“COLLEGE AND GRADUATE SCHOOL TAUGHT ME ABOUT HOW LIFE IS, BUT MBA TAUGHT ME MUCH ABOUT HOW LIFE SHOULD BE.”

Mauro M. Mastrapasqua ('90)
from the 2007 Junior Class Ring Ceremony
Look for more information as the weekend draws closer. For a complete rundown of all the reunion events, check out the Alumni Tab at www.montgomerybell.edu.
There is a classic episode of Seinfeld where George and Jerry discuss bringing the showman’s trick of “leaving on a high note” into the workplace. George puts the idea into practice, leaving in the middle of an important meeting following a remark that is well received by his colleagues. As we began putting this issue of The Hill together, I realized that my friend and predecessor on this page, Todd Counter (‘93), had taken George Costanza’s idea to heart.

Shortly after the first issue of The Hill hit mailboxes, Todd received word that he had been accepted into the Landscape Architecture program at the University of Georgia. He and his family moved to Athens in the fall. Todd loves MBA, its history and traditions, the passion of its Alumni body, and the unique privilege of working with such fantastic boys. He oversaw this magazine’s transition from modest beginnings to one of the most visually stunning school publications that can be found anywhere. The feedback from the first issue has been overwhelming, and we hope to continue to meet that standard in the future. Talk about leaving on a high note.

Todd’s departure has brought about a few changes in our office. Zac Hood (‘01) has become a more permanent fixture on the third floor of Ball. He has taken over several aspects of alumni relations, including Reunion and the Patrick Hale Memorial Golf Tournament. Zac has also continued his role with the Annual Fund, and will begin his first season as Varsity Tennis coach this spring. My role has changed from working extensively with the Admission Office to handling the school’s communications, including external publications and advertising. I will continue to work with MBA’s summer programs, as well as coach Varsity Lacrosse and seventh grade football.

Speaking of high notes, the past six months at MBA have been filled with them. As you will see in the following pages, the myriad accomplishments of the MBA community are astonishing. From National Merit Scholars to PGA titles, from vocabulary champions to veterinarians helping pets and their owners, from a football state title to a Nobel Prize, the list goes on and on. You will also hear about how MBA’s first pre-Christmas exams in 141 years were received, as well as learn what motivates talented individuals to enter the teaching profession.

I know you are eager to get started, so in the words of another Seinfeld character, Giddy-up.

CHRIS SMITH, Editor

THE ALUMNI AND DEVELOPMENT OFFICE Publishes The Hill as a Service to the MBA Community; and We Take This Responsibility Quite Seriously – We Very Much Want This to be Your Magazine…A Magazine of Which You Are Most Proud! If You Have Any Comments or Suggestions, Please Do Not Hesitate to Bring Them to My Attention.

I Am Impressed by and Proud of the Work Our Team Has Done in This Year of Staff Transition. If You Have Not Been to Visit Recently (Either Physically, Electronically Via E-mail or the Web, or Via the Telephone), I Hope You Will Soon – The Alumni Office is Here for You. I Hope You Will Get to Know Us; Please Let Us Know How We May Help.

SCOTT O’NEAL (‘84), Director of Alumni & Development
ONE FINE FACULTY
What makes a great teacher? MBA faculty offer their ideas on the various aspects of the profession and what separates good from great.

MBA VETS
Five alums. Three distinctive veterinary practices. A look at the role MBA played in fostering their interests and shaping their careers.
ON THE COVER
Senior Andrew Harris plows for extra yards in the Big Red’s 14-0 Homecoming shut-out of Ensworth High School. For more details on Homecoming, see page 10.
So spoke one of this year’s seniors to our faculty at the mid-year faculty/staff in-service. What a privilege it is to work with young men at MBA who have the passion and the sensitivity and the conviction to express themselves in these ways! What a privilege it is to work with such a special group of young men and such a distinctive community and setting! I am frequently reminded of the opportunity we have at MBA.

Thus far the 2007-2008 school year has proved to be a fulfilling era in so many different ways at MBA. From the recognition of a number of Merit Scholars to the state championship in 2007 of our football team and to the distinct honor that two juniors, Brian Swenson and Edward Powell, earned as the winner and the runner-up for the Regional Vocabulary Championship, I continue to be proud of the balance, focus, and great work our students do in so many different realms both on and off this campus. Just recently at our Southern Bell Debate Tournament, where we hosted students, coaches, and teams from throughout the United States, I listened carefully to the manager of the West End Holiday Inn who told me about his son. The Holiday Inn manager came to the reception for the tournament because he was housing hundreds of participants from across the country. When he met me, he told me about his special needs son. Once each month his son participates with our students in the Saturday Special Olympics Program run and led by seniors on the MBA campus. He talked enthusiastically about how much that time means to his son. He let me know that his son tells him how normal and important he feels when he is around the MBA boys. It is that kind of leadership and compassion and influence beyond this campus that we continue to do at MBA.

We have seen extraordinary generosity and interest from our many constituents. I am grateful for your support and confidence, and I know that it is crucial that the school continues to earn your respect in all that we do. We will stay committed to building gentlemen who understand honor and commitment, sacrifice and selflessness, and compassion and understanding of themselves and others. We will work hard to make certain that the scholarship and academic expectations at our school are strong, relevant, and effective in building better men. We will do all we can to show our commitment to athletics and many other extracurricular areas so that we stretch our young men in the best of ways. Our teachers define this school in so many important ways. Another senior wrote recently, “All the teachers at MBA teach the same subject—the English teachers, the math teachers, the language, science, history, art, and music teachers—all of you teach the same subject—How to Learn.” I would add that our coaches and advisors and staff work tirelessly to do the same. I am grateful for them and for the wonderful students and families we are privileged to know and to work with.

One of last year’s seniors recently wrote me a note and enclosed a $25 check. He expressed:

Dear Mr. Gioia:

I hope all is well with your family and MBA. I wanted to donate this $25 in order to begin a long tradition of giving back to a wonderful institution that has given me six priceless years that will reverberate in my life for many years to come. MBA will always be on my mind and in my heart, so I ask that you accept this check and continue the direction that you and the rest of MBA have chosen.

You can imagine how gratified I was to receive this note and gift. This generosity speaks as greatly and magnificently as the largest gifts MBA has ever received. No matter how small or large the expression of thanks and support, MBA and I will be forever appreciative of the opportunity we have to work with young men, great families, wonderful alumni, and many friends both in Nashville and beyond.
Pete DeLay (’78) has been selected to serve on the MBA Board of Trustees. DeLay has been very active in the MBA community, serving as Annual Fund Chairman and on the Alumni Board. Following graduation from MBA, DeLay received a B.A. in Economics from The University of the South, where he also served as a Trustee from 1998-2003. From 1986 to the present, he has served as Chairman of the Board and Chief Executive Officer of Sherman-Dixie Concrete Industries, Inc. Sherman-Dixie manufactures and markets precast concrete pipe and precast concrete storm and sanitary civil engineered systems. The company has 10 manufacturing facilities in Tennessee, Alabama, Kentucky, Indiana, and Ohio. DeLay has been involved in numerous professional activities, including serving on the Board of Advisors for AmSouth Bank, the Nashville Board of Advisors for Regions Financial Corp., the Board of Directors for the Tennessee Infrastructure Alliance, and the Board of Directors of the American Concrete Pipe Association. He has also served as the President and Director of the Engineers Association of Nashville. On the civic side, DeLay has been involved with numerous organizations, including serving on the Board of the Middle Tennessee Council of the Boys Scouts, the Board of St. Luke’s Community House, and the Board of the YMCA of Middle Tennessee. He was also the former Director of the Martha O’Bryan Center, and a former Trustee of the Martha O’Bryan Foundation. DeLay and his wife Katherine live in Nashville.

The following are new Alumni and Young Alumni Board Members for 2007-2008:

**ALUMNI BOARD**

Frazer Buntin (’93)
David Fitzgerald (’92)
Tom Gildemeister (’72)
Jim Harbison (’74)
Mauro Mastrapasqua (’90)
Kirk Porter (’82)
Tom Pritchett (’66)

**YOUNG ALUMNI BOARD**

Michael Augustine (’99)
Justin Elliott (’00)
Miller Harris (’01)
Leighton Liles (’01)
William Liles (’01)
Joe Pat McGuigan (’98)
Doug Oliver (’98)
Paul Steele (’01)
John Thompson (’99)
Miles Warfield (’99)
Jay Webb (’00)

**CORRECTIONS**

Patrick Manning’s name was inadvertently left off the list of college choices for the Class of 2007 that appeared on page 32 of the Spring/Summer issue. Patrick is attending Clemson University.

Ownership of one of the pins featured on page 57 of the Spring/Summer issue was misidentified. Pin #4 was owned by Nicholas Arthur Wenning (’23) and was given to the school by his son Arthur Bandy Wenning (’60) and his daughter Laetitia Wenning Hardin.

**ANNUAL REPORT CORRECTIONS**

Mr. and Mrs. Christopher J. Steere should have been included in the Leadership Circle.

Mr. and Mrs. Joe N. Steakley should have been included in the Headmasters Circle.

Mr. & Mrs. Richard F. Wallman (’69) should have been listed in The Waffle Society.

Louis Oliver (’99) should have been listed as a donor in the Alumni Giving section.

