





Volume 12, Number 2, January 2010

WRITERS, LEADERS, EDITORS

by Anna Turnipseed

While most seniors are concerned with college application deadlines, **Cameron Crawford**, **Cliff Guyton**, and **Wade Laycook** are busy setting deadlines for other people.

They are editors of *The MUSe* (the literary magazine), *The Owl* (the yearbook), and

The Owl's Hoot (the student newspaper), respectively, and they tackle their additional tasks with enthusiasm and experience.

As editor of the yearbook, Guyton said he always keeps the purpose of his publication in mind.

"The yearbook

tells the story of the school and its people," Guyton said.

As editors, the three manage staffs, make assignments, oversee and approve layouts, proof and edit writing, and keep writers and photographers within deadlines. All three seniors agree that it is difficult to ensure that pieces will be completed on time, and they are

often the ones who pick up the slack. Yet, being in charge still has its advantages.

"As editor-in-chief, I can more closely steer the paper to my vision of an ideal school newspaper," Laycook said.

Crawford, who has been on the staff of both *The Owl's Hoot* and *The Owl*, relishes the simple pleasure that comes with writing and editing.

"I've been writing for a few years and can't really describe what I feel when I get something down on paper that I know is good and is an accurate representation of what I was trying to say," he said.

While Crawford is not sure if his future

includes journalism, Laycook plans to continue his work after graduation.

"I'd definitely like to continue working in journalism,"
Laycook said. "It's certainly here to stay, just perhaps not as we currently know it. Obviously, established newspapers continue to die each day, but many publications are



Cameron Crawford, Cliff Guyton, and (standing) Wade Laycook

simply focusing their efforts online."

The Owl and The MUSe are annual publications, and The Owl's Hoot prints multiple times a year.

Each editor has a knowledgeable faculty adviser to assist him; Mrs. Terry Balton oversees

The Owl, Mr. Norman Thompson advises

The Owl's Hoot, and Mr. Nat Akin assists with The MUSe.



Straight From the Top

by Mr. Barry Ray, Upper School Principal

"Heart, miles and miles of heart," is a quote

from the movie *The Replacements*. In the movie, professional football players have gone on strike, and the league is playing with replacement players. In the final game of the movie, the team in question has the all-pro quarterback playing again; however, he isn't showing any heart, and the team's performance is dismal.

When the team breaks for halftime, a reporter asks the head coach, played by Gene Hackman, what is necessary for the team to get back into the game. His response is "heart, miles and miles of heart."

A couple of weeks ago, my heart decided to catch my attention. I was out walking the dog when I felt tightness in my chest and a numbing tingling down my left arm. It came and went for several days, and I saw a cardiologist the afternoon of Parents Back to School Day. Waiting those few days wasn't the smartest thing I've done, but, fortunately, we found the problem in time to do something about it.

I had major blockage in a couple of arteries. Over a two-week period, several stents were placed in those arteries to open them, and the cardiologist started me on blood pressure and cholesterol medication.

During this time period, my MUS family showed me its miles and miles of heart. I wish to thank and acknowledge all those who called, sent cards, sent flowers or food, and came to see me. The heart of MUS was evident from students, faculty and staff, parents, and trustees. This heart is one of the things that makes our school such a wonderful place.

The MUS heart is evident in many different areas here at school. Our students demonstrate their heart through activities, including the many Civic Service Organization projects in which they are involved, whether it is working at the Mid-South Food Bank, cleaning up areas in Memphis, tutoring younger students, or raising money for charities.

Service isn't the only way our students demonstrate heart. I think much of our success in extracurricular activities comes from a different kind of heart. Our students are resilient, determined, and supportive of classmates and teammates in their academics, sports activities, publications, club activities, and theater performances.

The MUS heart beats strongly and provides the lifeblood for a healthy and productive school. I'm thankful to be a part of this heart, and I believe Memphis is a better place because of it. We all need to be aware that we share the responsibility to keep this heart healthy. In the final analysis, it takes "heart, miles and miles of heart."

Inside MUS Table of Contents

Owlcolades

- 3 National Merit
- 4 Model U.N.
- **5** Octoberfestivus
- 6 Academic All-Stars
- **7** AP Scholars
- 8 Lower School Leaders

Sports Buzz

- 9 Varsity Football Wins State
- 10 JV Football
- 11 Homecoming
- 12 Varsity Cross Country
- 13 Varsity Golf
- 14 Myers Commits to Davidson
- 15 Lower School Golf
- 16 Freshman Football
- 17 Orange Makes History

Campus News

- 18 Open House Report
- 19 Fall Play
- 20 Charity Week
- 21 Look Who's Caught on Camera

Insights

- 22 College Corner
- 23 Spring Parent Speaker Series

Parents' Association

23 Letter From the Chairs

CORRECTION

In the fall issue of *Inside MUS*, Landon Finney
was misidentified as
Holt Perdzock on page 20.

Honored Owls

During the fall semester, more than a quarter of the senior class was recognized for their academic performance by the National Merit Scholarship Corporation.

The corporation named seniors

Joseph Amagliani, James Arnold,

Barnes Chism,
Brian Davidoff,
Conner Davis,
Sam Ferguson,
Sam Harris, Louis
Jackson, Jon
Kastan, Evans
McCaul, Emmett
Montgomery,
Wilson Orr,
Brad Ringel,
Jake Rudolph,
Ryan Saharovich,



(front row, from left) Louis Jackson, Cliff Guyton, (back row, from left) Gab Oigbokie, and Nigel Isom

and **Mitchell Thompson** Commended Students. They are 16 of about 34,000 students who have been honored for their outstanding academic promise.

In total, 27 percent of the senior class received recognition. In addition to the 16 Commended Students and previously announced 13 National Merit Semifinalists, one senior was named a National Hispanic Scholar, two were named National Achievement Semifinalists, and one was named an Outstanding Participant.

McCaul said the number of MUS students honored is a reflection of the quality of students as well as the quality of the entire school and faculty.

"The recognition is important, but it demonstrates first and foremost the strong academic program at MUS," he said. "The school does a great job preparing us to be successful not only in the classroom, but also in the world itself."

Senior Cliff Guyton was recognized

as a National Hispanic Scholar, designating him as one of the top 5,000 of the highest-scoring Hispanic/Latino high school students in the United States and U.S. Territories who took the Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying

Test (PSAT/NMSQT). Guyton was also selected as a National Merit Semifinalist.

In addition, Jackson and senior **Nigel Isom** were named National Merit Achievement Semifinalists. The program recognizes outstanding African-American high school students, and Jackson and Isom are

two of about 1,600 semifinalists who will compete for National Achievement Scholarships.

Jackson said he is humbled by the honor and knows it can help him with colleges.

"This recognition will help me stand out from the thousands of other college applicants," he said.

Senior **Gab Oigbokie** was recognized as a National Merit Outstanding Participant. Oigbokie is one of about 3,100 outstanding National Achievement Program Participants who had his name sent to nearly 1,500 U.S. colleges and universities.

The National Merit Scholarship Program is an academic competition for recognition and scholarships that began in 1955. High school students enter the program by taking the PSAT/NMSQT, a test that serves as an initial screening of about 1.5 million entrants each year, and by meeting published program entry and participation requirements.

(front row, from left) Louis Jackson, Brian Davidoff, Sam Harris, Wilson Orr, Brad Ringel, and Jon Kastan (middle row, from left) Barnes Chism, Conner Davis, Evans McCaul, and Joseph Amagliani (back row, from left) Mitchell Thompson, James Arnold, Emmett Montgomery, Sam Ferguson, and Jake Rudolph (not pictured: Ryan Saharovich)







The Science Bowl team won the 30th
Annual High School Science Bowl
competition at the University of
Tennessee at Martin on Saturday,
November 14. Coached by Dr. Michael
Schwartz, Science Department
chairman, and Mrs. Analice Sowell,
chemistry instructor, members of the
team included (front row, from left)
junior Howard Choi; senior
Colin Thomas, team captain;
(back row, from left) seniors
Andrew Chinn and Will Taylor; and
sophomores Michael Green, Mark
Sorensen, and Nicholas Rouse.

The Best Laid Plans

ophomores **David Brandon** and **Michael Green** spent weeks prepping their cases for the YMCA Model U.N. conference last November. As lawyers

representing Botswana in the International Court of Justice (ICJ), they easily won the first round only to discover that, in round two, they had to switch sides and represent Namibia.

"The Botswana reps began using the exact same argument we had used in our case, and, after that, we noticed Botswana always won," Green said. "We had the same argument for our Namibian speech as all the other losing Namibian lawyers did, so we had to rethink our entire strategy. As we were researching, David found a document that contradicted all of the Botswana lawyers' arguments. We won round two by a landslide."

Brandon and Green had to delay celebrating because they had to represent Botswana in the third round of debates. In that round, those representing Namibia started using the evidence Brandon and Green had found. So, once again, the two had to regroup. While researching, Brandon discovered another document that contradicted

Bolivia

Michael Galligher and Avery Tosi



Michael Green and David Brandon displayed the three awards they won at Model U.N.

the one he had previously unearthed, cinching the win for the Brandon-Green team. The judges chose them to argue in the final case of the convention, something reserved for the two best legal teams. In the final competition, the teams had no prior knowledge of the case,

Brandon and Green knew their case would be difficult.

It was a dispute between the United States and Germany that

but they were given time to research.

involved the U.S. execution of two convicted German citizens.

"We had the harder side," Brandon said. "This case — the LaGrand case — was heard by the actual United Nations' ICJ, and they ruled in favor

of Germany. Even the Model U.N. justices said they disapproved of the specific case because of the level of difficulty for our side compared to the easiness of Germany's side."

