Snails, Nails, and Puppy Dog Tails

Psychologist Michael Thompson talks about boys

By Ryan Hill
Features Editor

Two weeks ago, I had the pleasure of sitting down with Michael Thompson, Ph.D., to discuss single-sex education, bullying, delayed brain development, Oprah, explosions, bad smells, Call of Duty, and Freudian psychology. Though clearly a mixed bag, our conversation revealed his deep understanding of boys, the road to manhood, and the horribly mysterious, strangely wonderful human condition.

Dr. Thompson estimates that he has worked in over 700 schools around the world. He spends one day a week at Belmont Hill School, an all-boys boarding institution in Massachusetts, working as its clinical consultant. In addition to his current employment, Thompson was enrolled in single-sex schools from age three to eighteen, making him no stranger to the experience of being one of a few genders.

Dr. Thompson explains that he has not many actual boys, but he has learned to live with them, girls, who develop their prefrontal lobes, “the seeds of judgement” as Dr. Thompson puts it, earlier.

Add the zits, voice cracks, and raging hormones to this stunted mental maturation, and adolescent boys are basically walking clouds of awkward. Having no constant company with females, boys are forced to date, and naturally it was time for the famous father-son sex talk. “I’m a famous author on the subject of boys,” Dr. Thompson pointed out. “The girl rocks the baby doll; the boy puts it in the oven and scores some major points with his friends.”

Eventually, the definition of ‘boy’ has to be different from what girls are doing.” Thompson pointed out. “The girl rocks the baby doll; the boy puts it in the oven and scores some major points with his friends.”

From an early age, the average boy is simply more forceful than any girl. While little Alice is playing house and dressing dolls, Billy is peeling on things, pretending his hand is a gun, and probably tearing down Alice’s house. Both boys and girls try to dominate each other, of course, but boys are willing to confront one another head-on.

“On-one-one domination is particularly salient among males,” said Dr. Thompson. “Boys are always testing each other’s strength, pushing, pig-piling, and so on.”

Not surprisingly, this pattern continues into adulthood.

“Ninety-five percent of violent crimes are committed by men. Not that women don’t appreciate.....”

Continued on page 9...

New Long Mountain observatory is almost here

By Joe Scherrer
Staff Writer

Most people associated with MBA have a vague sense that the school is building some kind of observatory over at Long Mountain, but not many actually know what it is or what we will be able to do with it. Well, in the words of Coach Lanier, it’s going to be “the best thing since MST3K.”

The observatory will be, as Mark Manner, an amateur astronomer involved with setting up the telescopes, says “one of the coolest buildings in the country.”

Not only will we be able to explore the night sky to incredible depth (even from the comfort of our homes), but we will even be able to take part in data collecting for groundbreaking research answering some of the most interesting questions in astronomy.

The centerpiece of the observatory will be a large, 16-20’ telescope (telescope: truss tube Ritchey-Crétien Cassegrain from RC Optical Systems). Mounted under a giant, moving dome, it will have a great view of the night sky and will be able to resolve some of the most spectacular deep sky objects, such as nebulae, galaxies, and globular clusters.

You won’t even have to be at the observatory to use it—anyone will be able to explore the night sky from home or school by controlling the telescope over the Internet, saving a 2-hour drive and a night spent sleeping on the observatory floor.

MBA will also have a smaller, 6” refracting telescope (telescope: apochromatic from TEC). Though this telescope is comparatively small, the optics are some of the best in the world for refractors, and it will

Continued on page 6...

Burger Up “One-Up’s” competition

By Blake Burns
Staff Food Critic

Nestled into the corner of Paris and 12th Avenue, one will find the new Nashville original, Burger-Up. Having opened in early 2010, Burger Up brings Nashville up a notch in the burger scene.

Burger Up was an idea that came to Miranda Pontes as a place that would be just right for any occasion. She says in her online bio that she wanted the restaurant to be a “a place appropriate for a business lunch, a place for a first date or a 20th anniversary.”

Continued on page 10...

12th Ave’s Burger Up was recently rated TN’s top burger joint by USA Today. MBA was ahead of the curve.

Continued on page 10...
Costa Rica experience amazes

By Cullen Moran
Staff Writer

The family lived hand-to-mouth. The money Remundo brought home every night went to that night's dinner, usually chicken and lots of rice, which would then be reused for breakfast and lunch the next day. While Remundo was working, his son Reynaldo, who is thirteen, would go to school for two hours in the morning, then have the rest of the afternoon to spend with Xinia, his partner Dillon, and me.

It became clear to me that life had not treated Xinia well. She first married when she was sixteen and gave birth to three sons and three daughters in a period of eight years. During those eight years, she told me, her husband regularly beat her, and her sons often left the house to buy and sell marijuana in the streets. She left that husband and came to Altos to live with Remundo, with whom she gave birth to and raised Reynaldo.

She told me she has high hopes for Reynaldo, who wants to be a policeman—on the opposite side of the law from her other sons. During the day, while Remundo was working, Reynaldo was at school. Xinia would do her best to tend to the house as well as the dog, two cats, thirty chickens, alligator (yes, alligator), three rabbits, and a garden to provide part of the lunch project that was mainly the planting of sugar cane, corn, and beans. Outside the house was an avocado tree, lemon tree, and for food. Outside the house was an avocado tree, lemon tree, coconut tree, countless banana trees, pineapples, sugar cane, corn, and beans. On Sundays, when Remundo was home, he would help Xinia take care of their garden and various pets and animals.

We spent the first week getting to know the community by walking down the street and meeting the families and occasionally going to the pulpería, a woman's house that doubled as an over-the-counter grocery store, to buy orange Fanta, the preferred drink of the adolescents of Altos. In this way I came to meet the two guys who would become my best friends—Stephen and Rodolfo.

Stephen was twenty years old and Rodolfo was twenty-one. They both worked with their fathers at the pulpería. After the first week, I spent every day with Rodolfo and Stephen, and the days began to fall into a certain routine. In the morning while Rodolfo and Stephen worked, I would walk the hundred feet to the school to spend time with the kids and to conduct after-school camps that taught about personal hygiene and environmental issues. After school, which ended around one o'clock, Stephen and Rodolfo would return from work to join Reynaldo and me to either play soccer or go to the river.

The breath-taking landscape is only one of the myriad reasons to visit Costa Rica. Photo courtesy of Google.

The river was a ten-minute walk from the school down a completely eroded path that eventually leads to the nearest community, La Esmeralda. On our way cows would moo, and we would pick mangos and varieties of oranges from the trees that lined the road. The river's water was clear and cool and a refreshing break from the stagnant humidity. There was a fallen tree that hung over the bank about fifteen feet above the surface of the water, and we would repeatedly jump off it until we were too tired to continue, at which point we would lie on the bank and throw rocks into a coyote's den dug in the opposite bank.

Because spending consecutive days at the river was known to cause colds, most days we played futbol (known as soccer by us gringos) behind the school. Often, the games were some- what of an ordeal, with half the members of the community, old and young alike, participating. As a fundraiser for the project we were carrying out, we held a round-robin soccer tournament for the respective futbol teams (as unofficial as they were) for Altos and two of the neighboring communities. Nearly one hundred people came out to play and spend the afternoon together, laughing, catching up with family members, and, of course, drinking orange Fanta.

During my stay my partner and I carried out a community development project that was mainly the planting of a garden to provide part of the lunch for the school kids. The reason I didn’t focus on the details of the project is that, while it did benefit the community, it did not have as much of an impact on me as did the relationships I formed with the caring members of Altos.

