NEW YEAR, NEW LOOK

THE BELL RINGER

Montgomery Bell Academy 4001 Harding Road Nashville, TN 37205 09 February 2011 Vol. LXVII, No. 4

Gentlemen, scholars, sleep-deprived zombies walk MBA campus

Is it possible to be both Big Red and in bed?

By Ryan Hill Features Editor

Getting a good night’s sleep has become a superhuman feat for the average MBA student. Sufficient z’s have become the proverbial pot of gold at the end of the rainbow: the road to the treasure is usually hidden, and oftentimes the prize is whisked away by evasive, red-haired halflings normally disguised as computer games, ridiculous homework loads, and girls whose parents invest in the unlimited monthly texting plans that are the lifeblood of most viable cellular service companies.

Unfortunately, sleep deprivation has many negative repercussions for gentlemen, scholars and athletes. Grades begin to fall like heavy eyelids halfway through a history class. Performance on the field and in the gym deteriorates like the successive paragraphs of a theme composed at 3:00am. Today’s sharply-groomed scholars become tomorrow’s disheveled slackers. AMC called; the producers of Walking Dead are hiring extras.

The root of all these problems is the disturbance of your body’s natural clock, scientifically known as the circadian cycle.

Ice sculpture adorns MBA campus

Snow artist discusses Postmodernist implications

By McKay Proctor Staff Writer

The Bell Ringer caught up with the John Mellow, the young man responsible for the igloo that appeared on the front lawn on January 10th, to discuss his work.

Bell Ringer: Mr. Mellow, to start, many people question your medium. What do you say to people who wonder why you work in such an impermanent art form?

John Mellow: I personally love snow as a medium for a few reasons. Its natural purity and the rawness of materials it encourages are chief among them. More than any other material, snow can be taken unrefined from the ground and put into a work. Secondly, snow bends to vision like clay but can be sculpted almost like marble, opening up a world of possibilities.

BR: But what about how fast your art disappears? Some would say that’s time you wasted.

JM: There are a lot of people that feel that way. I understand where they’re coming from, but the impermanence is part of the mystique for me. I build; nature takes the snow back. When, then, the next snow comes, it’s a blank canvas. Even though my work may not last in a traditional sense, the work is never really done.

BR: What do you call your latest work?

JM: Igloo II. Simple...and to the point.

BR: I really must ask you what inspires you. What are you trying to say when you build what you do, where you do, and how you do?

JM: That’s a short question that deserves a long answer. My works stand for a lot of things. The image of an igloo sandwiched between Harding Pike and the beehive that is MBA says a lot about individuals in the postmodern era. The igloo stands alone between two hubs of cosmopolitan sensibilities, yet the igloo represents an ancient way of building. The igloo predates all things around it in a way. The people of the far north pioneered the craft thousands of years before the Pantheon. Here we have a people who recognized the structural power of the dome before anyone in the West had even thought about setting a keystone. Its lines are not stylish but functional. To the passing drivers and students, it stands out

While many were catching up on much-needed sleep (see above article), John Mellow was busy creating his masterpiece for all of West End to enjoy.

While Weston Bell snoozes in English class despite the impending wrath of Dr. Tarkington.

Photo courtesy of Parrish Preston.

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“King Society” is a misnomer

By Jesse Suh
Staff Editorialist

When we think of Martin Luther King Jr. now, we think about his role in the Civil Rights movement. We think about his “I Have a Dream” speech and how he became the face of social justice in the black community. Some things that have not been remembered so easily are King’s controversial criticism of the Vietnam War and his role in galvanizing labor groups.

It seems like MBA has found a different way to remember Dr. King. Needless to say, Dr. King was not associated in any major way with acts of service aimed solely at helping the community.

Through the King Society, MBA seeks to recognize students who have “compassion, character, and community service,” yet it seems as if the majority of the requirement for induction is centered on having a large number of MBA-sponsored service hours, with a minimal requirement of twenty-five.

For an organization that aims to honor Dr. King’s legacy, the requirement only seems to reflect Dr. King’s work in an abstract way. Logically, it’s easy to conclude that the King Society is a misnomer. As a King Society member told me, “The name is just that, a name. It can stand for whatever someone wants it to stand for. The real importance is what the society stands for, serving the community instead of oneself.” This member’s dismissal of the name’s importance as it relates to the Society’s primary goal is understandable, but, in this case, I wonder if the name can be misleading for Dr. King’s legacy and what the society stands for.

Public perception of the King Society seems to be that the organization solely exists on a ceremonial level to recognize individuals for community service. When I asked a King Society member whether the society functioned on a non-ceremonial level, he said, “Not that I know of.” To a certain extent, the society would fit its namesake much better if it held some other functions besides the assembly ceremony we all attend once a year. If the society is really only ceremonial, it raises an important question: couldn’t honoring someone’s selflessness be considered somewhat backward? While the Society’s charge involves committing one’s life to Dr. King’s ideals of non-violence and universal love, the society may be doing itself a disservice by conveying Dr. King’s ideals while judging entrance primarily on community service.

Ultimately, the King Society’s ideals may be most important, though. Regardless of what the society really is, having an assembly dedicated to King’s ideals close to Martin Luther King Day is good for the whole school. For people to commit their lives to stopping bigotry and to representing Dr. King’s work is inspiring for us all.

The members of the Society seem to hold everything in perspective. As one member put it, “I think some people may begin to do service for the recognition, but most people who continue with the service will agree that it has deeply impacted them in some way and that the recognition is not what really matters.”

Verizon iPhone is coming... what should you do?

By Eddie Seay
Staff IT Whiz

Being the IT-oriented guy that I am, I guess it would only seem fitting for me to write an article stating my opinion on this three-year-old buzzphrase that has finally come to fruition in the past month.

For years, consumers have been chattering about the Verizon iPhone, speculating that it would come out next month, or the next month, or the next month... ever since the launch of the original iPhone that changed the game of cell phones forever.

Now, however, since the Verizon iPhone finally exists, it is the perfect time to discuss the ups and downs. When the first iPhone came out exclusively on AT&T back in 2007, it changed the game of computing forever, offering the best mobile experiences in music, web browsing, and apps that can do just about anything one could imagine. Since then, it has been pretty much an industry leader, but with little competition until recently.

The question now for AT&T users and current iPhone lovers is: “Is it worth the switch to Verizon?” and the more important question for current Verizon users is: “Should this be my next phone?”

AT&T, as many know already, offers massive coverage nationwide and has a very fast 3G network that is configured in a way that users can talk and browse the Internet at the same time. They use a service type that is the same format as many other cellular companies around the world, making an AT&T iPhone more world-capable than a Verizon one.

On the other hand, AT&T’s service is infamous for its call-drops, lack of coverage, and sub-par performance. Due to the life-binding contracts and massive early-termination fees, the...
“Never thought it would... Never thought I’d be the... Never thought I’d be... Never thought I’d be here when it happened... Never thought it could happen to me.” Bird Worthington was a little choked up, to say the least, when I asked him what it felt like to be just a few months from graduation. “I feel like the leader of a pack of Canadian geese, guiding the rest of my flying V toward our final destination. Except I don’t actually have wings,” said senior Walter “Payton” Macey.

Speaking of Canada, Mason Kirkpatrick is a big fan. Plus, everyone knows who discovered the great land we know today as Canada... Leif Erikson. In honor of his bravery Doug McWilliams has dedicated his winter to becoming a true Viking Master!

When I asked Drew Lonergan how his winter break was, he searched deep within his soul and told me this: “When a storm starts turning, miles keep burning, when you look and see how far you have gone, you see you’re still just learning.” (finger snaps) He also added that he would like Mr. Tillman to send out an email because he lost a few couch cushions.

MBA hockey continues their playoff run each Wednesday for the next 3 weeks. Come support Max, Nick, Connor, Chris, Gary, Ethan, Al, and Jack.

Ultimate seniors are coming off a big win over USN heading into a tournament in Chattanooga at the end of February. The basketball and wrestling teams are hopefully heating up for the end of their seasons, led by Chase Owen, Jojo Guerre, and Mark Simpson.

Andrei “Kobayashi” Lucaci recently ate two tacos, each in one bite, for lunch. Nearby, Collin Brannon was perfecting his nacho bacon ranch collosseum of cholesterol, and at the next table over Clay Garrett was spotted picking his nose. Davis Threlkild was disappointed that he never got a chance to eat Indian food over the break; Philip Daniely, however, tried it for the first time and spent the next few days impersonating Elvis’ death.