Brandon and Green won the case against all the odds, which included three computers crashing, setting them back about two hours. Also, the opposing side's adviser held degrees in both government and law.

"It was very, very close," Green said.

Brandon and Green won every award they were eligible to win, which included awards for the Outstanding Respondent, Outstanding Memorial, and Outstanding Counter-Memorial.

Yet, at the end of the convention, they were not the only MUS students to receive awards.

Senior **Alasdair Smith** won the Outstanding Delegate Award, and senior **Gab Oigbokie** won the Outstanding Press Award. The North Korea delegation of juniors **James Akers**, **Jeff Daniel**,

Billy Simco, and **Aaron Wolf** won the Outstanding Resolution Award.



Outstanding Press Award winner Gab Oigbokie

Students Conquer Latin Festival

by Anna Turnipseed

Latin students were a force to be reckoned with at the second annual Octoberfestivus Memphis-area Latin convention where MUS students won 16 medals, including one for the coveted Certamen championship.

On Saturday, October 24, 250 students from eight Memphis-area schools battled for bragging rights at St. Mary's Episcopal School in a variety of events, including chariot races, skits, spelling bees, and an academic Pentathlon.

"I was very pleased with the performance of our students," said Mr. Ryan Sellers,

Latin teacher and founder of Octoberfestivus. "We made a strong showing, especially in academic testing and Certamen, and I hope that we'll be able to build upon this success as we prepare for the National Latin Exam and the Tennessee Junior Classical League State Convention in the spring."

Sellers is justifiably proud of his students. The upper level Certamen team of junior Mason Soun and sophomores Eli Goldstein, Carson House, and Nicholas Rouse claimed the title of Certamen champions. The lower level team, made up of freshmen James Belina, Charlie Goodfellow, Srujan Jampana Raju, and Andrew Raves, came in second place.

"This is my favorite competition and, what has become, my favorite event," said Rouse, who last year was on the winning lower level Certamen team along with Goldstein. "We were down early in the finals, but rallied and made a comeback to win."

In the Pentathlon, senior **Wade Laycook** won first place in the Latin III-V division, with senior **Will Taylor** and



(front row, from left) Bennett Mercer, Kevin Szymkowicz, Alex Jarratt, James Arnold, and Jian Yin form a U with their hands. Also shown are (back, from left) Andrew Chinn, Will Taylor, Wade Laycook, Paul Stevenson, J.P. Wheeler, and Clint Montgomery.

Soun winning second and third places, respectively. In the Latin II division, Raves won second place, and there was a three-way tie between Belina, Goodfellow, and freshman

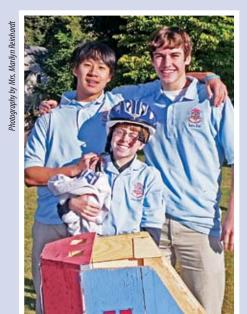
> Farhan Kathawala. Eighth grader Samuel Ostrow won for Latin I, with eighth grader Salman Haque placing third.

Ostrow was also a part of the first-place chariot race team, which included juniors **Jian Yin** and **Kevin Szymkowicz** pulling the chariot and Ostrow steering to victory. Ostrow was surprised by the win because their team had a few challenges to overcome, including their competition having twice as many chariot pullers.

"I knew that I was well prepared by my Latin teacher, Coach [Trey] Suddarth, for the Pentathlon, but the chariot race was a great surprise for me, especially after one of our pushers fell down at the start of the race, and we saw we were also up

against St. Benedict's four-manned chariot," Ostrow said.
"Octoberfestivus was a great way to enjoy Latin outside of the classroom."

Freshmen Sam Shankman and Jared Ashkenaz won Cinema Romana, a video production contest where the videos must have a classical theme. Haque took home the second-place medal in the Mythology Spelling Bee, with Shankman winning third place.



Jian Yin and Kevin Szymkowicz pulled Samuel Ostrow (in chariot) to a first-place finish in the Octoberfestivus chariot race.



An All-Star Fall

Seniors **Cliff Guyton**, **Michael Lewandowski**, **Emmett Montgomery**, and **Will Taylor** were recognized as weekly winners in *The Commercial Appeal*'s Academic All-Stars competition.

In addition to an ad in *The Commercial Appeal*, each All-Star also receives a \$250 First Tennessee savings account and an invitation to attend the All-Star Awards luncheon in the spring. During the luncheon, finalists will be announced in ten academic disciplines, and the winners will receive an additional \$500 in their savings accounts.



Cliff Guyton: General Scholarship

Guyton, who won for general scholarship, is a National Merit Semifinalist, a National Hispanic Scholar, and the yearbook editor. He has been inducted into five honor societies and won gold medals each of the last three years on the National Spanish Exam. Guyton, who aspires to become a doctor, has spent the last two summers working in healthcare. During the summer of 2008, he helped start the Como Cuidar Su Corazon Program, which educates the Hispanic community about preventive heart health. This past summer, he worked at Le Bonheur Children's Medical Center in the infectious disease lab conducting research on Bordetella pertussis (whooping cough). He co-authored a research paper on his findings and presented the paper at Le Bonheur Research Day.



Michael Lewandowski: Art

Lewandowski was recognized in the art competition. He is a National Merit Semifinalist and a National Honor Society member. The Student Council and other school organizations regularly depend on Lewandowski to design T-shirts and posters for school events. He recently submitted a portfolio of his artwork to Memphis College of Art and was selected to enroll in their AP Art class for high school students.



Emmett Montgomery: Foreign Languages

Montgomery won for foreign languages. An exceptional student in Spanish, he is a National Merit Commended Student and an AP Scholar with Honor. He has taken the National Spanish Exam every year and has ranked as high as third in the state. He attended MUS in Guatemala in 2008 and, soon after returning, volunteered for President Barack Obama's campaign in Chicago and Miami, where he spent his school breaks and weekends communicating with Spanish-speaking constituents. He is an accomplished classical pianist and is working on a recital that includes pieces by Spanish, Latin, and Mexican composers.



Taylor won his week for history. A National Merit Semifinalist and a member of the National Honor Society, Cum Laude Society, History Honor Society, and Latin Honor Society, Taylor is president of the History Club and co-captain of both the Knowledge Bowl and Knowledge Masters teams. He has added movie discussion nights and field trips to History Club activities, including a trip to Shiloh National Military Park.

AP SCHOLARS

Each year, thousands of students across the country take Advanced Placement (AP) exams. These exams often translate into college credit for some students. For 67 MUS students, their test scores earned them recognition as AP Scholars by the College Board.

Last spring, 143 MUS students took 271 AP exams in 19 subject areas. Six graduates, Robert Duffley '09, Michael Edwards '09, Rahul Kumar '09, Brandon Parrish '09, Harrison Rea '09, and Robert Vestal '09, qualified for the AP National Scholar Award by earning an average grade of at least four on all AP exams taken and grades of four or higher on eight or more of these exams. They had an average score of 4.73.

Twenty-five recent graduates and current seniors qualified for the AP Scholar with Distinction Award by earning an average grade of at least 3.5 on all AP exams taken and grades of three or higher on five or more of these exams. These students surpassed the qualifications by earning an average score of 4.54. They were:

2009 GRADUATES

Amro Amro

Will Benton

Johnny Carson

Robert Duffley

Michael Edwards

Lowell Hays

Thomas Ivy

Cliff Jones

Rahul Kumar

Evan Mah

Jim Moore

Tho Nguyen

Brandon Parrish

Matthew Preston

Harrison Rea

Matthew Shelton

Will Stokes

Robert Vestal

SENIORS

James Arnold

Will Carruthers

Andrew Chinn

Josh Feler

Chase Harriman

Wade Laycook

Reid Saunders

Twenty recent graduates and current seniors qualified for the AP Scholar with Honor Award by earning an average grade of at least 3.25 on all AP exams taken and grades of three or higher on four or more of these exams. The MUS average was 4.09. These students were:

2009 GRADUATES

Fadi Assaf

Drew Cornaghie

Evan Elmore

Russell Godfrey

Matt Grisham

Mathew Jehl

Gunther Lee

William Paxton

David Ruben

Wesley Shannon

Walt Wepfer

SENIORS

Cameron Crawford

Sam Ferguson

Ted Fockler

Christian Kauffman

Jon Kastan

Emmett Montgomery

Wilson Orr

Jake Rudolph

Matt Williams

Twenty-two recent graduates and current seniors qualified for the AP Scholar Award by earning grades of three or higher on three or more AP exams. The following students earned an average score of 4.28:

2009 GRADUATES

Mathieu Baker

Jared Davis

John Edwards

Drew Frisby

Lawson Mann

Andrew Maroda

Mustafa Motiwala

Robert Threlkeld

John Riggins

SENIORS

Joseph Amagliani

Brian Davidoff

Conner Davis

Cliff Guyton

Trip Freeburg

John Michael Hoyle

Evans McCaul

Will Taylor

Colin Thomas

Gab Oigbokie

Brad Ringel

Rocky Stone

Ian Turner



(front row, from left) Joseph Preston, Harrison Stewart, Will Farnsworth, Pierce Rose, Griffin Wilson, Patrick DiMento, Michael Apple, (back row, from left) Zack Spisak, Shaan Jiles, Nick Schwartz, Malik Smith, Chris Galvin, Trey Moore, Lucas Crenshaw, and Matt Stephens

Student Leaders Get Early Start

by Elizabeth Moak

He may be young, but eighth grader **Chris Galvin** is an important leader on campus. As the Lower School Student Council president, Galvin serves as an example to his fellow students and is responsible for leading Lower School assemblies and planning important events throughout the year.

