Sklar** '87 and Leslie, a daughter, Julia Rachel, born January 4, 2001

**Mark Griffin** '88 and Katherine, a son, Mark Daniel Griffin, Jr., born October 8, 2000

**Sellers Shy** '90 and Stephanie, a son, D. F. Sellers Shy, Jr., born November 12, 2000

**Carter Campbell** '91 and Bowie, a daughter, Eleanor McSwain, born May 25, 2001

**Jason Whitmore** '94 and Keshia, a daughter, Asia Nicole, born April 17, 2001

## Deaths

**James T. Carney** '96, died August 2, 2001

**David Dunavant** is vice president of Stephens, Inc., Private Client Group in Memphis.

**Rob Heard** and his wife, Lyndi, have three children. Rob is a senior vice-president at First Tennessee Capital Markets.

**Mott Jones** and his wife, Renay, live in Collierville with their son, Sam. Mott is a transportation consultant for C. H. Robinson Company.

**Jay Langenfelder** and Tricia, wife of 17 years, have three daughters. He is an account executive for Georgia Pacific where he has been for the past eight years, and he is the head coach of an all-state soccer team.

**Bill Mathieu** and his wife, Rosemary, have two daughters and live in Atlanta, where Bill is an attorney with Fine and Block.

**Billy Oates** and his wife, Mitzi, have three girls. Billy established Oates Graphic Design and Illustration in 1987.

**John Phillips** is with Strategic Financial Partners and has qualified for the Million Dollar Round Table this year.

**David Preston** is practicing law in Kansas City, MO. He and his wife, Shelley, have two children.

**Sam Varner** and Marilee live in Lexington, KY, with their two daughters, Anne and Ellie, and son, Will. Sam is a financial advisor for Morgan Keegan.

**Gib Wilson** and his wife, Nancy, have three girls. Gib is treasurer at Lehman-Roberts in Memphis. In his spare time, Gib coaches soccer.

'77

Bruce Moore  
Class Representative

**Kent Ihrig** recently became a partner with Schumaker, Loop, and Kendrick, LLP, in charge of the financial institutions practice group for the Tampa office. He and his wife, Cynthia, are expecting their fourth child.

**John Outlan** has returned to Memphis after being away for over ten years. During his time away, he married Janey, a Texan, pursued careers in computers and network management, as well as the wine industry. Tiring of corporate life, John bought the old Robilio liquor store and renamed it Midtown Wine & Spirits. Stop by and say hi.

From the Archives

Can you match these alumni with their sons pictured on the back cover?

Ben Adams '74

George Alissandratos '68

Rusty Bloodworth '63

John Curtis '70

Troy Gillespie '65

Bruce Hopkins '68

Hunter Humphreys '70

Harvey Kay '75

Paul McClure '69

Henry Sullivant '70

George Treadwell '64

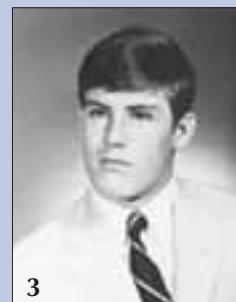
Richard Wilson '67



1



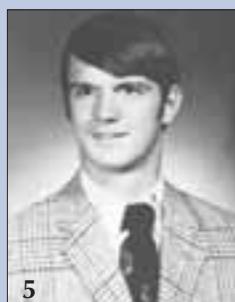
2



3



4



5



6



7



8



9



10



11



12

Answers: 1-Rusty Bloodworth, father of Russell; 2-John Curtis, father of Jay; 3-Hunter Humphreys, father of Sam; 4-George Alissandratos, father of Paul; 5-Harvey Kay, father of Harvey; 6-Bruce Hopkins, father of Bond; 7-Troy Gillespie, father of Troy; 8-Harvey Kay, father of Harvey; 9-Richard Wilson, father of Ben; 10-George Treadwell, father of Dominic; 11-Paul McClure, father of Paul; 12-Ben Adams, father of Ben

# Rockin' and Rollin' in Nashville



**Craig Benson '63** is an entertainment lawyer with Benson and Associates in Nashville. It all started with a love of music in high school and college. At MUS, Benson joined classmates **Lee Wiener, Charlie Hull, Mike Alexander, and Phil Stewart** to form a band, Shades, and create rock and roll. Although he was crazy about music, he didn't make it as a musician. So, after studying history at Duke, he went on to law school at Vanderbilt. According to Benson, most entertainment lawyers are failed musicians; he found his niche.

Since beginning his career as general counsel for Memphis' Stax Records at the age of 26, he has represented clients such as Tim McGraw, The Righteous Brothers, The Everly Brothers, JJ Cale, Leon Russell, Roy Orbison (for about three days), Alan Jackson, Brooks and Dunn, Clint Black, Dena Carter, Bobbie Eakes (an actor on the television soap "The Bold and the Beautiful"), and Tammy Cochran (a new star on Sony Records). But Benson hasn't forgotten where he came from. He also represents MUS alumni **Robert Ray's '61 band, The Vulgar Boatmen**.

Benson works with acquisition and copyright brokerage—the buying and selling of copyrights. He's acquired a book right for Linda Gale Lewis (sister to Jerry Lee), bought Van Morrison's "Brown Eyed Girl" for PolyGram, and acquired or sold other songs such as "The Gambler" and "Ruby, Don't Take Your Love to Town" (Kenny Rogers), "Here I Go Again" (Whitesnake), too many bluegrass cuts to mention, and "Ballad of a Teenage Queen" and "Big River" (Johnny Cash).