Walter Hale (’61) should have been listed as a member of the James Robertson Society.

Dennis DeYoung’s name was left off the list of Faculty and Staff contributors.

Beth Warner’s name was left off the list of Faculty and Staff contributors.

The Walter Hale Family should have been listed as a hole sponsor of the 2007 Patrick Hale Memorial Golf Tournament.

Sam Porter (’55) should have been listed as a member of the Alumni Board.

Robert Mattison Hamilton, Jr. was misidentified.
The MBA football team reached a historic milestone in its 109th season, as the Big Red took the field for its 1,000th game, the most in Tennessee history. A week earlier, the MBA community celebrated the achievement at its home game against long-time rival Hillsboro. The school invited all football alumni back to campus to be honored at halftime. In addition to playing the most games in Tennessee history, MBA’s 650 wins ranks second in the state, and the Big Red’s 14 championships are the most of any school in Tenn.
Eight Decades
OF MBA FOOTBALL ALUMS GATHERED TO CELEBRATE THE BIG REd'S 999 FOOTBALL GAME.
CELEBRATE THE BIG RED’S 999TH FOOTBALL GAME.
Homecoming &
SPAGHETTI
HOME-DAY &
SPAGHETTI
SUPPER

5,000 people were served at this year’s Spaghetti Supper and carryout. They consumed:

3,500 home-baked cookies
250 pounds of lettuce
250 gallons of sauce
400 pounds of pasta
THOUSANDS OF FRIENDS AND FANS STORMED THE HILL TO CELEBRATE THE COMMUNITY-WIDE EVENT REMINISCENT OF A NORMAN ROCKWELL PAINTING. Food, football, fellowship, and community service are perennial highlights of this treasured autumn tradition. In addition to the Friday night Homecoming football game, MBA celebrated a commitment to music, art, and the environment with performances by the jazz and rock bands, and an exhibit by the Chestnut Group, a nonprofit alliance of landscape artists dedicated to the preservation of Tennessee’s wide open spaces.

Second Harvest Food Bank was once again the beneficiary of the MBA community’s overwhelming generosity; the 7,000 pounds of food donated was second only to the amount collected during the Titan’s games. The Big Red Raffle featured outstanding prizes from Beaman Automotive Group, Audio Video Excellence, Inc., and D-1 Sports.

Proceeds from raffle sales offer an opportunity to fund a specific need at MBA, such as technology or professional development. Spaghetti Supper ticket sales provide funds for a cross-section of programs which benefit the entire student body, and are at the request of faculty and staff. This year’s event brought in over $90,000 and provided allocations for more than two dozen different projects. >>>
The event, though a well-oiled machine, doesn’t just happen. Forty-three different committees, made up of nearly 100 individuals and 200 additional volunteers, make the MBA Spaghetti Supper and Homecoming game a success both as a fund-raiser and as a community-wide event.

For the 63rd annual homecoming football game, MBA played host to Ensworth High School. The Big Red shut out the Tigers 14-0 in front of a packed house of 7,000 people. The Big Red defense once again was outstanding as MBA posted its third shutout of the season. Ensworth struggled all night moving the ball against the physical MBA defense. MBA’s physical offense also proved to be too much for the Tigers. MBA pounded the ball throughout the game as seniors Ben Bartholomew, E.J. Vinsang, and Christian Waddey shared the carries. Waddey punched in a two-yard touchdown in the first quarter followed by a Vinsang 50-yard touchdown run that secured the win in the fourth quarter. Tee Stumb (’08) contributed another interception to add to his team’s lead. Seniors Alfonza Knight, Jay Cole, Nathan Wade, and Jas Radar came up with several big plays quarter after quarter.

The members of the 1957 Big Red football team were named the 2007 Honorary Homecoming Chairmen, in recognition of the 50 years since they played their homecoming game. This team in particular was a shining example of noble sportsmanship and sound teamwork. The ’57 record scored 222 points against 65, boasted four shutouts, racking up eight wins and four losses with the 30th straight win over East High School. The victories were clear, although they don’t remember if the weather was, too.

Headmaster Brad Gioia thanks the 2007 Spaghetti Supper co-chairs, Betty Anderson & Kathy Rolfe

The funds raised by the MBA mothers and fathers clubs benefited more than 80 different departments and programs, from technology to the fishing club. Among the needs funded by the allocations are:

- Campus pictures for the Admission Office
- Model UN attendance fees and hotel expenses
- FCA library collection
- Library DVD sets and labeling system
- Refrigerator and kitchen supplies for Gibbs Room
- Tuition for faculty professional development
- Computer for The Bell Ringer
- Computers, drives, and printers for the Debate Program
- Media Day expenses for the Junior School
- DCR mini camcorder
- Podcasting production kit and supplies
- Tables and a cart for Plant Operations
- Archival drives and software for Alumni & Development
- Video editing software
- Supplies for Honor Council meetings
- LCD projector and mounting kit for Ball Conference Room
- Refrigerator for Main Office kitchen
- Alternative Spring Break expenses
- LCD projector equipment for Gibbs Room
- Painting by Hal Pickel
- Science Olympiad team materials and memberships
- Printer for Biology lab
- Stone pallet, plantings for school garden
- Guitar for acoustic work in Physics
- Increment Borrers for Biology
- Chicken life cycle, eye model, bean germinator
- Generator, puck, balls
- German cookbook, vocabulary materials
- Spanish magazines and DVDs
- Latin CD, poster, and books
- Chinese books, flag, and posters
- Language lab DVR, turntable, and DVD player
- Online math software
- Calculus multimedia video
- Calculators for Mathcounts team
- Junior School summer trips
- Chess clock and demo board
- Professional development conference fees
- AP prep books
- Computer for the yearbook staff
- Avervision document camera
- History Club operating expenses
- American History DVD-ROM
- Theater headsets
- VCR and TV for Debate Program
- Sweatshirts for swimming team
- Supplies for Fishing Club
- MOAH basketball system
- Kendo supplies
- Junior School lacrosse equipment
- Weather cover for pole vault pit
- Baseball pitching machine
- Starter gun replacement
- Track meet fees
- Hockey equipment
- Ultimate Frisbee fees
- Weight room equipment
- HVAC Championship shirts
- Soccer Kwick goal
- Rifle equipment
- Fitness Center equipment
- Golf bags
- Cheerleader expenses
- Tennis court fees
- Wrestling convention and clinic fees
- Football knee braces
- Coaching clinic fees and videos
- Microbe tennis equipment

The event, though a well-oiled machine, doesn’t just happen. Forty-three different committees, made up of nearly 100 individuals and 200 additional volunteers, make the MBA Spaghetti Supper and Homecoming game a success both as a fund-raiser and as a community-wide event.
MBA is a school that takes pride in time-honored traditions like Monday morning assemblies, Friday night football games, and until now, the taking of semester exams after the holiday break.
Yet MBA is also about innovation, being flexible, and open to change – qualities that have come into play in the decision to shift semester exams into December.

Year after year parents and students have suggested making the change. They claim that scheduling exams in January casts a shadow over the holiday break, and that students spend more time worrying about studying than actually doing any work.

The administration got the message and began to weigh the advantages and disadvantages of making the break with this longstanding tradition. “In addition to parental feedback, the idea of changing the exam schedule grew out of a reassessment of our starting date since, in previous years, athletic and extracurricular activities were already well underway before the start of school,” says Alan Coverstone, MBA’s Academic Dean. An earlier start of the academic calendar means the performance dates of the musical would no longer conflict with end of the mid-quarter – another added benefit.

Making learning more productive and reducing student stress were important considerations in making the change. Although there is no objective data on which schedule is optimal, anecdotal evidence points to the value of exams before the holidays. Alan Coverstone explains it this way: “While meaningful research on the question of exams before or after the break is nearly non-existent, mental health breaks and fresh starts form a significant part of the learning process; administering exams before the holiday break creates a less cluttered time for refreshment and also for more quality family time.”

MBA students have a demanding schedule, balancing academics with athletics, fine arts performances, and community service. The new calendar allows for more four-day weekends, and the prolonged breaks help reduce stress, giving students a mental respite.

In addition to productive learning and stress reduction, the schedule change will result in a more efficient use of time. “By integrating exam preparation into classroom discussions throughout the semester, the review week in January becomes unnecessary,” adds Coverstone.

While exams themselves are not “open book,” the faculty and administration are open-minded about the change. Taking a new approach and making a fresh start requires extra effort on their part, but most faculty support the shift. The administration will be carefully monitoring exam performance as they make adjustments to this work in progress.

TESTING ONE, TWO, THREE: PRELIMINARY RESULTS ARE IN
ACCORDING TO ALAN COVERSTONE, ACADEMIC DEAN, “GRADES 7-9 SHOWED FAIRLY SIGNIFICANT IMPROVEMENT. GRADES 10 AND 11 WERE SIMILAR TO YEARS PAST, AND GRADE 12 PERFORMED SLIGHTLY WORSE. I THINK THERE ARE NUMEROUS VARIABLES ASSOCIATED WITH BOTH THE IMPROVEMENTS AND THE DECLINES, BUT THAT’S THE DATA.”

