

# MUS

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**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.

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Ellis L. Haguewood

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**From the Editor**

“At MUS, not only do we teach our boys, we teach them to give something back.” Even though we wrote this as advertising copy, it is an axiom we live by here at Memphis University School. Price Morrison’s (1975 Honor Council President) inspiring message at the Red & Blue Society induction last spring (of which excerpts appear in this issue of the magazine) addresses the time-honored tradition of service at MUS. We give our boys a lot — a great education, strong support, and a chance for emotional and intellectual growth.

In return, we expect and encourage these young men to take a continuing interest in the school and in the communities in which they live. Our students are not shut away in their own little world; they firmly believe in service to others. From fundraising for a variety of causes, to our continued involvement with inner-city school New Hope Christian Academy, to hosting a new summer camp for less-advantaged young boys, MUS students willingly donate their time and efforts to make Memphis a better place.

There are no better role models for service to others than Price’s parents, Buddy and Ruth Morrison, who are featured on our cover. As parents of alumni and among the school’s most generous contributors, along with Buddy’s past chairmanship of the Board of Trustees and over twenty years of service as a trustee and honorary board member, the Morrises continue to show their love for MUS by their significant participation in the Doors to New Opportunities capital campaign. The new courtyard will be named in honor of Buddy through a generous contribution from his family.

You will also want to read how alumni Marc MacMillan '92, John Sartelle '92, Jim Burnett '83, Craig Christenbury '83, Drew Harris '83, Scott Rose '82, and Kevin Parker '84 serve MUS by volunteering their time as coaches for our Lower School sports teams, imparting the important lessons of teamwork, commitment, and responsibility to one another — lessons they learned years ago as students at MUS. Robert Davis '82 also believes in service by providing television viewers with entertaining stories to help them make sense of medical news. Read about his successful PBS show *HealthWeek* and how it contributes to consumer education.

I hope you enjoy this issue of *MUS Today* and look forward to hearing from you. You can contact me by e-mail at [dlazarov@musowls.org](mailto:dlazarov@musowls.org) or by calling 901-260-1416.

**Debbie B. Lazarov**

Director of Public Relations



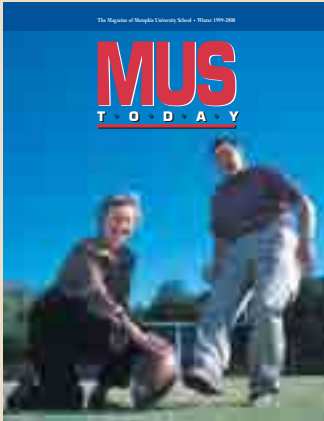
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# MUS TODAY contents



On the cover: MUS fans Ruth and Buddy Morrison prove once again they are always in the spirit. See article page 2.

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# The Morrisons

## True Blue and Red to MUS

by Helen Watkins Norman

“Do you have a boy on the team?” a parent asked, gesturing toward the basketball court and the contingent of MUS players dressed out for that night’s game.

“They’re all my boys,” drawled Buddy Morrison, seated beside his wife Ruth, the only other out-of-state fan who had logged as many MUS game-miles that season as he had. “Every MUS boy is my boy.”

Kent Wunderlich ’66, who recounted this story, doesn’t recall which team MUS played that night or even the year in which the exchange occurred. But he does know Morrison meant what he said. In their giving and their living, Ruth and William P. “Buddy” Morrison continue to demonstrate their love of Memphis University School and its boys.

The Morrisons provided the lead gift for the school’s much-needed J.J. McCaughan Science Center, which opened in 1980. It was named in memory of Mrs. Morrison’s father, a Memphis physician who single-handedly raised Ruth and her brother and sister after the death of his wife. Buddy Morrison and his sons established the Ruth McCaughan Morrison Endowed Chair of Chemistry in Ruth’s honor in 1984. And recently the family made their largest commitment to date with a pledge to the Doors to New Opportunities Campaign for Memphis University School, which aims to raise \$15 million. The

new Upper School Courtyard will be named in honor of Buddy Morrison through his family’s generous contribution.

In terms of outright gifts — contributions to MUS while the donor is still alive — no other individual or family has given more generously to the school than the Morrisons.

Equally impressive is the Morrisons’ personal involvement in MUS. The couple still attends every home football and basketball game and an occasional away game, despite living in Earle, Arkansas, about forty-five miles from MUS, and despite no longer having children who attend the school. Their sons, William Price Jr. ’75 and Joseph McCaughan ’78, graduated years ago. (Price is an attorney with the Memphis law firm of Martin Tate Morrow and Marston; Joe is an investment advisor and co-founder of Wallace-Morrison Capital Advisors in Mem-



RUTH AND BUDDY MORRISON

phis. Their oldest son, John, who attended The McCallie School in Chattanooga, runs the family’s farming interests in Earle.)

“We’ve put a lot of miles on our car,” Morrison concedes. During football season the couple also travels to Nashville for Vanderbilt’s home games. Morrison, his brother Gene, and sons Price and Joe all attended Vanderbilt.

Morrison also served on the MUS Board of Trustees from 1976 to 1995. He was chairman of the board from 1983 to 1988 and in 1995 was named an honorary board member.

“Ruth and Buddy Morrison’s dedication to MUS is outstanding,” said Kent Wunderlich, who succeeded Morrison as board chairman. Wunderlich praised Morrison’s years on the board: “He had the ability to articulate what the school is all about. He was an excellent salesman for the school.”

Morrison is also a convincing spokesman for hard work, the kind that transports people to the top of their game or profession. In a speech he delivered to MUS students in chapel ten years ago, Morrison shared what would seem a personal axiom: “Good, better, best. Let us never rest until our good is better and our better best.”

It was 1969 when the Morrisons’ middle son, Price, enrolled at MUS as a seventh grader. Their oldest son, John, was attending The McCallie School, a Chattanooga boarding school for boys that Buddy had attended. But the Morrisons were not ready to have a second child leave home for boarding school. They decided instead to enroll him at MUS.

They were attracted to MUS in part by Ruth Morrison’s long-standing friendship with Halcyon Lynn, the wife of then Headmaster Ross Lynn. They also believed MUS would provide an excellent foundation for their sons’ future success and happiness.

But matriculation meant a major lifestyle change. Instead of requiring their sons commute to MUS from their home in Earle, the Morrisons set up a second residence in Memphis close to the school. They built a house, and for more than ten years Buddy Morrison drove back and forth to Earle every day to run the family farm he jointly owned with his brother Gene.



At one point the Morrisons farmed 10,000 acres, 3,000 of them in Earle and 7,000 in an area seventy-five miles west of Earle. They grew cotton and processed it in their own gin; but they eventually got out of cotton, sold the gin, and shifted to growing wheat, soybeans, and rice.

Morrison retired from active farming after bypass surgery seven years ago. Except for 2,000 acres still farmed by son John, most of the family's agricultural holdings are now rented out to others to cultivate. Morrison nonetheless has an office in Earle and regularly checks on the property.

Morrison's career has also included banking and civic involvement. He served as a director on several bank boards in West Memphis and Earle, Arkansas, and Winchester and Athens, Tennessee; but in the mid-'80s, he sold his interest in the banks. He also has served as chairman of the Earle Housing Authority, president of the Crittenden County Farm Bureau, and as a member of the St. Francis Levee Board Commission in West Memphis and the Mississippi River Parkway Commission.

"I never intended to come back to Earle," says Morrison, who served in the Navy during World War II and then enrolled at Vanderbilt. His plan was to become an engineer. "My father died when I was in college at Vanderbilt in 1947. I felt that I needed to come back to Earle to help my brother manage the family affairs." He never found the chance to return to Vanderbilt.

He met Ruth McCaughan at a Cotton Carnival party. They married in 1950 and began raising a family.

Today the Morrisons live in an established, tree-lined Earle neighborhood, reminiscent of many small Southern towns. The Methodist church, which his father helped build and in which he and Ruth are active members, stands at the head of the street; the town's former school stands vacant a few blocks away, replaced by more modern facilities on the outskirts of town.

In 1982 the Morrisons moved into Buddy's childhood home, a comfortable, unpretentious, two-story structure of buff-colored crab orchard stone and dark-stained wood. The contents of the house reflect the couple's interests. Ruth's needlepoint creations emerge in the form of pillows and chair cushions throughout the house along with pictures of the couple's three sons, their wives, and twelve grandchildren. "Our children and grandchildren are the joy of our lives," Ruth Morrison notes. The family room is full of cherished mementos, including the black MUS chair given to Morrison in appreciation of his many years on the board.

"When I went on the (MUS) board, I decided I was going to be the best board member I could be," says Morrison. He called it "one of the most rewarding experiences of my life" to be associated with those serving on the board at the time, people of the "very highest caliber." He notes with a smile his two initial goals — to learn all the faculty's names and the words to the alma mater.

More important, however, he learned about the school's needs and dreams. Chief among them at the time was the need to raise endowment for faculty salaries. He helped lead that campaign.

"Everybody told me, 'you can't raise money for teachers' salaries.' But we did it successfully," boasts Morrison. That campaign laid the groundwork for a faculty endowment fund that is now valued at more than \$9 million.

Jerold Omundson, past chairman of the MUS Science Department and 27-year faculty veteran, noted that Morrison's and the board's leadership in establishing a faculty endowment fund was "key in moving MUS to the strong academic school it is today." He also commended the Morrisons for their role in building the science center in 1980. The J.J. McCaughan Center, he explains, allowed for the "exchange of ideas and cross-teaching in the sciences," which helped improve the sciences at MUS.

"(Morrison) is a very conscientious individual, a man of strong ethics and integrity," notes Omundson. His sons, Price and Joe, are of a similar character. Both were outstanding students, deeply involved in the school and its activities."

MUS Headmaster Ellis Haguewood adds his own assessment: "The thing that characterizes Buddy Morrison is his intense feeling and love. His heart gets involved. He's one of the most generous people I know. And that's true of Ruth, too. You cannot separate the two of them."

Buddy Morrison likewise credits his wife's example: "Ruth is the most giving somebody I've ever known."

Of their combined generosity, Morrison added, "I've never given anything that didn't come back to me many fold. Whether it was to my friends, my church, my family, or MUS, the gift comes back...often in the satisfaction that you have done something good or worthwhile. Ruth and I have gotten a lot of satisfaction from sharing what we have been blessed to have." 🦋



# Headmaster's Message

by Ellis Haguewood



Part of our ongoing mission at Memphis University School will always be to develop well-rounded young men of strong moral character, consistent with the school's Christian tradition. In other words, we would like our boys to leave us seeking to serve, not seeking to be served.

In part, such a task must involve opportunities for boys to serve in the community and training in how to serve effectively. We know from the history of Memphis that our alumni will become men who lead and serve this community in heroic ways far disproportionate to their number. All areas of philanthropic Memphis have been enhanced by MUS alumni – the Arts Council, the Zoo, MIFA, Boys Club, the Civil Rights Museum, Brooks, Dixon, United Way, and on and on.

Having a heart for service begins at home, but the school can reinforce the desire

by offering a dynamic civic-service program. Through money-raisers for charity, like the annual Talent Show, pizza sales, and car washes, our boys learn to work for others. Through volunteer efforts for the Oak Hall Run for St. Jude or participation in New Hope Christian Academy's carnival or blood donated to a community bank or cans brought for the Food Bank or coats given for those without them, our boys learn that they have an obligation to help others that comes with our common humanity.

Gratitude for our blessings, a grateful heart, is the key. A sense of our own entitlement is the enemy. What we would hope is that our boys eventually learn to ask, "What does life expect of me?" rather than "What can I expect from life?"

One of the greatest axioms of life is that we never help another person without helping ourselves. What a powerful lesson if we learn it early on in life!

Year after year, MUS provides students with opportunities to serve the community.



Donating to the Memphis Food Bank, 1994



Collecting sports equipment for donation to children in need, 1995



Giving to Lifeblood, 1996



Performing in the annual Talent Show (proceeds go to charity), 1996





# Students Take the Lead in Community Service

One of the goals of MUS is to instill the desire to make a positive difference in the community. Community service activities, under the leadership of the MUS Civic Service Committee, are the means by which our students pursue that goal. With the start of school, the Civic Service Committee anticipated another successful year of community service. The committee actually began as early as June with a car wash. And only two weeks into the semester, the new crew of officers, executives, and student advisors had completed their first project, hosting on the MUS campus the annual American Heart Association Heart Walk, which was a huge success.


This year's leadership contains a blend of seasoned veterans and rookies, all of whom make for an earnest and capable bunch. Officers include chairman David Wurzburg, vice-chairman of fund raising Ben Adams, vice-chairman of special projects Ravi Bellur, vice-chairman of finance Michael Liverance, and Dan Machin, vice-chairman of weekly projects. Additionally, five executives from each grade contribute ideas to the organization and relay information to the student body. Most important, the officers

and executives have the task of leading the school with their enthusiastic spirit of volunteerism and commitment to community service.

The Civic Service Committee has so far this semester contributed manpower to the MIFA Golf Tournament, the Juvenile Diabetes Foundation Walk, the Pink Palace Crafts Fair, and the Neighborhood School Carnival. Currently the committee is collecting gifts for Angels of Love, selling Christmas trees, and leading a coat drive



Junior Ben Adams helps New Hope student climb into her seat for a ride at the school's carnival.

among students. The committee also is initiating what it hopes will be an ongoing relationship with New Hope Christian Academy. 