Since homework matters little to us seniors nowadays, gaming activity has increased. Christian Alford can’t stop “owning kids” in Rome: Total War. Carter Callaway is bringing back Roller Coaster Tycoon, while Cody Fisher has mastered Hot Shots Golf. In a recent survey, 37 seniors tried out the iPads in the library, but 100% of students left once they realized none of them had Angry Birds.

With Valentine’s Day just around the corner, many of us have our eyes on that special someone. Chad Hoback wasn’t so lucky. He told me he got a new girl over the break but decided to break things off because that would be easier than introducing her to his mom. D-Mac, couch, nuff said. Warren Smith has been really nervous about this one girl that he thinks might like him, but he’s not sure, but he’s just gonna go for it and hope for the best, cuz, I mean, it’s senior year, right? No regrets.

Clay Adams isn’t the best secret-keeper. Coach O’Neal had to tell Mason Foote five times last Tuesday to put his shirt back on at baseball practice. Mason, who could’ve sworn those moms looked like Mackinnon, declined to comment.

Andrew Powell has decided to name his first-born son Cam Newton Powell. Hayes McCord and Scott Gould are getting braces again. Will Norton has started collecting fountain pens. Ben Carpenter taught me how to doodle.

A few meaningful stats: number of pencils behind Granbery’s ear last week-13, number of days Bob MacArthur has been at school this semester-4, sightings of Frampton-26, number of times Hiller Miggins has mentioned Buckfest III -68 (or 70, I can’t remember), number of Chases who can’t look Mr. Deutsch in the face-3, number of days until spring break-too many.

Happy February, arguably the worst month of the year. LIFT IT UP!

Winter chills freshmen

By Wells Hamilton
Staff Freshman

The end-of-winter-break-denial theorists added a few new members when the freshman class returned to school this spring, especially during genetics. Meanwhile, Wes Duke still believes he has blond hair.

Sports are slowing down as wrestling and basketball are coming to an end. This is unfortunate because Charlie Hawkins is just getting his feet going. Ben Barton still won’t retire his varsity wrestling jacket.

Riffery is definitely doing something, but I don’t really know what. However, freshmen are an integral part of the hockey team, with breakout stars Justin Yoon, who can really play hockey packs well, as well as Nick Boney, who is just a complete stud. We can also agree that jv lacrosse is working hard as Chris Burrus continually tries to beat Hippy Evans in sprints. Maybe next time, Chris.

Course registration has thrown the freshman because would-be A.P. History takers are suddenly learning they actually have to go and talk to their old history teachers. Pat Sanders looks forward to the chance to reconnect with his old teacher Mr. McMurray. Course registration also raises the question, why would anyone take Latin III? Samuel Bamigboye believes that learning the revered dead language will open doors for him.

Cocky debaters Arhmaand Jhala and Miles Curry feel they’re going to whip all of us in the freshman speech contest, but as we all know, Jordan Whitaker is favored to win. Luckily, the topics allow for some hardcore bashing of the current president by outspoken young Republicans. (You know who you are, Brandon Carpenter.) I might get bloody. Several favorites, though, are not part of debate, which means they might actually say something funny. Sorry, McKay, Mr. Jackson wouldn’t have been pleased.

Recycling has stepped out as Drew Benson has set out a mandatory roll call. Mr. Gillespie has already assessed demerits for “chronic failure to fulfill recycling duties.” Murphy Smiley reacted, “I had no idea my failure was so chronic.” Alec McDowell commented “Awoohah.”

Above: Doug’s been a senior since 6th grade. LET’S GO MAKE SOME TOAST!!

Below: P.Duff, Hiller, Spelman, and Rupe (whose lips are sealed) are just chillin’
Junior class has many great moments on Hill

By Scott Dalton
Staff Junior

As the junior class willingly decides to enter the second semester of junior year (also known as Misery), we stop and take this time to look back and cherish some of our greatest moments of the year, often noting that everything is always the same. Let’s work on some change for the next article, boys.

Thomas Forcum recently released his autobiography in which he seeks to find the quantification for all potential solar energy to be converted into molecular kinetic energy when someone uses an eraser. We know he will find it soon. Ross Martin says James’ attempt will be “nuttin’ but nylon, baby!”—whatever that means. And, yes, David Howard did indeed invent nylon.

Matt “Handy Mandy” Anderson personally asked me to be in this article. For the last time, I seriously don’t want to hear your questions or comments because I could seriously care less. In other news, Coach Daniel Peters hit a power-up level of over 9000, thus making him the next in line to succeed the throne of the nearly departed Michael Peters for the greatest runner of all time. David Arteaga, Myles Anderson, and Austin Doebler’s “pantalones” are “estan” nowhere to be found.

Chris Meluch made a joke about how bad France’s army is, I was just wondering if you had heard it? Tim Bulse continues to follow me around campus and know extremely embarrassing facts about my childhood. DeCoursey Beach is actually trying now in school, unlike Joe Scherrer who has never tried in school a day in his life. Palmer Campbell actually told Dr. Carro this nickname was “Warrior,” and for that Palmer “Warrior”? Campbell gets a medal of honor for not being a warrior of any kind, except in talking like an illiterate white trash retiree who operates a trailer park.

The Bellets don’t take kindly to your type around here.

No one is quite sure why Kelly Haselton insists on wearing John Travolta’s leather gloves to school every day. When asked, Kelly muttered something that even a hearing aid couldn’t pick up. James Kay has continued his pursuit to “catch them all”, and by that I mean every flu epidemic that has ever reached the continent of North America. Mitchell Mondays anyone?

Ask Henry Beveridge about the 99-cent paper he bought at Office Depot the other day…it’s garbage. I would like to give a shout out to Warren Lipscomb and Willard Logan for continuing to make the rest of us look bad by swooning the ladies with your skills on musical instruments. If “P” could can it for a few minutes, we might be able to hear them clearer (just kidding, Warrior).

Daniel Mace had surgery, so when you see him, don’t let him forget that he has crutches. He knows his place. Alex Hagar’s birthday is every day for the rest of the year, so just go ahead and let him know that. Recently, Baker Swain made a fake gun and shot it at Joseph Robinson. Joseph killed Baker…literally.

Well, folks, that’s pretty much it. Rett Hooper and Will Peffen continue to rock the world with their stunning dance moves. John Morphis and Logan Standard continue to be bros for the 3rd issue this year. Paul Brazil has not been confirmed yet to have landed in England. Gray Jones is a banana, Jack Beckner holds field goals, Clay Sullivan finally slapped some Rogaine on his head, Noah is still trying to locate the longitude and latitude of his jaws, and Casey Ortale continues to remind me of Toad from Mario Kart every day.

Stay classy, Juniors, and remember: duct tape can fix most problems, just don’t push it.

Optical Illusion: While some may think this is a swim meet, Adam Cornett rarely comes to school with a shirt on.

Warren Lipscomb goes hard in the paint when it comes to Ice Cream.

Finally, the first members of the Class of 2012 to talk to females!

Lo Bro says, “Pain don’t hurt none!”

All photos on this page are courtesy of Mr. Jamie Tillman.
Whaddup, sophs

By McLean Hudson  
Staff News Writer

A couple of weeks into the first quarter, and the sophomore class is buzzing with some very exciting news.

Most of that, though, would be edited out anyway so I’ll just throw around the usual stuff. Ryan Potter is average on Xbox live and spent New Years’ in Maryland. John Powell went to Glendale for the national championship, and Will McFadden talked to Donald Duck in his own Donald Duck voice.

Kevin Wang has some really exciting stuff going on in his life right now, but he didn’t want it all published so everyone should go up to him individually and ask him about it. Nathan Fouts transcended with Jack Benton, who had a fantastic time at David Lipscomb’s Winter Formal. Andy Seay is looking forward to tennis season when he, Andrew Karpous, and Lucas Littlejohn look to lead varsity back to a state title. James Higgins teamed up with Brosceidon, and all he does is Lax. Michael Piana is awesome.

Samm Waiter scored his first points in church ball. Trip Adams enjoys a good peanut butter sandwich every now and then. Cade Hooper picked the Blue Waffles to go all the way, and Jack Kinloch is very attracted to Louis Kieke. Lucas Fortune has been disappointed with the recent lack of snow days.

In butterfly-related news, all butterflies are from Asia, Jack Bond is a social butterfly, beloved by all, and William Yang is just a butterfly. In other William Yang news, he got a spray tan and skipped three weeks of swim practice so it wouldn’t wash off, and he poured water into our drawer at our lab station in chemistry because he was so excited to do the homework.