My mistake during the first two weeks of my stay was focusing too much on the project itself, which made me look at the people around me in terms of who can provide help or resources. Fortunately this attitude quickly changed and developed into a deep love and appreciation of my new friends and family.

The morning of my departure from Altos, after a tear-eyed “que dios le acompanye, papi” from Xinia and a “pura vida, ma” from Rodolfo and Stephen, I realized that my experience was much more than just a community development project or a foreign exchange. During my eight weeks I became a rico (jargon for a Costa Rican dude), and I know that I will always have a family in the hills of Limón, where I will always be welcomed when I return.
Rookie newsman Scotty D reps veteran juniors

By Scott Dalton
11th Grade News Reporter

Starting off my first class news article, I would like to throw a shout out Andrew Powell’s way because without Andrew, I would still be walking around school with my glasses on, sporting argyle socks, saving my shirt with a pocket protector, and have my pants drawn above my belly button.

On that note, The Nashville Shores boys are totally bummed that the season has ended and a new film crew will follow around Paul Brazil, Ford “The Situation” Saunders, and Ronnie Don Don Hoover in a new series called “Jump on Ronnie’s Grenades.” Be on the lookout for Tim Bulso: he might just appear randomly in literally every episode.

On that note Karlthik “The Ultimate Lax Bro” Sastry took it to the house in a game of hoops against Zach Chen -- the score was 3-2. Harris Elledge kept score and provided Gatorade with those little umbrellas in them.

Palmer “Stanky P” Campbell called everyone in the grade for homework help on Wednesday night last week. Adam Hawiger responded readily since he had recently responded readily since he had recently responded readily since he had recently responded readily since he had recently responded readily since he had recently responded readily since he had recently responded readily since he had recently responded readily since he had recently responded readily since he had recently responded readily since he had recently responded readily since he had recently responded readily since he had recently responded readily since he had recently responded readily since he had recently responded readily since he had recently responded readily since he had recently responded readily since he had recently responded readily since he had recently responded readily since he had recently responded readily since he had recently responded.

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A major delight of high school for the freshmen are the duties of the class, the primary one, of course, being recycling. Fortunately, no dormers (to my knowledge) have been assessed for not fulfilling recycling duties.

Spirit week went well for the class, as there was phenomenal spirit shown by many individuals in the freshman class. On Jersey Day, some proud Ole’ Miss fans (Chase Duffy), still wore their jerseys to prove they were not fair-weather fans. Camo day was rea-

Junior Matthew Davidson gives Henry Richardson a playful smack on the head. Photo courtesy of Mr. Jamie Tillman via shutterfly.com

used Charizard and DP just went with Squirtle. After DP won, news channel 5 asked him how many battles he had won, to which he responded “over 9,000.” Ross Martin said it was “a magnificent display of firepower, but in the end the hydro-pump won out...” cool Ross.

So that’s pretty much it. John Mor- phis is still a bro along with Logan Stan- dard, Bryan Osin broke his belly button, no one really knows the whereabouts of Hugh Wells, Jonathan Reilly is the next Tupac, Clay Sullivan looks like Curly from The Three Stooges, Jack Whitson (who hasn’t had a carb since 2004) is joining a minor league badminton team, Edward Wilson is a heavy favorite to beat Kimbo Slice in a cage match to the death, Jhamall Wright is going to the NFL soon so make sure you say goodbye, I will say nothing about a Danwhich, my cousin, Joe Scher- rer, and I are having a family reunion this weekend, and Hunter Woolwine is an inspiration to us all.

That’s pretty much it. And remember, when you go to Calbo, always ride the jet-ski. Peace.

Freshmen adjust to high school, elect leadership

By Wells Hamilton
Staff News Writer

The year has started well for the freshmen, and they have almost all adjusted to high school.

The freshman class has just fin- ished electing its class officers. The office of president will be held by Wells Hamilton; Ferris Bailey is the new vice-president; the new treasurer is Wesley Jenkins, and the office of secretary is ably filled by Drew Bens. The student council presi- dent promises an exciting year for the freshmen.

The student council representatives for the freshmen class are: Ben Shankle, Paul Garrard, Keith Gambill, Jack Thompson, Denney Lackey, Ben Barton, and Kalyan Chadalavada.

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Swift seniors been goin’, finna go ham left n’ right

By John Wyse
Staff Senior News Writer

The first quarter has been an exciting time for the senior class. It’s a time for stealing cookies from microbes and laughing at marshmallow-stuffed gingers (except Chad); it’s a time when most of us are more worried about finding paint for Friday night than what’s on our AP Bio test.

Clay Garrett’s words, as he belts out the lyrics to the Mulan soundtrack, seem to sum up what is on every senior’s mind. “We must be swift as the coursing river, with all the force of a great typhoon.” Fortunately for Clay, his college apps have about the force of the mighty Harpeth. As the boys of ’11 try to make the most of every day we have left, I’d like to reflect on some of the good times as well as the bad.

Cross-country seniors Michael Peters, Ryan Hill, Stephen Bedard, Andrew Powell, and Hayes Mc Cord continue their quest to repeat at state and move on to regionals. Even after running a personal best, Michael says, “I don’t even like running that much, I’m just really worried about finding paint for Friday night.”

As far as football goes, Joe Riegle is an animal. D-Mac wants more touches. Tyler Franks is the next Jones-Drew, Hilder Miggins ate his body weight in Mc***Bangs, Alex Hunt is Alex Hunt, and Mason Foote wears unnecessary sweatbands to impress Mackinnon because Wirth told him to.

On the other side of Big Red sports, hockey season is fast approaching. This year the team is led by senior captains Christian Alford and Max Coyle as well as unofficial captain Patrick Star. Games start over fall break. Their season goal is to eat only good-tasting sandwiches.

Hayden Morgan and Jack Warne have become expert gardeners, but have complained that it’s addictive. Hunter Wise loves volleyball but can’t look at a cantaloupe the same anymore. Harrison Luna has a combined 0-83 record in Tron, Slime Soccer, and Stratego.

Jimmie Anderson is starting a fantasy basketball league among several other seniors and Dr. Kinch. Sleppy pick-Joakim Noah, or you might remember him as that really ugly guy from Florida.

Jack Hallemann and Laura Gregory both had great homecomings together, while Ben Coode got a great night’s sleep on a yummy couch. Likewise, Hayes Mc Cord’s date ate a little too much Mexican, Will Norton was shakin’ his booties on the dance floor and having the time of his life.

The seniors are also leading the way in service, as we have the most hours of any class. Last Saturday, October 9, was the annual Race for the Cure. Doug McWilliams spearheaded MBA’s efforts there, and he thanks everyone who helped him out.

The school’s one-act this fall is The Odyssey, starring Chris Goodrich, Andrew Wright, and Will Lee. They are hoping to capture the state title and move on to Southerncenns.

Several seniors had memorable college visits, as well. Jojo Guerre loves UT football, and Alex Hunt finally found out what Cheesewine tastes like at Auburn.

In a closely-contested race, Bradley Worthington’s number of skipped hockey workouts surpassed his number of unnecessary afternoon showers. I’ll be sure to inform everyone of the final results once hockey season ends.

Many seniors have returned to their favorite shows with the start of a new television season. Ford Altenbern happily watches each new episode of Glee alongside his favorite teddy bear. Ben “Kenny Powers” Crook couldn’t wait for Eastbound and Down to premiere. When asked if his obsession would interfere with his school work Ben responded, “nah f%&% that noise, I’ve got some stuff set up already.”