He's also had the fortune to be associate producer of the MCA movie "Hail, Hail Rock & Roll" (the Chuck Berry story) and has been instrumental in HBO and Cinemax specials, "The Everly Brothers' Reunion" at the Royal Albert Hall in London in 1983 and "Blue Suede Shoes, Carl Perkins and Friends" starring George Harrison, Ringo Starr, and Eric Clapton, among others, in London in 1985. Overall, Benson prefers to represent companies over artists because they are more lucrative and easier to deal with.

Benson defines his job as "removing clients' worries about economic well-being," but entertainment law is a much

more complicated field than that. Because there are only about 1,000 people in control of the music business, connections are tight with only a small number of firms handling the majority of the business. Few firms have the stability it takes in such a tightly knit field.

This doesn't mean all work and no play for Benson. He attributes the biggest perks of his career to the "amazingly fun people" he meets from places like London, New York, Los Angeles, and the Caribbean. Eighty percent of his clients are good friends. In fact, a major talent of entertainment law is people skills. Benson remarks that it is who you know and how well you know them. However, you still have to have the smarts for the detail work required in law.

He also acknowledges the indulgences of the job, such as "lots of luxury travel to beautiful places." He currently owns three Porsches (a step down from his previous four) and is a connoisseur of wine. (He used to teach a wine appreciation class.) But these indulgences, as they may be, have only helped his career in sparking relationships such as the ones he has with Tony Smith, past manager of Genesis and current manager of Phil Collins, and Hugh Padgham, who has produced big names such as Melissa Etheridge, Phil Collins, and Paul McCartney. Both men are avid car collectors, and as Benson says, "Talking about cars is much more interesting than talking about business."

He must know something other than cars as he's heading into his thirtieth year in the business. Future plans include opening a brokerage business called Copyright Dynamics. Benson has an active family life with wife, Sarah, and daughters, Rachael and Helen (twenty and seventeen).

**'78****Chip Grayson**  
Class Representative

**Bill Dunavant**, chairman of the Memphis Botanic Garden, is excited about the new summer concert series, Live at the Garden. The series was created as a revenue generator.

**'79****Collie Krausnick**  
Class Representative

**Collie Krausnick** will oversee Morgan Keegan's equity capital markets division, which includes sales and trading.

**'80****George Skouteris**  
Class Representative

**Jimmy Allen** and his wife, Lisa, live in Nashville, where Jimmy works for TVA. With four daughters, they were thrilled with the birth of Daniel in February. **Cotter Cunningham** and his wife, Edie, live in Palm Beach Gardens, FL, with two daughters and their new son. Cotter is the senior vice president and chief operating officer of an internet publisher, Bankrate.com.

**'81****Rob Hussey**  
Class Representative

**Bill Lewis** is living in Israel with his wife, Lynn, and their two sons. Bill is president of Sons of Issachar Ministries, Inc.

**Stephen Phillips** is the associate curator at The Phillips Collection in Washington, DC. He has co-written a book, *Degas to Matisse*, which looks at impressionist and modern masterworks.

**'82****Bill Lansden**  
Class Representative

**Doug Carpenter and Brian Sullivan's** '83 advertising agency, Carpenter & Sullivan, is in charge of the ticket sales drive for the Grizzlies, the new Memphis NBA team.

**'83****Wyatt Isbell**  
Class Representative

**Porter Feild** has become a member of the law firm of Burch, Porter & Johnson, PLLC.

**Tom Hayes** has gone into the contracting business and is now with Catmur Development. Tom and his wife, Ivy, have two children.

**Trey Jordan** opened his second Holiday Ham and Turkey store this summer in Germantown Village Square.

**David Moore** and his family have moved to Birmingham where he is an orthopedic surgeon at the University of Alabama - Birmingham.

**Rich Williamson**, his wife, Ruth, and their three children live in Montgomery, AL, where Rich works in assessment management for Guilford Capital Corporation.

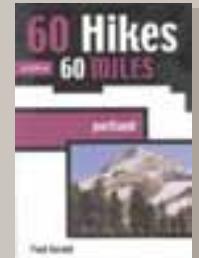
**'84****Bob McEwan**  
Class Representative

**Jeff Barry** is setting a standard for upscale residential housing with his new development, Ivy Grove, in the Collierville-Germantown area. Jeff has his hands in the entire project as developer and builder.

**Paul Gerald** is a freelance writer in Portland, OR, and this fall will see the publication of his first book, *60 Hikes Within 60 Miles of Portland*.

**Jon Peters** is now working in Memphis at Paradigm Capital Partners, LLC, as chief financial officer. He and his wife, Jackie, have a three-year-old son, Jonathan, and a brand new baby, H. Jerry Peters. Wonder who he was named after?

**Charles Yukon** is completing his sixth year of private practice in pediatrics in Germantown. He and his wife, Marina, a LeBonheur ICU nurse, have a son and a daughter.

**'85****Joel Sklar**  
Class Representative

**Lon Magness** has been named president of Commerce Capital Management, Inc.



Alumni were back on campus in April for an all-sports picnic. As the games got underway, Paul Sharp '74 and his wife, Beverly, headed for the lacrosse field while Philip Gould '71 settled in at the baseball game.

Some of the first to arrive for the picnic were (left) Monique and Charles Jalenak '83 with son Lucas and Wendy and Porter Feild '83.