"It's really fun to be able to organize our own events and activities," Galvin said. "They help bring together the entire Lower School."

For the 2009–2010 academic year, some of these events will include a student-faculty dodgeball game, a dodgeball tournament, and an NCAA Basketball March Madness bracket.

Mr. Clay Smythe '85, Lower School principal, also noted other responsibilities of the Student Council.

"The Lower School Student Council is responsible for the Lower School dance held in January, and they supply assemblies with speeches based on the MUS creed," Smythe said.

Galvin acknowledged that he doesn't do it alone.

Lower School Vice President **Malik Smith** is there with him along with a student-elected team of class officers, including

Eighth-Grade Representatives

Lucas Crenshaw, Patrick DiMento, Shaan Jiles, Trey Moore, Nick Schwartz, Zach Spisak, and Harrison

Stewart and Seventh-Grade

Representatives Michael Apple,



Lower School Student Council President Chris Galvin

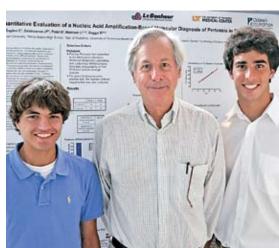
Will Farnsworth, Joseph Preston, Pierce Rose, Matt Stephens, and Griffin Wilson.



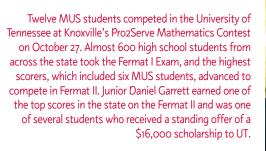
Dressed as members of the rock band KISS, (front row, from left) Will Taylor, Jon Kastan, Wade Laycook, (back row, from left) Colin Thomas, and Sam Ferguson won second place out of 40 teams in the Ole Miss Brain Brawl Tournament on Halloween. Going into the quarterfinals, the third-seeded MUS Quiz Bowl team went undefeated in their bracket, beating Arlington, Bartlett, Munford, and Ridgeway high schools. MUS faced Briarcrest Christian School in the quarterfinals and Arlington in the semifinals before losing to Madison Central, a Mississippi team, in the finals.



The National Council of Teachers of English has awarded senior Sam Ferguson one of its Achievement Awards for writing. The English Department selected Ferguson as its nominee from the senior class for the award. To be judged, he prepared a portfolio of his best writing, which included prose narratives about his rock band performing in a colorful dive and a timed essay affirming America's economic and cultural ascendancy against suggestions of the nation's decline.



Junior J.P. DeVincenzo, Coach Bill Taylor, and senior Cliff Guyton went to Le Bonheur Children's Medical Center's Pediatric Research Day. DeVincenzo and Guyton presented a poster based on the research they did this past summer on whooping cough under the direction of Dr. John DeVincenzo. They were recognized for the Outstanding Poster Presentation and received a \$100 award.



AN ENCORE PERFORMANCE

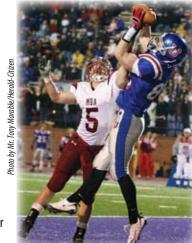
he 2009 varsity football team made sports history in Shelby County when their talent, unity, and character won them a second

consecutive Division II-AA State Championship and made them the only school in the county to lay claim to back-to-back undefeated seasons.

MUS got off to a great start in August in the traditional season opener, the AIM Charity/BRIDGES Kickoff Classic, which was held for the first time in the friendly confines of Stokes Stadium at Hull-Dobbs Athletic Field. Although the venue was different, the outcome was the same as the Owls won their sixth straight BRIDGES game by defeating Millington, 38-0.

Next, they easily handled Kingsbury before their first road game

of the year. But this game was no ordinary road contest. The Owls traveled south to Batesville, MS, to play national powerhouse South Panola in a game that aired live on ESPNU. The Owls jumped out to an early 21-0 lead. Although the Tigers came back briefly, MUS held on for an impressive 21-19 victory, ending the Tigers' 52-home game winning streak that dated to 2001. South Panola went on to claim the Mississippi 6-A state title later in the season.



Senior Bryan Crenshaw caught a touchdown pass.

Following a 59-7 victory the next week against Overton, the Owls returned to Mississippi for their fifth game to play Olive Branch, another regional powerhouse. The

game was close at the end, but MUS dominated and claimed the 20-15 victory to move to 5-0.

Sports Buzz

The team faced two of the best public-school teams in the area the next two weeks as they took on East and eventual 2009 Division 6-A State Champion White Station. Both had skilled players and potentially presented problems for the Owls, but MUS won by large margins.

The Owls finished the season in conference play as they took on and defeated three league rivals, St. Benedict, CBHS, and Briarcrest, which earned the Owls the top seed in the playoffs and a second-straight undefeated regular season.

As the top seed in the West, MUS had a first-round bye, and, with Baylor's first-round victory over St. Benedict, the Owls faced the Red Raiders in the quarterfinals. Although they led 10-0 at the half, MUS broke open the close game with 28 second-half points to take the 38-7 victory. Their semifinals' opponent was Father Ryan, a dangerous foe from Nashville. Despite making some uncharacteristic mistakes, including committing three turnovers and receiving a season-high nine penalties,

continued on page 10





An Encore Performance continued from page 9

the Owls secured a hard-fought 23-15 victory to advance to the title game.

Facing Montgomery Bell Academy, which had recorded upset wins over Ensworth and Brentwood Academy the two previous weeks, the Owls could not make mistakes if they wanted to claim their fifth overall state championship.

On a very cold night on December 3 at Tennessee Tech University in Cookeville, MUS did



Senior Quarterback Barry Brunetti, who was named the game's Offensive MVP as well as the Tennessee Titans Mr. Football Division II-AA Back of the Year

not commit any turnovers, forced MBA into a turnover, had only four penalties, and outlasted the Big Red, 27-17, to win the state championship.

Senior quarterback **Barry Brunetti** was named the Offensive MVP as he went 21-27 passing for 247 yards and two touchdowns, and senior linebacker **Harrison Martin** was named the Defensive MVP with his 15-tackle performance.

Despite all the team's accomplishments, Coach Bobby Alston maintained a composed focus all year and put the season into perspective.

"This season is a testament to the talent and character of a really great group of guys who chose the right path in becoming an outstanding team," Alston said. "We believe in competition, so we will always appreciate the victories, but I will really

Photo by Mr. Tony Marable/Herold-Citizen

Senior Drew Karban kissed the trophy, held by Coach Kyle Finney.

cherish the teamwork that this team displayed each and every day."

Brunetti was named the Tennessee Titans Mr. Football Division II-AA Back of the Year, while Martin was a finalist for Lineman of the Year, and senior **Christian Kauffman** was a finalist for Kicker of the Year. Kauffman had an outstanding season

as he went 18-19 on field-goal

attempts, including going 5-6 from more than 40 yards and 53-54 on extra points.

According to Mr. Barry Ray, Upper School principal and Owls' radio commentator, what the team accomplished this season is remarkable. They have won 26 straight contests, a school and county record, have been ranked No. 1 each week in *The Commercial Appeal*'s Dandy Dozen poll, and have been ranked in several national polls, including the *USA Today* Top 25. They committed only eight turnovers all season, including just one interception, which came during the game against Father Ryan. They allowed their opponents only 159 points all year, an average of just 12.2 per game, and they scored 495 points all year, an average of more than 38 points per game.

Much like last season, the formidable task for the coaches and underclassmen is to fill the void the 34 seniors will leave; however, because of the extensive experience that many of the underclassmen received this season, team members should find themselves once again competing for another state championship next year.

JV Future Looks Bright

he 2009 junior varsity football team not only completed an undefeated season this past year, but also gave the coaching staff and Owl fans confidence that more wins are coming from this group when they compete in varsity action.

The team finished 6-0 this season as they played a competitive schedule, opening with a 28-13 victory over Ridgeway. Then they shut out their next two opponents, Wooddale and Olive Branch, as they moved to 3-0. A 42-7 thrashing of ECS, a 21-7 win against CBHS, and a season-ending 21-14 victory over Briarcrest capped the year as the team played hard and gained essential experience.

Members of the team included: seniors **James Long** and Alex Perry; juniors Forrest Baty, Conner Caruthers, Terrence Cole, Elliott Collins, William Cross, John Edwards, Landon Finney, William Hepner, John Hudson, Jordan Keesee, Wilson Luttrell, Jason Manis, Britt McGuire, William Pickering, Wells Prather, Ben Roberts, and David Ursic; sophomores Toby Baker, Ben Benton, Durham Bryce, John David Christman, Britt Colcolough, Jackson Cross, Alex Crump, Daniel Cunningham, Alex Dale, Edward Good, Garrott Graham, Spencer Gruber, William Hammond, Wil Hergenrader, Anthony Hodges, Patrick Holt, Nick James, Mitchell Marino, River Morris, Holt Perdzock, Tunkie Saunders, Jazz Singh, John Sousoulas, Drew Stevenson, Nicholas Vergos, Jace Watkins, Dylan West, and Heath Wilder; and freshmen Ford Howell, Jak Kinney, Peyton Klawinski, Jonathan Phipps, Shane Tucker, Fernando Van Hook, and DJ Walker.

Homecoming 2009: MUS vs. East



Sam Ferguson, Carly Sain, Alasdair Smith, Anna George, Jake Abston, Homecoming Queen Lacy Moore, Peter Rainer, Amelia Brown, Hunt Hensley, Meredith Moreland, Travis Nauert, and Caroline Webb made up the 2009 Homecoming Court. The court was presented at halftime during the game.



Senior Barry Brunetti handed off the ball to senior Stephond Allmond while senior Elliot Bryant blocked. Along with senior Jake Rudolph, Allmond was named Mercury Player of the Game.