Sophomores beat up on each other every day

By McLean Hudson
Staff News Writer

With almost a quarter of the school year finished, just about everyone in the 10th grade finds the sophomore year distasteful so far: the lab reports, the archaic history tests, texican, scout team, the list goes on. But life goes on as well, and whining, as Mr. Tate is debating whether or not to attempt the triple-duo maneuver, but, according to Nathan Fouts, he will likely end up with a few female friends.

Jody Gorham refuses to partake in any goldfish-related activities, and the sophomore football team could probably play variety if we moved down a couple divisions.

Tata for now. I have to go find a chill song and post it on Facebook to impress the ladies. Sam Wallt, this makes us 2 for 2 on the year. Stay in school, kids.

Oh, and did anyone see Furnman’s eye?

Gentleman, Scholar, Athlete Clay Garrett advertises the year’s unofficial theme - finna go ham - as he leads the Big Red Bomb Squad. Photo courtesy of Mr. Tillman.

Sophomores show the other schools what’s up with the what’s up as they do battle on the football turf. Roll Red. Photo courtesy of Mr. Jamie Tillman.
History, has a great sense of humor, and has
year. He is originally from England, studied
for seniors.

course, has included HAP as a new course
curriculum, the science department, along
partment is offering a Human Anatomy and

Many language trips take place
during the summers. Besides the 25 students
who traveled around the world with the
Wilson Language Grants this past summer,
O’Connell, Mr. Gaither, Mr. Kann, and Mr.
Bernetavitz all went to France, Dr. Li
gained the opportunity to travel to Italy,
Herr Sawyer traveled to Germany.
In terms of student trips this next summer,
there will again be Wilson Lan-
Guage Grants for 20-25 students. There will
be a trip to Costa Rica with Mr. Paolocchi
and Mr. Spiegel, and Mr. Sawyer is also
going to Germany with the Sister Cities
Program.

MBA’s language department is
continuing to gain prestige across the city,
the state, and the nation. First off, at the TFL-
TA (Tennessee Foreign Language Teachers
Association) conference in early November,
Ms. Lanigan is the featured speaker at the
conference banquet. Mr. Sawyer is giving a
talk at one session, Ms. Ellery is giving a
presentation using Google Earth at another
session, while Mr. Gaither is presiding at a
session. Ms. Lanigan and Mr. Gaither are both
members of the TFLTA Board.

Ms. Christie’s has written the
historical/mythological notes for an art
showing currently at the Parthenon. The
show, titled “Women in Mythology,” has
been greatly supported by Ms. Christie’s
knowledge of classical antiquity. Further,
she has given talks and videos to support
the show.

Technology and computers are
helping to enhance the quality of the oral/
aural skills of the language students. Mr.
Paolocchi and Mr. Gray installed and pro-
grammed all new computers in the language
lab over the summer.

MBA’s language department is
still growing, and with the current developments
in language teaching and the well-qualified
and trained language teachers MBA has,
MBA, if not already, will soon have one of
the best language departments in the na-

Mr. Todd Moran, teaching Algebra
II honors, has returned from Virginia after a
two-year hiatus from MBA. Coach Golener
expressed his excitement to have him back.
Students with firsthand experience as being
Mr. Moran’s students assure us that he is an
excellent teacher. He coaches football and
basketball, as well.

Mrs. Fran Stewart, the new junior
school head, is teaching Algebra I in the
junior school. Coach Golener told me of
Mrs. Stewart’s excitement to be back in the
classroom teaching, as she was a principal
in the public school systems. The math
department, and the school, are excited to
have both new additions.

Math competitions will start in
October, headed by Mr. Frantz. MBA
expects to do well in the Interscholastic
Math League. Mrs. Qian will once again
take control of the pizza-laden Mathcounts
program and the AMC 8. Joe Scherrer was
the state champion in the AMC 10 over the
summer. Congratulations, Joe.

Finally, Mr. Golener told me about
what makes an awesome class sheriff: “The
class sheriff is the head honcho, the top dog,
and one of serious sweetness.” A student
must demonstrate “serious sweetness” to be
elected. No sheriff has been elected at this
time, but look in future issues to learn who
will become the sheriff.

Center for the Study of the
Past

Some teams and competitions this
year are Model UN (November 20th), Mock
Trial (Spring, 2011), Tennessee History
Day (February, 2011), Youth Legislature
(February 10, 2011), Full Moon Film Fes-
tival (March, 2011), and Sam Davis Essay
(Spring, 2011).

There is something for everyone on
the MBA campus, and everyone is encour-
aged to participate in an activity.

What’s happening in the History Department?

The History Department is
very excited about the 2010-2011 school
year, with some new additions to the teach-
ing squad and some intense research done
over the summer.

The History Department intro-
duced Dr. Boyd to the teaching staff this
year. He is originally from England, studied
at Vanderbilt, teaches Modern European
History, has a great sense of humor, and has
become a favorite of the students.

Everybody is also excited to have
Coach Rodriguez, an MBA alumnus, back
in the classroom, teaching a section of U.S.
History.

Over the summer Dr. Bailey,
McKay Proctor, and Mrs. Tilley did an
extensive research of the campus archives.
They discovered some remarkably old and
interesting historical documents. Some of
these McKay will edit and put in The Bell
Ringer. Dr. Bailey hopes that these newly
discovered articles and documents will
enhance the classroom experience for all
students by tying in some MBA history with
U.S. history.

This year Dr. Bailey, the History
Department chairman, is pushing for more
student participation in competitions and for
more students to approach research more
systematically. One of the major contests
about which Dr. Bailey is enthusiastic is a
new, upcoming competition put on by the
Hermitage. Look for an announcement dur-
ing assembly sometime in October.

The Model UN and the Youth Leg-
islature teams hope to have a strong showing
this year as well.

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What’s happening in the History Department?
The past gives us needed perspective

The Library’s archives contain fascinating materials from the past and timeless lessons for the present

By McKay Proctor
Staff Archivist

The idea that history is all around us is one that is constantly impressed upon MBA students. The cannons in front of Carter, the statue of Sam Davis, the portraits of headmasters past, all of these scream of the MBA that was.

There are strong symbols and obvious tangibles that connect this ghostly campus of the past to ours. One of them is the tradition of student publications here on The Hill.

Before there was The Bell Ringer, there was The Montgomery Bell Bulletin, a strange hybrid of a newspaper, yearbook, and a student literary magazine. There are literally decades of these publications sitting behind the desk in the library, and they hold the key to piecing together a picture of what MBA looked like when Woodrow Wilson was president and the “wonders of radio” were just being imagined.

For instance, in light of the recent parking troubles and the planned buildings, this excerpt from the February, 1925 Bulletin shows that difficulty with parking is no new concept at MBA:

“Another thing that is injuring the campus, chiefly around the building, is the parking of cars on the grass at the side of the road instead of on the road itself, thus causing deep ruts and holes in the ground, especially during these winter months.

The campus is thus left with a series of tracks that resemble some railroad yard...and no grass will grow in those places.”

...we admit that there are more students in classes beyond these essays is a testament to the idea of an “all-school” book, instead of just an English read.

Every year an argument can be made that the English department does not put enough focus on summer reading. One can argue the reasonableness of the system, the meaningfulness of the quick tests in the first week of school, or the purpose of the intensive grammar review, but there are reasons behind the policies of the summer reading program at MBA.

Mr. Moxley and the department have tried to implement the easiest and best system that they can and are always open to suggestions and constructive criticism.

As for the Mountains Beyond Mountains debates, these are not strictly limited to English class. When Mr. Gioia announced to the school at the first assembly of the year that he hoped that we would be involved with discussions of the national and international healthcare system, he challenged us to apply our summer reading to areas beyond the classroom, and the English Department is trying to do the same.