'86

**Gavin Murrey**  
Class Representative**Andy McCarroll**, Class Agent

The Reunion Committee wants you to know that our 15<sup>th</sup> reunion is upon us and will take place on October 5-6. The activities planned include the Alumni Golf Scramble, BBQ, game against Fairley, post-game party at **Ben and Elizabeth Daniel's** home, and a Saturday night party on the roof of Peabody Place at Pembroke Square. The reunion committee will be contacting you individually. Check for more details on the MUS website or call **Gavin Murrey** at (901) 579-4283 or **Andy McCarroll** at (901) 818-5185.

**Charles Frankum** completed his residency in Atlanta and plans to move

to Denver to begin his practice as a general surgeon. He is a pilot and flies his own plane. Rumor has it that there might be wedding bells in his future.

**Mike Patterson** has completed his training and joined Southern Bone and Joint Specialists in Hattiesburg, MS. **Lyle Pierson** is managing Buckley's Downtown, a popular steakhouse in downtown Memphis.

**Jonathan Ringel** is living in Washington, DC, and reporting for American Lawyer Media.

'87

**Jonny Ballinger**  
Class Representative

**Geoff Butler** works in Colorado as a firefighter and spends as much of his free time as possible kayaking, rock climbing, and biking. He was recently in Atlanta

for a wedding and caught up with **Jonny Ballinger**, **Bo Brooksbank**, **Stewart Hammond**, and **Bryan Gannaway**.

**Stewart Hammond** and his wife, Julie, have been busy prepping the house for their first child. He is also serving as the contractor of a second house he bought as an investment and volunteering for the American Cancer Society's Relay for Life, along with working on his golf game.

**Johnny Norris** and his band, Crash into June, headed into Easley-McCain Recording at the end of July with producer Neilson Hubbard (Parasol Records) to record the follow-up to their debut CD, *From Blind to Blue*. Johnny says they hope to shop the CD to some record labels with an eye toward releasing it in early 2002. Check out all the latest news on the band at [www.crashintojune.com](http://www.crashintojune.com).

Last fall, **Marc Kesselman** '89 left his job at the law firm of Ropes & Gray to join the U.S. Department of Justice's Federal Programs Branch, which litigates on behalf of the White House, cabinet officers, and approximately 100 federal agencies. The branch defends against constitutional challenges to federal statutes, suits to overturn government policies and programs, and attacks on the legality of government decisions.

Marc tells us that he was drawn to the branch, in part, because of the interesting mix of the cases. Just a few of the high-profile cases in the office include the current battle over the funding of stem-cell research, Linda Tripp's lawsuits against the White House for Privacy Act violations, and enforcement of the ban against medical marijuana. In just his first six months, Marc has personally handled a challenge to the Air Force's security clearance system and an attempt to stop construction of the Department of Energy's controversial National Ignition Facility.

His most recent assignment involves a statute called the "Anticybersquatting Consumer Protection

Act" which is a law passed by Congress that prohibits bad-faith and abusive registration of Internet domain names. "My job is to intervene on behalf of the United States in the first lawsuit where someone has challenged key provisions of the statute as unconstitutional. Hopefully, we'll get a good decision on the books so that no one will question the validity of the Act going forward.

"I don't think that anyone who knew me at MUS would be surprised that I decided on a career such as this. I was very active in both the Government Club and the Civic Service Club, and this job offers the ideal combination of working on incredibly interesting and timely public policy questions and doing so in the public service."

In addition to his new job at the Department of Justice, Marc has quite a few other recent changes in his life. In the fall, Marc and his wife, Risa, moved from their apartment in the city to a house in the nearby suburb of Bethesda, Maryland. And in April, they had their first child, a daughter named Ileana Gwen (pictured above). Both Marc and Risa are graduates of Cornell University and the University of Pennsylvania Law School.

ON THE SIDE  
OF JUSTICE

**'88**

**Gary Wunderlich**  
Class Representative

**Jon Van Hoozer**, Class Agent

**Dabney Collier** has been named the 2001-2002 president of Phoenix Club. **Frank Covett** was named vice president of membership for Phoenix Club for 2001-2002.

**Hays Hutton**, his wife, Laura, and their daughters, Harlan and Kit, are living in Palo Alto, CA, where Hays works in the web TV division of Microsoft.

When Kathryn and **Max Wesley** married in July, it was like an MUS reunion on the alter. **Vere Jehl '88**, **Ryan Riggs '88**, and **Trey Watkins '91** served as groomsmen.

**Fred Schaeffer** has qualified for Strategic Financial Partners' 2001 Leaders Conference, as well as the Million Dollar Round Table.

**Bill Smith** is working in Los Angeles for BizRate, an internet marketplace and consumer information website.

**'89**

**Andy Cates**  
Class Representative

**Jason Fair**, Class Agent

**Rob Edwards** is a company commander of a military intelligence company in Jackson, MS, with the Mississippi National Guard.

**Will Harris** has been appointed assistant professor of English at Shippensburg University in Shippensburg, PA. Will received his Ph.D. from The Johns Hopkins University and is living in Newburg, PA.

**Todd Photopoulos** has been named secretary of the Phoenix Club for 2001-2002.



More than 75 MUS alumni and friends flocked to the Redbirds game in June: (top) David Willson '99, Elliot Pope '99, Aubrey Rogers '00 (kneeling), and John Rodney '00; (left) Dan '88 and Elizabeth McEwan

**'90**

**Andrew Sutherland**  
Class Representative

**Stephen Mealor** and his wife, Toni, live in Mattawan, MI, where Stephen is the pastor of Pine Island Presbyterian Church.