Student Council President Jesse Wade (front row, center) holds the Tennessee Secondary School Athletic Association (TSSAA) A.F. Bridges Division Award, given to schools that have had no reported unsportsmanlike conduct incidents during the previous school year and have displayed an overall positive effort to teach, expect, and demand a positive atmosphere of sportsmanship at their particular contests. With Wade are senior varsity football captains (front row, left) Harrison Martin, (front row, right) Drew Karban, (back row, from left) Keith McBride, and Bryan Crenshaw.

Senior Barry Brunetti was selected as a U.S. Army All-American and presented with his jersey, bearing No. 10. He is one of 90 high school football players invited to participate in the U.S. Army All-American Bowl. The game aired live on NBC, from the Alamodome in San Antonio, TX, on Saturday, January 9, 2010.

Senior Andrew Chinn was honored with the U.S. Air Force Great American Rivalry Series Scholar-Athlete Award and a \$500 scholarship to the college of his choice. The award, presented at halftime during the MUS vs. CBHS game on Friday, October 23, recognized the senior letterman with the highest GPA.

Crossing the Finish Line

George Ormseth, William Matt, Thomas Silas, Avery Tosi, Tripp Crews,

David Brandon, Chris Walker, Tate Yawn, and Buckner Hasenmueller

enior **Bobby Bell**'s proudest moment of the 2009-10 cross country season came when teammate and sophomore **Chris Walker** pushed ahead and beat him for the first time in the West Tennessee Cross Country League Championship meet.

"I had been coming in first on the team for several meets in a row, and, when Chris beat me, he did it because he pushed himself," Bell said. "It made me proud as a

senior. As a leader on the team, I felt as if I helped accomplish something. The future of this team looks bright."

Despite losing their number one returning runner from last year, junior **Shea Gabrielleschi**, to an injury early in the season, the young team stepped up and gained valuable experience.

The season started with the West Tennessee Invitational

at Shelby Farms, where the team came in eighth out of 16. The top five runners for MUS were Bell, sophomore **Charles Belina**, freshman **Buckner Hasenmueller**, and sophomores **George Ormseth** and **Tate Yawn**.

Next, the team came in 17th out of 45 at the Jesse Owens

Invitational where Belina, Bell, Hasenmueller, sophomore **John Oates**, Ormseth, Walker, and Yawn had the top seven times for the team. The same seven had the top team times at the West Tennessee Cross Country League Championship meet, where the team came in tenth out of 20.

Several runners competed as the junior varsity team and came in seventh of 14 JV teams competing in the

WTCCL meet. Freshman William Mann, senior Thomas Silas, freshman Matthew Reid, and sophomores Ross Warner and David Brandon were the top five MUS runners.

The varsity team's season concluded with a tenth-place finish at the state championship meet. Belina, Bell, Hasenmueller, Oates, Silas, Walker, and Yawn

were the school's top finishers.

Coach Joe Tyler said cross country team members have to be dedicated to running.

"Running is more than a sport," Tyler said. "It's a lifestyle. Every decision that is made needs to be based on how the decision influences a person's ability to run."

The 2009 cross country team also included senior Whitt
Thompson; juniors Blake Hennessy and Avery Tosi; sophomores Townes
Buford and Tunkie Saunders; and freshmen Charles Bettendorf,
Tripp Crews, Josh Patterson,
Austin Riggins, Blake Smith, and
Mac Trammell.



(kneeling, from left) Townes Buford, Buckner Hasenmueller, Tripp Crews, George Ormseth, Blake Smith, Thomas Silas, Matthew Reid, Mac Trammell, and Ross Warner (standing, from left) David Brandon, William Mann, Tate Yawn, John Oates, Bobby Bell, Whitt Thompson, Charles Belina, Avery Tosi, Chris Walker, and Josh Patterson (not pictured: Charles Bettendorf, Shea Gabrielleschi, Blake Hennessy, Austin Riggins, and Tunkie Saunders)

Par for the Course

he high point of senior **Wilson Orr**'s last high school varsity golf season came when he watched his teammates play the final hole toward the end of the second day of the <u>Division II-AA State Championship tournament</u>.

"Even though we knew we had been beaten, as a senior captain, it was awesome to see everyone putting all their heart into those last few holes, regardless of a win," Orr said.

For the second consecutive year, the Owls came in second place in the state match, which ended a stand-out season that included successfully defending the regional title and an

important addition – the introduction of Mr. Cliff Frisby, the new head coach.

"Coach Frisby gave us tips and instruction on our swings and short games," said sophomore **Daniel McLeod**, a three-year veteran of the varsity team. "He also worked with us on course management, which helped lower our scores. Coach Frisby is a great coach who encourages us and helps us do our best."

Freshman Zach Olsen echoed McLeod's assessment.

"He was at every match and tournament supporting us throughout the season, which showed us how much he cared about this team," he said. "He even brought snacks and drinks to competitions to help keep up our energy."

The team started the season on a positive note with their new coach, finishing third out of 11 teams in the Baylor Preview in Chattanooga. Junior **Jerry B. Martin** led the Owls, shooting a 145, followed by Olsen, who shot a 148. Orr and fellow senior captain **Holman Moores** both shot a 158, and McLeod shot a 159.

The team later won their matches against Briarcrest, CBHS, Houston,

St. Benedict, and St. George's. The varsity team also won the Dragon Invitational, beating 12 other teams, including Briarcrest, CBHS, Collierville, ECS, Germantown, Houston, and White Station.

The team won the Division II-AA Regional Golf
Tournament at Quail Ridge Golf Course, defeating
Briarcrest, CBHS, and St. Benedict. Martin came in first
place after a three-way tie-breaker. Olsen, the defending
Division II-AA individual state champion, came in second.

At state, the team came in trailing the winners by only eight strokes. Olsen led the Owls with a score of 145 and came in second individually in the match. Following Olsen was Martin, who shot a 147; Moores, who shot a 152; Orr, who shot a 154; and McLeod, who shot a 160.

"With four of last year's players returning, I had high expectations for this team, and they certainly didn't disappoint," Frisby said. "Throughout the season, the players had a never-quit attitude. I'm proud of these young men who put their heart and soul into this game, and I am looking forward to next season."

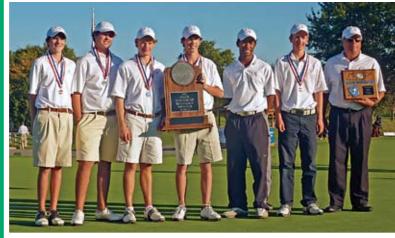
The varsity golf team included Martin, McLeod, Moores, Olsen, Orr, senior **Matthew Murphy**, junior **Clifton Jordan**, and freshmen **Van Putman** and **Jake Rudesill**.



Wilson Orr



Jerry B. Martin



Daniel McLeod, Jerry B. Martin, Wilson Orr, Holman Moores, Clifton Jordan, Zach Olsen, and Coach Cliff Frisby displayed the plaques won at state.

Myers Bound for Davidson

Senior and right fielder **Kelly Myers** signed his official commitment letter on Thursday, November 12, to play baseball at Davidson College.

"I love everything about Davidson — the personal relationships students develop with the faculty, the small class size, academic reputation and environment, southern locale, and the baseball team," Myers said. "The way the school treats athletics

fits what I'm looking for in a school and a team. Academics come first, and baseball is a close second. The coaches understand that their players are there to get an education above all else. It reminds me of MUS."

Myers will play for Coach Dick Cook, a two-time Olympic coach for Team USA. aware of how this would help him.

He started playing T-ball at the age of 5, and discovered that, even though he was right-handed, it was natural for him to bat left-handed. His parents thought he was holding the bat incorrectly. When he was 9, he met Beard, who became his first hitting instructor. Myers started to get serious about baseball and realized the advantages that his natural hitting style gave him.

"He was the person who got me into competitive baseball," Myers explained. "That started this entire process. I am grateful to have had the opportunity to work with him again in high school. He has helped me push myself to become a collegiate athlete."

He tried out for his first competitive



Members of the varsity baseball team came to support Kelly Myers (center, seated) when he signed his official commitment letter to Davidson. Teammates present included (seated, from left) Forrest Baty, Jason Manis, Drew Karban, Matt Williams, (standing, from left) Jake Deason, Alex Perry, Carson Smith, Victor Cole, and William Cross.

"He's a tremendous coach," Myers said. "I'm excited to learn from him and gain insights that will help me improve my game."

Coach Johnny Beard, head coach for the MUS varsity baseball team, believes Myers will get ample playing time as a freshman.

"Kelly and Davidson are a great fit for one another, and Kelly has all the tools that will make him successful as a college player," Beard said. "He is a stand-out right fielder and player who has blazing speed, a plus arm, and true potential to hit for power. As a left-handed batter, he has an advantage when up against a right-handed pitcher, which most high school pitchers are."

The advantage is that a left-handed batter is able to see the angle of the ball earlier than a player batting right-handed. This allows time to adjust for each pitch, but Myers wasn't always team, but didn't make it. Instead, he made a lower-tier team, the AAA team, but that just motivated him to try again. Hard work paid off, and, by the next year at age 11, he made the upper-tier team, which was called the Major League. He played for them for two years until he made the Goose's Gamers team, a highly-competitive baseball organization operated by Goose's Major League and named after former major-league pitcher Mauro "Goose" Gozzo. By the time Myers was 15 and a freshman at MUS, he became a starter on the varsity baseball team.

Myers, a 2009 All-Region selection, will begin his fourth year with the Owls in the spring, and he is a two-year veteran for the Dulins Dodgers, a traveling competitive baseball summer team.