Joe’s getting hype for Long Mt. observatory

...continued from page 1.

Work proceeds at the Long Mountain site and the observatory will soon be available for student use.

Mounds Beyond Mountains was a topic of discussion in English classes this first quarter, but the implications of this book go beyond the walls of your Wallace Hall English classroom.

More importantly, Mr. Moxley explains that dealing with grammar early allows classes to have a “shared vocabulary” when it comes to certain grammatical terms, curbing the need for explanation later in the year when classes apply their knowledge to composition. Finally, early grammar review helps new students acclimate to the grammar expectations of the year.

Besides a trade-off with grammar, there is another reason for the seeming lack of emphasis placed on summer reading. Our books are meant to pique interest in reading as an exciting activity rather than a burden.

Several years ago, the English department decided to replace the long list of choice books for each class with much shorter, more focused selections that are meant to be interesting and fun to read. Although many classes do write themes on their required books, these too are meant to be enjoyed.

English teachers do not expect us to come in from summer vacation ready for a comprehensive review of a book that we might have read in June. The purpose of the quizzes at the beginning of the year is more a check to make sure we have read the books than a true challenge.

Finally, regarding the all-school read, the discussions about Mountains Beyond Mountains will happen just not necessarily in English class. The term “all-school” implies that these discussions can and should be taking place throughout many subjects and outside of the classroom. In fact, the upcoming healthcare symposium demonstrates MBA’s efforts to bring about this discussion.

English teachers use the essays written on the all-school read as a tool to provoke thought and as a preliminary gauge of their students’ writing abilities. But, the lack of talk about the all-school read in English class beyond these essays is a testament to

by John Mellow
Staff Writer

A pattern develops in English class during the first few days of each school year. We take rushed quizzes in the first week or two of school on our summer reading books, and then we move on. Classes come back to discussing the required reading in high school and then we move on. Classes come back to discussing the required reading in high school and then we move on.

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The campus is thus left with a series of tracks that resemble some railroad yard...and no grass will grow in those places.”

...we admit that there are more students in classes beyond these essays is a testament to the idea of an “all-school” book, instead of just an English read.

Every year an argument can be made that the English department does not put enough focus on summer reading. One can argue the reasonableness of the system, the meaningfulness of the quick tests in the first week of school, or the purpose of the intensive grammar review, but there are reasons behind the policies of the summer reading program at MBA.

Mr. Moxley and the department have tried to implement the easiest and best system that they can and are always open to suggestions and constructive criticism.

As for the Mountains Beyond Mountains debates, these are not strictly limited to English class. When Mr. Gioia announced to the school at the first assembly of the year that he hoped that we would be involved with discussions of the national and international healthcare system, he challenged us to apply our summer reading to areas beyond the classroom, and the English Department is trying to do the same.

Joe’s getting hype for Long Mt. observatory

...continued from page 1.

Work proceeds at the Long Mountain site and the observatory will soon be available for student use.

Mounds Beyond Mountains was a topic of discussion in English classes this first quarter, but the implications of this book go beyond the walls of your Wallace Hall English classroom.

More importantly, Mr. Moxley explains that dealing with grammar early allows classes to have a “shared vocabulary” when it comes to certain grammatical terms, curbing the need for explanation later in the year when classes apply their knowledge to composition. Finally, early grammar review helps new students acclimate to the grammar expectations of the year.

Besides a trade-off with grammar, there is another reason for the seeming lack of emphasis placed on summer reading. Our books are meant to pique interest in reading as an exciting activity rather than
Clubs Spotlight

Join the Chess Club for their meeting TODAY in the Roberts Room!

“White to move and mate in 3”
Puzzle courtesy of Mr. Mike Davidson

UPCOMING BIG RED POINTS EVENTS:
- October 15th-17th: MBA Rifle Classic at MBA
- October 21st- Cross Country Metro Championships
- October 26th- 10th Grade Football City Championship
- November 6th- Cross Country State meet
- November 12th- Football Play-off Week of November 15th- Lord of the Flies play
- Week of November 22nd- Thanksgiving (no event)
- December 5th- Holiday Concert

The Outdoor Club’s first trip will be Thursday to Long Mountain to climb, canoe, trail blaze, and check out the observatory. There will be numerous other events throughout the year, culminating in the summer outing to climb the Half-Dome in Yosemite, flyfish the Yosemite rivers, backpack amongst the Sequoia trees, which are the largest trees in the world, and finally backpack in the Grand Canyon to one of the most beautiful water falls in the US. The dates of this trip are June 13-21st. Alongside the Outdoor club, the Venturing crew with Lt Col Sharbel through the boy scouts has regular outings of canoeing, mountain biking, and hiking. Additionally the climbing club with Mr. Lester has great outdoor opportunities to scale new heights.

Homecoming Riddle

Answer = 9 guys (use binary)

Example of binary search method using 4 people, usable for up to 16 (2^4) bottles of water...

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The X’s show which bottles each person should drink from and ultimately represent which people turn blue. As each bottle has its own binary signature, the determination is easy. For example, if P1 and P3 turn blue, then the poisonous bottle is #7, or if P1, P2, and P4 turn blue, then it’s bottle #13. This method can be expanded to using 9 people to cover all 500 possible bottles (9 people would work for up to 512 bottles) and save our Homecoming!

Limited Edition Riddlers Club t-shirts on sale!

Advertise your club in The Bell Ringer!!!

Talk to Editor-in-Chief Andrew Powell

Rob Barnes, Philip Danielely, Cody Fisher, Warren Smith, and even John Wyse enjoyed last summer’s Out West trip. Photo courtesy of CPT Norton.
The Hill is home to an array of diversity clubs

By Scott Blackwell
Staff Writer

As any student who attended the recent Activity Fair knows, MBA is home to a myriad of clubs and organizations for various activities, ranging anywhere from practicing Kendo with Dr. Marro to solving riddles in the MBA Riddlers Club. Among these are several cultural clubs, centered around the various ethnicities present on MBA’s campus. I recently got a chance to talk with the leaders of these clubs to find out a bit more about each of them.

Bell Ringer: What is the goal of your club, and what do you hope to accomplish this year?

Mohammad Mehio (Arabic Studies Club): I want to try to educate as many students at MBA as possible about general Arabic culture and to clear any misconceptions or inaccurate stereotypes that people may have about Arabic culture.

Cedric Smith (Asian American Studies Club): The goal of the African American Studies Club is to educate the MBA masses on African American history and to help them become more culturally aware. I hope to make MBA a more culturally sensitive place, and a more diverse place as a whole.

Dr. Li (Asian Cultural Club): The primary goal of the Asian Cultural Club is to promote a better understanding of Asian cultures. Through sponsoring some activities and events, our club aims to raise appreciation for the diversity of Asian culture in the MBA community. We want our community to experience a taste of Asian culture and at the same time to be aware that this culture is an integral part of MBA. Most importantly, we intend to help everyone see himself not simply as a member of some local culture, region, group, or nation but as a human being with world vision and perception.

Partha Reddy (Indian Cultural Club): The MBA Indian Cultural Club is a student club that works to spread awareness about Indian culture and society, and also works as a platform for Indian students to collaborate with each other. You don’t have to be Indian to join this group, you just have to FEEL Indian! Well, from time to time.

Bell Ringer: How often will the club meet, and what do you plan to talk about?

Mohammad: I plan on having basic, outlined presentations about various Arabic and Middle Eastern countries which will be open for questions and debate.