OUT OF THE MOUTH’S OF STUDENTS:

“I dislike the thought of a long second semester.” – Corey Metzman (‘08)

“The momentum we built up throughout the semester helped me to focus on the finish. The holiday break was relaxing because exams were over.” – Cooper Thomas (‘11)

“I was able to perform better because I remembered the material reviewed before the break.” – Denzel Caldwell (‘10)
INTRODUCING

Marc Ardisson
Director of Technology

Although I have been with MBA since April of 2004 working as the Network Administrator, I had the privilege this past Spring of accepting the Director of Technology position. With greater power comes greater responsibility, and I have been informed that part of that responsibility is sharing with the MBA community a little about myself.

I was born in Bad Kreuznach, West Germany, to a military family and have lived in a variety of places including Fort Polk, La., Wiesbaden, West Germany, Cairo, Egypt, and Fort Knox, Ky., which I consider my hometown. I was fortunate to be able to spend four years at North Hardin High School in Radcliff, Ky., and I enjoyed playing football, golf, and being a member of the academic team. Outside of school I was involved in scouting (attaining the rank of Eagle Scout) and I also earned my private pilot license. I attended the University of Kentucky where I played SEC club lacrosse and graduated in 1993 with a degree in Telecommunications.

After graduating, I expected to jump right into a position in my field of study. Instead, I spent the next several years doing a variety of jobs that were seemingly unrelated to telecommunications, including managing a regional airport, working in an accounting department, and managing three college bookstores. During that time I decided that I really needed to do something to make myself more marketable in the very competitive technology industry and began taking evening classes to obtain my Microsoft Certified Systems Engineer (MCSE) certification. This proved to be very valuable and upon completion, I

>>>
accepted a faculty position in the computer science department at the community college where I managed the bookstore. I started my own network consulting business, and enjoyed working with small office and home office clients. I eventually left the community college to work as an Exchange administrator for a benefits firm. During these years, I longed for a position with longevity and deeper meaning and began to earnestly pray that God would show me his plan for my life. In the spring of 2004, my prayers were answered and I was invited to interview for the Network Manager position at MBA. Despite the diversity of my experiences, I was able to convince Mr. Gioia that I was indeed looking for a position with a community that would offer stability, longevity, and camaraderie. The rest, as they say, is history.

I enjoy coming to work each day, and love being part of the incredible process of educating boys. I truly enjoy being in a place where everyone is passionate about what they do. My department and I take pleasure in helping the faculty and staff to feel more comfortable with the programs they use, and seeing them become less intimidated by technology.

The Technology Department is responsible for providing the technological resources for students, faculty, and staff to complete their work efficiently and enhance the educational process. We ensure that the e-mail system runs smoothly, a daunting task in and of itself considering we encounter over 150,000 pieces of mail each day, 92 percent of which is spam. We also ensure that there is audio-visual support for meetings, presentations, and athletic events. We work closely with David Norton and his fantastic physical plant staff to ensure that all venues are prepared. In addition to day to day activities, we are involved with several projects designed to support the growth of the MBA community and the technological demands that go hand-in-hand with that growth.

We recently completed a project to provide wireless internet to all of the buildings at MBA. Currently we are in the process of transitioning to a student information system that is Web based and will allow greater communication between students, faculty, administration, and parents. The new system will also provide a valuable tool for MBA alumni to keep in touch with one another and make it easier for them to serve as mentors for MBA students who are interested in similar college or career tracks. Another exciting project involves collaboration with Bobby Whitson (’87) to set up MBA TV, an online video archive of all recorded MBA events. While the process will take awhile to complete, eventually every event that was originally recorded in 8mm film will be converted and available for online viewing.

Some of the most rewarding work that I experience at MBA involves the relationships I have an opportunity to develop with junior school students as their coach. I am head coach of the seventh grade lacrosse team, and an assistant to head coach Will McMurray (’99) for the eighth grade football team. I have thoroughly enjoyed working with both teams striving to not only teach a love for each sport, but also meaningful life lessons during the season.

I also have the privilege of leading an advisory group, which gives me a very rich experience with a select group of high school students. I consider these six boys part of my own family, and I enjoy watching them mature into gentlemen. Our group has a special bond which comes from celebrating our successes together and supporting each other through difficult experiences. We have more than our share of fun spending time with each other every morning before school begins, and try to have breakfast together a few times each month. These are the moments that remind me of what a special place MBA is and the difference it makes in the lives of every one of the boys that go to school here.

My wife Michelle and I have three children. Chelsea, our oldest, graduated from Hillsboro High School last year. She is currently taking advantage of a “gap” year and is living in San Francisco where she is renting a room from her great uncle and working in an art gallery (one of her passions). She plans to begin college this fall. Aaron is an eighth grader at MBA, and Michelle and I are pleased that he puts so much of himself into his studies and activities on The Hill. He has made many wonderful friendships that I know will continue beyond his time at MBA. Our youngest son Bryce is a third grader at St. Paul.

At the time that I was appointed Director of Technology, I was faced with the challenge of rebuilding the department from a personnel standpoint. If I were drafting a fantasy technology team, I don’t think I could have done better than picking up Marcus Piggee as our Network Administrator and Chris Reynolds as our Technology Specialist in the first round. My success is largely determined by the work of my team, and I am proud of how these guys have embraced their responsibilities at MBA. Both hit the ground running when they began in August, and the amount of work we have accomplished in the short time that they have been a part of the MBA community is evidence of their strong work ethic, knowledge, and desire to make our environment the best possible. In addition to Marcus and Chris, we have a couple of student technology assistants, Brandon Tutis (’08) and Austin Musice (’08) who are especially helpful in administering the Mac Xserve, providing assistance to students using the wireless network, and are also involved in podcasting and streaming Web media. This is a wonderful example of how our department is committed to providing a mentoring relationship to students who express interest in the field of technology. We hope to grow the student participation aspect of our department to incorporate students from each grade level in high school.

Andrew Rozario (’99) and Dr. Ed Gaffney are established members of our department, and do an incredible job every day. Andrew is a talented filmmaker and makes sure that MBA has the best video available, and that it is creatively edited. Dr. Gaffney has seen technology on campus go from one typewriter to five computer labs, and his detailed work keeping our Web site current has made communicating with the MBA community much more efficient. His willingness to share his experience at MBA has helped me to do my work more effectively. Our department will continue to move forward and provide excellence in technology for the MBA community.

I am truly blessed to be a part of the MBA community. I am continually amazed and thankful to see how the MBA faculty and staff pour themselves into doing their part. This is evident in each and every department here at MBA. It is very rewarding to be part of a process that not only educates boys in the traditional sense, but also gives them the tools to go out and make a difference in the world. I love MBA, and am thankful to have the opportunity to be a part of such a fantastic place.
Throughout its 141-year history, MBA has had plenty of legendary teachers; names like Mrs. Mary Helen Lowry, Dr. Michael Drake, and Mrs. June Bowen evoke memories of academic breakdowns and intellectual breakthroughs. The school continues to cultivate a faculty — men and women representing a range of backgrounds, experience, and personalities — that will have a lifelong impact on today’s students.

A math teacher with 27 years’ experience as an engineer in the corporate world; a Latin teacher fresh out of college; several MBA alumni who have evolved from student to teacher; a self-proclaimed academic with a “bookish habit”; and a theater, Latin, and history teacher with 18 years in public schools represent the breadth and depth of great teaching found in every corner of the MBA campus.

Over the past year, Alan Coverstone, MBA’s Academic Dean, spent hours interviewing faculty members about a range of issues related to teaching. He asked them to state their goals and how MBA helped him or her achieve said goals; to describe both their proudest moments and their biggest challenges in the classroom; to offer words of wisdom to new teachers; to share success stories with colleagues; and most importantly, to articulate what constitutes great teaching.

What makes a great teacher? (and what’s love got to do with it?)

Each faculty member was interviewed independently, yet the responses resounded like a chorus: a great teacher has a passion and respect for the subject, for the students, and for the school. “I love math,” admits Jamie Tillman, teacher and Director of the High School. “I love the interaction with the boys…their freshness and innocence.”

The desire to teach drove one faculty member to sidestep retirement in favor of a second career. “After an eventful 27-year career as an IBM employee, manager, and administrator,” says Dr. Jim Shackleford, now having taught calculus and statistics at MBA for 11 years, “I was able to retire into my first love: teaching. I was attracted to MBA for the same reason I chose IBM—a stellar reputation. From the students to the faculty to the administration, MBA is a class act and quality all the way. What’s not to love?”

Many are so in love with their subject that they just can’t help themselves — they feel compelled to teach. Miss Sarah Ellery, in her second year teaching Latin in the junior school, is a young woman passionate about teaching an ancient language. “Teaching the classics is a calling, and whatever strange looks I receive from people when I tell them my profession, I know it is an important calling. The tradition of scholarship in the classics extends unbroken all the way back to the ancient world, and I am honored to be a part of that tradition.”

Others find the students, with their enthusiasm and willingness to learn, a prime reason to teach. Dr. Rick Seay (’79), foreign languages chair with 18 years in public schools and seven here at MBA says: “I always teach several classes of eighth graders in Latin I. There is something so joyous about dealing with boys that age — eagerness that I can best describe as buoyant and ebullient. Playing off that type of energy just makes my job that much easier and, quite frankly, that much more enjoyable. As MBA students go into the high school, they display an intellectual curiosity and thirst for knowledge that I have never seen anywhere else. Yes, they are still boys, but they are boys with depth and breadth in many interesting and unique areas.”