KROEKER COACHES OWL FENCERS TO VICTORY

by Anna Turnipseed

Last year's saber team not only won its first fencing state championship, but six fencers also went on to qualify for the Junior Olympics and another four qualified for Summer Nationals. The previous year, the epee team won their first state championship. Those two seasons were outstanding for everyone involved, including the coach.

"Even after winning about 30 tournaments and competing at all national levels, coaching both the last two years' fencing teams at MUS has been the highlight of my fencing career," said Coach Brad Kroeker.

During the summer of 2009, fencing officially became the 14th varsity sport at MUS. Kroeker, who has coached the team as a club sport since 2004, was the obvious choice as the team's first varsity head coach.

"When our students requested that we adopt fencing as a varsity sport, it was apparent to me that the only person we could have as coach was Brad," said Athletic Director Bobby Alston. "It was through his passion for the sport that the team had grown from a few boys competing to more than 20. All of us at MUS are very excited about the future of this sport, and we know that Brad will continue to provide these boys excellent leadership."

According to Kroeker, who works full time at FedEx in Human Resources, the most important qualities of a good fencer are "athleticism, laser-like focus, a strategic mind,

and a balance between mental and physical concentration."

And he would know.
Kroeker's fencing experience
began in 1974 at the University
of Nebraska, where he earned
both his bachelor's and master's
degrees in music while advancing his fencing skills.

"I was very lucky to have an excellent coach of the fencing fundamentals and a competitive experience," Kroeker said.



Coach Brad Kroeker

After college, he took a break from fencing to focus on his family and career. Twenty-four years later, Kroeker returned to the sport after watching his two young daughters fall in love with fencing. Since his comeback in 1999, he has traveled around the United States, studying under various fencing masters and competing in countless tournaments that yielded impressive results.

In the summer of 2000, Kroeker won bronze medals in state saber, state epee, and in the National Championship veteran saber event. From 2000 to 2007, he won five state championships in men's epee, two state championships in men's saber, three state championships in the men's team epee, two state championships in men's team saber, 28 individual tournament wins in epee and saber, and 12 additional second- and third-place finishes.

In addition to competitions and coaching, he was the fight choreographer for Opera Memphis' productions of Don Giovanni, Porgy and Bess, Il Trovatore, Macbeth, Carmen, and Faust; the 2008 MUS production of Macbeth; and a Theatre Memphis award-winning fight in a Rhodes College production of Hamlet.

Short, Sweet, and Undefeated

The Lower School golf team's season was short, but sweet. Due to rain, they only competed in four matches, but they made each one count and ended the regular season undefeated.

In post-season play, the Lower School B team won the Shelby League B Tournament at Windyke Country Club. Eighth grader **Ellis Kennedy** emerged as the first-place finisher, followed by seventh grader **Proctor Ford** in third place and eighth grader **Michael Turley** in seventh. The A team finished third in the Shelby League A Tournament.

"I am proud of the way the guys represented MUS with class on the golf course," said Mr. Trey Suddarth, Lower School golf coach.

The team also included eighth graders **Kameron Bradley**, **Chandler Brown**, **Francis Carlota**, **Molitor Ford**, **Paul Stevenson**, and **Gary Wunderlich** and seventh graders **Hal Boyd**, **Hays Moreland**, **Ross Redmont**, and **Jim Waggoner**.



(front row, from left) Paul Stevenson, Chandler Brown, and Gary Wunderlich (back row, from left) Hays Moreland, Michael Turley, Kameron Bradley, Francis Carlota, Molitor Ford, Proctor Ford, Ross Redmont, and Jim Waggoner (not pictured: Hal Boyd and Ellis Kennedy)



Bryan Luttrell and Trey O'Neal

Freshman Football Roundup

The freshman football team completed a very successful season in late October with a convincing 35-0 victory over Briarcrest as the Owls finished the year 8-1.

The team began the season with a 12-0 victory over Ridgeway. After a 14-7 loss to Whitehaven in game two, the Owls won their last seven games of the year, defeating Olive Branch twice, White Station, ECS, St. Benedict, CBHS, and Briarcrest.

The Owls' offense averaged almost 25 points per game, and the defense gave up only 63 points all season, an average of only seven points per game.

The freshman season gives younger Owls a chance to learn the varsity system as they are coached by the varsity staff and practice with the varsity team, although most do not see action on Friday nights. With this very competitive schedule, they gain valuable experience as they hone the skills that will help them in future varsity games.

Members of the team included: Pete Abston,
Philip Aiken, Nick Antonelli, Warren Ball, Hall
Ballinger, Srujan Bethi, Matt Bolton, James
Burnett, Seth Carson, Jefferson Douglas, Chris
Evans, Chris Fiedler, Charlie Goodfellow, Ford
Howell, Jarrett Jackson, Srujan Jampana Raju,
Marcellous Jiles, Arbre Jones, Jak Kinney,
Peyton Klawinski, Edward Lake, Tate Lowrance,
Bryan Luttrell, Eric Mabry, Taylor Martin, Ryan
Mayzell, Caleb McCoy, Trey O'Bannon, Trey
O'Neal, Alec Ossorio, Jonathan Phipps, Andrew
Plunkett, James Rantzow, Andrew Renshaw,
Jordan Rodgers, Sylvester Tate, Alex Taylor,
Shane Tucker, Fernando Van Hook, DJ Walker,
Alex Weaver, Will Whitley, and Chase Youngman.

The Tradition Continues

by Samuel Ostrow '14

Once again, the eighth-grade football team went 7-0, completing an undefeated season for the second year in a row.

Quarterbacks Renn Eason, Calvin Scott, and James Sexton provided depth. When Scott threw the ball, a talented receiving corps, including Reggie Anthony, Mitchell Clark, Lucas Crenshaw, Sam Fowlkes, Tal Keel, Grayson Lynn, Jay Mitchum, Eason Taylor, Kenneth Watson, and Gary Wunderlich, took charge, and Will Morrison served as the team's primary tight end.

The running game proved to be potent, and was led by tailbacks Anthony, Logan Friday, A.J. Hunt, and Trey Moore.



Malik Smith blocked as Calvin Scott ran with the ball, followed closely by A.J. Hunt.

Fullbacks included Michael Fitzsimmons, Bud Harris, and James Prather.

The formidable offensive line was composed of Logan Bolton, Thornton Brooksbank, Francis Carlota, Andrew Counce, Austin Dobbs, Jake Eissler, John Estes, Fitzsimmons, B.J. Lewis, Zach Mahan, Dennis Parnell, and Malik Smith.

Defensively, the team held squads in check with their physical play. Linebackers

included Clark, Counce, Fitzsimmons, Harris, Keel, Lynn, Moore, Prather, and Sexton. They were effective because of an excellent defensive line, including Bolton, Carlota, **Von Churchwell**, Dobbs, Eissler, Estes, **Cole Ettingoff**, Lewis, Mahan, Morrison, Parnell, **Nick Schwartz**, Smith, and **John Valentine**.

Opposing quarterbacks rarely had successful passing plays because of an aggressive defensive backfield, led by Anthony, Crenshaw, Fowlkes, Friday, Hunt, Mitchum, Taylor, and Wunderlich, who adroitly handled all of the kicking duties.

Coached by Bobby Wade '84, John Barton '95, Larry Heathcott, Chris Rogers, David Thompson '02, and Robert Vest and assisted by team managers **Connor Goodwin** and **Jones Hussey**, the Owls dispatched their opponents, including White Station, Ridgeway, Colonial, A. Maceo Walker, Wooddale, ECS, and Briarcrest.

one for the History Books

by Elizabeth Moak

Lower School cross country team member **Rashad Orange** made history at the Shelby County 7/8 League Championship meet when he set a new course record with a time of 11:39.

"When I found out that I had set the new course record, I thought it was very cool," said Orange, a seventh grader. "But, in the end, I was just trying to get MUS to win the championship."

Orange won the race, which helped the Lower School team cinch second place, only four points behind St. Francis.

The team competed in the Jesse Owens Invitational in Oakville, AL, where they placed seventh out of 28 schools.

Led by Head Coach Matt Bakke, members of the team included: eighth graders Nicholas Beals, Berry Brooks, Bailey Buford, Lance Escue, Tyler Jacks, Ben Ormseth, Paul Stevenson, Harrison Stewart, and Cole Stockstill and seventh graders Alex Carruthers, David Clarks, Andrew Electry Version Green, Loff Guenther, Jonethen, Jonethe

David Clarke, Andrew Elsakr, Xavier Greer, Jeff Guenther, Jonathan Jennings, Luke Jordan, Robby Matthews, Jerry Oates, Orange, Joseph Preston, Preston Roberts, and Pierce Rose.

"We had an outstanding group of runners who worked hard, improved throughout the season, and had an impressive finish in the championship meet," Bakke said.



SEVENTH-GRADE FOOTBALL SEASON SUMMARY

Seventh-grade football team players knew they would face quality competition each game this season because they moved into a new league, the Parochial Athletic Association. Despite the transition, they made a good showing and improved throughout the season.

The team faced tough competition, including some teams of both seventh and eighth graders. They ended the 2009 campaign at 4–7, although they were competitive in most games.

The defensive line, composed of **Chandler Adkins**, **Will Hays**, **Lewis Hergenrader**, **Leak Pell**, **Peter Phillips**, **Sherman Tabor**,
and **Gaines Whitington**, provided plenty of
resistance at the line of scrimmage. Their play
made the linebackers' job easier. That corps was

Davis Baty, Jack Christenbury, Patrick Demere, Tom Garrott, Wesley Grace, Hayden Hunt, John Madden, Tristan Morris, Michael Reddoch, and Pierce Rose.