Cedric: The Club will meet approximately two times a month. We discuss important African American figures, African American accomplishments, controversial and racially sensitive topics pertaining to African Americans, and also the present African American culture. We will also discuss problems many African Americans face in a predominantly Caucasian school, and how to deal with those problems.

Dr. Li: This year our club plans to meet at least once a month for regular events and activities. We may also occasionally meet every two weeks during special festivals such as the Chinese New Year. The club officers, Wentao Zhang, Jesse Suh, Zach Chen, and John Mark Bellet, want to meet every two weeks to talk about club events and an organizational plan.

Bell Ringer: Do you have any special events planned for the club?

Mohammad: Right now I’m planning a few activities, such as outings to various Arabic restaurants, like Kebab Gyro’s.

Cedric: I am currently working on several special events for the club. I am working on planning a diversity summit in the early spring, setting up a field trip to the civil rights museum, and also the annual MLK march.

Dr. Li: We just had our first club meeting this year, which was a joint meeting with the American Studies Club. Three Wilson Language Grant recipients who went to China this summer made a great presentation on their China trip, elaborating on their experiences. China opened their eyes and helped them understand this part of the world in a better way. These presentations were well received by a large audience.

This year we are also planning some other events; for instance, we plan on sponsoring an Asian Lecture Series speaker, an Asian Movie Night, a ping pong tournament, a Chinese and Korean Food Fundraiser for an Asian philanthropic cause, and a big celebration of the Chinese New Year by making dumplings for the MBA community. Last year we had great success with this celebration, and we cooked 450 scrumptious dumplings for the community. We will make dumplings again this year and let our community taste the food and understand this part of the world in a better way.

Partha: We plan on incorporating Indian holidays such as Deepavali into the list of holidays people recognize, like Christmas and Hanukkah. Also, being comfortable with the versatile food culture is another goal!

Bell Ringer: Where, when, and for how long do you plan on having meetings?

Mohammad: We will usually meet either in Gibbs or Pfeffer, but I will send an email if there are any variations in location. In-school meetings will take place during break anywhere from 2 to 5 times a semester.

Cedric: Normally our meetings are held in the Library Conference Room. The meetings consist normally the length of our 30 minute break, sometimes shorter. We try to have meetings at the beginning of the month as well as the end. Most of our meetings will occur on Tuesday, but we will also occasionally have meetings on Wednesday and Thursday, as well.

Wallace Hall is cool but ready for a change

By Joe Barry
Staff Writer

It is common knowledge to the average MBA student that Wallace Hall is the oldest building on campus, except for the venerable Ball Hall. One doesn’t have to look hard to recognize its decrepitude when comparing the ceilings, the floors, the walls, and the doors, to the floors, walls, and doors of any other building on campus.

Wallace Hall served as the gymnasium until approximately 1957, when Brownlee O. Currey Gymnasium was built. The former gymnasium then became an academic/congregation hall. The upstairs had fixed desks and a stage at the south end of the room. All study halls and assemblies were held in this space, with the seniors sitting on the stage during assemblies. Plays were also performed on the stage, with the audience sitting in the fixed desks.

In about 1990 this upstairs assembly space was converted to classrooms to match the classrooms which were downstairs. The downstairs classrooms date back to the time of the original conversion from the gymnasium. In the gym the downstairs was a locker room/dressing room/shower.

The construction we see on the east side of the campus today will find its way up the hill toward Wallace, with Wallace being the third building to be “altered...” first, the garage; then, the Lowry classroom building, then, Wallace. But, is it a mistake for MBA to tear down its next-to-the-oldest building, or is it time for something new?

Personally, I like change, and, even though I’ll likely be in college before Wallace is cool to being torn down, the idea of a new building on campus is exciting. Also, Wallace just seems to lack some common things that other buildings have, such as staircases on both ends of the building and clean bathrooms. The bathrooms in Wallace just never seem clean. After seeing the plans for what is to come in the new construction, getting rid of Wallace seems like an easy decision.

When asked about the change and construction, Jashon Robertson, a freshman who will be lucky enough to use the new building, said, “Wall, I think it’s really cool that I will be able to say that I took classes in the old Wallace and the new building,” while adding, “I like the idea of taking away Wallace to expand because many other schools are doing this and we need the class space.”

Dr. Seay agrees. When asked if the new building is for better or for worse, Dr. Seay responded, “I think it’s very much for the better. The new dining facility is much-needed and will help out the school.” As far as the history of Wallace being remembered, he also said, “I’m very glad the Wallace name is being preserved. I think the ties between MBA and the Wallace School are very important to maintain.”
Three weeks in Rome prove to be unforgettable

By Will Stewart
Staff Traveler

I used my Wilson Language Grant to study in Rome for three weeks in a collaborative program between Brown University and St. Stephen’s School. I was with 34 other teenagers from around the world, including Jack Whitson, who won the other language grant for Latin. We stayed on St. Stephen’s campus in the middle of Rome, just a short walk away from the Circus Maximus and the Colosseum.

Most of our time during the weekdays was spent in class. I took Italian I, Music History, and Italian Art and Architecture: Renaissance through the Baroque.

Though Italian and Music History were both useful and enjoyable, my art history course was one of the best classes I’ve ever taken. I’ve always appreciated art, but this course truly ignited my passion for art in a way that I’d never before believed possible. Being in Rome obviously allowed for a much more in-depth, personal examination of the great Italian works.

One of the experiences that stands out most in my mind was one of the first days of class, when our teacher took us into a nondescript church and showed us a Michelangelo statue standing in a corner. The fact that we could simply go into a virtually deserted church and walk right up to a Michelangelo truly demonstrated to me how Rome is saturated with great works of art and that one can essentially stumble upon a masterpiece just off the beaten path.

The Borghese gallery was also awe-inspiring, particularly the Bernini sculptures “Apollo and Daphne” and “The Rape of Proserpina.” In fact, my teacher said that in his opinion the most beautiful sight in all of Rome is Pluto’s hand grasping Proserpina’s thigh.

When we weren’t in class, we were working on our homework, hanging out with our friends, or taking part in the nightly activities the interns organized. Whether it was a walk along the Tiber or a shopping trip in the Piazza Navona, there was always something to keep us busy.

Some notable night activities were seeing “Aida” performed at the Baths of Caracalla, an Erykah Badu concert, and going to tango and jazz concerts.

On the weekends we took trips to Sorrento and Florence, with stops in Naples, Pompeii, and Siena. I particularly enjoyed the Uffizi in Florence, especially since the museum was featuring an exhibit on Caravaggio, whose work I had recently fallen in love with.

My time in Rome was truly the best three weeks I’ve ever had, and I want to thank Mr. Gioia, Dr. Seay, Dr. Gaffney, Mr. Gaither, and, most of all, the Wilson family for giving me the opportunity to have this wonderful experience.
Ms. Susan says trayless is way to go

By Rett Hooper
Staff Writer

Immediately after the floods that devastated much of Nashville last year, the city required that institutions and citizens reduce their water consumption temporarily.

During this time, according to Ms. Susan Squires, second-in-command of the food services staff which oversees MBA's cafeteria, the school experimented with the idea of not using trays at lunch.

This change greatly reduced the amount of water needed to clean dishes, a result that intrigued the food services staff. They discovered that other high schools and colleges have already made the permanent switch to using no trays, and these schools have not only successfully conserved much water but also substantially decreased food waste.

The University of Connecticut conducted a study on the effects of not having trays at lunch. From the study, members of the university concluded that removal of trays actually reduces food waste by 30 to 50 percent per day.