Price Morrison '75 addressed the tradition of service at MUS in his message at the Red and Blue Society Induction on April 30, 1999. His purpose was to encourage the boys to think about service and how it relates to each of them. Following are excerpts from his speech.

**“...true service is motivated not out of a desire to advance ourselves — to make us look good or feel good — but service is motivated by gratitude.**

“If we had a proper appreciation for the countless gifts we have been given and how undeserving we are, we would be irresistibly drawn to share those gifts with others. Service flows from a grateful heart. This is a principle which Col. Lynn understood well. He taught many life lessons from this podium. His speaking style was not animated. He spoke in a monotone, often with his head down, but his words were always filled with wisdom. I can still hear him saying, ‘MUS exists only because of the generosity of others.’ The message was clear — we should be grateful for the gifts we were enjoying as MUS students. He reminded us of this fact over and over again.

“...You show me a man with a grateful spirit, and I will show you a man who has a positive outlook on life and much to share with others — a man who has a sincere desire to serve others. On the other hand, you show me a man who has an ungrateful spirit, and I will show you an unhappy man who thinks the world

(continued on page 6)



Fundraising for local charities by selling Christmas trees and wreaths, 1997



Hosting the annual Oak Hall-St. Jude Run, 1998



Cleaning up downtown property for Memphis City Beautiful Commission, 1999

(continued from page 5)

owes him something, who is not able to serve others because he is too busy trying to be served.

“...Why is it important for us to serve? It is important because a life of service is a full and rewarding life....”

“I will close by telling you about a person whose life was short but personified this type of quiet service. Jim Gannon was my eighth-grade basketball coach. He graduated from MUS in 1966. You may want to go take a look at his class picture in the hall next door. Jim was a good guy, popular with his classmates — the type of guy who probably would have been inducted into the Red and Blue Society. Although he was not big, 5'10", 160 pounds, he was a gifted athlete in track and basketball. In his senior year at MUS, he was an All County Basketball player and was named MVP in the Knights of Columbus Tournament in which MUS upset Treadwell, which was ranked No. 1 in the state. I have been told that win was arguably MUS's biggest upset ever. After MUS, Jim went to Lambuth and then Southwestern (now Rhodes), where he continued his outstanding athletic career. At Southwestern, he was captain of both the basketball and track teams. He was named the Best Defensive Player of the basketball team and was named MVP at every major track meet his senior year.

“Jim was a generous person. During his senior year at Southwestern, his fraternity named him its Man of the Year and gave him a \$200 cash award. Jim, although he did not come from a wealthy family, promptly gave half of the money to a needy family and returned the other half to the fraternity treasury. Jim's life dream was to coach. After college, he returned to MUS in the fall of 1970 to coach under Coach Peters and to teach. By the time school started that fall, Coach Gannon had been diagnosed with terminal cancer, but that didn't keep him from fulfilling his dream. I had the good fortune of being a member of the eighth-grade



Jim Gannon '66,  
gifted athlete



basketball team he coached that year. He was a fiery coach, very excitable. He was the type of coach who would go to the mat for his team. We were crazy about him, and he seemed to enjoy us also. Our team was very successful — 22-1, losing one game by one point in overtime. During the season, as we celebrated our team's success, we had no idea that Coach Gannon was sick.

“In July of the following summer, I was in a car wreck and was hospitalized for several days. While I was in the hospital, I received this get-well card from Coach Gannon. On it, he wrote a personal note. About one month later in August, we received the news that Coach Gannon had died. After the basketball season, his cancer had progressed quickly and taken his life.

“Let me read (from a memorial in *The Owl's Hoot* in the fall of 1971): ‘Mr. Jim Gannon was many things — a courageous athlete, an inspiring leader, an excellent coach and teacher, and a person who affected others in a special way. But Coach Gannon was more than the sum of these qualities; he had an attribute which is often discussed but rarely found. More than anything else, Jim Gannon was a winner. Most of his fame came from winning games, but his true greatness was his ability to win people. Although he received many honors and awards in high school and college, he remarked several days before his death that the year he taught and coached at MUS was the happiest year of his life.


In 1971, the eighth-grade basketball team, coached by Gannon, made its mark as one of the best eighth-grade teams in MUS history, winning all but one game during regular season action and taking the championship of a three-game, post-season tournament: (standing) Coach Gannon, Gregg Drew, John Edwards, Pat Mason, Al Haltom, Price Morrison, Keith Barton, Bill Allen, Chip Pursell, Will Morgan; (kneeling) Sam Lewis, Putter Robbins, Wiley Robinson, Bruce Bolton, Albert Jones, and Alex Seagle.



As an MUS seventh-grade geography teacher, Gannon was popular with the students.

He was happiest, not when people were rewarding him, but when he was rewarding others. Let us grieve his untimely death, but let us also be thankful for the fact that he lived and showed us that giving is better than taking, and doing things well is better than doing things poorly. The lesson to be learned from his life is that, in the final analysis, it is not the length of life that is most important but the quality of that existence.”

“Gentlemen, this was the life of a man who knew how to serve others....”

“His service was quiet and unassuming....His get-well card to me was a powerful symbol....I hope that you and I will learn from Coach Gannon's example and the example of others like him.” 



# New Camp Reaches Outward

One of the most significant projects the Civic Service Committee has undertaken was the development of the MUS Outreach Summer Camp that was instituted this past summer. From the first day of camp, the contagious laughter and spontaneous smiles made all the planning and expense worthwhile. Plans for MUS to extend good will to the larger Memphis community were realized in our first day camp for inner city youth. The fourth and fifth grade boys of Alonzo Locke Elementary were invited to a special week of day camp held June 21-25, 1999, at MUS. The youngsters were showered with attention by a staff of exceptionally caring student counselors. Working in tandem, students Greg Szu-Tu and Jonathan Dunavant, Michael Hollinger and Michael McLaren, Justin Monday and Kyser Thompson, Harvey Kay and David Wurzburg shared meals, mentored, and developed relationships with the campers.

## Dawn's Early Light

Each morning began with a bus ride in the school's new 25-passenger bus. Two counselors rode to meet the campers who were eagerly waiting outside their school on St. Paul Street near Cleaborn Homes. By 8:30 a.m. the bus arrived at the Clack Dining Hall where a home-cooked breakfast, prepared by Bridgette Christopoulos of Sodexo-Marriott, was warm and waiting. After breakfast, the counselors spent time with the guys working on posters, skits, and raps to reinforce positive character traits.

## Fun with a Purpose

The developer of the program, Mrs. Nancy Sissman, principal at Locke Elementary, provided support and guidance. Following her recommendation, the academic concentration for the camp focused on chemistry. Mr. Jerrold Omundson, MUS Science Chairman Emeritus, had students begging for encores after crushing heated soda cans in an ice bath thanks to regular old air pressure. Using acid-base indicators, white "roses" turned red, and the children made "lava lamp" bottles with food coloring and immiscible liquids. Mrs. Lillie T. Akins with the National Science Teachers Association spent time with the campers and introduced polymer chemistry, water decontamination, and catalyzed reactions (very frothy). The teachers created very special discovery experiences, and the boys looked cool in their goggles and aprons.

## Body and Spirit

After working the brains, time for action. Before lunch, Coach Bobby Alston spent time instructing the skills of football. After a little practice, teams were formed and counselors cheered as touch football games and competitive drills heated up. Each session ended with a knee football contest with counselors vs. campers. (The counselors were routinely trashed!)

Following lunch, character development was highlighted. Taking examples from the Beatitudes and Locke bulletin boards, from the fruits of the Spirit to challenges from the inner-city neighborhood, the young men were encouraged to evaluate what it means to grow up healthy and whole.

In the afternoons, Coach Jerry Peters took charge of the basketball session. With Michael McLaren leading warm-ups and demonstrating ball-handling drills, the campers learned numerous ways to improve their game. Team shooting competitions and games rounded out the sessions. Toward the end of the week, the campers were much more aware of the importance of teamwork, thanks in large part to the guidance of Coach Peters and the counselors.

Finally, Scott Elliott, recreation minister at Grace Evangelical Church and former Ole Miss cheerleader, volunteered his expertise to teach gymnastics. His confidence and competence had campers and counselors daring and accomplishing more than they had imagined. Watching youngsters' willingness to accept new challenges means seeing growth before your eyes.

## Aqua Vita

The day ended with a swim at the Quince YMCA. The joy on the faces of the boys as they jumped on counselors and played in the pool will remain one of the most enduring memories of camp. Watching someone previously afraid to leave the pool's edge actually swimming by week's end as a result of instruction and encouragement warms the heart. After the refreshing hour came time to pry kids out of the pool and head for home.

Not only did the campers learn from their experience at the weeklong camp, the counselors felt that they had a memorable experience as well. The MUS students believe that they learned as much, if not more, from the campers than they had imparted. The Civic Service Committee has decided to make as one of its yearly goals the financing of the MUS Outreach Summer Camp.





## Alumnus Finds

# Prescription for Success in PBS's *HealthWeek*

by Helen Watkins Norman

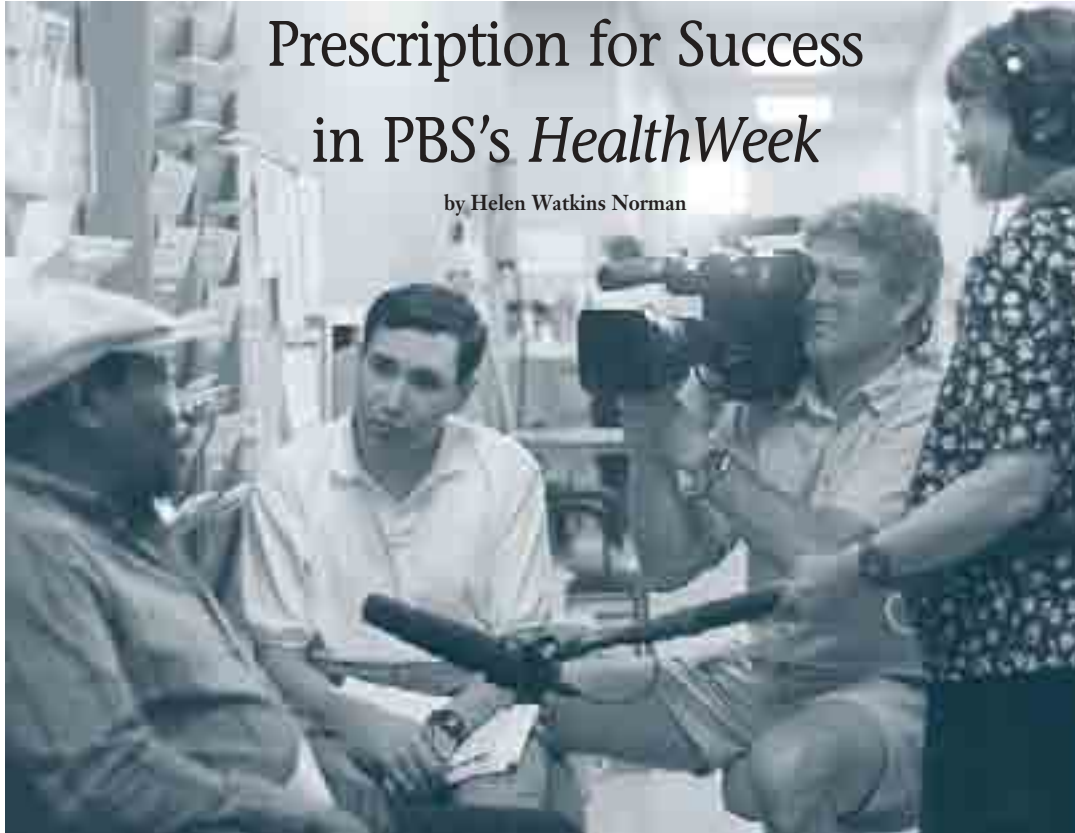


Photo courtesy of Island Pocket

Robert Davis and camera crew prepare an interview for *HealthWeek*.

Oversimplified medical news delivered out-of-context may be hazardous to your health. That is the conclusion, at least, of television producer and reporter Robert Davis '82 and the reason he helped launch the trend-breaking PBS television program *HealthWeek*.

Davis, a 1982 honors graduate of Memphis University School, is the executive producer for *HealthWeek*, a half-hour weekly consumer health news program which premiered in May 1997. The award-winning show currently airs on more than 270 Public Broadcasting System stations around the country including Memphis' WKNO-TV, which broadcasts the show at 8:30 a.m. Sundays. *HealthWeek* provides in-depth coverage of topics ranging from managed care to fitness and nutrition to mental illness to new treatments for diseases.

"One of the reasons I was excited to work on this show was my feeling in the past that the news media generally do a poor job of covering health information," said Davis. "To explain a compli-

cated medical study in ten seconds is a disservice to viewers. It just makes them more confused."

Davis helped create *HealthWeek* from what he calls "an amorphous concept." The show covers four to five stories in each weekly program, giving viewers not only information but also the context in which to understand that information. Davis produces the show, overseeing everything from the hiring of staff to the editing of scripts, and he often serves as an on-air correspondent.

*HealthWeek* tries to help people make sense of the medical news. Davis told of a recent study which suggested that fiber does not decrease one's risk of colon cancer, a finding that seems to run counter to previous studies. Instead of reporting on the study's results, *HealthWeek* focused on how these studies come about and why so many medical studies seem to contradict each other.