The ability to embrace the subject, the students, and the support of the school are the qualities that set the great teacher apart. Dr. Michael Marro, junior school science teacher who trained as a chemist and later learned to be a teacher, qualifies the MBA identity: “Great teachers here live what they do: their subject matter, their students, and their extracurricular roles at school become part of who they are. MBA becomes their way of life, really.”

In a completely rational society, the best of us would be teachers and the rest of us would have to settle for something else.”

– Lee Iococca
Effective teachers realize the need to understand their audience, and to show a genuine interest in their students. Seeing the boys as individuals with unique backgrounds, learning styles, and personality differences helps teachers to understand what motivates each one. Establishing relationships makes learning more productive and the job a lot more fun.

After many years in public and private schools, Dr. Seay attributes a strong teacher/student bond to job satisfaction: “What I learned early on was that for me, the more involved I was in the total school program, the greater my enjoyment of my career was going to be. I have always found that close communication with and concern for students is what makes me most happy as an educator. I have also found that my students respond well to that type of involvement, and they appreciate a teacher’s personal interest so much.”

Just as an effective parent should avoid being a pal to a child, so should a teacher and student cultivate a relationship based on mutual respect. Dr. Ed Gaffney, with 32 years as a professor of Greek and Latin, expresses this view: “A great teacher relates to the student as a friendly adult, rather than as a friend. He or she is able to see the good qualities in every student, is able to motivate the unmotivated, and knowing each young man on a personal level, can draw out each student’s unique talents.”

Mr. Robert Sawyer (’98), in his fifth year teaching English, is a football and track coach, and an FCA leader: “The great thing about being a teacher, coach, and club leader is that students can see us in a variety of roles, and we can develop a deeper bond. This allows us to ‘read’ the students, understand the classroom environment from their point of view, and get them what they need to excel.”

Great teachers understand how to communicate with students on many levels. While using print, film, theatrics, or even games to engage their interest, a skilled teacher also brings a sense of purpose and a sense of humor into the classroom. Mrs. Jo Palmore, English department chair, is sensitive to the importance of discovery in the process of learning: “A great teacher makes a student feel a sense of excitement, exploration, and expectation through his or her passion for the subject. The exchange of ideas spawned by this energy is just so inspiring.”

Students are more keenly plugged in when they have ownership in the learning process. Mr. Jim Womack, chair of Visual and Performing Arts with over a quarter century in the classroom, says, “Great teachers understand that learning is a sensory dialogue, a collaboration where student and teacher come to conclusions together. That’s the key to keeping them engaged.”

Senses are naturally heightened through the study of literature; students are easily drawn into exploring the human condition and living a character’s adventures vicariously. Dr. Sean Kinch teaches English in the high school, is the junior class sponsor, and junior school tennis coach: “In English, keeping students engaged isn’t a problem; even works that are complex or oppressively long offer the boys entrances into the consciousnesses of other humans, and deciphering the record of those minds is always an exciting process. I always discuss the material on a personal level, in addition to teaching its formal and cultural components. I like to remind students that literary texts are, first and foremost, works of art that should move our minds and emotions.”

Sarah Ellery knows her students well and has an effective way of bringing a dead language to life: “We focus on the stories in our textbook as a way to see the language in context, occasionally acting them out as a way to process more deeply the language. I teach that Latin, or any language for that matter, is arranged in a series of clauses, not words, I try to convey the necessity of reading literally and thinking critically about the grammar they encounter. I like the days when I can get the students out of their seats and up to the board to compete on teams for classroom glory. The boys respond well to healthy doses of competition, and that is something that is always at the back of my mind when I design a new lesson.”

Relationships among students and teachers are forever growing and changing; as students explore a variety of extracurricular activities, they are faced with changing personal and academic issues, and graduate from classes, teachers enter and re-enter their lives. Dr. Michael Marro acknowledges this dynamic: “A great teacher grows with the students, one who takes an interest in their continually changing interests, and uses that bond as a hook to engage them in the subject matter, on the stage, or on the field.”
A great teacher brings to the classroom a sense of purpose and a sense of humor and still manages to engage the students’ other five senses.

TEACHERS WHO LOVE TO TEACH ARE TEACHERS WHO LOVE TO LEARN

Mastery of a subject is an elusive proposition and all great teachers know how to balance confidence in their field of expertise with humility. As Wendy Holmgren sees it, “Teaching allows me to continue to learn. A. W. Rollins so aptly stated, ‘The test of a good teacher is not how many questions he can ask his pupils that they will answer readily, but how many questions he inspires them to ask that he finds hard to answer.’ I am extremely grateful to learn with and from these young men every day.”

Mrs. Anne Christeson, Latin teacher and faculty adviser for The Bell Ringer, simply states, “A great teacher is a great learner – willing to learn from the student, to accept his ideas, and to appreciate his perspective.”

Effective teachers know when to relinquish some intellectual control in the classroom. Jamie Tillman has noted that great teaching happens when faculty members resist the temptation to ‘over teach’ and let the student struggle, confident that he is well prepared to reach that “ah-hah” moment on his own. That is when the training wheels come off and the student is well on his way to becoming a lifelong learner, able to find answers when no one is looking.

Jo Palmore has observed that students appreciate it when a teacher, especially one who seems to have all the answers, is candid about his or her ability to answer a question. “It’s okay to say, ‘I don’t know. Let’s explore that issue together.’” Such honesty builds trust and credibility between student and teacher.

REAL WORLD RELEVANCE MAKES LEARNING WORTHWHILE

It’s a big world out there and teaching offers a chance to add a global perspective to textbook learning. Wendy Holmgren, who is in her eighth year teaching biology, loves to use academic concepts to explain current issues: “MBA students are not only bright, but love to be challenged. Life sciences present a multitude of topics to explore as they relate to medical advancements, ethics, political platforms, and environmental issues. There is no greater satisfaction than to explain biological concepts and relationships and then introduce students to the relevance of these topics in today’s world.” >>>
Students love the chance to apply newly-acquired skills to the real world. Several members of the faculty capitalize on their years in the corporate world to demonstrate practical applications of academic theories. Dr. Shackleford speaks for all when he says, “My years working for IBM haven’t gone to waste. I try to bring industry into the classroom. Calculus and statistics can take on a whole new meaning when used to solve real problems.”

**WHAT’S SO GREAT ABOUT TEACHING AT MBA?**

It starts with the support that MBA provides. The people, the place, and the programs exist to focus on one objective: How can we give MBA teachers the resources and opportunities to travel and learn in order to enhance the students’ classroom experience?

The answers lie in professional development, which can be as simple as brown bag lunches among colleagues, online discussions posted on the Center for Teaching Excellence, or Davis Grants for educational travel throughout the world, just to name a few.

Teachers applaud the quality of the students as another way the school makes their jobs more rewarding.

The students that MBA brings to campus make teaching them a pleasure—especially when students and teachers share a passion for the subject. Says Dr. Sean Kinch, “There are the special moments when a student is truly inspired to learn more and becomes motivated to pursue your subject. A former student of mine, who went on to study literature and philosophy at Notre Dame, wrote me an e-mail just before he graduated from college telling me that my senior English course was the reason he majored in the Liberal Arts, and subsequently decided to go into teaching. He is now teaching at an independent school in Dallas, and nothing I’ve done in this job makes me happier than imagining him working with his own students.”
As a student three decades ago and as a teacher today, Dr. Seay has a valuable perspective to share about the sense of tradition and innovation that MBA espouses: “I am often amazed at and delighted by the changes for the better that this institution has undergone in the almost 30 years since I graduated. The physical plant is one of the most beautiful imaginable, the arts programs are thriving in multiple areas, and the academic excellence that the school has demonstrated for years continues to create a benchmark not only for Nashville but for schools throughout the country. MBA is not some stagnant ivory tower on a hill; rather, it continues to grow and explore new ways of creating excellence, and I am thrilled each day to work in just this type of idyllic educational environment.”

In terms of students and class size, ‘quality, not quantity’ is the mantra and demonstrates another way MBA supports the faculty. Dr. Kinch brings forth a good point and subsequently reveals his sense of humor. “Among the many positive aspects of this school, to me as a teacher, the most important are our small class sizes and our reasonable student loads. My courses are always in the range of 10-16 students, and I typically have 50-60 total students. Ask anyone in academics, and they will confirm that those numbers are a recipe for success. Teachers are able to individualize instruction, pay attention to each student, intervene when they see students going astray, and work hard to communicate our evaluations. If I had to grade 120 papers every six weeks, as opposed to 50, I simply couldn’t give each essay the same attention. I also like our tuna fish.”

The mentors that Robert Sawyer had as a student were instrumental in his decision to pursue teaching as a career. “Even as a student here at MBA, I was attracted to teaching and coaching as a profession. Much of this attraction came from an admiration for the great teachers and coaches with whom I worked. In retrospect, I probably sensed their passion for learning and for passing on knowledge (although I might not have been able to identify it as such). At the time, I simply realized how much they enjoyed working with the students. It was the thought of passing on knowledge, tradition, and values to students that led me into a teaching career.” The faculty and students strive to be the best that they can be in academics, athletics, and the arts; a sense of pride naturally follows.