Without trays, carrying food to the table becomes much more difficult. People start to save space on their plates, and they begin to take less food altogether, and less uneaten food is left on their plates after lunch. Abolishing the use of trays in MBA's cafeteria would encourage people to use water to clean the dishes and can help the school become more environmentally responsible.

The removal of trays at lunch may seem inconvenient to the students and teachers, but a permanent switch to having no trays at lunch would be very beneficial both to the school's finances and to the environment.

Although it means a little extra work for you, Cooder, losing the trays makes sense. Maybe we can negotiate - we lose the trays but can get two entrees at once. Photo by Parrish Preston.

Fewer dishes and to take less food during each visit to the cafeteria line.

Researchers at UConn also determined that, without trays, the university saves about 2 gallons of water for every 10 meals served. In the cleanup process at MBA's daily lunch, the food staff uses a significant amount of water cleaning each individual tray and plate. Without trays, the food staff does not need to use as much

BOYS...continued from page 1.
crimes are committed by men, but ninety-five percent of males don't ever commit violent crimes," Thompson revealed.

Consequently, one might sense danger in providing guys so many outlets for violent images in the form of video games and action-packed feature films or television shows. However, Dr. Thompson gave some astounding statistics that suggest exactly the opposite.

The explosion of gaming in the past two decades has coincided with an unexplained drop in violent crime that no criminologists ever predicted. Furthermore, the states that got cable television and internet first experienced significant decreases in rape rates.

With the myriad factors that determine crime rates and motives, the linking of these two statistics is purely speculative. Yet it demands consideration. Could it be that horrible images on the internet are actually keeping would-be child rapists in front of their computer screens? Are violent video games providing teens with an outlet for impulses that might otherwise become murderous?

For students at Montgomery Bell Academy, this situation is probably not so extreme. Still, to all you hardcore gamers, play on. Perhaps you really are saving the world by earning that Prestige ranking or beating Halo on Legendary Mode. To lighten the mood, I asked Dr. Thompson his opinion of Oprah. He has been featured on her show in the past.

“She’s phenomenal!” he exclaimed. “A great, intuitive psychologist! She never calls me anymore though,” he laughed.

At the end of a conversation fairly saturated with male and female distinction, Dr. Thompson wanted to make one thing very clear: “We are all much more human than we are gendered.”

How true a statement, though perhaps we men may be a bit more likely to grow a mustache or let our leg hair flourish...at least I hope so.

Ms. Susan says trayless is way to go

Dr. Gaffney is soul of MBA website

By Alex Hagar
Staff Writer

Since the inception of the MBA website in 1995, Dr. Gaffney has been the website content editor. This original website was lost, and Dr. Gaffney developed the new website, along with Jason Hiatt, a former head of MBA’s IT department, and MBA parent Rex Hammock.

Rex Hammock owned an online publishing company, whose website department was loaned to MBA in order to begin the process of making a new website. From there, Dr. Gaffney and Jason Hiatt used HTML formatting for the rest of the website.

Dr. Gaffney learned these skills on his own, starting in 1983 when he was director of the Junior School. He bought the first computer on campus for schedule making and ordered computers for the first faculty laptop program. Gaffney, along with Hiatt, trained other teachers and worked on classroom integration for teachers.

Recently, the addition of Whipple-Hill, outside software created by Whipple-Hill Communications, has allowed for grading and class info to be placed offsite by means of “cloud processing”. With the proper passwords, anyone may access the information from anywhere on the internet.

As for the various news items seen on the site, Chris Smith, Mike Martin, and Dr. Gaffney are in charge of posting news on the website. If you have a news story that you want to have posted on the website, contact any of these three gentlemen.

Website pictures are the creation of Mr. Smith, Dr. Gaffney, and MBA alumnus John Schweikert.

This entire website relies on the hard work of the IT department, Chris Smith, Mike Martin, and the computer guru himself, Dr. Gaffney, who spends 10-15 hours a week adding content, updating, and troubleshooting.

Although it means a little extra work for you, Cooder, losing the trays makes sense. Maybe we can negotiate - we lose the trays but can get two entrees at once. Photo by Parrish Preston.

Fewer dishes and to take less food during each visit to the cafeteria line.

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Dr. Gaffney is soul of MBA website

Although it means a little extra work for you, Cooder, losing the trays makes sense. Maybe we can negotiate - we lose the trays but can get two entrees at once. Photo by Parrish Preston.
Try some Indian food

By Partha Reddy
Staff Indian

With the creation of the Indian Cultural Club this year and interest in all things Indian rising, it’s time MBA students are made aware of the great Indian eats in Nashville.

Reviews were conducted on the following five establishments: Shalimar, Sitar, Woodlands, Bombay Palace, and Outback Steakhouse. Scoring is based on the level of authenticity, restaurant vibe, taste, and versatility of menu. The highest possible score is five chili peppers out of five.

Shalimar: Snuggly located on Hillsboro Road, Shalimar has been around for years. Its Green Hills location has allowed this exquisite establishment to flourish. The Chicken Tikka Masala is a good dish. The Chicken Tikka Masala is a good dish. The highest possible score is five chili peppers out of five.

Sitar: This highly-regarded restaurant is nestled off West End and has consistently been one of the most famous of the Indian eateries in town. Sitar blends a cozy atmosphere with a homely punch; an authentic experience at its best. Try the weekend lunch buffet which features different items each weekend. Sitar earns four Chilies with its reliability and diverse menu.

Woodlands: Unfortunately for our MBA carnivores, Woodlands features an entirely vegetarian menu. The main draw here is the southern Indian food that is quite rare at the other restaurants in Nashville. Try the Idli or Vadas, excellent breakfast food. I do have some hesitancy about the conditions at the restaurant, however. Three and ½ Chilies.

Bombay Palace: The “New Kid on the Block” challenges Sitar for the king of West End, and Bombay Palace has done a great job in proving its worth. Attracting a strong crowd from Vanderbilt, Bombay Palace features ethnic foods from Maharastra. Try the Tandoori Chicken and the succulent Naan. The waiter laughed at me and asked me if I wanted to drink. This establishment needs help. One reluctant Chili.

Sitar and Bombay Palace both earned 4 chilies, beating Sitar and Bombay Palace and Outback Steakhouse.

One-act has a chance

By Thalia Melpomeno
Staff Theater Viewer

On the last day of September, the MBA community got a look at MBA’s entry into the one-act play competition. The play is The Odyssey, produced and directed by Dr. Seay.

The time limit for a play in the competition is 45 minutes, and this production was right on it. The Odyssey is a romp through the travails of the traveling Odysseys. Most of Odysseys’ odyssey is included in the play, and the brilliance of the production lies in the remarkably successful and smooth transitions from scene to scene.

In fact, if this play wins the competition, it will be because of the deft shifts of locale and setting. Watching this play is almost like turning the end of a kaleidoscope and watching the pieces fall perfectly into a new mosaic pattern. Dr. Seay, set designer Greg Colson, and stage managers Tom Markham and Carter Callaway have orchestrated the complex shifts beautifully.

The actors were brilliant in bringing about the continual changes within the play. Even though the acting itself was just competent, the actors did fulfill the vision and acted out the constant flow of the narrative seamlessly.

Chris Goodrich played the eponymous Odysseus perfectly. He was the only actor to play one role.

The other actors showed their stamina, their concentration, and their flexibility by playing up to five roles each. Aaron Ardisson, Mattison Asher, Andrew Wright, Will Lee, Alex Floyd, Taylor Ely, Carter Callaway, Jess Darnell, Tom Markham, and Parish Preston truly impressed this writer by their energy and focus. The audience could easily recognize that these actors enjoyed what they were doing and wanted to do it right.