Jack Rhodes is single and ready to mingle, as is Taylor Groom. Jane Winsett is Jack Emerson’s best friend, and Marcus Riley is on a manhunt, or so says Henry Lynch. Tony Birdsong is living the life, Ryan Flack ate popcorn, and Chris Duffy broke six in the forty. Clint has been working on his punning technique, while John Wheeler has been getting kicked out of the weight room. Davidson White loves chemistry, and his uncle is the PepiMax guy in their new commercials about the Soda Draft.

J. Carlton Smith is really good friends with Jackson Flora, Furman Haynes says Adam Bowman got a Facebook and has been chatting with Fergie again, and Robby Mills was added by one Brad Gioia on Facebook two weeks ago. Wesley Nealy misses Mrs. Qian, and Lucas Littlejohn desires to be adopted by Haywood Mosley. Hayden Deakins is the 29th swimmer.

Mark Lowe’s dog rolled in poop, presumably sometime before he caught the last train headed west. Andrew Einstman discovered the wonder of facetime, and Robert Pagel was subjugated by means of marker. Then Paps was appointed ‘cumpmaster’ by Mr. Tate, but he wasn’t supposed to tell anyone because that would be bad. “It’s really funny,” he said, “but I can’t tell you why.” Mitchell Flautt has a new philosophy, and Jake Macey met a lovely gal by the name of Casey Fitzpatrick.

Jody Gorham, well…whapush (shipping motion)! Bo Griswold says, “uh-bedahba.” Mattison Asher went to USN’s homecoming and KFC. Chris Habberman is clueless, water has a memory, and Alan Liang is excited for the state swim meet.

On that note, the swim team is, will, or was competing in the Regions meet recently, but I’m not sure when because I have no idea when this is going to be published, so good luck or good job to Mark Lowe on his excellent performance.

Mani “iBall” Hodges goes hard in the paint with no brush, and Tom Bu loves to paint. John Mellow got new shoes because his old wallabies were really old and wet from several games of debate football so they smelled bad. McLean Hudson outperformed Clint Smith on Mrs. Qian’s first semester exam, and David Maynard is an Afrakaner.

Colin Caldwell ate a big red candle and killed a man with a trident. Wilson Johnson is looking forward to an excellent baseball season with Coach Pettus. Reed Cothron might go to Haiti for spring break. Franklin Garstin says Tommy Douglas is awful at FIFA, and Sam Turner and Tommy Douglas are fantastic drivers, John Tully likes Spiderman underwear, and Jack Rhodes is going to Harpeth High’s homecoming, but not the actual homecoming because he’s cool.

Sorry to disappoint the fans, but I’m not Facebook-stalking this issue, partly because I already have a lot and partly because everyone is kinda tired of Facebook after, well, that whole thing.

Stay thirsty, my friends.

Science Olympiad team hopes, plans to bring back state trophy

Left: Connor, Andrew, and Carter Callaway (left) this year’s Science Olympiad squad is hoping again to “own” the competition.

After being removed from the MTSU regional tournament because the team got first in over half the events, the team is hoping to succeed at the David Lipscomb regional tournament on February 19th (multiple spirit buses will be on route, Big Red Points, etc.).

The Big Red is hoping to win the regional competition and move on to the state competition in late March and, with luck and skill, Nationals in April.

According to the senior leaders, Oak Ridge is the Big Red’s biggest competition for State because “they’re all kids of professors and they glow in the dark.”

The team is looking forward to this year’s events like “beating up robots in sumobots,” and astronomy. The administrators of Science Olympiad seem to choose the events according to how well MBA does in each one, according to senior Andrew Powell. Past events that have been removed include Fermi Questions, Wright Stuff, and Picture This. The seniors are not sure what this year’s dynasty event will be, but they expect to be prepared.

By Jake Macey  
Staff Writer

Led by experienced seniors Connor Caldwell, Andrew Powell, and Carter Callaway (left) this year’s Science Olympiad squad is hoping again to “own” the competition.

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The munificence of the Wilson family allows over twenty language students each year to travel to foreign countries to live in the culture and speak the native language.

This year, 26 students have been selected to receive these wonderful monetary prizes. The students are: from the Spanish classes, Preston Evans, Trent Hollowbrook, Matt Anderson, McLean Hudson, Harris Elledge, Barry Goldsmith, Jake Macey, Preston Palm, and Mark Lowe; from the Chinese classes, Hayden Deakins, John Mellow, Eric Walsh, Andrew Karpos, John Bradshaw, Chris Habermann; and from the Latin classes, Kevin Wang and William Reames.

To find out more about these prestigious subventions, I interviewed the language department chair Mr. Gaither.

**Bell Ringer:** How did the idea of these Wilson Grants first arise? How long have they been in existence?

**LD:** In 2009 the Wilson family and Mr. Gioia came with a plan both to support language studies and to give the students an advantageous addition for their college applications. This is now the second year the grants have been given.

**BR:** What are the requirements to apply for the Wilson Grant?

**LD:** To be eligible a student must have studied the language for at least two years, must have developed enough fluency with the language to interact effectively with the native speakers, must be a sophomore or junior, must commit to study the language for at least one more year, and the student must show a keen interest and passion for the language.

**BR:** How many students are selected to receive a grant?

**LD:** In 2010 twenty-five students received a grant. The Wilson family has allotted about $160,000 per year to cover the cost of the trips. The number of grant recipients depends on how much each program costs. The Wilsons have been very generous this year in allowing us to run over budget a bit.

**BR:** What does the winner of the Language Grant do in his respective country?

**LD:** For each country there are different programs which provide different experiences. Generally, each program has a stay with a host family, travel into various areas of the country, a formal language study element, and a particular focus. For instance, in France there is a focus on chocolate-making or a focus on photography, while in Central America there may be a focus on service projects.

**BR:** How long is the trip for each language grant winner?

**LD:** It varies from between 3 weeks to 5 weeks, and there is one program that is up to 8 weeks. The length of the stay depends on the program the student selects.

**BR:** Do the winners of the French and Spanish grants go to France and Spain, or just countries in the western hemisphere that speak their respective language?

**LD:** For Spanish students South and Central American countries are visited as well as Spain. French students travel to France or French-speaking areas of Switzerland.

MBA team ready for first History Bee

**By John Mellow
Staff News Writer**

This March Tennessee will reach the forefront of looking backwards into time. That’s right! This year, for the first time ever, Tennessee will assume its role as a bastion of history by hosting a National History Bee and Bowl state tournament.

In this tournament, teams gather from around the state to test their historical knowledge in an attempt to be sent to the national competition.

From looking over the study guide, it seems that any historical topic is fair game, as long as it has had some impact on western (and, most often, American) culture.

Participants must be prepared for anything culturally significant from the Magna Carta to Madonna, although the website does explicitly state that “even though ‘Jersey Shore’ is now in its second season, we’re not going to be asking questions about its history.”

No matter what the content, however, MBA will be ready. Considering that this competition is in its first year here, MBA has a prime opportunity to take advantage of teams new to the sport and roll right into Washington D.C. for the national competition.

Dr. Bailey has meticulously put together a dream team of some sophomores, one junior, and zero seniors, but if you think you’re interested, he might be able to squeeze you in.

With the MBA team leading the way, a new era of historical awareness shall dawn in Tennessee.

Math department updates

**By Davis Lovvorn
Staff News Writer**

Mr. Golonen, chair of the math department, graciously gave The Bell Ringer a few minutes to update us on happenings in his department.

**Davis Lovvorn:** Can you tell me about the recent AMC 10 and 12?

**Mr. Golonen:** On February 8th, the Big Red mathletes embarked on a formidable task. The AMC 10 and 12 are very challenging and competitive national exams - so hard that you earn points for not answering. (This seemed like a joke, but quite true.) Eighty MBA students took the AMC 10, and about sixty-five took the AMC 12.

**DL:** Can you update me on any recent math competitions?

Chef Malcolm Morrison

English teacher, theater director loves to cook

By Joe Barry
Staff Writer

Many students know Mr. Malcolm Morrison as an English III teacher, junior school theater teacher, and director of some of MBA's theater productions. Less known to many students is that Mr. Morrison can add chef to his list of occupations, and a very good chef he is.

He is very interested in cooking and has been since about the age of 13. Since his mother owned a restaurant of her own and was very busy with her culinary duties, young Mr. Morrison would often cook lunch for her.

His brother and sister also cooked often, with his sister owning a guesthouse and his brother being especially talented in preparing French dishes. He attended Johnson and Wales Culinary School in Providence, RI to refine his skills even more.