Sawyer continues, “MBA is a unique place, and it certainly has its own unique culture. It takes a special kind of student to thrive here, and so it also takes a special brand of teacher. The thing I most appreciate about this culture is its clear expectation of excellence. In all of the school’s endeavors, we strive to excel. I think another important aspect of the culture is the emphasis we put on healthy competition, which drives students and teachers to excellence.”

Virginia Bakken is in her fifth year of teaching history and has coached eighth grade basketball for three years. In seeking out the perfect place to teach, she made these distinctions: “The two characteristics that attracted me to MBA are the school’s respect for academics, and the self-motivation of the students. The collegiality and respect colleagues show for each other has kept me at MBA. The Junior School, especially, is a fun environment in which to work.”

Dr. Rick Seay sees his colleagues in this light: “I have found here a very intelligent and stimulating faculty where just about every single instructor is what I would call a master teacher. Certainly, there are as many styles as there are individual teachers, but that variety helps create a uniquely challenging and amazingly talented faculty at MBA. From classroom to classroom, one finds this pattern at MBA—talent, commitment, passion, and innovation.”

The faculty – made up of men and women, scientists, artists, linguists, newcomers and veterans – has a genuine appreciation and affection for one another. They interact the same way a loving family does through open communication, mutual support, and mutual respect. When describing the MBA community, the words “love, commitment, engagement,” resurface time and again. Embracing each day with a sense of purpose and a sense of humor, great teachers work together to realize the mission of excellence and balance in the life of the school.
VOCABULARY COMPETITION

In November MBA juniors Brian Swenson and Edward Powell placed first and second in the citywide qualifying tournament for the National Vocabulary Competition (NVC). The Nashville-area finals pitted the top 96 students culled from the more than 16,000 in the area who took the NVC qualifying test. NVC representatives believe this is the first time two students from the same school have taken the top two spots.

With the victory, Swenson earned a spot in the nationwide finals of the competition to be held in March 2008. He will travel to Los Angeles to compete with 49 other regional winners for a grand prize of $40,000 towards college tuition. For his win, Swenson received a $5,000 scholarship. With his runner-up finish, Powell was named an alternate for the national competition and will take Swenson’s place should he be unable to attend.

The NVC is an initiative that aims to inspire students to expand their vocabularies and narrow the achievement gap. The program offers free educational resources, creates spirited competition through testing and game play, and awards more than $100,000 annually in college tuition and other prizes.
This fall MBA welcomed nine new members into Totomoi, the school’s most prestigious honor society. Totomoi recognizes individuals who have shown outstanding leadership in academics, athletics, service to the school, community service, and appreciation for the arts. Induction into Totomoi is the highest honor an MBA student, alumnus, or faculty member can receive.

New inductees from the Class of 2008 include Daniel Arteaga, Worth Baker, Swan Burris, Andrew Harris, Corey Metzman, Wilson Nealy, and Tyler Ramsden. Alumni “tapped” in the traditional coat and tie ceremony were Mr. Jake Wallace (‘48) and Mr. Robert McNeilly (‘50). Mr. McNeilly co-founded Totomoi in 1954 with his fellow classmate Dr. Inman Fox (’50).

Once again, MBA had an outstanding showing in the National Merit Scholarship competition, with 15 semifinalists from the Class of 2008. The recipients make up 14 percent of the senior class, the highest percentage in the state of Tennessee. The semifinalists are Will Adams, Daniel Arteaga, Robert Awh, Austin Branstetter, Curtis Lovelace, Alec Martin, Corey Metzman, Johnny Mishu, John Moynihan, Will Orman, Tyler Ramsden, Taylor Smyth, Max Webster, Robbie Weikert, and Krzysztof Zienkiewicz. There are approximately 16,000 National Merit semifinalists across the country chosen from the 1.4 million entrants in the competition.

In addition, 13 members of the Class of 2008 received letters of commendation from the National Merit Scholarship Corporation. Letters of commendation are presented to roughly two percent of the students who take the PSAT/NMSQT. The commended students for 2008 are Chad Augusty, Worth Baker, Mason Braswell, Rob Broadhurst, Caleb Coker, Jon Eisen, Will Hannon, Morey Hill, Jimmy Russell, Andrew Snow, Chase Taylor, Sam Tucker, and Christian Waddey.

The spring of 2007 was very successful for MBA students taking Advanced Placement exams. With boys taking exams in 21 different subjects, the College Board Advanced Placement Program has honored 94 MBA students. Ten boys were selected as National AP Scholars, an award given to students who receive an average grade of at least 4 on all AP exams taken.

Additionally, 44 boys were named AP Scholar With Distinction (average grade of at least 3.5 on all exams taken). Seventeen students received recognition as AP Scholar With Honor (average of at least 3.25 on all exams taken). Twenty-three boys were named AP Scholar (average of 3 or higher on three or more AP exams).
The Hill • fall/winter 2007-2008

Theater

It’s been another busy fall season for theater at MBA. Our tenth collaboration with Harpeth Hall was a zany 1920’s musical Thoroughly Modern Millie – featuring fabulous flappers, dashing leading men, and a dragon-lady of a villainess who audiences loved to hate. As the story unfolds, Millie Dillmount (Stephanie Rothenberg) moves to the city in search of a new life for herself. She looks for the perfect boss (Ryan Penney (‘09) as Trevor Graydon) to marry but accidentally falls in love with the wayward Jimmy Smith (Corbin Williams (‘10)) instead. This exciting world of love, business, and intrigue is set to a terrific jazz score! Additional superb performances by Grace Douglas as Mrs. Meers, seniors Bennett Davidson as Ching Ho, and Garrett Anglin as Bun Foo helped round out this madcap show. Ms. Janette Fox Klocko, who directed the musical, says “This has been one of the most focused and hard-working casts for a musical that I have worked with over the past 20 years. I am truly proud of their work as an ensemble. I hope they are as pleased as I am.”

Presented at MBA on October 4, this year’s one-act competition piece was Tom Griffin’s often humorous and always poignant The Boys Next Door, a tale of the daily struggle for survival faced by four mentally handicapped men who live in a group home. The cast did an outstanding job with a very tough play. At the city-wide contest on October 6, juniors Will Holt (playing “Arnold”) and Daniel Smith (playing “Lucien”) were named to the All-Star Cast List. Others in the cast were seniors Brendan Mayhew and Jimmy Russell, and sophomorens Lewis Armistead, Dalton Fouts, Tommy Harless, and Ben Mecklenborg.

Just in time for the holidays, on-screen wit combined with backstage lunacy in George S. Kaufman and Moss Hart’s screwball spoof of Hollywood. On campus from November 29 to December 2, Once in a Lifetime tells the story of three washed-up vaudevillian comedians – Jerry Hyland (Brendan Mayhew), George Lewis (Bennett Davidson) and May Daniels (Caroline Winsett). Hoping to “strike gold,” they traveled to California to become voice coaches for brainless movie stars struggling to make the shift from silent film to talkies in 1927. This larger-than-life production featured a cast and crew of over 50, original silent films, greyhound dogs, huge fuzzy red chairs, and eight-foot portraits of Bennett as a film mogul. Director Cal Fuller says, “Kaufman and Hart’s insightful wit and adventurous spirit shine in MBA’s marvelous cast and crew. They have embraced these diverse characters and each other with open, generous hearts. The future is in good hands. I encourage them to face the world with May’s ingenuity, Jerry’s optimism, and George’s determination — cornerstones of success on stage or off.”

Chicago Art & Theater Trip

Current students and recent alums join Dr. Fuller and Mr. Womack for fabulous fare at Chicago’s Flat Top Grill and an evening of comic improvisation at the famous Second City Theater. (l to r): Cal Fuller, Will Lee (‘11), Chase Altenbern (‘07), Wilson Parker (‘11), John Lee (‘06), Sam O’Connell (‘98), Cooper Thomas (‘11), and Jim Womack.
THOROUGHLY MODERN MILLIE

ONCE IN A LIFETIME

THE BOYS NEXT DOOR
SERVICE

The students, faculty, and staff of MBA have found myriad ways to continue the school’s tradition of service. Programs such as Soup Kitchen, Special Olympics, Time-to-Rise, and Backfield in Motion have remained popular, while new programs have also flourished. MBA students have contributed nearly 1,500 hours to service so far this year.

More than 7,000 pounds of food was collected in the school’s annual food drive. The Hispanic Achievers Program was honored this fall for the work it continues to do in Middle Tennessee. MBA Belts & Ties have been sold to benefit Operation Smile, peer tutors have worked tirelessly to help fellow students achieve in the classroom. Advisory groups have raised funds to help the hundreds of thousands of people living near the garbage dumps of Guatemala City, as well as provide much needed supplies for our armed forces serving across the globe.

In March several students will be traveling to New Orleans on an alternative Spring Break trip to help with the continuing rebuilding efforts in the Crescent City.