"We try to help people interpret and understand the information they're getting," said Davis, "especially when we're covering the week's medical news."

The show also deals with sensitive issues like disabilities, anorexia, sexual dysfunction, and cancer, a challenge when it comes to finding people willing to go on the air to discuss their problems. “Two years ago,” said Davis, “comedian Rodney Dangerfield talked to us about his lifelong battle with depression. It was the first TV interview he’d done on the subject. He chose to do it with us because he thought we’d handle it sensitively and fairly.”

But health isn’t always serious business, according to Davis. *HealthWeek* injects a bit of fun into every program. Davis described the show’s coverage of a study that found “people sit longer in their parking spots if another car is waiting, and even longer yet if the waiting driver honks.” Then there was the piece on a fellow who laughed so hard watching the TV show *Seinfeld*, he always passed out.

*HealthWeek* is based in Washington, D.C., and produced by Newsweek Productions which, in turn, is owned by the Washington Post Company. With a full-time staff of fifteen journalists and another twenty-five freelance reporters and producers around the nation, the show can devote the time and attention that health news requires, Davis believes. It has an audience today of about two million viewers.

One member of his staff is alumnus Dr. Bruce Dan, who attended MUS in the late 1950s to early 1960s, although he did not stay to graduate. Dan was hired by Davis to be the show’s resident physician. He does a short segment on-air called “The Doctor’s Corner” and reports on some of the quirkiest medical stories. “He’s a medical journalist I had admired for years,” said Davis. “I didn’t know till later (in my career) that he had gone to MUS.”

Davis was attracted to medical journalism, in part, because of its broad focus and its importance in our day-to-day lives. “Health news is unique because it’s information you apply to your own life,” he said. “You often take actions based on something you’ve read or heard in the media: you eat something, you don’t eat something; you go to the doctor, you don’t go to the doctor; you ask for a certain drug or a certain treatment. There aren’t many other kinds of news that have this kind of personal impact on you.”

Davis got his start in medical journalism following his graduation *summa cum laude* from Princeton and a year of postgraduate work at Stanford Medical School’s Center for Research and Disease Prevention. Davis described his first major job search: “I wrote letters to everybody that I could find who was in medical journalism. CNN just happened to have a position open for a researcher.”

Within two months at the Cable News Network, he was offered a job as associate producer. From there he assumed the posts of producer and reporter for CNN. He worked full time for the network for three years, earning his master’s degree in public health at Emory in his free time.

Davis did not stop his education there, however. He left Atlanta in 1990 with a Pew Foundation Scholarship for

a Ph.D. program in health policy offered jointly by Boston University and Brandeis. He completed the doctorate in two and a half years (most students take four or five years), simultaneously doing part-time freelance reporting for CNN in Boston.

“The hardest part of television work is getting in,” Davis explained. “Once you get in, you don’t want to leave because it’s so hard to get back in.”

With his Ph.D. in hand, Davis moved on to what was then an exciting start-up organization called Medical News Network, an initiative of Whittle Communications that brought medical TV programming directly into physicians’ offices. It was 1993-94, and Davis was hired as the show’s Washington correspondent, primarily responsible for covering the new health reform movement led by Hillary Clinton. “It was great experience in daily journalism,” said Davis.

When Whittle Communications began to fail, however, Davis left to join Time Life Medical in a medical video project headed by former Surgeon General C. Everett Koop. Davis was hired as executive editor to oversee the content and production of thirty videos which were to be distributed through pharmacies. “I worked very closely with Dr. Koop...he was very involved in the project,” said Davis. The former Memphian was also at the time working on a book about how health is covered by the media and the impact that coverage has on the public as medical consumers.

But his book project got put on hold, and Time Life had to find another executive editor. *HealthWeek* came along, and it was too good a fit and too promising an opportunity for Davis to pass up.

Although Davis had loved producing and reporting medical news, he had become frustrated in his years at



Davis with Surgeon General C. Everett Koop

CNN and Whittle with “having only two minutes — a long time on TV — to cover something very complicated.” Davis continued, “I often worried that we might confuse people more than we clarify.”

*HealthWeek* allowed him to remain involved in medical journalism, but in a way that didn’t compromise his high standards for accuracy and analysis.

“The most challenging thing about the program is making sure we get it right — doubly, triply sure that everything we say is accurate. It takes a great deal of effort every day,” said Davis, who works seven days a week in the process.

A testament to the program’s success, *HealthWeek* has won more than fifteen national awards from different organizations including a Gracie Award for women’s health



coverage. A story on a plastic surgeon and his wife who travel around the world operating on the faces of third-world children recently won a national network award from the Society of Plastic Surgeons.

Davis and his *HealthWeek* team have also produced thirty episodes of a program called Health Scope for the Discovery Health Channel. And in January, the *HealthWeek* staff will begin producing programming for The Health Network, a new cable channel owned by Fox.

“Given consumers’ growing appetite for health information and programmers’ growing need for content, I’m excited about our prospects,” said Davis.

Although *HealthWeek* has never spotlighted any MUS graduates, it has covered stories in Memphis, such as the piece on St. Jude pediatric oncologist Dr. Satch Jugal, whose own bout with childhood cancer inspired his career in that field. Another local story featured Memphis’ Dr. Scott Morris, founder of the Church Health Center. Davis was the on-air correspondent for the piece on Morris, which was part of the show’s ongoing series called “Making a Difference.” The series profiles interesting or unusual people in the field of medicine. Morris is on Davis’ short list of “most admired” people who have been featured on *HealthWeek*. So is Dr. Kenneth Cooper, the “father of aerobics,” whom Davis interviewed for an earlier *HealthWeek* segment.

Davis got his start in journalism at a very young age.

“The amazing thing about Robert is that, at least in retrospect, it seems like he has always known what he would do in life — pretty much since the days of the (Presbyterian Day School) *Press Bee*,” said his long-time friend and fellow journalist, MUS alumnus Edward Felsenthal ’84. “Even as a kid, he always liked writing and was always very good at it.” Felsenthal is an editor of the *Wall Street Journal*’s Friday leisure section, the *Weekend Journal*.

As an eighth grader Davis was recruited by MUS English teacher Terry Shelton to serve as the first editor of the lower school newspaper, *The Half Hoot*. That same year he served as anchor for the school’s internal television station, now known as WMUS, interviewing among others the inimitable Ross Lynn, MUS headmaster at the time.

“It was then that I knew I wanted to work in television,” Davis said. In ninth grade he began writing for *The Owl’s Hoot* newspaper, assuming the post of associate editor as a junior and editor as a senior. He calls his editorship “the best job I ever had.”

“It was such a challenge to create something out of nothing,” he said. “But you don’t do it yourself; you motivate and encourage others to do it.” He also praised English teacher Norman Thompson, the newspaper’s faculty advisor. “He was there to help and be supportive, but he wasn’t in our faces.”

Davis believes the emphasis on writing at MUS and the caliber of all its teachers — especially the English faculty — prepared him well for a career in the national news media. “I think they are the finest English faculty of any school in the country,” said Davis, listing some of the teachers by name: Shelton and Thompson, as well as James Russell, Lin Askew, and Ellis Haguewood. “Not only were they great teachers, but they also took an interest in me and the other students. That made a huge difference.”

Davis still remembers the time he used the phrase “is indicative of” in a paper for Mr. Shelton. The teacher wrote in the margin, “This is indicative of self importance. Ditch it.”

“That lesson, and so many others like it, have stayed with me and continue to influence the work I do every day as a journalist,” said Davis.

According to Edward Felsenthal, who like Davis formerly served as an editor of *The Owl’s Hoot*, his friend “just really knows how to communicate with clarity and insight and also with humor.”


A lot of that Davis learned from his teachers at MUS, Felsenthal maintains. “Like good journalists, they’re experts at conveying material in ways that are not only lucid and informative but somehow manage to keep the attention of two dozen teenage boys hour after hour.

“You can see some of those MUS qualities on display when you tune in to *HealthWeek*,” Felsenthal added. “In just thirty minutes the show manages to deliver a huge amount of health information in a format that’s fun to watch. And best of all, there are no tests.”

The only test for *HealthWeek*, it seems, is time. Will *HealthWeek* be around in five years? Davis cannot answer that question, although he’s convinced that there will always be a need for quality medical programming.

“Every job in TV is a ‘temp’ job,” he laughs. “I like to think the show will evolve as opportunities arise. We’re witnessing a real explosion in health information at the same time that demand for information is growing. People are being forced to deal with managed care. They have less time with their doctors and don’t have the same kind of personal relationship with their doctors as they once had. They are looking to other sources for health information like the Internet and television.”

Davis reasons that *HealthWeek* is in an enviable position with a library of 4,000 tapes, countless hours of footage, and what he describes as “the strongest staff” in medical news. “What we’ve created at *HealthWeek* is unique,” he said. “I’m excited about the potential.”

*Editor’s Note: Davis said he welcomes e-mail from classmates and faculty, and he is happy to receive story ideas as well. His e-mail address is [rdavis@newsweek.com](mailto:rdavis@newsweek.com)* 

**“It was then that I knew I wanted to work in television.”**



Davis on camera in front of Capital Hill

# A Tale of Two Countries

Seventeen students participated in the 1999 MUS summer study program, "A Tale of Two Countries." Jim Hewgley, Stuart Hutton, Ronny Kwon, Dan Machin, Omar Malik, Jay McDonald, Alston Meeks, Eric Osborne, Steve Owens, Thomas Razzouk, Adam Reynolds, Andrew Shelton, Michael Varner, Park Vestal, Jacob White, John Witherington, Joe Woodward, and Academic Dean Mike Gunn experienced the history, culture, and cuisine of England and France.



Studying at La Giraudiere

For twelve days the students lived in La Giraudiere, a country manor house in the Loire Valley, France. French teacher Reginald Dalle and science instructor Bill Taylor oversaw the needs of the students.

La Giraudiere's Chef Didier, on the other hand, satisfied the hearty appetites of the students, bringing to each lunch and dinner a gastronomic surprise. They tasted more than fifteen types of meat, from beef to veal to duckling, all with different sauces appropriate to the meal. The students learned to appreciate the varied textures and tastes of French cheese and desserts, from crème caramel to pastries.

But the boys did not spend all day eating, however tempting! Every morning, Eric Berman shared his vast knowledge of Europe by lecturing, comparing, and analyzing the heritage and culture of France and England. In the afternoon, the students explored the area, visiting castles, abbeys, and cities like Nantes, Angers, and Saumur. Mr. Berman applied the lectures to the afternoon cultural activities, table time, and impromptu discussions, immersing the students in the culture of the region.

Thanks to Mr. Berman, the experience was very interactive, including

family and friends back home, through an Internet site he created on "e-circles." Each day, folks in the U.S. could go online and visit the group, viewing pictures and reading comments. E-mail correspondence was set up, too, so students could chat daily with those at home.

After the days in the beauty and tranquillity of the French countryside, the young men were ready for Paris. They had two busy days visiting the world-famous landmarks of the City of Lights.

Travel on the Eurostar under the English Channel made a great link between the tale of two countries. In only three hours the group made it to Oxford, England. Here they experienced a taste of college life while living at Edmund Hall, one of the oldest colleges at Oxford. While based in Oxford, the students explored the surrounding areas, Stratford-on-Avon, Stonehenge, and Salisbury. London was their last destination, where they spent two days touring.

After twenty-two days of learning, thinking, writing, and absorbing new cultures, the group was ready to return home with plenty of stories to tell.



Dan Machin with a Yeoman Warder at the Tower of London



Dining al fresco at La Giraudiere



Jay McDonald, Stuart Hutton, Michael Varner at Stratford-on-Avon



Andrew Shelton, Omar Malik, Thomas Razzouk, and Ronnie Kwon at Saumur, France

## Faculty Profile

### Andrew F. Saunders, III



Andy Saunders has a claim to fame at MUS: he is the only teacher who had a radio show in Germany. "Medical Moments with Andy Saunders" played every Thursday night at 9:55 p.m. on Armed Forces Radio during his stint with the U.S. armed forces.

Mr. Saunders served in the U.S. Army from 1968–72, but entertaining and inform-

ing was always a part of his life. He sang in the Seventh Army Soldiers' Chorus and worked as a reporter and cartoonist for the *MEDCOM Examiner* while serving in Germany. After leaving the Army in May 1972, he worked as a technician and stage manager for Memphis Opera Theatre during the summer and began applying for teaching jobs.

"When I was a graduate theater student at Memphis State University in 1968, MUS teachers Chuck Miller and Leigh MacQueen asked me to design the set for *Charley's Aunt*. Chuck and I were graduates of Harding College. So when I looked for teaching jobs, I remembered MUS and Chuck Miller, applied at MUS, and was hired by Colonel Ross Lynn to teach Lower School science and coach football," Mr. Saunders explained.

From 1972 until 1977, he taught all the Lower School science classes, helped coach ninth grade football, and designed and built the sets for plays directed by George Elder. "After George Elder left MUS, I assumed all the theater duties until Flip Eikner '77 joined the MUS staff in 1983. Without Mr. Eikner as a colleague and his infusion of youth and talent, I would not have been able to continue in theater the entire twenty-seven years I've spent at MUS."

During those twenty-seven years, Mr. Saunders has taught seventh- and eighth-grade science, seventh-grade Bible, ecology, mechanical drawing, theater production, cinema, tenth-grade English, and cultural history. This diversity reflects a wide range of academic interests which continues today. "My current academic preoccupation is Abraham Lincoln and the Civil War," Mr. Saunders said.