One flaw which detracted from Thalia’s enjoyment of the presentation was a problem which recurs with shows in Paschall Theater -- inability to understand the dialogue for much of the show. Sometimes the actors fail to enunciate their lines. Dr. Seay will no doubt work on this problem before the competition later in October.

The show drew a large audience for a Thursday night performance and received a standing ovation. Every member of the audience shared the enthusiasm of the cast and shared, as well, the cast’s dream of winning the one-act competition.
Hey, see these movies!

By Walton Macey
Staff Movie Maven

Social Network
You may have heard there is a new movie that just came out about Facebook, called Social Network. Go see it! It’s not going to be the best movie ever, but it will no doubt be recognized and remembered as a movie of this generation.

Facebook is a social networking giant which dominates the internet scene and is worth over $30 billion. This movie is all about how Facebook got started.

Basically, some nerdy-looking guy, Mark Zuckerberg, who cannot talk to girls to save his life, ironically develops the social site of the millennium in his dorm room at Harvard. According to the movie, Zuckerberg used an idea developed by a pair of twins attending Harvard with Zuckerberg. As Facebook grows bigger and bigger, Mark forms enemies and ruins friendships, resulting in several multi-million dollar lawsuits.

The movie does an excellent job of pulling the viewer in with frequent flashbacks and intriguing characters. Each actor does a crazy good job of defining his character and deserves a hug or an Oscar, at least. Surprisingly, besides the protagonist, Justin Timberlake demonstrates the most talent as the founder of Napster, Sean Parker. This movie has been received with praise everywhere, and no doubt deserves to be on your “movies I wanna see list.”

Above left: Zuckerberg’s giant is the topic of new movie The Social Network

Some must-see movies based on true stories:
- Enemy at the Gates- Two Russian snipers’ epic fight during WWI
- Catch Me if You Can- Leo DiCaprio as a con man vs. Tom Hanks the FBI guy after him.
- Black Hawk Down- Most intense war movie I have ever seen.
- Pursuit of Happiness- Will Smith, realistic, really sad.
- Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid- May be the best buddy-cowboy movie.
- Remember the Titans- You have to see it, THE football movie.
- Aviator- About the multi-millionaire Howard Hughes who does just about everything.
- American Gangster- If the title doesn’t make you want to see it, Denzel Washington and Russell Crowe star.
- Into the Wild- About a guy who skips college to go live in the Alaskan Wilderness. It is ridiculously fantastic.

There are plenty more incredible movies based on true stories. These are the first ten that came to mind.

Above left: Zuckerberg’s giant is the topic of new movie The Social Network

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Revenge of the hogs

By Connor Caldwell

Sports Editor

The MBA football team has started off the season in a great way, coming out of week 6 at 6-1 and 3rd in the State. Although the fan support at our last game was virtually non-existent (except for our lone soldier Douglass “Dino-D” Smith), we managed to pull off an incredible win against BGA with Philip Spelman knocking through the game-winning field goal with 4 seconds left, despite our fans having nothing to yell for.

But enough of the useless banter! This article will focus on the most under-appreciated group on the team—the linemen. Although our weakness was predicted to be our offensive line in the preseason, this group has stepped up to the challenge and proved everyone wrong.

Christopher Sandwisch, having started at right guard last year, is our only returning, experienced offensive lineman, and he is leading us well. Joining him is senior Miller Higgins at center. The two of them routinely drive defensive linemen off the ball, like Michael Oher from the Blind Side. On more than one occasion (actually in almost every game), I have been told that

Contributing to the pain were the

By the following year, The Ti

Is there a rivalry? Bryan discusses MBA v EHS

By Bryan Oslin

Staff Features Writer

Do you consider Ensworth a major rival? Are you concerned about beating them academically? Probably not! Most students don’t even consider there to be a rivalry embedded in academics; however, Montgomery Bell Academy as a community tends to compare itself most often with Ensworth in athletics.

When Ensworth High School opened in August of 2004, no one, including me, even gave a thought about them, for their football, cross-country, track, wrestling, and tennis teams had almost no success. MBA overwhelmed them in every sport, and MBA really had only one huge rival, Brentwood Academy.

So, how did the emphasis on Brentwood Academy shift toward Ensworth? Well, the Ensworth Lax bros had no problem with Ensworth’s rivalry. Their lacrosse team, beating them 14 to 6. Lax bros had no problem with Ensworth’s rivalry. Their lacrosse team, beating them 14 to 6.

Junior John Mitchell, who has missed

Although I may be in trouble for ex-

What will this year hold? I’m ex-

A victory elates.”

And, although undermanned, showed our substance, determination, and unwillingness to give up in our exhilarating come-from-behind victory, where most of MBA trampled Ensworth hearts and their Tiger. Their students felt the same dejected emotions which we had suffered for over a year, and they all had a hard time allowing any mention of their hurtful loss bruised them.

Starting in the winter of 2009, The Nashville Scene got involved in one of the MBA vs. EHS basketball games, sparking confusion and agitation not only in current students and faculty, but also in alumni and parents of current or graduate students. Ensworth parents were trying to inhibit an admittedly rude chant, which has been used generation after generation toward other schools and is not used to single out a specific athlete. This incident aroused many Nashville citizens, even some not involved with MBA, and intensified the newly formed rivalry.

Well, the following year, The Tiger basketball team handled MBA in two consecutive, over-packed games separated by four days. Going into the playoffs as defending champions and as region leader with the best record, Ensworth excelled, that is, until their biggest challenge, the Big Red, appeared in their way in the quarterfinals of the state tournament.

After cruising to a bout a 19-point lead at halftime, deep down they believed they had the game in the bag; even Ensworth students disregarded us as a legitimate contender. We had faith though, for no one left the game until the fat-laden sang, which proved to be a good choice! Ensworth once again underestimated our capacity, therefore relaxing their intensity to the point where many Tigers were fouling out while MBA was on a huge rally, backed by our relentless student-section. We won! They Lost! Obviously, they were devastated and heartbroken while we chanted, “Just like football!” endlessly until they quickly tried to leave the Lipscomb arena. Montgomery Bell Academy always pulls out a victory when it really matters: the playoffs!

In other sports, MBA teams had tight control over Ensworth. Last year, we completely destroyed them in wrestling 63-15; tennis handily won 7-0 and gained the state trophy; track defeated them in every meet except when injuries inhibited our “testament allegation of bodies”. Cross-country faced a difficult task against a tough long-distance core, but really quieted any chance of competition at state when our top four best runners got 3rd, 4th, 7th, 8th to allow us to raise the state trophy and to create chaos in the crowd by our decked-out supporters chanting “I believe that we just won!” incessantly until our voices tired. Baseball had some difficulties, but this year we are bound to have success with more experienced pitching and rising stars. Our Lax bros had no problem with Ensworth’s lacrosse team, beating them 14 to 6.

No matter how intense a rivalry seems to be, some within the MBA community disregard it, believing that it’s only just high school sports, while others go insane. Each shows respect to his opponents and support their Red, just with a different approach.

Coaches of their respective teams for the Big Red devoted their time and efforts to improve their athletes and to receive a “W” in their win column.

According to Mr. Gaither’s stoic belief: “It’s not so much to win as it is about avoiding the loss, for defeating hurts more than a victory does.”

Very true, for a win brings happiness for weeks, but a loss lingers and vexes until the next meeting. Eric Owing expresses a unique and mature approach to this rivalry, for he believes that “It (the rivalry) is good for both private schools and gives each team a certain game to circle on their schedule to look forward to.” He “feels as though he’s friends with a bunch of Ensworth guys,” so he should respect Ensworth as a school, also.