**Jonathan Weinberg** will soon (at last!) be completing his Ph.D. in philosophy at Rutgers University. He is excited to be starting this fall as a tenure-track assistant professor at the main Bloomington campus of Indiana University.

**'91**

**Brett Grinder**  
Class Representative

**Darrell Cobbins**, Class Agent

**Darrell Cobbins** has left the Memphis Area Chamber of Commerce and is venturing into the world of commercial real estate. He started in July for Commercial Tennessee as an associate broker.



**Ryan Ehrhart** has been promoted to first vice president at Morgan Keegan & Company.

**Ash Jha** graduated from UT Medical School in June 2001. He is doing a residency in Internal Medicine here in Memphis.

**'92**

**Preston Miller**  
Class Representative

**Brandon Westbrook**, Class Agent

**Harry Sayle** has been promoted to vice president in fixed income capital markets at Morgan Keegan.

**Cedric Strong** stopped by the campus recently to check out the construction and visit with faculty. He is assistant to the director of outpatient medicine at Columbus Regional Health Department in Columbus, GA, when he is not catching up with family and friends in Memphis.

**'93**

**Gil Uhlhorn**  
Class Representative

**Thomas Quinlen**, Class Agent

**Howie Gober** has been elected assistant treasurer of the Phoenix Club.

**Sandy Hooper** is now in law school at Washington and Lee University.

**Zach Luttrell** graduated from the University of Mississippi in May, juris doctor.

**Drew Martin** stopped by the Alumni Office in April. He was in town for the Easter holiday and wanted to check out all the changes at MUS. Drew has an interesting position as director of the Internet and Special Projects with the Athletic Department of Texas A&M University.

**Jackson Moore** has left CB Richard Ellis to return to Vanderbilt University to pursue his M.B.A.

**Gil Uhlhorn** has been named at-large board member for the Phoenix Club for next year.

**David Young** will graduate from Cornell University in 2002 with his M.B.A. He is making MUS proud by staying in the top 10 percent of his class.

**'94**

**Kirby May**  
Class Representative

**Jason Whitmore**, Class Agent

**Hamilton Eggers** is living in Memphis and training to be a financial consultant at UBS/PaineWebber.

**Kirby May** graduated from University of Mississippi Law School in May. He plans to take the Tennessee and Mississippi bar exams. He will then be clerking for one year at the 12th Chancery Court District in Meridian, MS, for Chancellors Sarah Springer and Jerry Mason.

**'95**

**Jeff Murray**  
Class Representative

**Blake Bourland**, Class Agent

**Clark Burrow** is a vice president with Burrow Investment Company. In his free time he is pursuing a master of science degree in business administration/real estate development concentration at the University of Memphis. He expects to graduate in May 2002. He was recently honored to serve as best man for **Chris Lupo's** wedding, reminding us that MUS truly fosters friendships that last a lifetime.

**Joe Hagerman** graduated *cum laude* from Mississippi State University in May with a degree in architecture.

**Jamie Zanella**, as reported earlier, is making a career in the military. He is now a First Lieutenant in the United States Army.

**'96**

**Robert Dow**  
Class Representative

**Kennon Vaughan**, Class Agent

After completing his first year of law school at the University of Tennessee, **Tommy Luck** participated this summer in the Student Abroad Program at Kings College, University of Aberdeen, Scotland.

**John Russell** graduated in May 2000 from the University of Georgia as the top management major of his graduating class. He is working as a financial advisor at Merrill Lynch in Atlanta.

**Robbie Tom** is attending law school at Tulane University.

**'97**

**Trey Jones**  
Class Representative

**Wilson Chwang** will be entering medical school at Baylor University this year.

**David Hwang** graduated from Emory University in May 2001 with a bachelor of science in chemistry. In August, he plans to begin his first year at Harvard Medical School in the New Pathway M.D. Program.

**Frank Laughlin** graduated *cum laude* with a bachelor's degree in English from Vanderbilt University on May 11, 2001.

**Paul Murray** graduated in May from Rhodes College with a B.A. in music and is the recipient of the 2001 Jane Soderstrom Award for Music. He worked at MUS this summer as an intern in the Development Office by day and on the alumni theater production of *A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum* by night. He plans to apply to graduate school in vocal performance.

**Bill Nichol** received a bachelor of arts degree in English, graduating *magna cum laude* from the University of the South.

**John Pettey** has graduated from Amherst College, *magna cum laude* and Phi Beta Kappa, and has begun his career in finance with The Blackstone Group in New York City.

**Scott Pritchett** graduated in May from the University of Mississippi with a bachelor's degree in accountancy, Phi Kappa Phi, *magna cum laude*.

**Jay Thakkar** graduated from the University of Mississippi in May with a bachelor of business administration degree with a major in management information systems. Jay is now employed as a data analyst with

AccuSHIP.com in Germantown. He recently returned from a post-graduation trip to Paris, France.

**Robert Walker**, a recent graduate of Washington and Lee University, was selected for membership to the Omicron Delta Epsilon national economics fraternity.

**Brian Yoakum** graduated in May from Rhodes College with a B.A. in political science.

**'98**

**Don Drinkard**  
Class Representative

**Erick Clifford**, Class Agent

**Larry Dow** is earning his B.S. in building science at Auburn University while working for the College of Architecture, Design, and Construction web team and also serving on the Information Technology User Group Board for the Department of Building Science.