When teams tried to pass, defensive backs, including Marvin Banks, Xavier Greer, Will Hunt, Butch Matthews, Max Meyer,

Rashad Orange, Rose, **Carter Sweat**, and **Griffin Wilson** defended well and rarely gave up big plays.

Quarterbacks **Will Farnsworth**,
Garrott, and **Connor Wright** played hard and delivered the ball to a speedy set of backs, as **Mitchell Apollonio**, Baty, **C.J. Broady**, Christenbury, Grace, Madden, Rose, and **Jason Stein** all carried the ball effectively.

Offensive linemen Adkins, Chris

Boswell, Mike Carrier, Austin Darr, Mac Dickerson, Scottie Dill, Win Duncan, Hergenrader, Peyton Jones, Kamar Mack, Nicholas Manley, Jack McDowell, Selden Montgomery, Pell, and Ross Redmont blocked well and opened holes.

When the Owls threw the ball, their receiving corps moved it down the field.

Christopher Davis, Paxton Dixon,
Garrott, Hayden Hunt, Will Hunt, John

Kakales, Emerick Lester, Orange,
Whitington, and Wilson all became good route runners. On special teams, Christenbury handled the punting duties, and Sweat kicked off.

Facing quality competition, the Owls defeated St. Francis, ECS, Grace-St. Luke's, and Briarcrest while falling to St. Louis, St. Dominic, Holy Rosary, Briarcrest, ECS, and St. Anne.

Head coach Jim Burnett '83 and assistant coaches Craig Christenbury '83, Rankin Fowlkes, Drew Harris '83, and Scott Williams '85 taught the young men skills that will help them on future Friday nights.



Seventh-grade quarterback Connor Wright left his competition face down as he broke away with the ball.



Music Students Meet Beatles Authors

by Mr. John Hiltonsmith, Acting Fine Arts Department Chairman

The opening lyrics from "Paperback Writer" by the Beatles read: "Dear sir or madam, would you read my book? It took me years to write, would you take a look?"

Members of the MUS Recording Arts Program were given the opportunity to do more than take a look when they attended and participated in a lecture and Q&A by Mr. Brian Kehew and Mr. Kevin Ryan, authors of *Recording the Beatles*, the definitive book about how the Beatles achieved their landmark recordings in the 1960s.

The authors talked about their ten years of research for writing what is considered the most comprehensive study of the Beatles.

Even though other attendees were recording engineers and producers, our students were not lost to the technical jargon, largely due to the extensive content of the Recording Arts Program. Indeed, the students had already discussed many of the techniques and heard some of the recordings the authors highlighted.

Students who attended last fall's lecture were seniors Evan Baker,
Steven Bell, Edward Cates, Cameron Crawford, George Curran, Cort Gatliff, Cliff Guyton, Matthew Harriman, John Austin Monteith,
Ben Smith, and Ian Turner, as well as Mr. Grant Burke, an art instructor.

The event was hosted by John Fry '62, owner of Ardent Studios in Memphis, and the local chapter of the National Academy of Recording Arts and Sciences (NARAS). Because of the interest the MUS program has generated with NARAS and Fry, NARAS waived their \$25 per student entrance fee, a perk not granted any other non-NARAS members.

OPEN HOUSE REPORT

Open House on October 25 provided a relaxed opportunity for visitors, including 157 prospective students, to experience the campus and culture and to meet the people who make the school unique.

The diverse group of prospective students represented 46 regional schools, including 51 students from public schools and 106 students from independent, parochial, and home schools. Sixth graders comprised 54 percent of our student visitors, 27 percent were eighth graders, and the remaining 19 percent were from other grades.

Parent volunteers greeted each family when they arrived for the day's events, which included a campus tour led by Student Ambassadors and ninth- and tenth-grade hosts. Families could attend presentations on need-based financial aid and the admissions process, and prospective students met with faculty from all academic departments. More than 100 parent, alumni, student, and faculty volunteers welcomed guests and provided information.

Open House is one of many contacts that parents will have with MUS as they search for the right school community for their sons. Tours are available each day for interested families. If you know of a student who would be a wonderful addition to the school, please encourage his parents to contact the Admissions Office at (901) 260-1300.

Ambassadors welcomed prospective families to campus.



Ovid Playgoers Thrill to Metamorphoses

Man looks aloft; and with uplifted eyes
Beholds his own hereditary skies.
From such rude principles our form began;
And earth was metamorphosed into Man.

Thus the Roman poet Ovid began his classic work *Metamorphoses*, completed in A.D. 8. More than 2,000 years later, gods, goddesses, and heroes came to life on stage in Hyde Chapel, as MUSt C productions, the MUS Theater Company, presented *Ovid's Metamorphoses*, by Mary Zimmerman.

The production, under the supervision of Ms. Pamela Poletti, guest director, combined classical and contemporary elements, as selected tales from *Metamorphoses* were staged in an anachronistic setting. The set, designed by Mr. Andy Saunders, featured a multi-level platform interspersed with stone walls and columns reminiscent of a classical temple, a huge chandelier, and a fully-functional swimming pool.

Water is an important image in Zimmerman's conception of Ovid, serving as the unifying element in an otherwise loosely connected group of tales: Narcissus, King Midas, Alcyone, and Ceyx, to name a few. The cast of Ovid's Metamorphoses plunged into the stories – and the pool – with gusto.

Members of the ensemble cast played multiple roles in the various stories and never failed to delight the audience. Senior **Michael Lewandowski** appeared as King Midas and Apollo; junior **Alex Jarratt** portrayed Zeus, the therapist, and narrated various

Samuel Ostrow and Alex Jarratt

tales; and eighth grader Samuel Ostrow played Phaeton, Narcissus, and a number of other characters. Various gods were brought to life by the ensemble. which included seniors Klaus Garcia as Poseidon, Edward Cates, Gab Oigbokie, and Wilson Waller as sailors, swabbers, and henchmen; juniors Anand Patel as Bacchus and Richard Twardzik as Orpheus; sophomore Ashish Nathani as Eryschithon; freshman Sam Shankman as Vertumnus; and eighth grader Paul Stevenson as the slave buyer.

As always, MUS received superb help from other schools with guest actresses who comprised the female contingent of the ensemble. Standout performances were delivered by Alix de Witt, Mary Frances Street, Hannah Morehead, Elizabeth Parrish, Kirra Horne, and Ann Yacoubian.

"I chose Metamorphoses because its mix of ancient and contemporary elements along with its ensemble casting offered a refreshing departure from the style of our last few productions," said Mr. Tim Greer, theater director. "Playing multiple roles also presents an actor with challenges that help him grow as a performer and simultaneously gives him a chance to showcase his range. The play has been very successful on Broadway and around the country, so I had every expectation it would work well for our audience, which it did."

For Saunders, the set design was an interesting project that included one large and unique challenge.

"From a design perspective, the most interesting part of the project was putting a large body of water on stage," Saunders said. "The opportunity to do that kind of project doesn't come

along very often. We had more than 1,000 gallons of water on the stage. Of course, the cast had a lot of fun with that, as did the audience."

Junior **Joseph Levy**'s lighting design also featured some surprises, including motion projectors that simulated light



(clockwise, from bottom left) Alix de Witt, Kirra Horne, Wilson Waller, Sam Shankman, Gab Oigbokie, Mary Frances Street, Richard Twardzik, Ann Yacoubian, Anand Patel, Alex Jarratt, Klaus Garcia, Ashish Nathani, Michael Lewandowski, Samuel Ostrow, Elizabeth Parrish, Hannah Morehead, and Paul Stevenson

reflecting off rippling water and a fiery sunlight effect for the god Apollo.

"Sound design was crucial in this production, both for distinguishing locations and augmenting mood in various scenes," Greer added. "One of my favorite parts of our *Metamorphoses* was the original instrumental score, composed by Mr. Jonathan Saunders, the assistant director of IT. I've always enjoyed Jonathan's compositions, but I felt his work on *Metamorphoses* was absolutely stellar. We are blessed at MUS to have so much talent – and such a wide variety of talent – at our disposal."

Senior Ted Fockler was the stage manager for the production. Lighting was the work of Levy and sophomore Morgan Hunt. Sound was run by junior William Smythe. The set crew included: Smythe, Fockler, Hunt, seniors Kyle Anthony, Daryan Barnes, Daniel Clark, Conner Davis, Josh Feler, Chase Harriman, John Michael Hoyle, and Palmer Hunt; juniors Jake Deason, Landon Finney, Britt McGuire, Anand Patel, and Ben Roberts; sophomore Will Forsythe; and freshman Will Jones.

Up next for MUSt C productions is the Agatha Christie thriller *And Then There Were None*, directed by Fockler, on February 5, 6, and 7, 2010.

Richard Twardzik and Alix de Witt



CHARITY WEEK 2009

by Elizabeth Moak

Senior **Wilson Orr** faced a dilemma common to all civic-minded students when he was planning this year's Charity Week: There are simply not enough hours in the week.

Still, students clocked in more than 500 service hours September 14-17.

According to Orr, who is chairman of the Civic Service Organization, the CSO chose organizations the group had worked with in the past as well as new ones that needed the kind of help students could give.

"We wanted to think about what the students would enjoy doing as well as which organizations would be willing to work with a group of high school boys," Orr said. "We also needed to find groups that needed the kind of help we could provide — our time."