"This summer I read a 1949 biography of Lincoln by Benjamin Thomas," Mr. Saunders continued. "Reading has always been my favorite hobby. I also read a biography of Michelangelo and reread several favorites such as *Brave New World* and *The Scarlet Letter*."

Next to reading, he enjoys listening to and studying opera. "If I had been more daring, I would have stayed in Europe and pursued an opera career. John Winbigler, Jimmy Olson, and I were accepted for admission to the Hoch Schule fur Musik in Vienna. John and Jimmy stayed, while I elected to return to the U.S. with my wife and six-month old son," said Mr. Saunders.

He and his wife, Jean, have shared a 31-year marriage and have one son, Jonathan, who is married and a freelance computer programmer. Jean also works for MUS.

Mr. Saunders' interest in performing has extended outside MUS as well. During the '70s, he performed in the Mid-South as a regional Ronald McDonald, opening restaurants and going to hospitals. He sang in several groups during the '70s and '80s, including Opera Memphis and the Memphis Symphony Chorus. More recently, he worked in community theater groups designing sets, directing, and acting at Theatre Memphis and Germantown Community Theatre. He has been named "Volunteer of the Year" at both theaters.

"I've seen a lot of students in the years I've taught at MUS," Mr. Saunders concluded. "The young men who attend this school are given a diversity of educational options available only at the best schools in the U.S. Those students who are wise use the options to grow physically, mentally, and spiritually."

Mr. Saunders just completed directing a Must C Production of *Grease* and looks forward to working on *Great Expectations*, scheduled to run March 30, 31, and April 1, 2000.



*Grease* cast of characters sing "We Go Together." The couples are Phil Janowicz, Jordan Marshall, Evan Linder, Hailey Giles, Michael Liverance, Carrie Rosson, Caroline Fourmy, Russell Bloodworth, Cristena Daggrell, and Houston Hagewood.



# Grease is the Word

The perennial favorite *Grease* once again demonstrated its popular appeal, playing to packed houses October 28, 29, and 30 in Hyde Chapel.

Tickets for Thursday night's opening performance were in such demand that late-arriving patrons had to be turned away. "It's a nice problem to have," quipped one lucky ticket-holder waiting to be ushered into the auditorium.

The popularity of *Grease* was established immediately upon its Broadway premiere in 1972. Soon, colleges and high schools across the country were producing their own versions. In 1978 a hit movie with John Travolta and Olivia Newton-John won the hearts of America's teenage girls. Since then, *Grease* has enjoyed countless revivals on the professional stage, recently winning Broadway approval with productions using television celebrities like Rosie O'Donnell and Brooke Shields in starring roles.

Andy Saunders, the play's director, realized the play's potential to do business after holding auditions in the spring of '99. "Over fifty girls from schools all over Memphis tried out for our production. That turnout told me the musical was still very popular with the kids."

The great '50s deco set designed by Flip Eikner '77, smooth vocal coaching by John Hiltonsmith, and tight direction by Saunders gave this production a gloss and shine appropriate to its iconographic status. The choreography by student dance captains Caroline Fourmy, Natalie Garavelli, and Evan Linder provided an athletic buoyancy that brightened the whole show.

Playing the title roles of Sandy Dumbrowski and Danny Zuko were



Carrie Rosson, from Hutchison School, and Michael Liverance. Their on-again, off-again relationship was electrifying and propelled the plot to its happy conclusion and their reunion.

As with Danny and Sandy, the trials of the "greaser" couples were central to this story of teenage alienation. Superbly singing and portraying these pairs were Hailey Giles (White Station) as Betty Rizzo and Evan Linder as Kenickie; Jordan Marshall (White Station) as Jan and Phil Janowicz as Roger; Caroline Fourmy (White Station) as Frenchy and Russell Bloodworth as Doody; and rounding out this talented field of eight were Cristena Doggrell (Lausanne) in the role of Marty and Houston Hagewood as Sonny Latierre.

All the supporting players in *Grease* gave notable performances. Catherine Owens (Houston) and Cody Jameson were comically menacing as school administrators Miss Lynch and Mr. Frikett; Benji Hassid was smooth as wax portraying the oily radio announcer Vince Fontaine; Jay Tayloe was hysterical as Eugene Florczyk, the quintessential school dweeb; and Alicia Weeks (St. Agnes) was appropriately "dippy" in the role of Patty Simcox. Great special cameo appearances were provided by Justin



Hailey Giles is dynamic as the alienated Betty Rizzo singing, "There are Worse Things I Could Do!"

The Teen Angel, Harrison Ford, is assisted by the Angelettes, Polly Klyce, Evlyn Wade, Mallory Tacker, Wendi Muse, Natalie Garavelli, and Alicia Weeks.



During his track meet, Danny (Michael Liverance) is confronted by the gang played by Evan Linder, Caroline Fourmy, Houston Hagewood, and Russell Bloodworth.

Willingham as Johnny Casino, Rydell High's leading hip cat, and Natalie Garavelli (St. Agnes) as Cha-Cha DeGregorio, the best dancer at St. Bernadette's. And Harrison Ford had just the right "attitude" as the advice-proffering Teen Angel.

The ensemble performances could not have happened without the additional talents of Evlyn Wade (St. Agnes), Wendi Muse (St. Mary's), Polly Klyce (St. Mary's), Mallory Tacker (Hutchison), J.K. Minervini, and Kenny Hickman providing memorable moments.

Even when *Grease* is no longer "the word" on the MUS campus, memories will remain of the exceptional talents and work of a top-notch group.



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

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

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

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

Perry Dement  
Director of Development  
901-260-1350

**CORRECTION:** The following individuals were inadvertently omitted in the 1998-99 Annual Report. We apologize for these errors.

**WILLIAM W. DEUPREE, JR. '59**  
Honorary Board

**PRESTON D. MILLER III '92**  
Owl's Club

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

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## HONORARIUMS

BEG-TO-DIFFER  
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Ryan S. Freebing '05

WILLARD R. SPARKS  
Tommie & Billy Dunavant, Jr.

\*Includes gifts received 7/16/99 – 11/1/99

## IN MEMORY

BENJAMIN HUMPHREYS WOODSON '63 died on October 28, 1999. Woodson helped found Overton Square, bringing the only nonfranchised TGI Friday's restaurant to the venue and creating a Dickens' Christmas. He was fundamental in providing a home to Playhouse on the Square. And in 1985, he developed Little Palm Island, a resort in the Florida Keys. He was vice president of the Memphis Convention and Visitors Bureau, vice president of the Memphis Symphony, and a past president of Carnival Memphis.

## 1983: Mr. Amsler Meets Cousin Earl

by Clay Smythe '85

When one's first teaching assignment comes up "MUS Junior Class, American History," I'm not sure what one would expect; but rookie history teacher Guy Amsler had his plate full from day one with us. I'm not talking about hiding the softly muffled radio, set to K97, beneath piles of paper in the trash can, sure to irritate even moderately sensitive ears. I'm not even referring to the times Mr. Amsler would come to class a few minutes late only to find our scribbled sign stuck to the Room 11 classroom door, "Gone to lounge." Nor am I remembering the times when we did stay in the room, anticipating a delayed arrival, only for Mr. Amsler to find us in our desks facing the back wall. I'm not talking about these things. I recall something much better. At least that's how I remember it.

We must note that this wasn't AP American History. Nope. This was JV American History, and Coach Amsler got the call to teach the rag-tag bunch, of which I was one.

Our obvious advantage over the new teacher, an avid Arkansas Razorback fan, was a command of the junior class roster; that comes in quite handy when you sneak in a fellow classmate, say Ted Simpson, from Mr. Deaderick's history class to pose as, say, your academically-challenged Arkansas cousin, Earl. My having recently attended Arkansas basketball camp gave me a dangerous command of basic state geography. Thus, Earl from Russelville was encouraged upon a willing Ted.

The plan worked flawlessly...to a point.

More or less, it went something like this:

**Smythe:** Mr. Amsler, I want you to meet my cousin Earl, who's visiting us today from Russelville, Arkansas. Say "Hi," Earl.

**Simpson (Earl):** (Stands) Howdy, y'all.

**Amsler:** Earl, glad to have you here with us!

**Class:** Hey, Earl. (snicker).

**Amsler:** Earl, why don't you tell us about yourself, what you're studying in school. You know, stuff like that.

(At this point, peoples' heads were in their desks, turned away from sight with some excessive coughing. All were about to explode with anxious immaturity.)

Ted/Earl stood there for a moment, reciting things absolutely appropriate for the occasion, and sat down. He probably mentioned his great-grandfather reflecting on family tales from the War Between the States, still upset with Reconstruction, mixed in with a "Souiee" for emphasis. All I recall is that most of the class had to go to the bathroom about then.



**Smythe:** Mr. Amsler, Earl has to leave in a few minutes to go to the doctor. He's gonna get picked up by my mom in the office. (This was our escape plan...in case things got unseemly. My mother had no knowledge of her role.)

**Amsler:** Well that's fine, Earl. You're welcome to stay. You might learn something.

**Class:** (serious squirming problems and giggles)

Mr. Amsler began the lecture. We were somewhere in the middle of the Civil War, and as the lecture developed, Ted/Earl chimed in a few times with some historically incorrect tidbits, causing us to chew our sleeves to keep from bursting out in laughter.

After about fifteen minutes, Ted/Earl shot up from his seat to announce, "Clay, I gotta go meet momma." We all realized that this thing had gone too far. We needed a way out. I interrupted the class to give Ted/Earl graphic directions to the office from the classroom, which, when asked to recite the directions back, Ted/Earl failed miserably to do.

We said our good-byes, stood up to hug, I recall, and the class screamed, "GOOD-BYE, EARL," so loud that I'm sure the librarian heard it. Class resumed, and we thought that the hoax had successfully sailed through.

The next day, standing at our lockers, Ted and I began to realize that we weren't quite yet in the clear. "Simpson" and "Smythe" had lockers in close proximity, and as we were airing our mutual concern for how we could keep Amsler from identifying Ted, the teacher suddenly appeared at our lockers.


**Amsler:** (puzzled) Earl, I thought you had gone home to Russelville!

**Ted:** (Looks at Mr. Amsler, then glances at me before putting his head totally in his locker. And Ted's got a head!)

Surely this ostrich-like response would thwart the gullible teacher!

The crowded hallway erupted in rowdy guffaws. The celebration was on. We had won, kind of.

The Honor Council ultimately waved me through. The MUS experience isn't complete without a brush with these guys, and they heard my case due to Mr. Amsler's faculty appointment. The charge was filed under "lying," but the majority of the Council seemed amused by the sheer foolishness of the shortsighted affair. (Thanks, Honor Council Chairman, William Wadsworth. Our time bonding on Rudolph's bench paid off.) No parents were notified, but I think Coach Thorn gave me a disapproving look on my way to S3 the next day. As for Ted, not even a slap on the wrist. He got all the glory. As for Mr. Amsler, I hope he forgave us. I've never talked about it with him.

None of us would have such a near brush with questionable practices until 1985 Spring Formal, but that's another story. We don't need to "Remember when..." that one. 



# Alumni Coaches Teach More Than the Game

## Marc MacMillan '92, John Sartelle '92

When Coach Alston asked Marc MacMillan if he would be interested in coaching Lower School baseball, Marc jumped at the opportunity. Marc, as head coach, recruited Coach Billy Bernard to help him build a quality baseball program for Lower School.

Through Marc's efforts, MUS now has year-round baseball including both a seventh- and eighth-grade team, a combined summer team, and a fall team made up of returning eighth graders and incoming seventh graders.

In the spring of 1998, Coach Alston asked Marc to head the eighth-grade football team. "I have the help of Coach Bernard and alumnus John Sartelle to bring a disciplined and fundamental approach to the eighth-grade football program," Marc said.

With eighth graders now having to compete at the varsity level less than four months after their season is over, the significance of eighth-grade football is greater than ever before.

Marc said, "The most rewarding thing in coaching is seeing a young man do things he never thought he could do, whether it's learning the proper way to turn a double play, the proper five-step drop, or the significance of time management."

John Sartelle agrees. "We work very hard on taking these kids to a different level. They come to the first day of practice scared of how hard Marc, Billy, and I are going to work them. We try to meet all their expectations, and those who make it through become new people. The reward comes when you see that player who was always late to practice get there early to work on catching...or when a non-vocal player begins to encourage his teammates...or when a player who could barely get through drills at the beginning of the season is now leading the rest of the team. Then you have a kid who truly is a different person."

Marc and John take on their duties with MUS in addition to demanding jobs of their own. Marc is an assistant trading analyst at First Tennessee Capital Assets (see Editor's Note, page 17) and John is an institutional broker for Morgan Keegan.

## Jim Burnett '83, Craig Christenbury '83, Drew Harris '83

Jim, Craig, and Drew volunteer their time to MUS as coaches of the seventh-grade football team. They work with the team of fifty-sixty boys about five to six hours a week.

"Coach Alston approached me nine years ago to coach Lower School football, which at that time was not even an MUS-sanctioned sport," said Jim Burnett, a division manager for NBC

Private Banking. "Two years later it was made an official Lower School sport."

"I really enjoy it," Jim explained. "I do it out of love for the boys, the school, and the sport, in that order."