**Don Drinkard** was elected as a senator to the Association of Furman Students, Furman University's student-body government.

**Jason Lewin** is serving as the social chair for Sigma Alpha Epsilon fraternity at the University of Tennessee. He is still playing lacrosse for the Vols, was nominated as a pre-season First Team USLIA All-American, and led the team to a pre-season ranking of sixth in the nation.

**Arthur Shaw** and **Jamie Illien** are currently studying abroad in Paris at Institut d'Etudes Politiques de Paris.

**Harley Steffens** is a member of the International Business Society at the University of Georgia and was recently elected vice president of Sigma Alpha Epsilon fraternity.

**A Thompson** served as the homecoming chair for the Furman University Student Activities Board this past fall. In addition, A has been selected for membership in Furman's oldest and most prestigious honor society, The Quaternon Club.

**'99**

**Chip Campbell**  
Class Representative

**Norfleet Thompson**, Class Agent

**Will Johnson** is leaving his mark on Amherst College. He has served for two years on the College Council, a council composed of one representative from each class and the Deans of the College, which determines practically all college policy. This year, Will is running unopposed for student financial chairman, one of the five biggest positions in the student government. This position

gives Will responsibility for distributing \$300,000 each semester.

**Bill Mealor** is completing his sophomore year at Washington and Lee University. He is a member of Sigma Alpha Epsilon Fraternity.

**Barham Ray** has been elected chairman of the Student Life Committee, a top student government position at Princeton University.

**Bert Stemmler** dropped by the campus recently, only to be shocked by the demolition of McFadden Commons, i.e., the lounge. Bert is busy at Vanderbilt with his own rock 'n roll radio show on Nashville radio WRVU.

'00

**Jeff Morgan**  
Class Representative

**Michael Liverance**, Class Agent

**Eric Osborne** was on a relay team that set an Amherst College school record in the indoor 4 x 200 relay. In addition to his track success, Eric was elected to serve as the sophomore College Council representative, one of the highest student government positions available.

**John Rodney** is having a great time at the University of Virginia. His otherwise all-girl soccer team, the Purple People Eaters, just won the intramural championship.

'01

**Harrison Ford**  
Class Representative

**Daniel McDonell**, Class Agent

**Matthew Harrison, Benji Hassid, David Landy, and Neil Mehta** represented MUS in the 2001 Presidential Scholars Program.

**Benji Hassid** had the honor of attending Salute to Excellence, an annual nationwide gathering of 250 high school students. **Fred Smith '62** chose to sponsor Hassid for the inspirational event that was held this past May in Texas. Among the adult participants were George Lucas, Naomi Judd, and Nobel Prize winning scientists. Hassid will begin his freshman year at Stanford University this fall.

## Class of '01 Lights the Torch

The Class of 2001 set a precedent among graduating senior classes, becoming the first ever to pledge support to the Annual Fund in the year of their graduation. Approximately 50 percent of the class made a multi-year pledge to the Annual Fund, with payments beginning with the 2001-02 school year.



Harrison Ford and Daniel McDonell with Fred Schaeffer '88 (center), President of the MUS Alumni Association, who welcomed the Class of 2001 to the alumni ranks.

Perry Dement, director of development, is pleased with the gesture and hopes that future graduates will make similar contributions. "This is the first time that a senior class has pledged their support to the Annual Fund. And they set precedent by having a participation rate higher than the average for all other classes. What an example to set for older alumni as well as future graduating classes!

"Pledging to the Annual Fund is also a great way for recent graduates to stay in touch with MUS, especially now, in the midst of so many new developments."

Harrison Ford, one of two senior class representatives for the class of 2001, remarks, "It was really great to see so many guys in our class ready to give something back to MUS, which has given us all so much already." Most of the pledging students chose the \$15/year for five years plan, although there are other options.

Money raised through the Annual Fund accounts for about 7 percent of the school's annual operating budget. It goes towards salaries, utilities, and many other expenses. It also helps keep tuition down. So, if you're a senior, or plan to be soon, spend a little time reflecting on the gifts MUS has bestowed on you already and follow the example set by the Class of 2001.

**We teach our boys to pursue every opportunity in life.  
We also teach them to give something back.**

At MUS, each student is given an excellent education and the opportunity to realize his potential. Support through the Annual Fund ensures that MUS will continue to attract and retain distinguished faculty and have all the important resources that make MUS a leader in college-preparatory education.



*Opening Doors For Boys For Over 100 Years*

### MUS ANNUAL FUND

6191 Park Avenue  
Memphis, TN 38119-5399  
(901) 260-1350

# On the Road Again...



by Sam Rembert '93



Sam Rembert is usually working at his console, except for the occasional adventure. Pictured left, he is standing in front of the lava flows in Kagoshima, Japan, as the volcano continues to blow in the background.

My first experience with the lighting system in the MUS theatre almost ran me off for good. It was 1988, my seventh-grade year, and the theatre was preparing for the spring musical, *The Music Man*. I had been interested in lighting and thought that I might enjoy helping out. My job was to stand completely still while someone focused a light on me—that lasted ten seconds. The rest of the time, I stood around watching, bored, wondering what I had gotten myself into. I never dreamed that one day I would be touring the world as a lighting technician with Disney on Ice.

Now, 14 years later, I've worked on over 75 productions, including short acts, two-hour ice shows, major concerts, and everything in between. These productions have played to as many as 15,000 people in all corners of the earth.