Orr and the CSO Executive Committee filled the week with opportunities for students to give back to the community. On Monday, 12 students hosted an ice cream party at the Ronald McDonald House for patients and their families at St. Jude Children's Research Hospital. Then, on Tuesday, students, parents, faculty, and staff donated 20 units of blood to benefit Lifeblood. That same afternoon, ten MUS students also tutored Emmanuel Center students.

Wednesday, which was Civic Service Day, proved to be the busiest day of the week, with three opportunities to serve the community. Thirty-one students spent their school holiday working with Eikon Ministries to clean up a Binghamton neighborhood. Another 22 students tutored Berclair Elementary third graders in math, and 48 students completed 20 routes to deliver meals to senior citizens and the handicapped as part of MIFA's Meals on Wheels program. On Thursday, 25 students made blankets for patients at Le Bonheur Children's Medical Center.

The week ended with Charity Week Carnival, which doubled as a school supply drive for FirstWorks. The CSO collected 324 items, including pencils, binders, art supplies, and backpacks.



Wilson Orr, University of Memphis Basketball Coach Josh Pastner, who spoke to students during a special Civic Service Chapel, and Reid Sanders

On Saturday, the CSO kicked off MIFA Handy Man, the new monthly project continuing throughout the year where students work to restore an elderly man's

home. During Charity Week, nine students painted the house's porch and interior.

The CSO Executive Committee, in addition to Orr, includes seniors Joseph Amagliani, Blake Anderson, Will Carruthers, Eric Catmur, Josh Feler, Holman Moores, and Reid Sanders and juniors James Davies, Chase Schoelkopf, Carson Smith, and Richard Twardzik. Grade representatives were instrumental during the week as well. They include seniors Stephond Allmond, Edward Cates, Hunt Hensley, Palmer Hunt, James Long, Patrick Nenon, and John Straton; juniors Jack Klug,

Aaditya Malhotra, Clint Montgomery, Stephen Newton, Joey Notowich,

Joel Saslawsky, and Russell Scott; sophomores Alex Crump, Edward Francis, Jake Greenstein, Morgan Hunt, Daniel McLeod, Joe Morrison, and George Ormseth; and freshmen Philip Aiken, Srujan Jampana Raju, Ryan Mayzell, Frederick Scharff, Amit Shah, Mac Trammell, and Jonathan Wilfong.



(clockwise, from top right) Joe Hoffsommer,
A.J. Kharbanda, Wilson Orr, Jonathan Wilfong,
Richard Hoffsommer, Taylor Bates, Bobby
Scott, Jake Rudesill, Richard Twardzik, and
Will Carruthers were part of the group
who hosted the ice cream party at the
Ronald McDonald House.

James Davies, Chase Schoelkopf, Carson Smith, and Josh Feler displayed the donations collected for FirstWorks.

CSO and Student Council Unite for Charity Race





After the race, sophomore Victor Cole and freshmen Andrew Miller and William Mann rested.



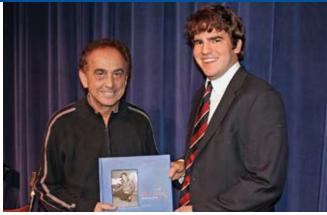


Sophomore Ross Warner and his parents, Susan and Bill Warner



Seventh grader Richard Ouyang came in first place in his age group in the 5K.

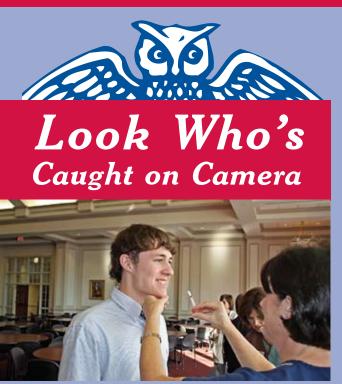
Campus News



Disk jockey Mr. George Klein presented senior Ted Fockler with a copy of Klein's book, Elvis, My Best Man: Radio Days, Rock 'n' Roll Nights, and My Lifelong Friendship with Elvis Presley, after Fockler answered an Elvis trivia question correctly. Klein discussed his friendship with Elvis during a Friday chapel presentation.



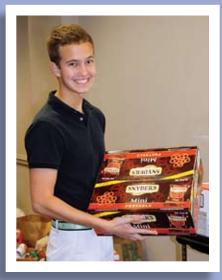
Mr. Bill Luckett, pictured with Mr. Eddie Batey (right), spoke to students in chapel on the history of the Mississippi Delta. The speech was part of the Rogers Leadership Forum, which is sponsored by the King and Judy Rogers Endowment for Leadership Development.



Sophomore Justin Dorning received his H1N1 flu mist vaccination from a Shots on the Spot nurse on one of the two days in November the school made it available to all students.



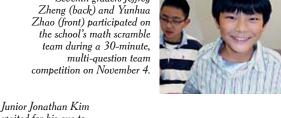
Seventh grader Mac Dickerson met actor Morgan Freeman at Freeman's restaurant Madidi in Clarksdale, MS.



Junior and Civic Service Organization Executive James Davies helped pack up some of the 6,657 canned and other non-perishable food items donated by the MUS community to help the Mid-South Food Bank. In addition to the food drive, the CSO, along with organizations at St. Mary's Episcopal School and Hutchison School, raised \$3,450 for the food bank through Gobble Gala, a semi-formal dance held Thanksgiving week.



Seventh graders Jeffrey



waited for his cue to set off the Mentos and Coke fountain during the American Chemical Society ChemClub Halloween demonstration on campus.



Freshmen Remy Rea and Sam Shankman built a catapult for their Latin class.



And the Beat Goes On

by Joseph Amagliani, Heartbeat Leader



Joseph Amagliani

During October, much of my time was spent working on my college applications. One question that schools consistently ask pertains

to extracurricular activities, and, being a Heartbeat leader, I have been able to include that activity on every one of my applications.

As I thought about my experience with Heartbeat, both as a student and as a leader, I realized that the program was much more than just another activity to list on applications. Heartbeat is a program where juniors and seniors who do not use any chemical substances meet with a group of seventh graders and discuss the dangers of drugs, alcohol, and tobacco. The meetings occur during lunch on four Thursdays throughout the year, and, during the meetings, we treat the seventh graders to pizza and discussions.

Mrs. Bebe Jonakin, who heads Heartbeat, collected this group of guys by asking students for recommendations about other students who do not use. That means students selected

as Heartbeat leaders are serious and passionate about teaching the seventh graders about the dangers of getting involved with illegal substances.

Educating younger students about the dangers of using tobacco and other drugs is essential because, in the next two years, they will be making serious decisions about their own paths throughout high school.

Thus, while we try to make the mood light and fun, the upperclassmen are also very serious about making sure the seventh graders understand the dangers of using chemical substances.

Throughout my time as a Heartbeat leader, I've been able to remember the similar position I was in as a seventh grader, and I use that experience to relate to the current Lower School students. This dynamic has made my experience with Heartbeat all the more meaningful because I remember how essential the decisions I made in seventh and eighth grade were in becoming the person I am now.



Heartbeat leaders for the 2009-10 school year include: (front row, from left) William Cross, Forrest Baty, Stephond Allmond, Wilson Orr, Sam Harris, (middle row, from left) Richard Twardzik, Drew Karban, Cliff Guyton, Brian Davidoff, Evans McCaul, Hank Hill, James Davies, George Utkov, Jack Klug, (back row, from left) Jake Rudolph, Joseph Amagliani, Edward Cates, and Wilson Waller.

Heartbeat is a great program at MUS that can really make a difference in many students' decisions about their own lifestyles and taking

care of themselves throughout the next few years.



Robert Gooch. Edward Cates, and Griffin Wilson

CORNER: College Advice for Students by Ms. Katherine Broer Parr, Assistant Director of College Counseling

COLLEGE



Seniors will begin receiving admissions decision letters this spring. When a student is accepted, deferred, or denied at any school, he needs to notify the College Counseling Office and bring a copy of his admissions decision letter for our files. If he receives any scholarship offers, he should bring us a copy of the scholarship award letter as well.

For those families interested in need-based financial aid and/or the Tennessee Hope

Scholarship, you must fill out a FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) form. The application is available online at www.fafsa.ed.gov and should be completed as soon as possible. Many private schools require you to complete the CSS Profile in addition to the FAFSA in order to be considered for financial aid. The CSS Profile can be found online at www.collegeboard.com.

For juniors, the college application process is just beginning. Junior year is a very important time when it comes to college admission. Now is the time for your son to begin thinking seriously about what he wants in a college and which college will be the best fit for him. Begin researching colleges and, if possible, planning some visits. Use Naviance Family Connection to help with your research and to create a tentative college application list. Naviance is available online through the College Counseling page on the MUS Web site.

All juniors must take both the SAT Reasoning Test and the ACT with writing at least once during the junior year. Register online at www.collegeboard.com to take the SAT Reasoning Test on March 13, May 1, or June 5. The ACT with writing test will be given on February 6, April 10, and June 12. Online registration is available at www.act.org. Most colleges will not accept an ACT score without the writing score. After your son has taken each test once, we will be able to decide which he should take again and whether he would benefit from tutoring.

Each junior will meet with his college counselor at least once before the end of the school year. Before the first meeting, the junior survey on Naviance Family Connection must be completed. After we have met with your son, you will receive a letter detailing some of our observations and suggestions. We would be happy to meet with parents in April or May once we have met with your son. Parents may call or e-mail the College Counseling Office with any questions.

We encourage you to complete the Parent Insights Form on Naviance Family Connection by the end of the school year. Parent Insights is a valuable resource that allows us to get to know your son better as an individual and give us information to use when suggesting colleges and writing recommendations. Please contact the College Counseling Office at (901) 260-1332 if you have forgotten your username or password or if you need any assistance with Naviance.