"I learned from Coach Peters when I was at MUS – there was nothing complicated about what he taught," said Craig Christenbury. "If you can learn five simple things and do them really well, you'll succeed. In coaching, I get to see a small part of what the faculty see. And when I see in a young man's eyes that he catches on to something, no matter how simple, I can feel I've taught him something." Craig is co-owner of Chris-Hill Construction Company.



Together, Jim Burnett (left), Craig Christenbury (above), and Drew Harris (below) volunteer their time to coach the seventh-grade football team.

Drew Harris, owner of a residential appraisal company, coaches with Craig and Jim. "Over the years, I've looked up to the coaches I had at MUS, and my appreciation for them has grown.

I think we all feel we got a lot from MUS," said Drew. "I'm happy to give something back, and I hope we'll continue coaching for years."


## Scott Rose '82, Kevin Parker '84

Scott Rose, a closing attorney, coaches seventh-grade basketball. "Coach Peters asked me four years ago, and that's all it took. I was, and am, glad to do it. It is a great way to stay involved with the school and be a part of the new students' first experience with MUS."

Kevin Parker coaches eighth-grade basketball, spending time at four practices a week until the season starts in November.

The team plays two games a week until the season ends in mid-February, plus a six-game holiday tournament.

"I played basketball in school under Coach Peters and in the alumni league after graduation," said Kevin. "Coach Peters asked me three years ago to coach the eighth graders, and I have loved doing it. I enjoy working with these young men, watching them grow, improve, and learn." Kevin is manager of Campus Services for Service Master, which manages Charter Lakeside Hospital.

Marc MacMillan concluded, "MUS taught me the importance of family and commitment. MUS is a family. Each member, whether it be an alum, administrator, faculty member, or student, has a commitment and responsibility to each other. That responsibility is not one of 'must' but of loyalty to our school and respect for those who made and make Memphis University School what it is today." 



## ALUMNI ASSOCIATION HONORS TWO



Marc MacMillan

Steve Carpenter

At the recent Alumni Association Executive Board luncheon, the school honored two outstanding alumni for their contributions to the school and to the Memphis community: Volunteer of the Year, **Marc MacMillan '92**, and Alumnus of the Year, **Steve Carpenter '83**. Current Alumni Association President **Jerry Martin '79** presented the awards.

The Volunteer of the Year Award is given to an MUS alumnus who serves Memphis University School in a significant and needed way throughout the year, seeking opportunities to promote the interests of the school. Marc MacMillan is the recipient of this award for volunteering his time as head coach for the seventh- and eighth-grade baseball teams and the eighth-grade football team (see article on page 16).


After graduating from MUS, Marc went to Ole Miss where he played baseball. When he returned to Memphis in 1996, Coach Alston asked Marc if he would volunteer to coach Lower School baseball. Marc saw it as a great opportunity. "Baseball needed some extra attention since sports like football, basketball, and tennis already had the interest and support necessary to be successful at the high school level," Marc noted.

In 1998, Marc was asked to head the eighth-grade football team as well. When he is not volunteering his time to MUS, Marc works for First Tennessee Capital Assets Corporation.

The Alumnus of the Year Award is given to the MUS alumnus who exemplifies community leadership and personal integrity, personifying the school's guiding principle of developing well-rounded young men of strong moral character. This year's recipient is Steve Carpenter, founder of New Hope Christian Academy, which is a private school for inner-city children.

Steve graduated from MUS in 1983, then attended the University of Texas. After several years in the financial field, he decided to enter the seminary and left Memphis for Princeton Theological Seminary. When Steve returned to Memphis, he founded New Hope Christian Academy to meet the needs of inner-city children and help them realize their potential. The school is located downtown and teaches children in kindergarten through sixth grade. Tuition is based on a sliding scale, depending on what parents can afford. New Hope is a new concept for Memphis and proving to be a success.

*Editors Note: As this issue went to press, Headmaster Ellis Haguewood announced that Marc MacMillan has been hired by the school as head coach of the varsity baseball team, assistant varsity football coach, and assistant to Skip Daniel in the Business Office. Marc has a B.S. in Business Administration/Managerial Finance from the University of Mississippi. Welcome back to school, Marc.*



AT THE ANNUAL ALUMNI ASSOCIATION LUNCHEON, **JERRY MARTIN '79** BEGAN HIS TERM AS PRESIDENT OF THE MUS ALUMNI ASSOCIATION. AFTER MUS, **JERRY** ATTENDED MILLSAPS COLLEGE, WHERE HE EARNED A B.S. IN HISTORY. HE IS CURRENTLY EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT OF **KEMMONS WILSON INSURANCE AGENCY**.

NEW MEMBERS ELECTED TO THE EXECUTIVE BOARD FOR 1999-2000 ARE:

**ANDREW F. CATES '89**  
**OWEN B. TABOR '85**  
**JUDSON L. PETERS '81**  
**DAVID L. SIMPSON '80**  
**WILLIAM P. MORRISON '75**  
**WISE S. JONES '73**  
**PAUL T. J. BOYLE '87**  
**JOHN H. GRAYSON, JR. '78**

THEY JOIN THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS TO INCREASE THE BOARD TO 27 MEMBERS:

**JERRY B. MARTIN, JR. '79**  
 PRESIDENT  
**FREDERICK C. SCHAEFFER, JR. '88**  
 VICE PRESIDENT  
**HENRY P. DOGGRELL '66**  
**BUCHANAN D. DUNAVANT '90**  
**G. GOODLOE EARLY '59**  
**SAMUEL N. GRAHAM II '80**  
**JOEL J. HOBSON III '72**  
**E. CHARLES JALENAK '83**  
**EDWARD C. KRAUSNICK, JR. '79**  
**H. MONTGOMERY MARTIN '73**  
**DANIEL H. McEWAN '88**  
**D. STEPHEN MORROW '71**  
**THOMAS F. PRESTON '74**  
**WILEY T. ROBINSON '75**  
**JOEL B. SKLAR '85**  
**S. CLAY SMYTHE '85**  
**ROBERT D. SPARKS '79**  
**HENRY P. SULLIVANT, JR. '70**  
**GARY K. WUNDERLICH '88**

**Marriages**

Douglas Pyne '84 to Dena Michelle Haynes on July 24

Chad Graddy '88 to Jody Bieber on June 12

John Minor '89 to Janay Michelle Jerome on September 4

Paul Barcroft '89 to Susan Aileen McClanahan on October 30

Andrew Crosby '89 to Molly Elizabeth Caldwell on March 27

Max Ostner '90 to Kalli Mackinsky on August 21

James Blount '90 to Heather Danielle Rader on July 31

David Roddey '90 to Talitha Paige Formby on September 11

Rob Abbay '92 to Leigh Diane Weinberg on July 10

Will Abbay '94 to Elizabeth Adele Selman on August 28

**Births**

Thurston Moore '64 and Corell, a son, Thurston McCain, on August 18, 1999

Jim Rainer '77 and Missy, a daughter, Daisye Gardner, on January 12, 1999

Frank Hitchings '78 and Mary, a son, Frank Albert, IV, on December 7, 1998

Mel Payne '80 and Holli, a son, Samuel George, on July 12, 1999

Billy Orgel '81 and Robin, a daughter, Hannah Blair, on March 15, 1999

Wyatt Isbell '83 and Heather, a son, Henry Watson, on November 30, 1998

Jeff Barry '84 and Amy, a daughter, Kate Lawson, on August 10, 1999

Lon Magness '85 and Ragan, a daughter, Meredith McFarland, on October 19, 1999

Andy Rainer '87 and Keith, a son, Andrew Talbot, Jr., on July 4, 1999

Peter Monaghan '89 and Courtney, a daughter, Stuart, on October 6, 1999

Buck Dunavant '90 and Douglas, a son, Buchanan Dobson, Jr., on July 7, 1999

**KEEP IN TOUCH — ONLINE!**

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

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

**'66****Bob Lee**  
Class Representative

**Dwight Drinkard** recently resigned as director of the FedEx St. Jude Classic Golf Tournament, saying he felt that new leadership and fresh ideas would benefit the tournament. The event was staged under volunteer directors from its inception in 1958 until 1986, when Dwight took the helm as the first (and only) full-time director. Tournament chairman Grattan Brown, Jr. praised Dwight's leadership, his planning capabilities, and his insistence on quality. Dwight has no immediate plans for a new job and will continue in his position until his successor is named. Dwight also serves as president of the PGA Tour Tournaments Association until his term expires.

**'69****John Keesee**  
Class Representative

**Andrew Hummel** is currently a senior manager at Lockheed Martin Tactical Aircraft Systems, working on the F-16 Program. He lives in Weatherford, TX, with his wife, Eleanor, and their three children, Cady, Drew, and Walker. They spend their spare time (such as it is) restoring a Victorian house they bought about eight years ago. Eleanor is a corporate tax accountant for TNP Enterprises. Andy says it would be nice to hear from some of the other "outlaw" members of the class of '69.

**'71****Phil Wiygul**  
Class Representative

**John Quackenboss** is currently working for Federal Data Corporation headquartered in Bethesda, MD. He is sales and marketing representative for the Microsoft Training and the Microsoft Solutions group of the company. John was married in 1997 to Nancy Ann Vorona of Falls Church, VA. They currently reside in Arlington, VA.

**'72****Denby Brandon**  
Class Representative

**Ronald Alden** is chief operating officer of CLB Associates. He has over twenty years experience in software engineering and project management for significant technology and telecommunications companies including both Fortune 500 (MIA, Data General, AT&T) and Silicon Valley startups (Forethought, Go, and Eo). He is an expert in the management of engineering teams, complex technologies, and related standards. Most recently Ronald served as an independent consultant to AT&T and the government of Micronesia Telecom authority, developing that nation's first Internet service. He uses his technical and business skills to advise CLB and its clients, to assess the technological advantages a client's intellectual property may enjoy, and to review the scope of proposed alliances, partnerships, and joint ventures. Ronald received a Bachelor's Degree with Distinction from the California College of Arts and Crafts in 1975.

**Denby Brandon** is the new class rep for the Class of 1972. He replaces David Thomson who has relocated to Atlanta. Send Denby your news, or email Vicki Lafferty at [vlafferty@musowls.org](mailto:vlafferty@musowls.org).

**'73****Montgomery Martin**  
Class Representative

In a daunting display of athletic prowess, the MUS Class of '73 team of **Jim Varner**, **Keith Ingram**, **Stuart Collier**, and **Bob Loeb** captured first place low gross in the annual Alumni Golf Scramble (see photo, page 27) held at Memphis Country Club on Friday, October 8. Despite a field of youthful talent, the '73 Buzzards held on when there was nothing left in them except that will which says, "Hold on."



74

**Mark Ruleman**  
Class Representative

**Sandy Schaeffer** owns Thoughtware Learning Technologies, a Germantown-based company that develops and implements Web-based training programs and trains employees to make the most of their time. Sandy and his wife, Beth, who works at Hutchison, have been married nineteen years and have three children, Emily, Mike, and Katie.

**Nathan Bicks** practices law at Burch, Porter, & Johnson in Memphis and serves on the Executive Committee and Board of Trustees of Lemoyne-Owen College, is president of the Memphis Jewish Community Center, past-president of Solomon Schechter Day School, is on the Leadership Memphis Board, and is a member of the Memphis Jewish Foundation. He and his wife, Andrea, have two daughters, Alexandra and Becky.

**Norman Blake** is a financial consultant for Merrill Lynch. He and wife, Camille,

live in Memphis and have three children, Addison, Deven, and Beck.

**Gary Brown** is president of Brown Business Systems, specializing in business forms, ad specialties, and commercial printing. He and his wife, Lisa, have five children, Jeanine, Stephen, Hudson, Ian, and Carli, ranging from ages two to nineteen. At the recent reunion, Gary and Lisa were curious to see if they held the records for being married the longest, having the oldest child, and having the youngest child. Gary knew they were tied with **Cooper Sandusky** and his wife, Mona, for having the most children.

**Frank Crawford** and his wife, Janet, live in Kingsport, TN, with their sons, Sam and Billy. Frank preached in Portuguese (without an interpreter) in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, May 23–June 1.

**Mike Hoover** is a professor of psycholinguistics at McGill University in Canada. Mike was unable to attend the reunion as he was at the University of San Simon in Cochabamba, Bolivia, working on integrating native languages into Bolivian school curricula. He says it

keeps him off the streets.

**John Lammons** is a real estate broker/investor with L&M investments in Dallas, TX.

**Malcolm Pearson** and wife, Melinda, and children, Daniel and Anna, live in Huntingdon, TN. Malcolm is president of Carroll Hardwood Co.

**Mack Ray** runs Ray Farms in Crawfordsville, AR. He and wife, Pam, have two daughters, Cathleen and Suzanne.

**Cooper Sandusky** lives in Memphis and is an orthodontist. He and his wife, Mona, have five children, Laura, Jennifer, Keri, Christine, and Cooper.

**Steve Thompson** is director of customer development for Delta Beverage Group. He and his wife, Elizabeth, live in Memphis and have three children, Steven, Jr., Christopher, and Katherine.

**Buck Wellford** is a member of the Shelby County Board of Commissioners and is a partner at Thomason, Hendrix, Harvey, Johnson, & Mitchell. He and wife, Sara, have a daughter, Caroline.