## **...Goin' places that I've never been...**

I'm a lighting technician and programmer on ice shows with Feld Entertainment, producers of Ringling Brothers and Barnum & Bailey circuses, the Disney on Ice shows, and other stage shows in New York and Las Vegas. Before joining Feld in 1997, I had never been out of the United States. In less than four years, I toured 90 cities in 18 countries on 3 continents.

My job description is simple, but getting the job done is complex. The simple part: assembling, maintaining, and operating the lighting system for the show. The complex part involves managing a lighting system of this size. Half the size of a football field and worth \$3 million, these systems rival the largest out there. At full capacity, it requires literally miles of cable and uses enough power to light a neighborhood.

A group of six electricians toil endlessly to keep the system operating. My responsibilities include grid power and data distribution, console operation and programming, and working as a moving light repair technician. As the lead assistant, I am also responsible for keeping track of schedules and assistants' assignments.

## **...The life I love is makin' music with my friends...**

People ask if I know everyone on tour and if I develop relationships on the road. With about 100 people on tour (including skaters, technicians, managerial staff, and concession vendors), it's like taking an enormous family trip. For the most part, we all hang out together. Whether sightseeing or hitting a club with a large group, there is always something to do with friends. Since we are so transient and rarely at home for more than a few weeks at a time, it's difficult to develop friendships outside of the tour. But with e-mail, keeping in contact with a new friend from Sweden is as easy as keeping in touch with family at home.

I've met some of my best friends on tour, but the comfort of having 50 friends on tour with you can backfire. When working and living with the same people, the need to be alone arises. It's usually difficult to get away.

## **...And I can't wait to get on the road again.**

I don't have a typical job. I don't sit at a desk all day, or do the same thing every day, or even stay in the same place. It may sound like an eight-month vacation, but I'll defend that what I do is a real job and hard work. One may think that having a job on the road means paid expenses, provided meals, and plenty of sightseeing, all the while making scads of money.

I have to pay for my own accommodations, nearly as much as anyone living in an apartment; but I'll live in a tiny hotel room with another person. The hardest thing about this job is living out of a suitcase, in a different room every week. As comedian George Carlin said, "Why do you always feel uncomfortable when staying away from home? Because it's NOT YOUR STUFF!"

Working seven days, 70-80 hours per week is normal. Heavier weeks require over 100 hours. This schedule runs for eight months, with no more than two days off at a time. On a recent Japanese tour, our crew went 18 weeks with three days off. Only a couple of meals are provided per week, proving that there's really no such thing as a free lunch!

### **Insisting that the world be turnin' our way...**

Why do I keep doing it? I love my job. It offers variety, challenge, and chances to see different cultures. It makes a person grow, learning to appreciate what he has, and, at the same time, learning to value new things.

But getting work done in some places can be difficult. In the Philippines, those hired to help assemble the show were migrant workers receiving \$2 a day. Most showed up barefoot—to work on an ice floor! In Scotland, fire safety was such an issue that the building managers refused to allow anyone into the building until the show began. When faced with the question of how a show could spontaneously start, they agreed to allow the crew in to set up. Then they told us we couldn't use our props inside the building because they were fire hazards. We turned the tables, asking why they were smoking inside—we never got an answer.



worked, how it connected to the system, and how it was controlled. Over the next year, I worked on eight more shows.

During the summer after my ninth-grade year, I had a chance to put what I had learned to the test. Temple Brown '81 had been working on the lighting for the production of *Fiddler on the Roof* but then left for another project. I took over, watched rehearsals, and decided how each scene should be lit. Before long, I had hung every available light and started setting the looks for each scene.

By eleventh grade, I was responsible for every show's lighting. Before long, instead of being *told* what to do, I was being *asked* what to do. I went a long way from my projected career path—in seventh grade Mr. Saunders told me that I would end up pumping gas. But he and Mr. Eikner had become my mentors.

After MUS, I attended Auburn University and continued to work with theatre. After a short stint as an engineering major, I changed my major to theatre production.

I gained knowledge of larger systems with a job as a technical director and production manager for the University Program Council. UPC provided a great opportunity to work with major performers such as Carrot Top, Reba McEntire, and Pink Floyd. There I learned the intricacies of setting up and operating large lighting systems.

When I graduated in 1997, I knew that I wanted a career in theatrical lighting, but I had to find a place to start. I had not secured a job by graduation and planned to work at Auburn until something came along. Weeks later, that something came in the form of a chance encounter that led me to Feld Entertainment.

Someday I hope to end up in the southeast working in a lighting production company, eventually moving on to freelance designing and programming.

I was recently asked whether I thought MUS had prepared me for this type of work. No class could have given me the knowledge to perform my job any better, but what I did get from MUS was invaluable: the ability to think. Schools teach facts, but few go deep enough to teach students how to use those facts to derive final concepts, to think ahead, and to stop problems before they occur. There is a distinct division between people who only look at the present issue and the few who look at the big picture. MUS taught me to look for the big picture.

I only wish they'd taught me the organizational skills needed to pack my suitcase for the next tour! 



### **...And our way is on the road again.**

Curiosity led me to my career. From the time I was young, I was interested in lights—how they worked and how they were used. I played with light switches and flashlights, anything I could get my hands on.

At MUS, I began actually working with lights. After my first disappointing experience, I became immersed in theatre during the production of *My Fair Lady*, spending every afternoon at rehearsals with a watchful eye.