Mr. Morrison has been teaching cooking classes to adults for eight years, in addition to school classes. He is invited to teach a class once a month at Whole Foods in Green Hills where he has covered a range of dishes and styles including fish, BBQ, Spanish, British, Greek, and Mexican. His favorite style, however, is Italian.

Also, he teaches a two-week long cooking camp in the summer with a different theme of dish each day. He started this camp about ten years ago when several MBA boys asked if he could teach them a few simple meals to cook when they went off to college.

From different pasta dishes all the way to gourmet desserts, this brief camp lets students learn how to cook a little bit of everything. It culminates in each student’s cooking a meal for an invited guest.

I took this class, and all that I had learned by the end of it fascinated me. It is something I highly recommend taking in June. In addition to these classes, Mr. Morrison also caters for different MBA events such as the Mothers of Alumni Breakfast and the New Faculty Luncheon.

Mr. Morrison also spent time in Italy, which would explain why Italian is his favorite style of food to make. He spent a lot of his time indoors in the heat of the summer learning several Italian cooking techniques, such as making gnocchi, a type of pasta.

Mr. Morrison credits his mother as his main influence, but also he cites Jamie Oliver, Antonio Carluccio, and The River Café.

MBA student reflects through ice creation

>> IGLOO FROM P1

like a sore thumb, despite being the most natural structure for miles.

BR: That’s a lot to digest, but let me see if I follow. Your igloo is a statement about postmodern isolation in that it’s a natural edifice in the midst of a concrete jungle, and we critique the structure for its difference?

JM: More or less. I think the juxtaposition adds depth. Here’s the primal architecture of the igloo set against what we deem a reflection of the “classic” in the Greek Revival design of Ball’s columns or the more modern glass and steel of Pfeffer’s spire. I think, however, anyone’s guess is as good as mine as to the “correct” interpretation of my art.

BR: Mr. Mellow, thank you for your time. What do you plan to do the next time we get a good snow?

JM: I’m not sure, but I think I’ll be building something.

The Bell Ringer mascot Spanky (left) is very bummed that Igloo II was not permanent - it would have made a nice new home for him and his Ewok family.

MBA to be host for Global Healthcare Summit

By Karthik Sastry
News Editor

On March 26th, twenty students and ten professors from elite high schools around the world will convene in Nashville to participate in the week-long International Healthcare Symposium at MBA. The event is the brainchild of Headmaster Gioia, who has worked very hard to conceive and host it in Nashville.

A partnership between MBA and Winchester College in England, the Symposium series will focus on the global health crisis and the challenges for international policymakers.

This planned health care event also served as the inspiration for the selection of Tracy Kidder’s Mountains Beyond Mountains as the all-school summer reading book.

The Bell Ringer had a chance to talk to Mr. Gioia about his expectations for the event and the impact it will have on the MBA community.

Bell Ringer: Who are some of the notable guests who will be invited to give presentations?

Mr. Gioia: Dr. Jeffrey Balser, head of Vanderbilt University Medical Center, Congressman Jim Cooper, Dr. Christopher Fournier, the president of Doctors Without Borders, and Dr. Paul Farmer, founder of Partners in Health, will be speaking at the gathering.

BR: Will many of the discussions and lectures be open to students?

Mr. Gioia: Though this is a select gathering, specifically meant for the invitees, I will make every attempt to impress on our distinguished speakers to address our MBA students at special assemblies. I would also encourage students to participate in certain sessions of interest. Further, it would be great if our students could meet the participants as they intermingle in the dining hall during the lunch session.

BR: What is the source of funding for this Symposium?

Mr. Gioia: A well-known Nashville entrepreneur, when approached, generously offered to fund the entire event. Additionally, other benefactors have also contributed in different ways.

BR: Could you provide some details about the students participating in the event?

Mr. Gioia: There will be twenty students in all, representing ten schools and ten different countries and, thus, making this a truly global event. These representatives have been specifically chosen because of their interest in healthcare issues and global disparities, and they will be contributing their unique perspectives to the overall symposium.

BR: What are we doing in terms of hospitality?

Mr. Gioia: Students themselves are going to be staying with families, and we will house the teachers at the Hampton Inn in Green Hills. During the free time, we would like to give them a taste of what Nashville is like. As part of the schedule, we are planning visits to the Ryman, the Frist Museum, and the Loveless Café. We will also be able to attend a Predators game.

BR: What is the expected outcome of this summit?

Mr. Gioia: After detailed discussions at the Symposium, we are planning to put together a policy paper that will serve as a guide for healthcare debate and educate our students in this very important area. Also, it will be the launch of a new era for Montgomery Bell Academy as we move towards a global presence. This is truly a new pathway.
iPads in library are for everyone

Seniors disappointed to find no “Angry Birds” app

By Rett Hooper
Staff Writer

During our winter break, the library got six iPads for both student and faculty use. Located in the "iPad Pad" behind the librarians' desks, these machines are essentially databases themselves.

With all sorts of educational apps, the iPads can help anyone find any information he needs. They do not have games on them, but they instead have apps that stimulate the mind. National Geographic, Popular Science, and Time are only a few of the magazines available on the iPads, and the Wall Street Journal and USA Today are just two of the newspapers included.

The iPads are supposed to help students become more intrigued in their studies, as well as to help teachers develop better techniques in the classroom. Video Physics, virtual frog dissections, and 3-D descriptions of the elements of the periodic tables are all great ways of instilling an interest in science for students. Essential language programs may help students find an interest in language study as well.

TED and iTunes U are apps the librarians are particularly excited about. TED contains "ideas worth sharing," or great plans and designs thought up by regular people who wish to make a difference in the world. iTunes U is equally as interesting, as it shows videos of classes taught by excellent college professors. This app is especially helpful to MBA teachers who wish to improve their skills and develop new methods of teaching.

The iPads can do almost anything, so everyone should go to the library to try out these new computers. One can even read a book on a Kindle at home, using the Kindle Sharing app. The iPads now have First Class on them, and the librarians are looking to add even more apps. Mrs. Tilley says that she is even trying to download school textbooks on to the iPads.

Gray Jones takes on the iPad in chess. It looks like a tie ball game from here. By the way, Gray, you look tired. Check out Ryan’s article right there --->

Seniors Andrew Powell and John Wyse work to cure cancer with a little help from the Apple iPad.

All photos courtesy of Andrew Dupuis.

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Strive harder for Big Red Points

No surprise that Seniors currently lead the pack

By Mckay Proctor
Staff Fan

Gentleman, fanhood above and beyond the call of duty is the stuff of legend here on the Hill (I’m looking at you Colin Caldwell.)

Only recently have we, the student council, decided to reward those who answer the Big Red Call, thus the Big Red Point system. Currently, the high school is being embarrassed as the more microbial classes are closer to the lead than they should be. Frankly, this cannot stand.

We’ve been advertising each event of the week in the daily announcements, but the high school still lacks the participation (read: burying of the junior school) that we want to see.

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Remembering 2010: year review of movies, music

### Best Movies of 2010

**Wally’s Favorite**

**Best 2010 Horror**

![Toy Story 3](image)

**Toy Story 3**

I grew up watching *Toy Story* 1 and 2, and I had very high expectations for this third movie. This movie was great! It was funny for everybody young and old. It was sad (I legitimately cried). It was intense, unpredictable, and satisfying. This final installment of the *Toy Story* franchise includes all of the lovable characters and adds dozens more. I’ve seen this movie three times, so I hope you are convinced that it is worth seeing.

**Best 2010 Comedy**

![Saw](image)

**The Crazies**

It seems like every scary movie nowadays is lame and ridiculous. *The Crazies* is a very entertaining zombie movie that seems more realistic than all the rest. In a small town in Iowa, certain citizens are starting to space out and go insane with violent urges. It seems like the sheriff, his wife, and his deputy are the only ones unaffected as they try to escape. If you like being scared or jumping out of your seat during movies, this quality horror flick would be the perfect entertainment.

**Best 2010 Drama**

![King's Speech](image)

**King’s Speech**

When I heard what this movie was about, I was not at all interested in seeing it. Basically, it’s about a king with an extreme stutter who has to start giving speeches as his country heads to war so he hires a bizarre speech therapist (Captain Barbara from *Pirates of the Caribbean*). Going into the movie not expecting much, I was pleasantly surprised, and I now fully expect this movie to win Best Picture. Both Colin Firth, playing the awkward king, and Geoffrey Rush, playing the eccentric therapist, are fantastic in a charming and well made movie.