Others such as Alex Haggar think that it is just sports and a silly rivalry based on nothing. One should enjoy the competitive atmosphere without being completely emotionally invested.

However, Baker “Cho Cho Train” Swain, is emotionally attached in this rivalry, for “it’s an extra incentive to win, and bragging rights are the extra reward for winning.”

I personally am caught up in the whole competition versus Ensworth. However, knowing the difference between disliking the sports programs for their success and disliking the school and its students as a whole are two immensely distinctive notions. I have competitive spirit until the competition is over, then I can chill with some of my Ensworth friends. Be smart and know when not to cross the line towards disrespect!

However, I have witnessed that Ensworth has copied our ingenuity. Weeks ago at the MBA vs. EHS football game, their students appeared with very similar vuvuzelas, though different in color, that we had brought to Nashville last year. I guess that they want what we have: another reason for intensity between rival schools!

What will this year hold? I’m ex-

Although they are

Athlete, I’m not sure if any linemen could out-do senior Cedric Smith (or that cheerleader) in a back-hand-spring competition. Photo courtesy of Mr. Tillman.

Although Meyer was the originator of the Mc****Bang, he is not responsible for its execution. Mc****Bang! ROLL RED!

Although Meyer was the originator of the Mc****Bang, he is not responsible for its execution. Mc****Bang! ROLL RED!
Cross Country stays hot pursuing elite aspirations

By Nick Kohler and Stephen Bedard
Staff Sports Writer and Roll Red-er

Expectations were high for the MBA cross-country team coming into the 2010 season, with the team returning 11 of their top 12 runners, including 4 of the top 5 in the state.

The team has continued its hot in-state streak and has not lost to an in-state competitor since the 2008 state championship.

After an easy victory at the season-opening Drake Invitational, the Big Red varsity traveled to Louisville, Kentucky to compete in the Trinity Invitational, while the JV team stayed in Nashville to compete in the Silver Varsity division of the Tennessee Classic.

Michael Peters ran a blazing PR of 15:30, (5 minute mile pace), giving him the 5th place spot in a field of 430+ runners and leading the team to a 4th-place finish in a field of 51, even though some of our top runners were hampered by injury.

The Big Red was out in force for the '09 State Meet. On November 6th, even more fans will show up to see the XC team repeat.

MBA lineman looks to continue football career

By George Swenson
Staff Sports Writer

As the 2010 MBA Football season progresses, I sat down with senior lineman Andrei Lucaci to ask him about football and his college prospects.

Bell Ringer: When did you first realize that you wanted to play football in college?

Andrei: I realized that I had the opportunity to play when I was a sophomore. At first, I wanted to play both football and baseball in college but then realized that football was my true calling.

B.R.: When were you first contacted by a college and which college was it?

A.L.: I was first contacted after my junior year by a phone call from UT-Martin. The coaches called and just wanted to know how I was doing and wanted to get to know me better.

B.R.: What did you do this summer to prepare for the recruiting process?

A.L.: I attended numerous camps, which included MTSU, Ole Miss, Tennessee, Vanderbilt, and Miami (Fl). These schools invite the players in whom they are interested. While at the camps, I took many tests like the 40-yard dash and the shuttle run. Colleges will use these tests to assess my skill level and potential.

B.R.: If you had to rank the schools the schools in order from highest to lowest interest, what would your order be?

A.L.: My order would be Miami (Fl) first, without a doubt, followed by Arkansas, Vanderbilt, and Tennessee.

B.R.: Which coaches have had the biggest impact on you while at MBA?

A.L.: Coach Brown has had a great impact on me while at MBA. In addition to being my defensive line coach, he has always taken an interest in me. Former MBA teacher Coach Counce has also impacted me greatly, not only through his energy in the weight room, but also the way he carries himself as a person.

B.R.: What is one aspect of the recruiting process that you would like everyone to know about?

A.L.: I realized not long into the process that it is a game. Players have to show the coaches what the coaches want to see. A player needs to show the coaches energy, enthusiasm, and hard work, but if the grades are not present, very few colleges will show interest.

Although Andrei has yet to receive an offer, he feels that because of some schools’ high interest an offer is on the horizon.

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Talk to Mr. Gaither, Mrs. Christeson, or Andrew Powell to sign up.
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By Scott Dalton  
Staff Broporter/Red Bull

Bros, in the last two years or so, the world (MBA in particular) has seen a 90% increase and significant surge in the widely popular “bro fever.” Apparently the only prescription for the fever is more lax and more bro. However, there have been many posers which expose the lack of the bro, so I am here to step down off of Mount Brolympus and put these posers to rest.

I will help you (yes, you) recognize, be, and act more bro than you could ever imagine. If you are not able to read the following bronacular, than you should probably just put down this paper immediately and go get a buzz cut. Let’s start with the basics.

Broliferation is a common theme among new “wanna be” bros. It is very common for no-bros to make up words that are so not bro. If a male you know says any of the following words, RUN: Lindsay Brohan, Broan of Ark, Brothello, Vincent Van Bro, Russell Brove, or Miley Cyrus.

In corollary, if a bro ever asks to enter into a “bromance” with you, walk away - bros never call their friendships “bromances.”

Make sure you know who your real bros are. Your mailman isn’t your bro just because he delivers you letters from the government and your grandma. Yes, your father was once a bro, but it is usually best to not let that cross your mind. Sometimes even your brother isn’t even your bro, especially if he commits brosassination, such as in the case of Cain and Abel.

To test the reliability of your bros, ask to borrow a pair of underwear. If he says yes, you are not bros. If he playfully punches or even knocks you out cold, you have a potential bro.

Ars Bromatoria: Bros on a Hill

If you are too shy to talk to a person, which is not bro at all, listening to conversations may help you improve your brocial skills. Try the use of these following words or phrases when casually saying “hey….”: Brony Hawk, Bro Montana, Bro Nama-th, Nabrolean Brynamite, Brolyseus, Broseph Stain, Brosemite Sam, Broba Fett, Super Mari-bro, Edgar Allen Bro, Broseidon, and, of course, Broda. While these nicknames will not guarantee your status as a bro, it’s a start.

Everyone knows that a solid brocabulary will get you far. For those of you in chemistry, try putting “Bromine” for your answer to all of the problems, you are guaranteed to get at least a 45%.

Now that we have a basic, fundamental Brocabulary, we can move on to rules and regulations. First and foremost, it is ESSENTIAL to have a wingman. A bro without a wingman is like Twinkies without pizz - you can have it, but is it really even that good? A good wingman is like a pair of croakies…super bro.

After you have established a good and reliable wingman, it is time to refine your life in general. If you have any of the following, donate it to Goodwill immediately: a hand written letter from another male (excludes autographs from athletes and country music stars), a dry-erase board, an ipod that is any of the primary colors, any t-shirts that feature a boy band, a Prius or Smart car, your Christmas card list, The Devil Wears Prada, jeans, season tickets to TPAC, your toilet seat, directions to any given destination, sock-sandal combinations, a home phone, or dogs shorter than waist-height.

Once you have de-cluttered your life, you are on your way to being a bro. Things you should have that are absolutely essential to be a bro are as follows: pastels, American flags, jorts, a rank past “space cadet” in laser tag, a grill, bean bag chairs, a stick shift car, multiple lax sticks, hunting gear, a signed football by a Heisman trophy winner, or a national title in any sport. With one, most, or all of these items, you are well on your way to being a bro.

If you follow these simple instructions, you may become a total bro, or not, but it is up to you. Remember: heroes get remembered, but legends never die (excluding Zelda).