By my ninth-grade year, I started helping Bryan McCarty '93, the "lighting guy." During this time I learned how each light

# VARIETY ON STAGE



## EVITA

In March, Rice and Webber's rock opera was performed before three audiences eager to experience the rise and fall of the "original pop icon 'material girl.'" Philip Eikner '77, the opera's director, successfully produced an epic show based on his assessment that *Evita* was "far from the traditional Broadway musical comedy. *Evita* is musical tragedy." The chronicle of Eva Peron's life and death was grand in scope with assured, powerful performances by long-time MUS actors **Justin Willingham '01** as Che and **Harrison Ford '01** as Juan Peron. The central role of Eva Peron was convincingly portrayed and beautifully sung by Morgan Scott, a senior from White Station High School. **Adam Delconte '02** was appropriately sleazy as Magaldi, the tango singer who gives Eva her first "break," while Mallory Tacker (Hutchison), as



The Spring 2001 MUST C Productions of *Evita* and *Rumors* and the summer alumni production of *A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum* offered

playgoers three distinctly different and exhilarating theatrical evenings.

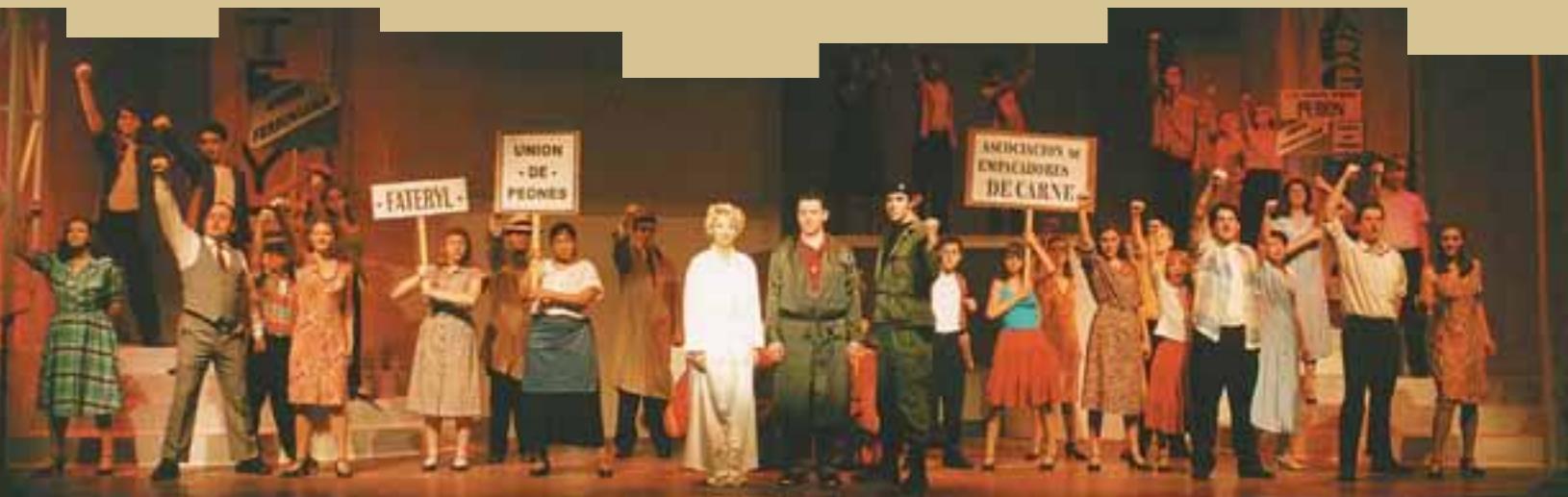
Peron's mistress, delivered a haunting rendition of "another suitcase in another hall," one of the show's musical highlights.

Effectively representing the people of Argentina in a myriad of roles were Rebecca Baer, Morgan Beckford, **Mark Carney '01**, Julie Chase,

**Alex Chinn '05**, Austin Chu '04, Carly Crawford, Adam Ellis '02, Ansley Fones, **Chris Freeman '05**, Laurence Goodwin, **Houston Hagewood '03**, Kenny Hickman '02, Phil Janowicz '01, Nicole Jordan, Matt Kidd '02, Polly Klyce, **Walter Klyce '06**, Adam Lazarov '02, Parker Long '06, Allison Lyons, Taylor Maury '06, **JK Minervini '03**, Maddi Moore, Jessie Moskovitz, Elspeth Runyon, Allie Schifani, Evelyn Wade, and **Eric Wilson '05**.

The production was designed by Andy Saunders with dynamic choreography provided by Kimberly Baker.

Others in the large technical staff include the stage manager **Christian Schmitt '01** and light board operator **Kevin Hollinger '04**.





# RUMORS

**Justin Willingham and Christian Schmitt** used the opportunity available to MUST C seniors and produced their own show, Neil Simon's *Rumors*, in May.

The plot of this hilarious farce is convoluted, but the complications attendant upon Charley shooting himself in the ear just before an anniversary party he and Myra are giving for their closest friends provided a hysterically funny evening for those watching this Neil Simon hit. Proving they could handle the demands of pace and timing necessary for farce were Willingham and Laurence Goodwin as Ken and Chris Gorman, **Harrison Ford** and Caroline Fourmy as Lenny and Claire Ganz, **Adam Delconte** and **Phil Janowicz** as Cookie and Ernie Cusack, and **Kenny Hickman** and Evelyn Wade as Glen and Cassie Cooper. Finishing the cast were **Conor Quinn '03** and Lindsey Coates as Officers Welch and Poodney and Polly Klyce and Walter Kee who provided the voices of Myra and Charley.