**And the worst movies**

**Worst of 2010**

**Leap Year**-A terrible chick flick about some Irish condition where the woman proposes.

**Spy: Next Door**-Jackie Chan as a babysitter, not funny for anyone older than 12.

**Saw 7**- They need to stop making these unnecessarily twisted and gory movies. The original Jigsaw who designs all the traps died in Saw 3 or 4, so the story has no point.

**Charlie St. Cloud**-That guy from high school musical stars in a not good movie about sailing, love, and an imaginary brother.

**Dinner for Schmucks**-This movie was the year’s biggest disappointment in my humble opinion. It had so much promise with Steve Carell, Paul Rudd, and the funny guy from *The Hangover*. The end result was pretty flat and ridiculous, not worthy of my seeing again.

**Avatar The Last Airbender**- M. Night Shyamaloomanlan has lost his touch. This movie, based on the kids show on Cartoon Network, is very corny and dumb.

### Best Music of 2010

**1. The Black Keys**

**This is an Album by The Black Keys. The name of this album is Brothers.**

To many, in a number of areas, 2010 is the year most closely affiliated with the word “disappointment.” However, even the most emotionally scarred of us has to admit that the one area in which we as human beings did excel in 2010 was music. After careful consideration and much deliberation, The Bell Ringer was able to compile 2010’s musical highs and lows.

**TOP 15 ALBUMS OF 2010**

**Brothers – The Black Keys**

All hail the Keys. After leaving us on a seemingly indefinite hiatus, the Akron swamp-rock blues duo left everyone wondering whether or not they would return to rock our worlds once more. However, it seemed unlikely that they would be able to top their successful, Danger Mouse-produced sixth album *Attack & Release*. Boy did they prove us wrong. After drummer Pat Carney’s divorce, he and singer-guitarist Dan Auerbach reunited to make not only the best album of their career but also of 2010. Starting off with “Everlasting Light,” a killer of an opening track, the Black Keys seem to warn the listener with Auerbach’s polished falsetto and Carney’s driving groove of the impending awesomeness their cardamoms are about to endure. Soulful cuts like “Next Girl” and “Too Afraid to Love You” recall tales of the women that “done” them wrong, while straight up dirty instrumentals like “Black Mud” need no lyrics to pack a punch. What’s even more impressive is that even the Keys don’t consider themselves to be above a cover, as they give a righteous tribute to Jerry Butler with Auerbach going for vocal chord gold on “Never Gonna Give You Up.” It’s simply beautiful. As their album title suggests, the Black Keys are back stronger and more unified than ever before.

**Transference – Spoon**

Britt Daniel may be one of the best frontmen of all time. He is the essence of cool. Every phrase, no matter how seemingly incoherent, instantly turns to gold as it propels out of his mouth and into the microphone. Only a singer of this caliber could make expressions like “and I have my brown sound jacket/queen of call collect on my arm” just seem so perfect. 2010’s *Transference* is a rock masterpiece that almost seems to embody the word “groove.” High points include the head-bopping “Is Love Forever” as well as the unbelievable vocal chord-scraping “Written In Reverse.” But, the focal point of the album and Spoon’s twenty-tentie piece de résistance is “Trouble Comes Running.” Complete with ooh-ing backup vocals in all the right places and drummer Jim Eno’s thumping four-on-the-floor beat, “Trouble” is the perfect example of a Spoon song. Without it, the album would not be complete. Of course, the music of *Transference* is great, but what makes it stand out amongst other albums are the lyrics. Spoon, much like rock greats Steely Dan, seem to possess the gift of writing prose that may not necessarily mean anything but just sounds right. Perhaps Britt Daniel pokes fun at this notion when he asks the listener “are you picking up what I’m putting down?”

>> ALBUMS, P12
Free jr burrito with purchase of an entree and 2 regular drinks

15% off any catering order of $100 or more

*One coupon per person, per visit. Not valid with any other offer. Valid only at Franklin, Nashville, Spring Hill, Nolensville & Brentwood, TN locations.

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Nashville, TN 37205
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Homewrecker
With always free chips and salsa!
moe than just a crush

moe's southwest grill

moe's.com
Seattle’s Best is good place for homework, coffee

By Blake Burns
Staff Food Writer

Last Sunday I found myself in a tough situation. I had to start my theme study for a Latin test, do some math homework, and, on top of it all, read for history. This is a typical night of homework here at our fine establishment, but the real problem was where to do this homework.

Home, as the word homework suggests, was way too loud and busy. Therefore, I needed a place to do my work, and I needed it quickly! I thought, “Maybe I’ll go to Starbucks!” But, of course, Starbucks is way too loud with all of the music in its attempt to be trendy. I remembered Mr. Kelly referring to Seattle’s Best Coffee one day in class, so I tried it out.

Just as I walked in, I was immediately greeted with a smile by the very friendly worker. She helped me decide exactly what I should get, since I was new to the establishment. So, I finally decided on a mocha and said to her, “I’ll take a Venti Mocha.” She was very quick to reply, “You mean a large??” This question blew me away. Yes, my friend, at Seattle’s Best Coffee you can order a small or maybe a medium or even a large. This was truly a liberating feeling. I can now order coffee just as I order everything else. In English. What an interesting concept, right?

I received my mocha very shortly and was quite impressed with the taste. It was more intense than a Starbucks drink. After asking the woman working there why it was so much better, she explained that SBC uses a sauce to make their mochas while Starbucks uses a powder.

I was able to start my homework in a well-lit environment without any distraction. I later finished my homework, and then had a pleasant conversation with the people working at SBC.

SBC also offers sandwiches, chips and cookies along with their plethora of coffee drinks and refreshments. This is a great place to grab a treat and to do your homework.

Seattle’s Best is located in the Hill Center right next to Sweet Ceece’s.

Seattle’s Best Coffee offers a good alternative to Starbucks, whether you are in need of caffeine or a quiet place to do homework. Photo courtesy of Blake Burns’ cell phone.

Verizon’s addition of iPhone is good for customers

switch can potentially be very expensive, but, in my opinion, the change would be well worth it, considering how much more reliable Verizon seems to be, at least in the Nashville area. Especially with Verizon’s new 4G network and their already massive data coverage, a switch based on service would make sense.

Also, Verizon’s current device offerings other than the iPhone are excellent, should a family member want to go the Android route.

Now, onto the second question: “Should Verizon users buy an iPhone?” The best way to answer this is to offer a comparison of the iPhone with its obvious direct competitors in the Droid line.

Why you should buy an iPhone: First, Apple products simply work very well, with very few problems. Second, they have the best music player around. Third, they have the largest selection of apps. Fourth, Apple has consistent software updates. Fifth, their devices are very easy to use, and it is very difficult to mess anything up.

On the other hand, here is why you should buy a Droid or other Android phone: first, you have the option of a physical keyboard. Second, the Droids are fully customizable in every single way imaginable. Third, the homescreens aren’t just a big list of apps. Fourth, you get Google Maps Navigation. Fifth, you will have phone-wide voice-to-text input. Last, you receive better notifications.

Since these lists likely mean little to most people, they can be condensed into two simple sentences. If you want a device that works very well and very consistently with the well-respected Apple name on it, the iPhone is the clear choice. If you want a phone that can be customized completely and has the best GPS Navigation available for free and which offers the option of a physical keyboard, a Droid would be a better option.

The iPhone is extremely reliable. It works very quickly with relative simplicity and is very user-friendly to someone just entering the smart-phone world. Its selection of apps is unparalleled, and its music player is the industry leader. Some of its more intricate aspects give me cause to prefer Droids, which run on Google’s Android operating system. For one, the user can almost fully customize his Droid right out of the box and, with a little knowledge, can change literally anything to their liking. Secondly, the way the phone notifies the user about texts, emails, missed calls, etc. is far better than on the iPhone, keeping them all listed at the top of the screen in a sleek pull-down menu.

In conclusion, if you are absolutely set on getting an iPhone, don’t get one when it comes out. Wait until the new one comes out in what will likely be June. A new iPhone has come out every summer since launch, and it would be one serious bummer to be stuck with an outdated iPhone for two long years while that contract runs out.
Contra – Vampire Weekend

In 2010 the biggest buzz band since the Strokes proved that they were much more than just another Ivy League, Cape Cod band. In fact, they’re actually a very smart and very talented band. Each member provides his own little touch of genius to the collaboration. Ezra Koenig’s croon, Rostam Batmanglij’s sophisticated composing, Chris Baio’s impeccablyJune 2010

Shame, Shame – Dr. Dog

Recalling acts the Beatles and Band, Dr. Dog establishes itself as the late sixties rock band of the 2000’s with Shame, Shame. Whimsical grooves such as “Mirror, Mirror” and funky odes to the outcast like “Stranger” supply the listener with the perfect soundtrack to a nice day sitting on a blanket at a music festival or perhaps relaxing on a beach. It’s a thoroughly enjoyable album from start to finish.