DEBATE

The MBA Debate team is off to another successful year with many ranked debaters and speakers. Their first major victory was winning First Place Debate and Speech Events Sweepstakes at the Bishop Guild Tournament at Samford University. Holding up the MBA tradition were Max Webster (’08) for first place impromptu speaking, Aaron Lutkowitz (’10) for first place extemporaneous speaking, Will Hannon (’08) for third place extemporaneous speaking, and Tom Wall (’08) for fourth place extemporaneous speaking. Jack Halleman (’11) and Chunsoo Park (’11) were co-champions in Novice Debate and Sam Page (’09) and Rahul Sastry (’09) were co-champions of Varsity Debate. Mason Braswell (’08) and Micah Lutkowitz (’08) were Varsity Debate semifinalists and Campbell Haynes (’10) and Fadi Pulous (’09) were Varsity Debate quarterfinalists. The Debate Team was equally successful at the Glenbrooks/New Trier Tournament in Chicago. Max Webster placed second out of 100 competitors in extemporaneous speaking. Junior Varsity Debaters Campbell Haynes and Hershel Mehta (’10) won First Place in their division and Mehta also won First Place Speaker. Jack Hallemann, Chunsoo Park, Jesse Suh (’11), and Max Werthan (’11) advanced to the quarterfinals in Novice Debate and senior Corey Metzman finished with a six win and one loss record and advanced to the top 16 in the 150 team field.
The Music Department held its first concert on October 7 in Massey Commons with an informal performance of Music in the Round. The show featured a piano duet, violoncello solo, mixed trio, violin duet, the Junior School Singers, and Italian arias for solo voice. In November the Jazz Band presented its first concert of the year for the MBA community. Students performed a variety of contemporary and classic jazz hits; the Ellington Band and Junior School bands performed. The annual holiday concert was held on Dec. 9 in the Paschall Theater, continuing MBA’s tradition of celebrating the season with both sacred and secular music. The concert featured the MBA Chorus, the Junior School Combined Chorus, the Junior School Singers, the Headmaster Singers, the MBA Chamber Orchestra, and the Percussion Ensemble. A special group of Harpeth Hall and MBA Chorus members (nicknamed “Lads and Plaids”) also presented two numbers. The concert was shaped around elements of celebration, praise, and devotion. The choruses sang in Latin, Spanish, English, and Yoruban. The orchestra, comprised of MBA boys and girls from St. Cecilia Academy, Harpeth Hall School, and St. Bernard Academy, performed pieces from the Middle Ages and the Classical Period. Student soloists featured in the concert were: Preston Bailey (‘08), Andrew Cho (‘12), Mattison Hamilton (‘12), Rhett Wallace (‘09), and Kevin Wang (‘13), and a special vocal quartet of Gage Baxter (‘11), Alex Gan (‘11), Tee Stumb (‘08), and Andrew Wright (‘11). The Chamber Orchestra and combined choruses followed tradition by closing the concert with a contemporary arrangement of the carol Silent Night. MBA would like to congratulate senior Zach Sternberg, who was selected by the All Middle Tennessee Jazz Band in December to play saxophone in the band for 2008.
My first six months as Athletic Director at MBA have been filled with excitement. I have been amazed by the depth and breadth of the athletic offerings at this school. I have also been overwhelmed by the commitment displayed by the boys, their coaches, and the staff at MBA. It seems like there is always an event taking place and boys working on campus to reach their goals. That dedication has led to some special happenings this fall, which will be detailed in full on the coming pages.

I have also been tremendously impressed by the support offered to our boys by the alumni and parents. I have not seen a single instance where something has been needed and there have not been a host of volunteers willing to help. Support like this is rare, and is part of what makes MBA such a special place.

As we look ahead to the winter season, there is a lot to look forward to. Coach Anglin and the basketball team finally have all of the pieces in place after starting the season shorthanded due to the overlap with football. His squad looks to make a strong push for a spot in the state tournament in February.

The wrestling team has had to overcome a series of injuries, but hopes the experience gained by the younger wrestlers early in the season will pay off as the State Duals (February 1 & 2) and Individual Championships (February 15 & 16) approach.

The hockey team has benefited from an influx of talented freshmen and steady senior leadership. They have recorded several big wins, including one against defending State Champion Pope John Paul II, and look to be a strong contender for a second consecutive State Tournament appearance.

MBA’s Bowling team has gotten off to a strong start, compiling a 4-0 record. They appear to be strong contenders for the Region title. The swimming and rifle teams continue with their year-long seasons, with some outstanding performances already in the books. Both look for very successful results as their respective tournaments approach.
**GOLF** The MBA Golf program concluded a successful season on October 3rd with the Microbes finishing sixth in the HVAC championship and the Varsity team finishing third at the state tournament in Murfreesboro. Shooting a 1-under 32 in regulation play, eighth-grader Austin Doebler captured medalist honors at the HVAC tournament, while senior John Burch, shooting a 3-under two-day total of 141, finished second at state.

In regular season play, the Microbe team posted a 4-6-1 record, while the Varsity team, led by seniors Jimmy Anderson, Rob Broadhurst, John Burch, and Daniel Leader was 5-5 in dual match play. Along the way, the Varsity team beat local archrivals BA and Ensworth, both in match play events. The highlights of the season for the Varsity team were winning the 16 team Stan McNabb Tournament, qualifying for state in the newly formatted and highly competitive DII Region, and recording the best finish at state level in eight years.

**CROSS COUNTRY** The MBA Cross Country Team finished its season with its highest State Meet finish since 1999. Tyler Ramsden ('08) and Michael Peters ('11) earned all-state honors as they led the team to a third place finish at state, following a runner-up at region in Chattanooga.

The season began with a stiff challenge from 5A playoff contender Antioch. After fumbling the opening kickoff, the Big Red defense held the visiting Bear scoreless and set a tone for hard-nosed play that would help define the season. With the ball in the offense's hands, senior E.J. Vinsang took the first hand off for an 80-yard touchdown en route to a 202-yard night. The Big Red rolled to a convincing 38-13 victory, piling up 505 total yards and forcing three turnovers.

MBA's next opponent was eventual 5A runner-up Independence. The Big Red defense once again dominated, posting a 21-0 shutout, holding the Eagles to zero first downs in the first half, 185 yards for the game, and forcing four turnovers.

The following week, the Big Red faced its toughest test of the young season with a visit from 4A power Hillsboro. The game marked the Big Red's 99th football game and renewed one of the best rivalries in Middle...
Tennessee. In front of a standing room only crowd, the Big Red was slow out of the gate and had to adjust to the speed of the Hillsboro skill players. The Burros took a 12-3 lead halftime, the only time the entire season that the Big Red would head into the locker room without a lead. The offense found its groove in the second half, with QB Spenser Wise (’09) hitting tight end Joseph Sloan for a 25-yard TD, and Ben Bartholomew (’08) rambling 15 yards for the go-ahead score. The defense made the lead hold up and the Big Red came away with a hard-fought 17-12 win.

The fifth week of the season proved a little easier, as MBA took to the road for its 1,000th game. The Big Red traveled to Pope John Paul II seeking revenge for a heartbreaking defeat the previous year. The 2007 outcome was never in doubt, as the Big Red returned the opening kickoff for a touchdown and never looked back. Every player saw action as MBA rolled to a 56-14 victory.

The Big Red once again traveled to Williamson County in week six, visiting 5A power Ravenwood. After falling behind 6-0 on the opening drive, MBA raced ahead to a 31-7 lead heading into the fourth quarter. TD runs from Waddey and Bartholomew, a 49-yard field goal by sophomore Andrew Fletcher, and an 80-yard touchdown catch by tight end Joseph Sloan led the offense. With the game seemingly out of reach, Ravenwood mounted a rally against the MBA back ups. Aided by consecutive onside kick recoveries, the Raptors managed to pull within three points before the Big Red ran out the clock on the ground, taking a knee at the Ravenwood one-yard line as time expired in the 31-28 victory.

As the calendar turned to October, the Big Red headed into the heart of their schedule and a long-awaited Homecoming date with previously undefeated Ensworth. In front of a capacity crowd, the MBA defense once again dominated play, posting their third shutout of the season in a 14-0 win. Senior Tee Stumb came up with a big interception, while seniors Jay Cole, Alfonza Knight, Jas Radar, and Nathan Wade helped hold the Tiger offense in check all night. A physically overwhelming performance by the offensive line paved the way for a two-yard Waddey touchdown in the first quarter. A Vinsang 50-yard touchdown scamper in the fourth would provide all the insurance the Big Red would need.

Defending State Champion and #1 ranked Brentwood Academy came calling the next week. In a hard-hitting contest, the Big Red kept the explosive Eagle offense under wraps, allowing only a long touchdown run in a 13-7 victory. Andrew Fletcher started the scoring for the Big Red with a 49-yard field goal. Vinsang continued a magnificent season with a one-yard touchdown plunge to close out the first half scoring. Fletcher added his second field goal, a 43-yarder, to cushion the lead in the fourth quarter. With the win, MBA took over the top spot in the statewide rankings.

A familiar foe in an unfamiliar locale greeted MBA in the penultimate week of the regular season, as the Big Red traveled to Greer Stadium to take on the 8-0 Fighting Irish of Father Ryan. In front of a crowd of more than 5,000 people, MBA dominated the Irish, holding them to a mere 11 yards in the first half. Touchdown runs by Waddey, Vinsang, and Wise staked the Big Red to an insurmountable first half lead. A Vinsang touchdown on the first drive of the second half put the finishing touches on the 26-0 win.

MBA next made the trip to Chattanooga and a matchup with McCallie in search of a perfect regular season. The Big Red defense weathered an early Blue Tornado threat before buckling down and posting its fifth shutout in ten games. Vinsang and Bartholomew once again led the way offensively, as MBA headed into the playoffs with a 21-0 win and an unblemished 10-0 record.