Neil Simon's sparkling dialogue and sharp one-liners were deftly delivered by this experienced cast, while Adam Delconte's performance in drag as Cookie was a MUST C highlight. Congratulations to Willingham, Schmitt, and the cast and crew for a memorable senior play!





## COMEDY LAST NIGHT

A funny thing happened on the way to the forum: The play was cancelled.

Well, maybe that wasn't so funny. But then the production was revived. Now THAT was funny.

When Memphis University School Theater Company's Alumni Summer Theater (MUSTCAST) tried in summer 2000 to mount the 1962 Broadway hit *A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum*, rehearsals halted after only two weeks. Unforeseen changes in campus reconstruction plans left Hyde Chapel amidst fields of concrete and asphalt rubble. The show was postponed until summer 2001 when it played to gleeful audiences at six performances, June 28 through July 7.

*Forum* is a wacky confection of Plautine Roman comedy, vaudeville farce, and Broadway musical. It depicts the convoluted schemes of Pseudolus, a Roman slave, to win his freedom by uniting his young master, Hero, with a beautiful young courtesan named Philia, who is already promised to the arrogant



soldier Miles Gloriosus. The music and lyrics by Stephen Sondheim, and script by Burt Shevelove and Larry Gelbart, are full of ribald, inane, clownish, knockabout slapstick.

The able cast included: **Adam Delconte** (Lycus), Choya Holter (Gymnasia), **Dan Johnson '75** (Erronius), Dara Newberry (Vibrata), Evelyn Wade (Gemina), Jim Eikner (Senex), John Hemphill (Pseudolus), **Justin Willingham** (Hero), **Kenny Hickman** (Protean), Laurence Goodwin (Panacea), Lillian Askew (Philia), **Matt Kidd** (Protean), Melissa Thompson (Tintinabula), Morgan Scott (Gemina), **Paul Murray '97** (Miles Gloriosus), **Phil Janowicz** (Protean), Shawn Kelly (Hysterium), Sheri Panitz (Domina), and **Will Hickman '05** (Protean).

The production staff consisted of: **Flip Eikner** (Director), Andy Saunders (Technical Director), Michael Meeks (Music Director), John Hiltonsmith (Vocal Director), Kimberly Baker (Choreographer), Annabeth Novitzki and Caroline Fourmy (Costumes), and R. Shawn Kelly (Sound Design).

## COMING ATTRACTION



**Hyde Chapel**  
**November 8-10 • 7:30 p.m.**

This satirical musical has fun with Agatha Christie's murder mysteries and the musical styles of her era. Ten people are stranded in an isolated English country manor during a thunderstorm. One by one they are dispatched by "fiendishly clever devices." Call 260-1300 for tickets.

# ENTREPRENEURS RECOGNIZED

The Society of Entrepreneurs, founded in 1991 to foster the development of the entrepreneurial spirit, recognized the contributions of several MUS alumni and friends at the Ninth Annual Dinner and Awards Banquet held at the Pink Palace Museum on May 12, 2001.

The organization's purpose is to promote the general welfare of the community, to further the public good, and to further education in Tennessee. To achieve this aim, the society creates, develops, and implements community programs that recognize and encourage the efforts of entrepreneurs on a local and national level.

Membership is comprised of Mid-South business owners, presidents, and other key executives. Members are chosen annually by their peers and must be mature entrepreneurs who exhibit a high standard of personal and professional character.



Billy Dunavant welcomes Henry Morgan '61 as a new member of The Society of Entrepreneurs.



Buzzy Hussey is officially inducted into the Society of Entrepreneurs by Vice President L.R. Jalenak, Jr.



Barbara and Pitt Hyde '61



After receiving induction into the society, Bayard Boyle, Jr. visits with Allen Morgan '60.



Joel Fulmer '67, Rusty Bloodworth '63, and Kathy Fulmer attend in support of Boyle Investment Company's President Henry Morgan '61 and Chairman Bayard Boyle, Jr.



J.R. "Pitt" Hyde III '61 accepts the Entrepreneur Hall of Honor Award presented by Willard Sparks. The award is made from a piece of marble from the Pink Palace Mansion, former home of Memphis' legendary entrepreneur, Clarence Saunders.



Gloria Folk,  
society  
member  
Humphrey  
Folk, and  
Lela Bellows



Frank Norfleet congratulates the 2001 recipient of the Master Entrepreneur Award, S. Herbert Rhea.



Hugh and  
Pam Boone,  
MUS Parents'  
Association  
chairs



## Like Father, Like Son

Can you match these seniors from the Class of 2001 with their MUS legacy? See photo challenge on page 37.

Front Row: Hank Sullivant, Russell Bloodworth, Paul McClure, Nicholas Alissandratos, Harvey Kay;

Back Row: Sam Wilson, Jay Curtis, Bond Hopkins, Dominic Treadwell, Ben Adams, McKee Humphreys, Paul Gillespie

Not Pictured: Kip Gordon, Jim Sayle

## MUS TODAY

The Magazine of Memphis University School  
6191 Park Avenue, Memphis, TN 38119-5399

Address Service Requested

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

Parents Only: If this issue is addressed to your son who no longer maintains his **permanent address** at your home, please notify the MUS Development Office of the new mailing address. Because college addresses change so frequently, we are unable to use them for general mailing.