I Had The Blues But I Shook Them Loose – Bombay Bicycle Club

Their debut album is a great band. I Had The Blues But I Shook Them Loose is a very interesting collection of songs filled with sharply executed guitar riffs and enticing melodies. Lead singer Jack Steadman’s warbling vocals and the natural twang of the band’s instruments seals the band’s cosmopolitan reputation in stone while the subtle electronics of “Givin’ Up The Gun” adds depth with a melody almost as poppy as a Dr. Luke composition. However, their 2008 debut “Who’s Your Daddy” is hasn’t exactly lived up to the early promise that they seem to move backwards. 

Deerhunter

This band, this has a bit more of an 80’s vibe to it. Think hardrock’s “Rock of the Seven Ages” and the irredeemable “Bullfighter Jacket.”

The Walkmen

The Walkmen will be one of the most disappointing albums of 2010! They are consistently original by mixing a diverse range of styles and a lot of variation. The songs seem superfluous and start to run together. There’s not a whole lot of variation in the songwriting. However, it’s still a good album from a band that I’m sure we can expect great things from in the future.

The Bell Ringer

09 February 2011

ENTERTAINMENT P. 12

See page 9 for all of the album art!

>> ALBUMS FROM 09

Big Echo – The Morning Benders

Although many albums can be described as great, few can be described as beautiful. Big Echo simultaneously takes us back in time and propels us into the future as a concept album about the pains and virtues of growing older, set to the background of a live performance. Phil Spector wall of sound emblazoned with melodies that could have come straight off of a Beach Boys record. The album opens with “Excuses,” a lavish and decadent song so sweet that you’ll feel guilty listening to it. Early single “At Last,” it definitely one of the high points of the album, along with “Wet Cement,” “Cold War,” “Hand Me Downs,” and the electrifying “Promises.” Although the songs are written in the style of the 60’s, they are not played like it.

Vampire Weekend

With their 2008 debut album, the band has become increasingly rare in pop music. Their songs are good, they open up the album tremendously catchy “Floating Vibes,” the album only seems to get worse from there. However, the problem with that statement is that there isn’t a bad song on the album. But despite that one little problem, Astro Coat is extremely enjoyable, and I strongly encourage you to check it out.

Permalight

It’s peppy, it’s anthemic, it’s got a little bit of an 80’s pop. Permalight is definitely one of those albums that you have to listen to three times before you feel like you “get” it. Yet, it’s still a very conventional pop record. It has one of the most highly anticipated albums of the year. Don’t get me wrong, their first album was fantastic. But now we can be certain to expect many great things from them in the future – which is comforting because we all love their music so much.

Tourist History

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Although many albums can be described as great, few can be described as beautiful. Big Echo simultaneously takes us back in time and propels us into the future as a concept album about the pains and virtues of growing older, set to the background of a live performance. Phil Spector wall of sound emblazoned with melodies that could have come straight off of a Beach Boys record. The album opens with “Excuses,” a lavish and decadent song so sweet that you’ll feel guilty listening to it. Early single “At Last,” it definitely one of the high points of the album, along with “Wet Cement,” “Cold War,” “Hand Me Downs,” and the electrifying “Promises.” Although the songs are written in the style of the 60’s, they are not played like it.

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Nashville’s rock music is big, getting bigger

Local Rock scene grows

By Tom Markham
Entertainment Editor

Rock and Roll finally took its rightful place in Music City, USA, in 2010. Country music had its big year, as expected (we can’t forget about T-Swift, Garth Brooks’ flood relief concerts, and Country Strong!), but the Nashville music community closed out the decade with a major development that has been missing in this city for too long—the Rock and Roll scene finally took root and made huge strides on the national level.

This great year of rocking wasn’t so much due to any huge concerts that came to town—though we can look forward to U2 in July—but more as a result of smaller local bands joining together and forming a solid rock scene in the place of a formerly cutthroat, disjointed community.

We can thank two groups of people for this wonderful development: Jack White and his gang at Third Man Records, and the folks at local indie blog Nashville’s Dead. These two groups crossed paths, and sparks flew.

Jack White began bringing local shows to his house at Third Man—The Next Big Nashville showcase this summer featured an all-star cast of rising local bands—and Nashville’s Dead kept discovering new bands for the eager hipsters to listen to, sponsoring local shows at lesser known venues such as Glenn Danzig’s House and the Other Basement all the while.

I’d like to dedicate the rest of this article space to highlighting some of the bands that electrified Nashville’s rock and roll community in 2010. I’ll also take you through some excellent bands to look out for in 2011.

Who killed it in 2010

Three local bands come to mind as having monstrous years, all of which have been championed by both Jack White and Nashville’s Dead.

JEFF the Brotherhood—this garage-psych duo of brothers Jake and Jonas Stein, has a frenzied combination of the Black Keys and Black Sabbath. Frontman Jake snaps out down-and-dirty riffs on his three-stringed guitar while Jamin pounds away on the drums like an angry, reckless cave child. Big hits “Heavy Days” and “Mission From God,” and the Band tossed in there. Stein’s vocals can be sweet and crooning on songs like “My Secret Heart,” or rambunctious and ragged on tunes like “Want Some Mo?” and “Trouble!” Stein runs local record label Turbo Time himself, and, with the help of positive press from Spin magazine and Nashville’s Dead, these boys are hoping to have a breakout 2011.

Local Rock scene grows

Right: Turbo Fruits

Who to watch in 2011

Obviously, we can bet that the three bands mentioned above will have monstrous years in 2011, barring some tragic breakup, but here are a couple lesser-known local bands that are gradually making big waves in the Nashville rock and roll scene.

Big Surr—Local pop-punkers Diarrhea Planet teamed up with songstress Helen Van and switched around their instruments a bit, adding a warm beach vibe and a hint of My Bloody Valentine-esque guitar noise to their rocking sound, and out came Big Surr. The tight musicianship gives this pop-punk, beach-rock five-piece an edge over similar bands within the genre, and their tunes are unbelievably catchy. Emmett Miller’s lead guitar hooks glide and stick with a crispness that is missing from most in the Lo-Fi scene. Their energy on stage is noteworthy (crowd surfing is an appropriate and frequent occurrence at their shows), and they’ve scored major gigs warming up for bands such as the Smith Westerns. If these guys keep up their beach-with-a-punch sound, there won’t be anything stopping them from a big 2011.

D. Watusi—Local upstart Dillon Watson (below) has gathered himself a gang of Nashville indie all-stars. Bassist Ben Todd runs Nashville’s Dead, and drummer Cam Sarette and keyboardist Christina Norwood have both been in multiple noteworthy Nashville-based lineups over the years. Their sound is a glorious throwback, complete with Wurlitzer accompaniment and heavy surf-rock party jams. Including among their influences The Troogos, Bo Diddley, and Norman Greenbaum, Watson finds a way to keep it fresh with faced-paced riffs, rough-and-tumble vocals, and a booming rhythm section. Their rendition of the classic “Gloria” at Glenn Danzig’s House this summer nearly brought down the house, as audience members leapt on stage to sing along with D. Watusi. These guys seem to have a new gig every time you turn around, and, as one of the first bands on Nashville’s Dead’s brand new record label, look for them to get lots of publicity in 2011.

Local band D. Watusi is posed to have a big year in 2011.
Biggest Musical Disappointments of 2010

By Jamie Joyce
Staff Music Enthusiast

Omni – Minus the Bear
Do you have any interest in hearing about lead singer Jake Snider’s sexual exploits in semi-graphic detail over the background of insanely cheesy funk beats and predictable chord progressions? If so, then, man, do we have an album for you!

The Five Ghosts - Stars
It’s not like Stars is a bad band… they just insist on making bad music. I say this because in the past Stars has written some incredible songs, such as “Your Ex-Lover is Dead” and “Elevator Love Letter.” However, I found this synth and somewhat overdratic album so boring that I almost fell asleep in the car while listening to it. ‘Cmon guys, PS. Why are you throwing petals during your live shows? It adds nothing.

Infinite Arms – Band of Horses
We all knew it was going to be hard to top the impeccable Cease to Begin, but we assumed that Band of Horses would at least try to make an effort. Lead singer Ben Bridwell decided to swap out beautiful and melancholy songs like “No One’s Gonna Love You” and the haunting “Detlef Schrempf” for an ode to some city in Texas where he’s apparently going to “take a dip in the lake.” You’re better than that, Band of Horses.