The playoffs opened with a visit from Knoxville Webb and a dynamic Wing-T offense. After falling behind for only the third time all year, the Big Red defense solved the Wing-T and held the Spartans to their second lowest point total of the year. The offense also came to life, racking up nearly 500 total yards and punting only once in a runaway 49-14 victory.

Father Ryan was the round two opponent, as the Irish tried to put the 26-0 regular season embarrassment behind them. The Big Red, however, made sure that all Ryan got was more of the same physical domination they experienced three weeks earlier. MBA raced out to a 35-0 lead, invoking the TSSAA’s mercy rule and a running clock for much of the second half. The defense once again...
proved too much for the Irish, spearheaded by Nathan Wade’s two interceptions, one returned for a touchdown. With the win, MBA tied the school record for wins (12) and secured a place in the TSSAA finals.

The state finals pitted the Big Red against another one of its regular season opponents, as Brentwood Academy took the field looking to defend their 2006 title. Behind a punishing running game, a suffocating defense, and the sure foot of kicker Fletcher, MBA captured the school’s 14th state championship. The Big Red posted its sixth shutout of the season with a dominating 12-0 victory.

Fletcher accounted for the game’s only points, set a Championship record with four field goals (34, 19, 20, and 23 yards) and earned the Offensive Most Valuable Player Award. Senior safety Nathan Wade was named Defensive MVP after posting two interceptions, three tackles, and one bone-jarring hit to break up a pass completion early in the first quarter. Wade and his defensive teammates held the explosive BA offense in check all night, limiting the Eagles to 144 yards in total offense, and only allowing them to cross midfield once.

The MBA offensive line of Will Adams, Preston Bailey, Wesley Johnson, Owen Lipscomb, Robert Rolfe, tight ends Joseph Sloan and Clark Benton, and fullbacks Ben Bartholomew and Fitz Lassing (‘10) dominated the line of scrimmage as the Big Red rolled up nearly 300 rushing yards. Vinsang (162) and Waddey (113) each gained more than 100 yards on the ground.

**QB CLUB** Throughout the fall, Swett’s Restaurant played host to the MBA Quarterback Club and between 60 and 110 Big Red supporters gathered to discuss MBA football. As the helmets and shoulder pads are put away, MBA would like to continue the gatherings to discuss spring sports. The spring coaches (Baseball, Lacrosse, Soccer, Tennis, and Track) will meet on March 4, April 8, and May 6. The luncheon begins at 11:30 a.m. with an all-you-can-eat buffet. The cost is $12. No reservations are necessary.
In early December MBA senior Ben Bartholomew was honored with the Tennessee Titans Mr. Football Award for Division IIAA. Bartholomew, a 6’2”, 215 lb fullback/linebacker, took home the Back of the Year Award for his 400 yards on the ground, 100 tackles on defense, and for providing lead blocks for a pair of 1,000-yard rushers (fellow seniors E. J. Vinsang and Christian Waddey). A true throwback player, Bartholomew never left the field, also serving as the Big Red’s punter. “Ben was the heart and soul of our team this year. His consistent great effort set an example for all of our players. Ben’s leadership was shown in every facet of the football program. In the weight room he was a relentless worker. On the practice field he sought to make everyone around him better,” said Coach Daniel McGugin.

In addition to his success on the gridiron, Bartholomew has earned individual state championships in both wrestling and track, is very involved with Fellowship of Christian Athletes, and is an accomplished artist. He will be following in the footsteps of his grandfather Sam and his brother Will (’97) when he attends the University of Tennessee on a football scholarship this fall.
In early December the Class of 2009 and their families, as well as many alumni, attended MBA’s annual ring ceremony. The ceremony, now in its 13th year, honors a special milestone in the life of each MBA student, and a ring tradition that dates back nearly a century. A senior classmate presented each junior with his class ring. If the student is the son of an alumnus, then his father presented the ring.

Sloan Sanders (’08) and Alex Owings (’08) offered reflections about their time at MBA and challenged the Class of 2009 to embrace the remaining time they have on The Hill. Alumnus Mauro Mastrapasqua (’90) followed with thoughts on how his MBA experiences, and the tenets of being a gentleman, have impacted him as a businessman, a husband, and most importantly, a father. He offered his belief that college and graduate school taught him how life is, but that MBA showed him how life should be.
When Mr. Gioia asked me to speak this morning, my first reaction was "Wow, I am so honored that you thought of me." My second reaction was "With all the incredible men that have graduated from this school, what could I possibly have to offer the juniors on such an important occasion?" I am not an influential politician, a famous actor, or a professional athlete. However, I do hold a position of even greater importance, a position that most of you will one day share with me – I am a Dad. I see the proud looks of all the parents here today. I know there is added meaning for those fathers who are alums themselves, as they prepare to present their sons with a symbol that they truly cherish. I look forward to the day when I too may be privileged enough to present the MBA ring to my son, who is only four years old right now.

What is a Dad, but a 24-hour-a-day teacher? I had newfound respect for the many wonderful faculty members who taught me at MBA when I myself had children. When I married my wonderful wife Kate almost seven years ago, I also became the father of two beautiful girls – ages nine and 13 at the time. Needless to say, my "teaching" skills were immediately challenged. I don’t believe there is any job in the world which carries as much influence and importance. What a great example you have here in the dedicated faculty and administrators of this school. I can only recall a handful of my college professors, but I vividly remember every single one of my teachers at MBA and their impact on my life.

As an aside, I must tell you that my son, little Mauro, has been just dying to attend MBA ever since I took him to the pre-game carnival when he was three. In his mind, MBA is the "Greatest Show on Earth" and Mr. Womack has the coolest job in the world as "keeper of the dunking booth." Little does he know that Mr. Womack is a gifted teacher who would never consider using his dunking booth on a daily basis, unless of course you refer to Botticelli’s masterpiece The Birth of Venus as Venus on the Half Shell.

MBA taught me as much about how to be a good father as how to succeed in college, run a company, or build a brand. Honor, integrity, honesty, service, excellence, truth – these are all values instilled in me while on The Hill. These are the values that I so desperately want to properly instill in my children so they carry the same weight and meaning in their minds.

The ring you are about to wear is a symbol of those values. It is a symbol of that motto that we all know so well: Gentleman. Scholar. Athlete. It is not just about yes ma’am and no ma’am, getting an A on the next test, or winning the next sporting event. It is about being a civilized, sensitive, and well-mannered man. It is about seeking knowledge, excellence, and ultimately truth in all your endeavors. It is about working with those around you toward a common goal.

When I was your age, as a junior, I had the first-hand privilege of experiencing just how pervasive and important MBA’s motto was to the entire student body. One afternoon, Dr. Paschall called me into his office. He said: "Mauro, I am buying a baby grand piano for the school and would like you to play for assembly." Of course, I said yes immediately – after all, I felt like Dr. Paschall had purchased the piano for me. This purchase was long overdue in my mind and obviously in his, too. It was the late 1980s at that point, and Mrs. Ross had been accompanying the chorus on the same old upright piano for 20 years.

So after the initial excitement about MBA getting a new piano, then reality set in – absolute horror. You have to understand, at that time MBA was relatively one-dimensional from an extracurricular standpoint outside of athletics. While all of my immediate friends and some teachers knew that I had been studying classical piano since I was in the second grade, the broader MBA community had no idea. So I kept things very quiet. I figured that if I kept my mouth shut about it, I wouldn’t be ridiculed beforehand and I would only be subject to jokes after the assembly.

That day finally came and I was SO nervous. I just wanted it to be over. I decided to play George Gershwin’s Rhapsody in Blue. In addition to it being my favorite piece of music, it was my greatest musical accomplishment to date. Although it was a classical piece, I figured it had a contemporary jazz feel that would hopefully hold the attention of a room full of boys. Well, here went nothing – all I could do at this point was take a deep breath.

I began the piece with a trill and glissando mimicking Gershwin’s famed clarinet solo opening. After 20 minutes of playing from memory, the piece was complete. Much to my surprise, the applause was sincere. Several faculty members told me that you could hear a pin drop during the piece – everyone was actually listening. Later that afternoon, I had been expecting an onslaught of snickers and wisecracks, but they never came. Instead, I was approached by people I didn’t know (many of them the respected athletes of the day) to offer their congratulations on a job well done. I have even had schoolmates approach me 20 years later to reminisce about that assembly with an even more vivid recollection than I have.

I tell this story because I think it speaks to the depth of character that...
this school instills in its young men from the time they set foot on campus. The assembly hall that day was filled with true gentleman who recognized and respected the pursuit of excellence. We all had been exposed to it on the athletic field, but now witnessed it in a new way – on a stage with a piano.

To me, that’s what my ring symbolizes. So know that there is considerable responsibility that comes with your ring. The seniors, recognizing that their time on The Hill is coming to a close, are kindly passing the gavel to the new leaders of the school, the Class of 2009. I urge you to wear your ring with pride and understand that within the Nashville community and beyond, your ring means something.

There is an expectation for you to be kind and sincere above all else, to pursue knowledge and truth throughout your life, and to work with those around you toward a common good where all boats rise in the process.

As you can tell, I love this place—I love what it stands for, and I love what it produces. MBA gave so much to me 20 years ago and continues to give to me today. So the little that I can give back to this great institution, I am at its beck and call. College and graduate school taught me much about how life is, but MBA taught me much about how life SHOULD be. For that I am eternally grateful. Thank you again for the privilege to speak on this very special morning.