Our Morning Joe College Chats will continue through March and are held on the last Monday of every month from 8:00 to 9:00 a.m. in the Wiener Hospitality Room. Please join us on Monday, January 25, February 22, or March 29, if you have any questions or if you would just like to chat with us about the college admissions process. Contact Mrs. Marge Roosa at (901) 260-1332 or marge.roosa@musowls.org to reserve your place.

STUDY BUDDIES

Four years ago, senior **Stephond Allmond** knew he could use some additional help with one of his classes. He found what he needed with a peer tutor. Now, he tutors three students, giving back to the program that was there when he needed help.

"I was assigned a peer tutor who helped me overcome my struggles, and, now, I'm helping three students with theirs," Allmond said. "It's good for everyone to know that he has someone to lean on outside of his regular teachers."

Allmond is one of ten upperclassmen who work as tutors for the Peer Tutoring program. They are led by senior **Matt Williams**, head of

the student-run program, which is supervised through the Kemmons Wilson Leadership Development and Counseling Center.

"The program provides a link between the classroom and the home," Williams said. "Students are able to work with their peers in a comfortable



Matt Williams tutored Fort Robinson in Spanish.

atmosphere and review class material from a different perspective."
Williams meets regularly with Mrs. Bebe Jonakin, director of
Counseling Services, who determines which students need help and in

what subjects. Not all students wait for Jonakin to seek them out; some ask for help or are referred by teachers, parents, and other students being tutored.

Jonakin and Williams work together to assign each student a peer tutor, and Jonakin meets with the assigned tutor to discuss the best strategies for each student. From there, the tutor meets with his student's teacher to learn the area in which the teacher thinks the student needs the most help.

"The tutor also has to make sure the student has good relationships with his teachers and that he continues to ask questions in and out of class," Allmond added.

In addition to Williams and Allmond, seniors **James Arnold**, **Gab Oigbokie**, and **Jake Rudolph** and juniors **Forrest Baty**, **Blake Hennessy**, **Jack Klug**, **William Reid**, **Joel Saslawsky**, **Max Sheppard**, and **Quay Stallworth** regularly work as peer tutors, spending anywhere from one to five hours each week helping the students they tutor. The number of students assigned to each tutor varies, but some work with as many as 11 students over the course of a semester. During the fall semester, more than 45 students worked with a peer tutor in almost every subject.

"This is an incredible program because the tutors not only help their peers, but also incorporate good study habits and emphasize the importance of having a work ethic," Jonakin said. "It is humbling for me to see the tutors get excited about the improvement they see in those they tutor."

The tutors also help with organizational skills, test preparation, and reviewing methods. Sometimes, the students need someone to quiz them or some friendly words of encouragement. The peer tutors can also provide special insight into the classes their students are taking.

"We can usually help more than a tutor hired outside the school because the guys we tutor are in classes that we once took," Arnold said. "We know what the teacher is like and on what areas the teacher likes to focus, so we have an advantage over non–MUS tutors."

Students become peer tutors through an application process with Counseling Services, although some are asked to apply. According to Williams, a good peer tutor is someone who will sacrifice his free time in order to help others succeed.

"He must be personable and patient, and he has to be open to the different ways in which his peers learn," he said.

For more information about the Peer Tutoring program, contact Counseling Services at (901) 260–1335.

SPRING 2010 PARENT SPEAKER SERIES

Mark your calendar because you're not going to want to miss these exciting and informative speakers.

January 28, 2010 — Multitasking: Friend or Foe? The Effect of Electronic Media on Today's Students
If you have ever said to your son that he can't possibly do his homework with the television blaring, instant messages
pinging, or iPods pumping, this event will arm you with some strong new research. Dr. Patti Ray, Upper School division head at
St. Mary's Episcopal School, will address the impact of multitasking on learning. Please join us for this interesting presentation
on Thursday, January 28, at 12:00 noon in the Wunderlich Auditorium. Lunch will be provided, so RSVP by Tuesday, January 26,
to Catherine Schuhmacher via e-mail at catherine@musowls.org or or call (901) 260-1326.

February 25, 2010 – Teens, Alcohol, and the Law

On Thursday, February 25, at 12:00 noon in the Wunderlich Auditorium, Judge Phyllis Gardner will speak to parents and provide information on recent cases involving teen alcohol and drug use, parent involvement, driving concerns, and what you as a parent should do to protect your children and yourself. Students will hear a similar presentation the previous day in chapel. We hope you use this as an opportunity to talk with your sons about this important topic. Lunch will be provided at the parent event, so RSVP by Tuesday, February 23, to Catherine Schuhmacher via e-mail to catherine@musowls.org or or call (901) 260-1326.

April 8, 2010 – Making the College Selection Process Simple

All parents are invited on Thursday, April 8, at 12:00 noon to hear Mr. Brian K. Smith, director of College Counseling, discuss the changing college admissions scene and what that means for our students. He will share his insights about what students should be doing at each grade level to ensure the highest success during the college admissions process. He also will provide a time for questions, so come ready to learn some practical tips for you and your sons. Lunch will be provided, so RSVP by Tuesday, April 6, to Catherine Schuhmacher via e-mail at catherine@musowls.org or call (901) 260-1326.

Notes From the Parents' Association

by Theresa and Frank Stone, Parents' Association Co-Chairs

We began the year with great enthusiasm, and the work commenced shortly afterward, producing joy through the accomplishments of members of the Parents' Association. With the backdrop of a winning tradition in academics, sports, and community involvement, the PA set its goals high and executed them with the efficiency of Coach Bobby Alston's undefeated team.

Here are some highlights from PA events to date and the key players leading the offensive charge.

Kristi and Keith Collins, Parent Education and Communication co-chairs, have made sure that the Parent to Parent Series succeeded by conducting a review of all programs and keeping the line-up fresh and robust. Grade representatives have been busy organizing parent grade parties, coffees, special speakers, and luncheons, which have been well attended, even with the fall's



Glennie and Dean Klug, pictured with son Barry, chaired the Parent Phonathon.

rainy conditions. Spirit Co-Chairs Nancy and Lowell Hays and Karen and Larry Klawinski have expanded the Spirit Sale at MUS through creative marketing and merchandising with custom displays from Mr. Hays' shop, Mrs. Hays' flare for fashion, and the Klawinski's dedication to the Owls' fans.

October was a busy month for Laurie and Brian Lewandowski, co-chairs for the Arts, along with the volunteers who helped with the opening of the fall play, *Metamorphoses*. This was a great example of the teamwork among students, faculty, and parents in the well-attended and complex production. We look forward to the upcoming winter play, *And Then There Were None*, which will run February 5-7.

Glennie and Dean Klug, Phonathon co-chairs, and parent volunteers smiled and dialed the school toward another successful Annual Fund year. Thank you to those who took the time to make the calls as well as those of you who contributed. Fundraising Co-Chairs Lysbeth and Hugh Francis '76 spearheaded the parent fundraising drive for MUS and did a great job, as well.

Open House was a huge success, with Admissions Co-Chairs Edie and David George '75 leading the parent volunteer effort. We had a great turnout, and more than 100 parent and faculty volunteers helped to make it a success

The MUS tradition of commitment transcends the generations, which is a wonderful testimonial to the school. Our grandmothers have been involved with the PA in force this year, and grandparent Co-Chairs Julie and Rob Hussey '81 hosted a coffee for the grandmothers of Lower School students.

Parents also played an integral role in making sure that the exchange student from England, Alasdair Smith, had a successful MUS experience. He said he felt at home in the states thanks to Exchange Co-Chairs Sally and Alan Perry. The Perrys, along with all the parents and boys who have opened their homes to him, deserve special thanks for helping to make his visit a success.

If you haven't had a chance to be involved in the PA, it is not too late. You can still join the Parents' Association by calling Ms. Claire Farmer at MUS or Antzee and Pat Magruder, Membership co-chairs. We strive for 100 percent participation every year and would love to hear from you.

We are honored to serve MUS and offer a special thanks to all of you for your willingness to give your time, love, financial support, and your sons to the school.

Ellis Haguewood Headmaster Barry Ray Upper School Principal Clay Smythe Lower School Principal Bobby Alston Director of Athletics Hud Andrews Director of Annual Fund Bonnie Barnes Director of Hyde Library Rick Broer Perry Dement Director of Advancement Claire Farmer Director of Alumni and Parent Programs Rankin Fowlkes Director of Business Operations Bebe Jonakin Director of Counseling Services Brian K. Smith Director of College Counseling Vicki Tyler Director of Communications

Peggy Williamson Kimberly Eller Editor Lilly Rice Communications Intern Inside MUS is published by Memphis University School. Send news and

Memphis University School

6191 Park Avenue Memphis, TN 38119-5399

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

THE MUS MISSION

Memphis University School is a college-preparatory school dedicated to academic excellence and the



development of well-rounded young men of strong moral character, consistent with the school's Christian tradition.



comments to the editor of Inside MUS,

at editor@musowls.org,

or call (901) 260-1348.









Upcoming Events*

January

- 22 **Basketball Homecoming**
- 25 Parents' Morning Joe College Chat
- Parent Speaker Series: Multitasking: Friend or Foe? 28
- 29 **End of 3rd Progress Report Period**

February

- **Eighth-Grade Parents Meeting** 2
- 5-7 Winter Play: And Then There Were None
- 15 School Holiday: Presidents' Day
- 19 **Civic Service Talent Show**
- 22 Parents' Morning Joe College Chat
- Parent Speaker Series: Teens, Alcohol, and the Law 25
- 26

- 3
- 4

- 15