**John Whitson** is the lead artist in video game development at 989 Studios/Sony



## In the Right Place at the Right TIME

**John E. Marcom, Jr. '75** has been promoted *again* by Time Inc. He had been working in Hong Kong as president of Time Inc. Asia and now has been named president of Time Inc. International and will be relocating to London. He will also serve as president of Time Inc. Atlantic – overseeing Time Inc.'s magazine publishing activities in Europe, the Middle East, and Africa – as well as maintaining his current responsibilities for Asia.

John was praised by company officials for an outstanding job of managing Time Inc., Asia through the difficult economic conditions that have buffeted the region. Time Inc.'s properties in that part of the world – Time Asia, Asiaweek, Fortune Asia, President Inc., and Emphasis Inc., which produces magazines and programming for Asia's airlines – weathered the crisis and strengthened their positions in the marketplace. John has also led the relaunch of *Bises*, a gardening magazine in Japan, as well as launching TIME-branded English language study guides in Taiwan and China. He was instrumental in the establishment of a new Internet website, CNN.com/AsiaNow – a multimedia online news and information site covering the Asia Pacific region that combines the resources of CNN Interactive, Time, and Asiaweek.

John's first association with Time Inc. was as a summer intern on the editorial side at Fortune while he was at Princeton University studying for an economics degree, then later as a Henry Luce Foundation scholar in Seoul. He then spent eight years as a journalist for *Korea Times*, *The Wall Street Journal*, and *Forbes* in Seoul, Tokyo, New York, and London, before earning an MBA from the European business school, INSEAD, in Fontainebleau, France.

In 1993, John returned to Time Inc., serving in a number of marketing and business development roles with Time Inc. Asia before becoming development director, then publisher of Time Asia. He was appointed president of Time Inc. Asia in May 1998.

We agree with Norman Pearlstine, Editor-in-Chief of Time Inc., we “can't imagine anyone better equipped for this exciting new challenge than John.”

Computer Entertainment in California. He and his wife, Ann, have a son, Nicholas.

**David Yawn** was recently awarded the Federal Express Apex '99 Award for Publication Excellence. David lives in Memphis and works at FedEx as an editor/senior communications specialist.

'75

**Kenny Kyle**  
Class Representative

**Walt Efird** has opened a new office in Germantown, The Efird Clinic, for the practice of plastic and reconstructive surgery. He was recently elected president of Harwell Wilson Surgical Society. He and his wife, Claudia, have three children, Watt, Hayley, and Tyler. **Taylor Nickey** was installed as Sergeant-at-Arms of the Rotary Club of Memphis for 1999-2000.

'79

**Paul Edwards**  
Class Representative

The Class of 1979's 20<sup>th</sup> Year Reunion was a great success. Many of us got together with our families and enjoyed a soggy but successful football game against Chattanooga Baylor. Because of the first rain in three months, the family picnic was moved to the Hyde Gymnasium where the kids played and we got to catch up on old times. The weekend culminated Saturday night when we all met at the Hunt and Polo Club for fellowship, a delicious dinner, and **Jerry Martin's** latest standup routine on the MUS high school experience. Our guest, Headmaster Ellis Haguwood, who brought us all up-to-date on MUS and exciting plans for the future in his own inimitable style, did Martin's warm-up. We had several alumni from out-of-town join us, including **Mark Crosby** from New York; **Jeff Peters, Henry Caldwell, Chip Wood** and **Breck Bolton** from North Carolina; **Bentley Long** from Georgia; **Emory Miles** from Florida; **Dan Daniel** from Indiana; **Tim Guyton** from Jacksonville; and **Drew Banks** all the way from San Francisco. Drew just had his first book published, *Beyond Spin* ([www.beyondspin.com](http://www.beyondspin.com)), about corporate journalism. The book was originally targeted at business leaders; but because of its balanced academic/pragmatic approach, a few universities (e.g., MIT, Stanford, DU, etc.) are considering using it for their business communication curricula. Drew



John Keesee '69

"In his book, *The Angels Were Silent*, author Max Lucado writes of one's ability to hang in there, to go the distance. He goes on to say that Brazilians have a unique phrase for this 'going the distance'. In Portuguese, a person who can hang in there and not give up has 'garra' or claws.

I first learned about garra during my days at MUS. As a raw seventh grader, you had better have a little garra when eighth graders thought it a rite of passage to toss you into 'Hollywood' (the holly bushes) every day of your school life. In the classroom,

developing garra was a must. Teachers like Bob Smith were smart, demanding, and tough. Believe me, even noted tough guys such as Haynes McBride and Vance Alexander did not mess with Coach Smith.

What about Mr. MacQueen's legendary multiple choice chapter tests? If you were not prepared, you were not going to guess your way to passing. Then there were Mr. Hatchett's weekly themes...he demanded perfection and got it by making us rewrite the theme over and over until we got it right.

Surely we learned to hang in there in the athletic arena. I well remember, as a freshman, the long bus ride to Whitehaven. They had more guys on their football team than we had in our entire grade. When a Whitehaven kid hit you, you felt it! We had another ace in the hole. Coach Jerry Peters taught us about hanging in there and staying close. He did not teach us about the will to win. He didn't have to. He coached and taught about the will to prepare to win. Coach Peters often spoke of looking for reasons to succeed as opposed to excuses for failing.

Since my days at MUS, I have had to endure many trying moments. Having garra is a necessity. MUS gave me the tools I needed to learn how to 'hang in there'."

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

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

Support through the Annual Fund will ensure that MUS continue to attract and keep distinguished faculty and that it keep pace with technology, teaching equipment, library collections, and all that goes into offering an education of the highest quality. Your gift to MUS supports and enhances all the important resources that make Memphis University School a leader in college-preparatory education.

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



Opening Doors For Boys For Over 100 Years

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is Director of Employee Communications and Integrated Performance Support for SGI. Pick up a copy and support your classmate. We also have two classmates who have sons at MUS. **Robert Spark's** son, Justin, and **Paul Edward's** son, Price, are both in seventh grade at MUS and loving it. Both play for the undefeated seventh grade football team.

Thanks to Lou and **Jerry Martin** and **Fleet Abston** for all of their hard work putting together the reunion weekend. Some updates follow on classmates who sent information about themselves to the MUS Alumni Office.

**Fleet Abston** is vice president of operations for Sovereign Corporation. **Jim Beard** has lived in Louisville, KY, for the past 11 years. He is president of Papercone Corporation. He and his wife, Marybeth, have two children, Jimmy and Tommy.

**Breck Bolton** works for The Clorox Company in Charlotte, NC, as regional sales manager. He and his wife, Cindi, have two children, Breck, Jr. and Blair. Breck is a member of the Charlotte Leadership Forum, on the Board of Directors of the Charlotte Eagles, and is chairman of the Board of Deacons of Christ Covenant Church.

**Brant Carter** and wife, Mary, live in Memphis with their three children, Christopher, Corbin, and Caroline. Brant is a bond trader at Morgan Keegan & Co., Inc.

**Henry Caldwell** lives in Roanoke, VA, and is vice president of operations for Commonwealth Cornerstone, Inc. He and his wife, Kimberly, have two daughters, Jane-Ann and Lilly. Henry is involved with Young Life, Junior Achievement of the Roanoke Valley, is a member of Roanoke County Education Committee, and is a past deacon of First Presbyterian Church.

**Dan Daniel** is Central Regional sales manager for Pegasus Airwave, Inc. in Carmel, IN. He and his wife, Terri, have two children, Hailee and Tanner.

**David Dunlap** practices law with Humphreys, Dunlap, Wellford, Acuff, and Stanton. He and wife, Mona, have two daughters, Mattie Helen and Leah Mae.

**Ken Flowers** lives in Knoxville, TN, where he is regional manager for Federal Data Corporation. He and his wife, Vicki, have one son, Preston.

**Bill Gross** is a physician with MidSouth Ear, Nose, and Throat and is a member of the AOA Honorary Medical Society. He has had numerous publications in otolaryngology journals.

**Sam Hollis** works for Cushman & Wakefield as a commercial real estate broker in Atlanta. He and his wife, Dabney, have a son, J. Tift. Sam is president of the Atlanta Alumni chapter for W&L, is a Phoenix Award Recipient for Atlanta Board of Realtors, and is on the Board of Directors of the Piedmont Driving Club.

**Stan Hughes** lives in Hickory Valley, TN, and is a flight crewmember for FedEx. He and his wife, Daphne, have three children, Richard, George, and Michael. Stan and his family enjoy baseball, four-wheelers, and running.

**Collie Krausnick** is a stockbroker for Morgan Keegan & Co., Inc. He and his wife, Veazey, have two children, Elizabeth and Carl.

**Allen Landers** is a supply officer for the US Navy and is in Okinawa until May 2000. He is currently serving with the Marine Wing Headquarters Squadron One, 1<sup>st</sup> Marine Aircraft Wing in Okinawa as the Navy Liaison Officer. Allen has received two Navy-Marine Corps Commendation Medals while serving as supply officer on USS Paul Hamilton DDG-60 and two Navy-Marine Corps Achievement Medals while serving as disbursing sales officer on USS Gunston Hall LSD-44.

**Bentley Long** lives in Atlanta and is director of Eastern Area Sales for Exar Corporation. He and his wife, Catherine, have two children, Elizabeth and Griffin.

**Jerry Martin** is executive vice president at Kemmons Wilson Insurance, Inc. in Memphis. He and his wife, Lou, have three children, Elizabeth, Jerry, and Louis. Jerry is president of the MUS Alumni Association for 1999-2000, was chairman of Professional Insurance Agents of Tennessee 1998-1999, and is a deacon of Second Presbyterian Church.

**Cam McCaa** lives in Atlanta and is regional sales manager for CryoLife, Inc. He and his wife, Stephanie, have been married since 1996. Cam has been published in *Cryobiology Journal*, *Cryoletters*, *Orthopaedic Research Society*, *Society for Biomaterials*, and *American Society Mechanical Engineers*.

**Ted McLaughlin** is the owner of HeyMister Productions, a video production company. He and wife, Vicki, live in Memphis and have two children, Winston Brode and Eleanor Crump.

**Greg Meyer** lives in Memphis and is President of Gem, Inc. He and his wife, Elise, have two sons, Max and Sam.

**Rob Moore** is an attorney for the State of Tennessee Department of Commerce and Insurance in Madison, TN.

**Buck Neely** lives in Dundee, MS, and is president of Environmental Energy Technologies. He and his wife, Leslie, have two daughters, Claire and Dixie.

**Chip Parrott** is practicing medicine at the Jackson Clinic in Jackson, TN, where he is a cardiologist. He and his wife, Deborah, have three daughters, Samantha, Meredith, and Linda.

**David Peeples** lives in Sewanee, TN, and is a seminary student. He and his wife, Margaret, have a daughter, Anna Lawrence.

**Jeff Peters** owns 13 Party City retail stores throughout North and South Carolina. He and wife, Julie, live in Charlotte and have a daughter, Ellison. Jeff was awarded "Best of Charlotte" in *Creative Loafing Magazine* 1999.

**Joe Pierce** is an investment banker in the bond sales department with Duncan-Williams, Inc. in Memphis. Joe is single and has a border collie named Scarlet.

**Lee Powell** is a chemical/environmental engineer for Pickering in Memphis. He and his wife, Becky, have three children, Elizabeth, Trey, and Rachael.

**Hunter Seabrook** lives in Memphis and is on the Young Life Board, Christ Methodist Missions Board, and LeBonheur/Seabrook Asthma Fund. Hunter is the owner of Seabrook Wallcoverings, and he and his wife, Jill, have three children, Mary-Ashley, Hunt, and Kate.

**David Taylor** is an assistant professor of medicine at the University of Texas-Horsten Medical School. David and his wife, Judith, have two sons, Duncan and Mac.

**Steve Satterfield** works as an assistant director for the Shelby County Government. He and his wife, Patty, have three daughters, Anna, Maggie, and Mary Grace.

**Scott Schaefer** lives in Memphis and is president of Schaefer Sash & Door. Scott and his wife, Susan, have two children, Thomas and Carrie.

**Hugh Scott** is a practicing physician at Pediatrics East, Inc. He and his wife, Dawn, have two sons, William and Charles.

**Steve Sharp** lives in Nashville, TN, where he is medical director at Clinical Research Associates.

**Gordon Summerfield** and his wife, Melissa, have a daughter, Hannah. They live in Memphis where Gordon is president of Summerfield Packaging/Impact Promotions. He was president of Retail Packaging Association from 1992-95, was Distributor of the Year 1995, and is involved with the Make-A-Wish



Foundation and PALS for Porter-Leath. **Dean Underwood** lives in Memphis and is president of Underwood Sales Co., Inc. He and his wife, Linda, have two children, Dean Robert and Eliabeth Graves.

**Tommy Van Brocklin** is vice president/treasurer of Van Brocklin & Associates, Inc. here in Memphis. He and his wife, Nelle, have a daughter, Kate.

**Rush Waller**, a physician who specializes in pediatric cardiology, has recently returned to Memphis from Charleston, S.C. He met his wife, Clara Gwen, at Paul Edward's wedding, and they have two sons, Benjamin and Wilson.

**John Walt** lives in Greensboro, NC, and is a contractor/salesman for Select Homes, Inc. He and his wife, Laura, have five children, Elizabeth Joy, John, Mary Chambers, Sarah Grace, and Robinson.

## '80 George Skouteris

Class Representative

**Dan Robertson** reports he is still in Fort Meyers, FL, operating on bad backs, necks, and brains. He recently had knee surgery and stated that it should take several strokes off his game.