Easy Wonderful – Guster
Perhaps one of the biggest let downs of the year was Guster’s much anticipated 2010 album. It is unclear to me why they went from composing of great songs such as “Amsterdam,” “Barrel of a Gun,” and “Satellite” could have made an album with approximately one good song. The most painful song on the album would probably have to be the hokey “Stay With Me Jesus.” I have no problem with Christian bands or religious bands in general. However, the song is just so not Guster. The band has taken a total 360 and instead of a chorus they just sing “hallelujah” over and over again. There’s an old saying in the music business that usually artists start writing songs about religion when they’ve become most uninspired. I’m hoping you conquer your writer’s block soon, Guster.

Come Around Sundown – Kings of Leon
Like most of the world, I’m a huge Kings of Leon fan. They’ve been one of my favorite bands for a long time, and their 2009 show at the BridgeStone Arena was awesome. Maybe that’s why this album didn’t quite meet my expectations. All four of their previous albums were exceptional – yes, even Only By The Night. But after the painstakingly dull and cliché single “Radioactive,” it seemed as if maybe KOL has finally run out of ideas to sing. Perhaps they’re too comfortable and happy because Come Around Sundown was missing one of the key elements to the success of the other KOL albums – feeling. I didn’t get the sense that any of the misery or nostalgia described in the lyrics of the songs were real, which didn’t really let me connect with the album. So, I suppose that means that I don’t really wish KOL the best with all their success because it seems that when they’re at their best they’re also at their worst.

3-point shooter to teach math, coach

By George Swenson
Staff Writer

The Bell Ringer sat down with new teacher Mr. Sean Jackson to discuss his arrival at MBA and his role on the varsity basketball team.

Bell Ringer: How did you arrive in Nashville and in particular at MBA?

Mr. Jackson: I have been in Nashville the last 17 out of 19 years. My wife was a student at Vanderbilt, which brought me to the city initially in 1992. From 1996-1998, I was at Northwestern for my MBA degree, and we liked Nashville so much that we moved back after business school. After business school, I spent 12 years working as a stock analyst for an investment bank. I have known for quite some time that my next career would be in teaching and coaching, so it was just a matter of when the transition would happen. In late summer, I informed several of my fellow partners at our investment bank about this interest, and one recommended that I should talk to Mr. Giotto. That got the ball rolling. While the move happened quicker than I originally thought it would, I am glad it did.

BR: In addition to teaching, with what activities or clubs would you like to become involved? If possible.

Mr. Jackson: I hope to continue my work with the basketball program and perhaps have an opportunity to work with other sports teams as well. My oldest son (age 10) is a competitive junior golfer, so that could be a good fit. Given that I am in the math department, getting involved in the math competitions is something that I foresee in my future. My wife helped run the MathCounts competitions for a number of years for the TN Society of Professional Engineers, so I am somewhat familiar with those competitions. Lastly, at Princeton I helped form a chapter and was president of FCA. I am glad to see there was an active group here.

BR: I have heard that you have had a highly decorated college basketball career. Can you please elaborate your career?

Mr. Jackson: I was at Princeton during a special time. I was on nationally ranked teams that made three NCAA tournament appearances. Unfortunately, we never could get over the hump for a tournament win. Our closest and most disappointing game was a last-second loss to a #9 seeded Villanova team when we were a #8 seed. When you are on good teams, individual recognition usually follows, and I was voted 1st Team all-Ivy League my junior and senior years. Additionally, I was awarded with Ivy League Player of the Year my senior season.

BR: What is your role on the varsity basketball team?

Mr. Jackson: My role as an assistant coach for both JV and varsity. Coming in after the season had already started has forced me to be on a steep learning curve with Coach Anglin’s system, but at the end of the day basketball is basketball, so I try to contribute where I can.

BR: As the basketball season begins to close, what aspect of the game do you think needs to be tightened the most so that MBA can repeat as state champions?

Mr. Jackson: One of the key things that we have been focusing on is trying to improve on the weaknesses that have been exposed throughout the season thus far. While we all believe we have made great strides in many areas, there are many others (e.g. turnovers, finishing near the rim, etc.) that still need work. The good news is that these things are correctible, and we believe the boys will respond. Once this change happens, the skill level on the team is good enough for us to contend again.
Max and Stephen’s Mock Draft 1.0

By Stephen Bedard and Max Werthan
Staff “Mel Kiper” and “Todd McShay”

The Bell Ringer  09 February 2011  Sports

Max and Stephen’s Mock Draft 1.0

Fairley is clearly the better player, but we expect the Panthers to goof and pick Bowers

By Stephen Bedard and Max Werthan
Staff “Mel Kiper” and “Todd McShay”

THE TOP 5

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Wrestlers rise when others stay down

By Ian Sharbel
Staff Wrestler

The 2011 NFL Draft airs April 28-30, live from Radio City Music Hall, New York. Tune in with this paper in hand to see how accurate our “experts” really are!

By Ian Sharbel
Staff Wrestler

MBA wrestlers believe, as Theodore Roosevelt once said, and the quotation is abbreviated, “It is not the critic who counts, nor matters the man who points out how the strong man stumbles. The credit belongs to the man who is actually in the arena, whose face is marred by dust and sweat and blood, who strives valiantly, who spends himself in a worthy cause, who at the best knows in the end the triumph of high achievement, and who, at the worst, if he fails, at least fails while daring greatly, so that his place shall never be with those cold and timid souls who neither know victory nor defeat.”

This statement is a source of inspiration for the MBA wrestlers. This year the MBA wrestling team is one of the youngest, yet most motivated teams MBA has had in a long time.

With nine state-ranked wrestlers and twenty-six tournament placers, the team is showing its talent and determination as it approaches the state tournaments.


The fights are only getting tougher, and every one of the weight classes is rising to meet and crush the competition. Major rivals going into the state duals include Baylor, McCallie, Christian Brothers, Brentwood Academy, and Father Ryan.
By Davis Lovvorn
Staff Writer

Big Red gains fourth consecutive regional title

By Lucas Littlejohn
Staff Writer

The Blue-Ringed Ocellaris, a venomous marine snail, has been spotted near the shore of Big Red's waters. This highly venomous creature can cause severe injury to swimmers, and it is crucial for the team to remain vigilant and take necessary precautions to ensure the safety of the swimmers. The team has been working closely with local marine biologists to better understand the behavior and migration patterns of the Blue-Ringed Ocellaris in the area, as well as to develop effective strategies to prevent any potential incidents. The swimmers are advised to wear protective gear and stay away from possible encounters with this dangerous creature. The team is committed to maintaining a safe and enjoyable swimming environment for all participants.
On Tuesday, January 11, Jamie Joyce and I (both students at Montgomery Bell Academy) got to step into the shoes of professional members of the press for a night to experience everything the media does on a Predators game night. The Predators were in the midst of a 5-game winning streak after emerging undefeated in their California campaign. Both the win streak and the previously successful California tour added emotion and hype to what would have been viewed in the standings as an evenly matched game.

We started off the night by eating dinner in the media room alongside some other notable press members and Predators staff. The meal was both delicious as well as exciting, as we met some extremely nice people who engaged us in conversation. As we left the media room, we were greeted by a cheery Patric Hornqvist, who was chasing a soccer ball that had escaped from his grasp during the team’s pre-game warm-up. We then proceeded to grab a few media packets full of stats and other notables and continued on our way.

As we made our way up to the press box, we were given a brief tour of the down-stairs portion of the Bridgestone Arena, featuring stage equipment, zambo-nis, and a rehearsal hall. Making our way up to the elevator, we saw a rowdy group of Minnesota players kicking the soccer ball and carrying on.

When we made it up to the press box, we were both excited to see our names taped to the desks where we would be watching the game.

Watching the actual warm up was a very rare treat because usually I am not able to get to the games that early, so it was fun to see how the players warm up. Shortly afterward, the game began.

With such an even matchup, it was difficult to predict who would come out victorious that night. However, after a few short minutes, it could have been easily determined that the game was being dominated by the Predators. Their work paid off in the first period with a goal by David Legwand as a result of a perfect centering pass from Marek Svatos. The Wild came back fairly quickly with a goal, and the period ended at 1 to 1.

During the 1st intermission, Jamie and I walked around the stadium, taking in the crowd and the talk about what the rest of the game would hold for the Predators. We grabbed some snacks and headed back up to the press box for the start of the 2nd period. The second period began with a goal by Joel Ward a little over a minute in. After 19 more minutes of hard fought hockey, the score remained 2-1 in favor of the Preds.