## '81 Rob Hussey

Class Representative

**Norris McGehee** was elected vice president of the Rotary Club of East Memphis for 1999-2000.

**Billy Orgel** and **Kelly Truitt** were named to the *Memphis Business Journal* "Top 40 Under 40" list for 1999.

## '82 Bill Lansden

Class Representative

**Steve Singleton** writes that after leaving MUS, he went to Rhodes College, graduating in 1986. He passed the CPA exam in 1987, and started the Masters in Tax Program at Georgia State University in 1990. From 1986 to 1992, he worked for different public accounting firms, transferring to Atlanta in 1989. In the fall of 1992, he started his own practice, specializing in tax consulting, compliance, and research. He is in the process of adding personal financial planning to the practice, including investing and life insurance coupled with estate planning and asset protection planning.

## Lazarov Takes Law Into His Own Hands

After graduation from MUS, **Joe Lazarov '82** went to Boston University for his college education. Then, armed with a degree in economics, he headed for Hollywood! After a long climb, and lots of picking up the boss's dry cleaning, he is the co-producer of the exciting new show *Law & Order: Special Victims Unit*.

"I started out in 1987 as a production assistant in commercials – just about the best education for the business. It is very intensive, very laborious, and picking up the director's dry cleaning can be tough. I did everything! Camera assistant, costuming, electrician, grip, stunt double, you name it. The hours were long. Thirty-hour days were not uncommon," Joe said.

He got his big break when the producers of the television series *A Year in the Life* called and offered him an assistant position on the show. "I took it. I wanted out of commercials and into the TV series biz. Again, I did everything no one else wanted to do. I delivered scripts, took photos,



got lunch, answered phones, and, of course, picked up dry cleaning. But the saving grace was that the associate producer taught me about post production," continued Joe.

He took that knowledge and got a job on the short-lived series *Almost Grown*. From

there, he went on to the successful *China Beach* and then to *Northern Exposure*. He started as post-production supervisor and worked his way up after five years to associate producer. "Talk about a very creative environment!" According to Joe, "The guys working on *Northern Exposure* were brilliant. It was great to be able to contribute to the success of a wonderful show."

He worked as co-producer of several other shows and is now working on the new *Law & Order: Special Victims Unit* series. The show is similar to *Law & Order* but has a more emotional feel. It airs Mondays at 9:00 p.m.(CST) on NBC.

Along the way, Joe found time to get married to California girl Jill Kramer ("She kept her last name - easier than Lazarov"). Jill sells radio air time for a local station. They have no children but

lavish love on their two cats, Luka and Peach, and their poodle, Jack.

Joe visited the MUS campus last May and enjoyed some good memories. "The theatre department did give me some insight into the world of production. Mr. Saunders was a great teacher. He gave us freedom to express ourselves as kids, students, and actors. Mr. Brown's math classes were more than math classes. There were days when we talked as a group about life. These were meaningful discussions. And my friends — I liked spending time with people who were growing just like me, people who saw the world a little differently and shared those views."

"It was a great visit," Joe continued. "Seeing a lot of my old teachers and seeing new ones that I went to school with – wow, what a trip in time! I want to thank Mr. Brown for taking the time to visit with me and tell me how the school is running now and the changes that have occurred since I graduated. I am sad to know the older buildings will be torn down. But that's progress! I hope the new students will appreciate the upgrades."

'83

**Wyatt Isbell**  
Class Representative

**Charles Jalenak's** wife, Monique, dances for Ballet Memphis. Charles and Monique were married in July.

'84

**Bob McEwan**  
Class Representative

**Frank Watson** is an attorney for Baker, Donelson, Bearman, & Caldwell. Frank recently argued and won his first case before the Tennessee Supreme Court. The case involved the enforceability of liquidated damages in an executive's employment contract. The Supreme Court accepted the position of Frank's client that Tennessee law should be changed so that the contract could be enforced.

**Walker Hays** was promoted to managing director at Wunderlich Securities, Inc. He previously served as senior vice president.

**Rick Fogelman** was selected to the *Memphis Business Journal* "Top 40 Under 40" list for 1999.

'86

**Paul Anderson**  
Class Representative

**Paul Anderson** is with Union Planters Trust & Investment Management as senior portfolio manager. Paul and his wife, Jennifer, have a daughter, Ella.

**Michael Patterson** is currently Chief Orthopaedic Resident at the University of Kansas Medical Center. He has recently been offered the position of Orthopaedic Spine Surgery Fellow at the Texas Back Institute in Dallas. He and his wife, Courtney, have two children, Courtney and Claire.

'87

**Jonny Ballinger**  
Class Representative

**Brian Yates** of Morgantown, NC, had a presentation of his recent works of art at the Germantown Performing Arts Centre in October 1999.

**Danny Wilson** lives in Worcester, MA, and is an engineer with the Norton Company. He and his wife, Beth, have a son, Adam.

## Gardner Visits Japan on Fulbright Scholarship

**David Gardner '84** was one of four Tennessee teachers selected to travel to Japan for three weeks in November 1998 as a member of the prestigious Fulbright Memorial Fund Teacher Program. Participants were chosen based on their proposals for sharing their experience with their students. David's proposal included documenting his trip using a variety of media and e-mailing his students at St. Mary's Episcopal School as he traveled.

One hundred ninety-six educators were the guests of the Japanese government, with the goal of absorbing all aspects of Japanese culture. The teachers spent time with host families, as well as visiting classes from the elementary school level to university. On their return to the United States, each teacher developed innovative ways to share the newfound knowledge of Japan with their schools and communities.

David's plan to include students started before he left Tennessee. Wanting to take a little of America with him, he asked students at St. Mary's and St. George's to fold paper cranes for the Hiroshima Peace Memorial. Transportation of the origami was courtesy of Federal Express.

David spoke in a chapel program last spring describing his three weeks in Japan. He was especially moved by his visit to Hiroshima and had much praise for the kindness of the Japanese people.



'88

**Gary Wunderlich**  
Class Representative

**Jon Van Hoozer**, Class Agent

**Thomas Hussey** was recently elected to the board of Hands on Memphis as vice president for Fund Raising. Thomas works at Diversified Trust Co.

**Jay Keegan** is back in Memphis and was named director of Sales and Market Development at Adams Keegan, Inc. Previously, Jay served as manager of the Chapel Hill, NC, office.

**Frank Colvett** was selected to the *Memphis Business Journal* "Top 40 Under 40" list for 1999.

**Chris Sullivan** has "officially" retired from the pro snowboarding tour in order to pursue a career in law. He has stated that he will still compete in two to three events a year, if he can sneak away.

**Robert Knapp** recently passed through Memphis on his way to Manhattan. He had been living in San Francisco for the past seven years and decided to try living

on the East coast for a while. He will be residing in his van, down by the river, until he finds a permanent residence in Manhattan.

**Marc Gurley** has been moonlighting from his two golf stores, Double Eagle Golf. He fronts a rock band called Dust for Life along with **Jason Hughes '87**. The band has been played frequently on local radio and performs regularly throughout the city. Their debut album is sold in local Cats music stores.

'89

**Andy Cates**  
Class Representative

**Jason Fair**, Class Agent

The Class of 1989 had their tenth reunion during MUS Homecoming weekend October 8-9. All who attended said the reunion was a blast and that **Jason Fair**, *et al.*, did an awesome job of putting it together and seeing it through. Jason thanked all that came and said it was a great time.

**Peter Knoop, Jr.** has been appointed associate vice president at Morgan Keegan & Co., Inc.

**Matthew Crosby** and his wife, Jeanne, will be moving this fall from Memphis to Hanover, NH, for two years so Matthew can work on his MBA at the Tuck School of Business at Dartmouth College.

**Jon Jenkins** and his wife, Deana, have moved to Charleston, SC. Deana is in nurse anesthesia school at the Medical University of South Carolina, and Jon is taking post-baccalaureate classes at the College of Charleston.

Captain **Pat Hopper** is still in the Air Force and is working in classified programs doing advanced space research and development at Los Angeles Air Force Base. He earned his Contracting Officer's Warrant, which means he can now bind the Government contractually—and go to jail for breaking laws! He recently attended Squadron Officer School in Montgomery, AL, and was recognized as Distinguished Graduate. While in Alabama, Pat met up with **Scott Sherman** in Atlanta. Pat's wife, Angie, is a second-grade teacher and loves LA. They have a guest bedroom (no kids yet!!) that is available for visitors, but call in advance. **Swayne Latham '90** visited them over the fourth of July. Pat and Angie still come to Memphis about twice a year for the BBQ Fest and Christmas.

**Daniel Shumake** graduated from the University of Mississippi with a B.A. and is presently a senior at Washington & Lee University School of Law. He will

graduate in June 2000. Daniel is president of the Legal Christian Society of Washington & Lee School of Law and participates in intramural football and basketball. He and his wife, Ava, have two children, Ann Elizabeth and Daniel, Jr. Daniel has accepted an invitation to join Glankler Brown law firm as an attorney upon graduation in 2000.

**Andy Cates** and his wife, Alison, moved from Dallas back to Memphis within the last few months. He has opened an office and is selling commercial real estate.

**Peter Monaghan** works with Smith Barney in Memphis.

'90

**Andrew Sutherland**  
Class Representative

**Andrew Sutherland** has been appointed vice president at Morgan Keegan & Co., Inc.

**John Ballentine** works for Nextel Communications, and has purchased his first home in mid-town Atlanta.

'91

**Brett Grinder**  
Class Representative

**Darrell Cobbins**, Class Agent

**Christopher Lamberson** recently passed the bar exam. He is an associate at Glankler Brown.

**Will Deupree** is the second of the Class of 1991 to be listed as "Top 40 Under 40" by the *Memphis Business Journal*. **Darrell Cobbins** was on the list last year.

'92

**Preston Miller**  
Class Representative

**Brandon Westbrook**, Class Agent

**Harry Sayle** has been appointed associate vice president, Fixed Income, at Morgan Keegan & Co., Inc.

**Cort Winsett** moved to Nashville and has been promoted to vice president of Winsett-Simmonds, Inc.

'93

**Gil Uhlhorn**  
Class Representative

**Thomas Quinlen**, Class Agent

**Thomas Quinlen** and **Brandon Ehrhart** will both graduate (they hope) from Vanderbilt Law School in May 2000. Thomas is planning to stay in Tennessee, while Brandon is looking at more exotic locales for his practice, such as Seattle and Denver.

**Gil Uhlhorn** and **Ben Hutton** will graduate from the University of Tennessee Law School also in May of 2000. Ben is engaged to be married shortly after graduation to his lovely fiancée, Shannon. He has no plans at this time to organize a "Tom Hutton, Jr. for President" campaign.

**Dean DeCandia** and **Jack Irvine** are both in their second year of law school at the University of Memphis. Are we seeing a pattern here?

**Jon-Paul Hickey** is still slaving away for JP Morgan in New York City, but he has recently threatened to return to the South. However, inside sources report that Jon-Paul has taken to saying "you guys," so rumors of his return are likely greatly exaggerated.

**Jim Alexander**, who was married this past summer to his now-wife, Tracy, has recently moved back to Memphis after landing a job with Ducks Unlimited. Jim has yet to convert Tracy to hunting, as she "doesn't like to get all bloody."

However, the good news for Jim is that with these new developments, the *Owl's Hoot's* prediction that ten years after graduation Jim would be shot in the woods after being mistaken for a bear is unlikely to come true.

**Tom Wright**, no longer "Tommy," is selling pharmaceuticals for Upjohn in Florida. Tom reports that "the retirement communities get really quiet at night." He's having a blast.

**Daniel Warlick** is at The Buc.

**David Young** has been working as an engineer for General Motors in the tires

## MUS Salutes Our Top Five Under Forty

The *Memphis Business Journal* annually selects the "Top 40 Under 40"—forty movers and shakers of the community who are also under the age of forty. Congratulations to five MUS graduates who made the list this year!



**Frank H. Colvett, Jr.**  
Class of '88  
Executive Vice President  
& Corporate Treasurer,  
GreenScape, Inc.



**William W. Deupree III**  
Class of '91  
First Vice President/  
Investment Management  
Consultant, Morgan  
Keegan & Co., Inc.



**Richard L. Fogelman**  
Class of '84  
President, Fogelman  
Properties, Inc.



**William E. Orgel**  
Class of '81  
President, Majestic  
Communications Co.



**Kelly H. Truitt**  
Class of '81  
Senior Vice President,  
CB Richard Ellis



## Goldmacher Works to a Different Beat

**Cliff Goldmacher '86** addressed students at a chapel program this fall on the topic, "How to Turn a Degree in Political Science into a Career Playing Guitar for Drunk People."



What he really did was briefly touch on his life after MUS, earning a degree from Stanford University, teaching English in France, and opening a recording studio, Cliff's Walk-In-Closet, in Nashville where he produces and writes music. He spent the majority of the chapel program thoroughly entertaining students and faculty with his music and his message: work at something you love to do — you will be happier and you can usually find a way to make it profitable.

When asked how he comes up with words for his music, he commented that he relies on his observation of people, sighting one of his lyrical examples: "Men are stupid, women are crazy."

In preparing for his chapel program, Cliff was inspired to write and perform an original song which he dedicated to the school, entitled "Song for MUS" — and it goes like this:

*"Remember as you're studying and taking your exams  
Work hard and pay attention, it's worth it in the end  
You might wind up a musician, here's one good reason why  
You can come and sing in Chapel and you don't have  
to wear a tie."*

You can catch Cliff performing at Borders Bookstore when he's in Memphis. It will be well worth your time!

After his performance, Cliff Goldmacher met with students in the courtyard to discuss the business side of his music career.



## Wanderman Thrives in Politics

At the beginning of the year, **Greg Wanderman '91** was named the executive director of the Tennessee Democratic Party. Since mid-February, he's been in Nashville, running the day-to-day activities of the party. He works with the congressional delegation, the Vice-President's office, and the Tennessee legislature. His responsibilities include disseminating the Democratic message and helping elect Democrats statewide.



Greg's interest in politics began early. After graduating from MUS in 1991, he attended the University of Tennessee in Knoxville, where he majored in English literature with a minor in Political Science. Greg took a short break from his college career when he accepted a promotion from Warner Brothers Studio Stores and moved to Oklahoma as a gallery supervisor. He returned to Tennessee to finish his degree a year later.

Greg interned at the State Legislature in Nashville for State Representatives Wayne Ritchie and Joe Armstrong. After his internship, he moved back to Knoxville and worked as a runner for Wayne Ritchie's law firm, then moved to Brisbane, Australia for three months, gaining legal experience as a clerk in an international law firm.

On his return to the United States, Greg went to work for Horne Properties as the Director of THE BEST for Tennesseans, Doug Horne's Political Action Committee (PAC). The PAC was successful in helping elect many Democrats in the 1998 elections. When Doug Horne was elected State Party Chairman in January of this year, Greg was asked to assume the position of executive director of the party.

Greg is especially excited about the upcoming year. Vice President Al Gore is moving his national headquarters to Nashville and Greg will be working closely with Gore's campaign staff in coordinating Gore's run for the presidential election. According to Greg, "The election will definitely give me a few more gray hairs, but I'm really looking forward to an exciting year."

and wheels division since he graduated *cum laude* from Notre Dame three years ago. Last May he completed his first M.A. in Engineering from Purdue. He is now applying for a General Motors Grant, which would allow him to complete his MBA in two years as a full-time student at the university of his choice. After much research, he has narrowed his selections to the business schools of Wharton, Harvard, and Cornell. David attributes much of his success so far to the educational background he received from MUS.

**Hart Weatherford** recently moved to Nashville, where **Will Adams** is also living, along with the aforementioned Vandy students.

If you weren't mentioned in this update, and you know where you are and what you're doing, let either Gill Uhlhorn or Thomas Quinlen know about it. Thomas can be reached via e-mail at Thomas.Quinlen@earthling.net.

'94

**Kirby May**  
Class Representative

**Jason Whitmore**, Class Agent

**Spencer Reese** graduated from the University of Tennessee Knoxville with a B.A. in English. He is currently enrolled at the University of Memphis in the master's program and will soon be entering law school in the fall of 2000.

**Taylor Hewgley** is finishing his undergraduate degree at the University of Memphis after transferring from the University of Tennessee Knoxville. Taylor plans to enter law school in the fall of 2000.

**Brian Edmonds** graduated from the University of Tennessee Knoxville this past May with a degree in general business. He traveled Europe for three months, from Italy to Spain and up to Great Britain and Ireland and everything in between. The highlight of his trip was playing golf at the old course in St. Andrews, Scotland. He is now back in Memphis working with his family as operations manager at St. Clair Foods, Inc., and living in Harbor Town.

'95

**Jeff Murray**  
Class Representative

**Blake Bourland**, Class Agent

**Sean Lyttle** was cast as Cain/Japheth in Playhouse on the Square's presentation

of *Children of Eden* that ran from August 27–September 26. Sean also has appeared at Playhouse in *The Rocky Horror Show*, *Return to the Forbidden Planet*, and *The Who's Tommy*. He is a recent B.A. graduate of the Rhodes College theater program.

**Marcello Guerra** is a new science teacher at Pace.



Two MUS graduates, **Will Thompson '95** and **Richard Moore '98**, played for opposing teams in the 1999 season opener of UVA versus UNC. Virginia won the game.

'96

**Robert Dow**  
Class Representative

**Kennon Vaughn**, Class Agent

**Matthew Rose**, a senior at the University of Virginia, is a biology major. Matthew is president of the student body, College of Arts & Sciences, an Echols Scholar, and a Barry Goldwater Scholar (scientific research).

**Tommy Luck** is a senior at the University of Tennessee Knoxville majoring in honors history. He spent fall semester 1998 at the University of Swansea in Great Britain. Tommy plans to go to law school after graduation.

**Chad Ballentine** is in his third year at the University of Montana. While serving on the student senate, Chad sponsored legislation for the establishment of a Department of Transportation at the university. Passage of this legislation will result in saving not only money but also the environment, as it promotes alternative transportation options for the university family.

**Andrew Alissandratos '99** stands at attention as a "rat" at Virginia Military Institute.



'97

**Trey Jones**  
Class Representative

**David Hwang** is spending his junior year studying biochemistry at St. Edmund Hall College of Oxford University in England. Last year he was one of two sophomores selected by the Emory academic dean's office for this particular junior year study-abroad program. Last semester David received one of the national Barry Goldwater Scholarships for science students. That two-year U.S. government scholarship and his four-year Emory scholarship are funding his year at Oxford as well as his senior studies at Emory next year. David spent this past summer in Memphis working as a clinical research assistant at Methodist Hospital.

'98

**Don Drinkard**  
Class Representative

**Eric Clifford**, Class Agent

**Jason Lewin** is a sophomore at the University of Tennessee and was named the 1999 Southeastern Lacrosse Conference player of the year. Jason set a school record scoring seventy-two goals and twenty-two assists (ninety-four total offensive points) as he led the Volunteers to the SEC title, its first since 1994.

'99

**Chip Campbell**  
Class Representative

**Norfleet Thompson**, Class Agent

**Ben Bailey** is at The Peddie School and is making weekly news on the football field. Ben is doing it all — receiving, running, scoring, and kicking. In the 76th game between Peddie and Lawrenceville, Peddie's oldest football rival, Peddie School was victorious with a 33-7 win. Ben scored two TDs and made three kicks.

**Robert Word**, who left MUS in 1996 when his family moved to Knoxville, graduated in May from The Webb School of Knoxville where he was secretary/treasurer of the senior class and captain of the baseball team. Robert received the Spartan Award his senior year for best male athlete in the school. Robert is a freshman at the University of Virginia where he is a student/athlete playing baseball for the Cavaliers.



# Reunion Weekend Homecoming '99

Quarterback Paul Gillespie takes the snap from Nick Godwin in the homecoming game against Baylor. MUS won 17-14.



Winners of the Alumni Golf Scramble were Stuart Collier, Keith Ingram, Jim Varner, and Bob Loeb, all from the Class of '73.

Cheerleaders try to stay dry during halftime activities.



Defensive players Daniel McDonell (55) and William White (61) stand ready for action at the snap.

Homecoming Queen Lauren Daniel is escorted by Jay McDonald amidst a downpour.

The annual pregame barbecue brought about 300 alumni, parents, and their families to campus.

*Right:* Elizabeth and David Rudolph '81 with a four-man team of their own

*Far right:* Members from the Class of '79, Chip Wood, Gordon Summerfield, Cam McCaa, Fleet Abston, Jeff Peters, Robert Sparks

*Below:* Robert MacQueen, Kenneth Lee, Trey Thomas, and Ted Cooper, all from the Class of '89

Bentley Long '79 and his family

Low-net winners at the golf scramble were Grey Sellers '74, Jerry Martin '79, Daniel Brown '78, and Tom Preston '74.

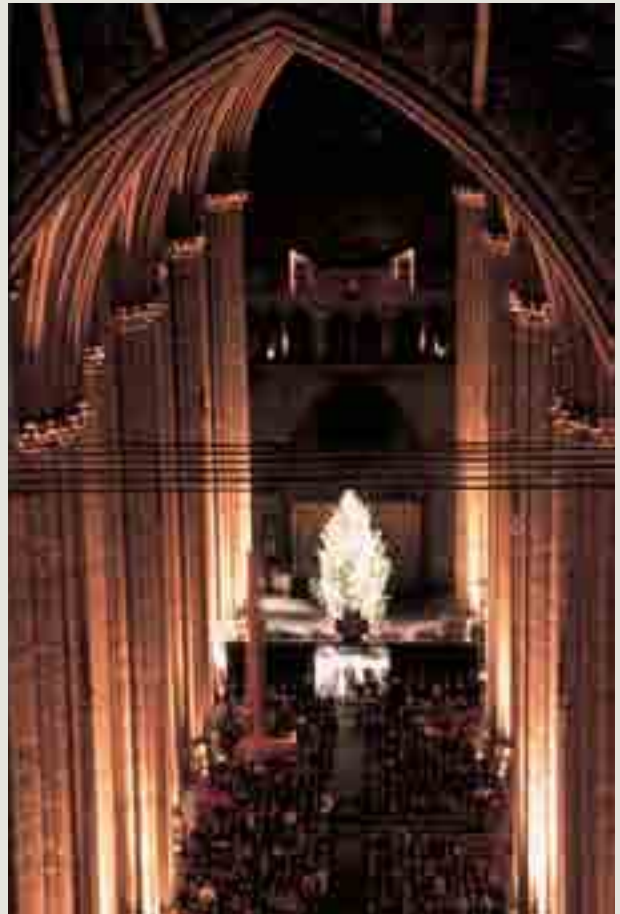




# HAPPY HOLIDAYS

FROM MARK CROSBY

Mark Crosby '79 recently published a book of photography entitled *New York Christmas* (Universe, 1999), surprising since Mark is not a professional photographer. He's a New York lawyer specializing in intellectual property. Upon graduating from MUS, he spent a year at Interlochen Arts Academy in Michigan, after which he attended Furman University ('84) and Washington & Lee University School of Law ('87). So, how did Mark become the creator of a Christmas book? *MUS Today* asked Mark to submit to a few questions. He did and sent along these images from his book.



**Q. You are a lawyer, correct?**

A. Correct.

**Q. So where did you get the idea for your Christmas book?**

A. From a big snow storm, actually.

Around New Year's, 1996, New York City got close to three feet of snow in one night. The next day was sunny, but with so much snow, everything was closed. So I spent the whole day taking pictures. Christmas decorations were still up all over town, and the wintry cityscapes were great for shooting. When I got my pictures back, the idea for a book took hold almost immediately, especially when I learned no such book was in print.

**Q. Why did a book occur to you? You're not a professional photographer.**

A. True. But I thought it'd be fun to try to develop the idea, however I could.

I was at most an occasional photographer when the big storm hit. I'd never published or sold a single photograph, much less a book of them. Besides, more than a day's worth of pictures was needed for the idea, and Christmas had already passed. So, I set out to find existing



photography of New York at Christmas and, acting more like an editor, intended to put together the best of what I had shot with the best of what I might find.

**Q. But it's a book of your photography?**

A. It is. But that didn't happen until much later. I discovered shortly after I started looking at Christmas photographs from stock photography agencies and photographers who I knew or learned about that, while finding great stuff, most of what I wanted to see was missing: cathedrals, brownstone townhouses, events of the season, etc., generally the less commercial things. So I began mapping out all I'd need with an eye toward shooting it the following season. I even teamed up with some other photographers and paid their expenses.

And that's what I started sending around to publishers. Only I was not to get any publisher interested until the fall of 1998. By then, I had learned a good bit about photography, having taken several classes, worked with other photographers, and shot a great deal of film, all the while making the collection of images more and more mine. When I finally caught the interest of Universe, the book's publisher, they wanted only one photographer. They asked me to identify which photographs were mine

and to fill in any resulting gaps, which I did this past season. That's how the book came to be mine. I more or less backed into it.

**Q. How did you get Universe interested in your photographs?**

A. Believe it or not, I went to a seminar at a photographers' convention on how to get your pictures published. One of the panelists was from Universe, and I simply sent him my pictures a week or so later. Several months went by, in which I would call occasionally, with no response. And then, out of the blue, Universe called. We met, they said they wanted to do the book, and they asked me if I'd be interested in shooting a second book as well, all in one day.

**Q. What's next? Law or photography?**

A. Both, for the foreseeable future. I enjoy photography, but I'm a good way from making a living from it. Besides, it's been good being an attorney with respect to the book, since it contains a number of quotations from various sources and securing permissions and negotiating a price for them—which I undertook for the publisher—is one of the things I do as an intellectual property attorney.

**Q. Did being an attorney affect the publisher's impression of you?**

A. They didn't learn I was an attorney until well after they'd signed me on, when I was unable to

provide them with an artist's bio (you know, what galleries you've shown at, where you've been published previously, that sort of thing). All I could make reference to was six years of "school day, picture day," with which, to my surprise, they claim to be unfamiliar.

**Q. Any MUS visits in the near future?**

A. Actually, I was just there for my twentieth

reunion, the weekend of October 8. I stopped in to say hello to whoever was around and was lucky enough to pin down Bob Boelte, Ellis Haguewood, and Skip Daniel. Clearly their long-term memory is fading — they were glad to see me.



*Editor's Note: Mark's book, New York Christmas, is available online at Amazon.com and locally at Burke's Bookstore. His second book of year-round New York photography will be available next fall.*





*Grease* packed the house this fall. Now everyone has  
*Great Expectations* for the spring!

Mark your calendar: *Great Expectations*, March 30 – April 1, Hyde Chapel, 7:30 p.m.  
More *Grease* on page 13.

**MUS**TODAY

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