The 2nd intermission was much of the same, as we watched some entertaining, on-ice tire races and talked with some fans about the game. When we returned to our seats, we were excited at the prospect of a win.

The third period could be summarized by the superb play of Nick Spaling. Notching two goals, one of which was unassisted, Spaling made his way to being one of the three stars of the game. A final goal by Marcel Goc concluded the game, with an overwhelming 5-1 Predators win.

Following the game was the post-game press conference, which was very light and filled with good remarks about the team and the great play of certain individuals. A win seems to make everyone happier.

The game was a great one to see, and I was extremely happy to be there to witness it!
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Two years ago, MBA’s Ultimate Frisbee team brought home the only athletic state championship for the Big Red. Although that stellar senior class has come and gone, the 2011 seniors have successfully carried the high expectations left by the state champions for the last two years.

Led by current MBA student Will Baker… no, he didn’t lead the team… the 2010 Ultimate team took second at the state championship, losing to perennial powerhouse and nationally ranked USN. USN, led by the ginger Jerry, talked a big game coming into 2011, losing only one starter.

In the first tournament of the season, Callaween, MBA took second again, losing once again to USN in a very close match. Mitchell Shope yelled at their coach. Jack Hallemann almost ripped USN’s Shaw apart. USN’s continuous foul and travel calls allowed them to steal an almost certain victory from the Big Red.

For the next three months of practice, the Big Red players set their sights on beating the USN Brutal Grassburn. With coaching help from legend Craig Stewart, robot Roderick Russ, and Cracker Barrel frequenter Coach G, the MBA team perfected a devastating zone defense designed to take away the deep pass on which USN so heavily relies.

MBA finally got another shot for vindication on January 29th, at the MBA One Day Round Robin. After easily handling Independence and eking out a too-close-for-comfort victory against Blackman, MBA crushed Brentwood and the MBA JV and faced USN for the championship.

As at Callaween, MBA jumped out to a 2-0 lead as a result of DEVASTATING DEFENSE by Tom Markham, Warren Smith, and Walton Macey. Will Baker and Matthew Johnson continued their somewhat oddly intimate connection with each other by connecting on multiple fire cuts for scores, and all of a sudden MBA was leading 4-1 and then 6-3.

Trying to close out the half, MBA gave up 2 straight scores to USN and was barely holding on when Mitchell Shope hit Walton Macey for the final score of the half. Foregoing the time limit, the game became a race to 13. The two teams traded points and soon it was 10-8. USN tried to rally the troops with an ear-piercing “BRUTAL BRUTAL BRUTAL” cheer, but that only provoked the Big Red to beat them into a pulp. With more devastating D and a gift from the out-of-bounds gods, MBA went up 12-9, and then Cody Fisher hit Nick Kohler on a fast break to seal the deal.

The victory was the current seniors’ first against USN and made MBA the team to beat in Tennessee. The Big Red travel to Chattanooga for the Polar Bear tournament and then wait a few months for state. Ultimate is fun. Roll Red.

MBA Ultimate becomes Tennessee team to beat

By Nick Kohler
Staff Writer

MBA’s Los Banditos defeat USN’s Brutal Grassburn to claim the #1 ranking in the State

Photo courtesy of Bill Gaglione.

Photo courtesy of Parrish Preston.

Mitchell Shope races to catch up after pulling the disc, while Nick, Andrew, and Drew run down the field to set up the defense.

Photo courtesy of Bill Gaglione.

Tom Markham makes an athletic grab in front of USN defender Ryan DeL’Casino. Photo courtesy of Parrish Preston.

Nick Kohler sticks to fundamentals by catching with both hands. Photo courtesy of Parrish Preston.

Matthew Johnson gets up to catch the flying frisbee on MBA’s own lower field. MBA hosted a round robin event two weeks ago.

Ultimate is quickly gaining a national presence. MBA is planning on competing in High School Easterns, one of the two most competitive championships in the nation.
A gentleman goes to the Winter Formal

By Scott Dalton
Staff Social Advisor

It’s no secret that being in high school will allow you to be exposed to some extremely interesting situations. Said situations are mostly strange and weird because we all have this fantastical illusion that we have actually found some sense of maturity in our first 18 years of age.

Sure, you may be an adult in the eyes of the law, but simply because you can get into a night club and hang out with some washed-up, 28-year-old drug dealers doesn’t mean that you are exempt from feeling childish and stupid around the opposite sex (I know you just scanned this article and saw the word “sex” so you decided to read it. You can’t fool me with your deceptive reading lies). Oh, and for the guy who just read this and disagreed with me, either out loud to a group of guys (because your pack mentality is raging right now) or to yourself in your head, go ahead and put this one down because it’s not for you.

That’s right, folks, the highlight or bane of your high school existence can often come down to how you do with the opposite sex, and, since we have been so fortunate as to have so many winter formals running rampant in the last month, I have decided to enlighten you so when Prom comes around, you’ll be a pro. We’re going to sit down and have a chat about the Sadie Hawkins dance. 

The Sadie Hawkins dance (or more commonly known as “Winter Formal”, around these parts of the distinguished West Nashville area) is one in which the girls and boys will obviously be asking the guys to a dance. There are many ways in which you can make one of these formals a pleasurable experience (one for which you might laminate a picture or two into your baby book) or one which you can royally screw up. Having experienced Winter Formal in this past week or so, I decided it would be beneficial to give a few tips and pointers for the gentleman in the corner who doesn’t quite know what to do when prom rolls around. Let’s take a walk down Helen Reddy Lane, and discuss the do’s and don’ts of the Sadie Hawkins Dance.

Lesson 1: Forget Pride

Lesson 1: Swallow your pride big guy, this isn’t your dance. Yes, it is no secret that women are from Venus and men are from Mars, so don’t make yourself look like an idiot by trying to take control of the plans for a formal that isn’t even yours. Don’t get me wrong, I want to have my after-party at laser tag just as much as the next guy, but I’m not going to go around spoiling our candle-lit garden tour if that’s what my date wants to do.

Lesson 2: Relax

Lesson 2: Relax, your date’s Dad probably won’t show up with a shotgun in his hand at the door tonight. Be excited! You are now not one of those guys who only wants “one thing” (still trying to figure out what exactly that is...that’s a joke). For tonight only, Daddy’s little girl has branched out on her own to pick out a nice and sweet boy to take to a formal. You’ve got to be a perfect guy because let’s be honest, she is her Dad’s daughter and he raised her to know good from bad.

Lesson 3: Don’t Relax (...too much)

Lesson 3: Don’t relax too much. You’re not that great. Just because you got asked out by someone doesn’t mean you should be all cocky and whatnot. Take heed, dressing in spandex and a tuxedo t-shirt tonight is not a good idea. Save that for homecoming, bud. Dress respectfully because girls apparently think that is “cute.” Dressing appropriately might also win you more favor with the man who isn’t currently holding a shotgun, because you can bet your tuxedo t-shirt that tomorrow night that thing will be locked and loaded as soon as he sees your headlights turn onto his street.

Lesson 4: Shut yo’ mouth

Lesson 4: Shut your mouth and respect the bejeezus out of your date. Yes, tonight, when you meet up with your group, you will want to put a bullet in your head due to the excessive cloud of perfume that has somehow magically green-housed on the lawn you’re standing on before taking pictures. And, yes, you wish you had brought ear plugs because “oh my gosh, you look so pretty tonight” does get a little bit old after the 12th time...in the last 3 seconds. Regardless, give her a little space to do what she wants. After all, she probably does look really pretty, and you are probably pretty happy that you’re not sitting home tonight watching free movies On-Demand because you blew all of your money ordering pizza tonight.

Lesson 5: Coordinate

Lesson 5: Make a plan with the guys in your crew to convene in a designated location when you arrive. Let’s be honest, your date doesn’t care that much about you besides whether you look good or not tonight. So, I’ll bet you 20 bucks that the first thing she does when you arrive for pictures is half-trip over her dress running to see all of her friends, subsequently leaving you to park the car. When you step out of the car, go find other males, because at this point every female in your group will be modeling her dress and giggling about some inside joke to each other that is as simple as when someone said “peanut butter” one time.

Lesson 6: Follow #1-5

Brethren, we are forever bound by the ways in which we adhere to these simple lessons of conduct. Sure, you can disregard everything I have said here, but don’t come crying to me when you have a shotgun wound in your calf on prom night. Follow these lessons, my dear friends, and you will be one step closer to being a total Stud McMuffins.