ALUMNI FATHERS

CARRY ON THE TRADITION

BY PRESENTING THEIR

SONS AN MBA RING.

(l to r – row one)
Louis Brunsting
Richard Brunsting ('09)
Bob McNeill ('50) (Grandfather)
Robert McNeill ('09)
Owen Lipscomb ('80)
Owen Lipscomb ('09)

(l to r – row two)
Jack Hooper ('59) (Grandfather)
David Mills ('09)
Joe Wieck ('77)
Matt Wieck ('09)
Tom Corcoran ('63)
Tom Corcoran ('09)

(l to r – row three)
Rick Jacques ('77)
Barrett Jacques ('09)
Dave Goetz ('70)
Vic Goetz ('09)
Burke Hardin ('74)
J.B. Hardin ('09)

(l to r – row four)
Fields Stringfellow ('69)
Harrison Stringfellow ('09)
Peter Oldham ('74)
Houston Oldham ('09)
Skip Woolwine ('76)
Hicks Woolwine ('09)
More than 110 fathers of MBA alumni and their sons gathered on the day before Thanksgiving for the second annual Fathers of Alumni Breakfast. The event, held in the Paschall Theater, featured the talents and message of magician Stephen Bargatze, a long time favorite of MBA students (Bargatze made a return to campus in December to perform for the student body).

While entertaining the crowd with his slight of hand and comic quips, Bargatze offered a glimpse of his troubled childhood and encouraged those assembled to strive to make the right choices and to embrace their roles as fathers.
From a Brave’s tailgate at Turner Field, to a casual lunch in Charlotte, N.C., to a reception at the Cannon House Office Building in Washington, D.C., the MBA Alumni Association has continued to offer alums near and far the opportunity to catch up on the latest news from The Hill, meet others in their area, and reconnect with classmates.

(clockwise from top left) Charlotte-area alumni enjoy lunch at Bricktop’s Restaurant; James Porter (’60) & James Killebrew (’60) tailgate before an Atlanta Braves game; Mike Ritzer (’99), Morgan Miller (’02) & Sabrina Peppl; Will Whitson (’07) & Tipper Austin (’07)
Young alums gather in the Gibbs Room to chow down on a home-cooked meal.
Near the end of the 2007 golf season, the MBA Golf team, through its “BIRDPIES FOR CF” initiative, raised $1,500 for the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation. For the final three regular season matches, the regional tournament, and the state championship, members of the team sought sponsorship for every birdie made. Classmates, faculty, family members, and friends contributed generously to this worthy cause. The mission of the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation, a nonprofit donor—supported organization, is to assure the development of the means to cure and control cystic fibrosis, a disease that affects several families in the MBA community, and to improve the quality of life for those with the disease. The Foundation is one of the most efficient organizations of its kind. In 2006 nearly 90 percent of every dollar of revenue raised was available for investment in CF research, care, and education programs.

COLLEGE ALUMNI LUNCHEON

In November MBA welcomed college-age alums back to school for a home cooked meal and the chance to catch up with classmates, friends, teachers, and coaches. More than 50 members of the Classes of 2004, 2005, 2006, and 2007 gathered in the Gibbs Room to reminisce about their days on campus and share the latest happenings in their lives.
MBA Alumni find their niche in the world of Veterinary Medicine

MBA VETS

by: NINA THOMAS
“IN THE LONG HISTORY OF HUMANKIND
(AND ANIMAL KIND, TOO) THOSE WHO
LEARNED TO COLLABORATE AND IMPROVISE
MOST EFFECTIVELY HAVE PREVAILED.”

- CHARLES DARWIN

One is a solo practitioner with a clinic serving the Nashville Zoo, the K9 Corps, and Walden’s Puddle; three are partners in a domestic pet practice; and another is an ambulatory vet specializing in large and small companion animals. >>>
As these veterans of MBA retrace their educational roots, they have reached the same conclusion: MBA prepared them well for the rigors of veterinary school through the study of Latin, regular theme writing, and the exceedingly high expectations of teachers in all areas of study. They developed a strong work ethic, learned to manage time effectively, to think critically, and (to quote Darwin) “learned to collaborate and improvise most effectively.” MBA prepared them not only to survive, but to thrive – each having established a unique niche in the world of veterinary medicine.

**Mike Corwin ('81)**  
**Airport Animal Clinic**  
1015 Pineway Drive  
Nashville, TN 37217  
615-367-9319  
Corwindvm@mac.com

“I am the last of a dying breed of true generalists,” says Mike Corwin ('81) sitting comfortably on a well-worn sofa in his office surrounded by a dog, a ferret, a cat, and a parrot. “My practice has evolved over the years, and has come to focus on exotic animals, wildlife rescues, and police dogs. I needed to find a niche in order to survive financially. I bought this clinic near the airport 15 years ago, and unfortunately this area continues to decline. The neighborhood is made up of immigrants who can barely afford their own health care, much less for their pets. So I take care of the animals for the Nashville Zoo and the dogs for the Police Academy. I also volunteer my time at Walden’s Puddle, helping with rescued wildlife. It doesn’t pay the bills, but it is fun to do.”

By adapting to an environment born of economic necessity, Mike has developed a practice that is both well-rounded and personally satisfying. From one day to the next, he is never sure what lies ahead. “I once treated a Mexican king snake in a diabetic coma. We determined she had gestational diabetes, so once I did a C-section, she was back in the exhibit and feeling like her old self again.” Although he has yet to be faced with the task of performing a hysterectomy on a hummingbird, the notion is not so far-fetched: Corwin has performed micro-surgery on a hummingbird’s wing, enabling the bird – which was the size of a bee – to return to flight.

When Mike’s practice “went to the dogs,” it was a positive turn of events. Explaining how he got involved with Metro’s K9 Corps, Mike had this story to tell. “Since 9/11, all airport dogs are under Homeland Security. I had to pass an interview with the airport police and then with a representative from Homeland Security in order to treat those dogs. I was awarded the contract after I helped a fuzzy little Shepherd named Asta. She came up from Lackland Air Force Base in Texas to join the Airport Corps and became ill shortly thereafter. When their vet couldn’t diagnose the problem, they brought her to me for a second opinion, adding that three other dogs at Lackland had died of the same problem without a diagnosis. To make a long story short, I cured Asta and Homeland Security appointed me to be the vet for the entire region. When President Bush visited recently, I was alerted by the Secret Service to be on call to care for the dogs in his entourage.” Although his services were not needed, Mike was poised to step in and perform his patriotic duty.

On a day-to-day basis the federal government depends on Corwin to evaluate the condition of prospective members of the K9 Corps. “When the government purchases a dog, I have to predict whether he will stand up to training and if he will be able to perform his duties for the long run. A dog is a big investment in time and money; one animal can cost thousands of dollars, requires 14 weeks of training with a police officer, and needs to have an operational life of four to nine years before he can retire.” Mike’s ability to analyze is as valuable a commodity in his practice as are his clinical skills.

Critical thinking…situational analysis… the ability to improvise and to collaborate: what part did an MBA education play in developing
these skills? Mike credits his MBA experience in general and two teachers in particular. “Michael Drake was the teacher at MBA who influenced me the most. In history he taught me to think critically and to realize that in life there are no absolutes. Many years after I graduated I had the good fortune of running into his wife; I told her how much he meant to me. I also really enjoyed my physics teacher, Dr. Crowell; he represented the search for knowledge purely for the sake of learning.”

Mike continued to reflect on his educational journey. “I was strong in math and encouraged to go into engineering. After a year at UCSD, I realized my heart was not in it. Engineering had become more of a struggle than a passion. Remembering what my MBA teachers said about there being no absolutes in life, and to learn for learning’s sake, I decided to follow their advice and listen to my instincts. I switched my major to biology and fell in love with the life sciences. Once I enjoyed learning again, the academics became effortless.” Mike learned more from Mr. Drake and Dr. Crowell that just history and physics; he was able to make a pivotal decision due in large part to the influence of his high school teachers.

Meanwhile, fellow alumnus David Edwards (’82), sets up a wildly different practice across town...
As managing partner of Belle Meade Animal Hospital, David has been in practice for 15 years. The clinic’s location is prime, nestled in the heart of Belle Meade where dedicated pet owners bring their felines and canines for health care. The sign outside says “small and large animals,” a reference to the days when horses were included in the patient population. The term “large animals” today refers more accurately to the Great Danes and St. Bernards who are treated here.

The welcoming staff makes a positive first impression, referring to the pets as patients and the owners as friends. Among the assistants is a woman named Lee Owen, who has been with the hospital for 13 years and is the daughter of the legendary MBA football coach, Tommy Owen. Coupled with the fact that two MBA alumni would later join Edwards in practice, a sense of MBA tradition and history pervades the hospital’s waiting room.

How did Edwards get from MBA to Belle Meade Animal Hospital? By his sophomore year, David knew he wanted to be a vet. He discovered an appreciation for farm animals and agriculture after spending weekends on a friend’s farm. The deal was sealed when David bought a pig for classmate Ally Fuqua as a birthday present and as a souvenir of fun times down on the farm. What began as a lighthearted gesture evolved into a productive business as David, Ally, and classmate Hank Edwards suddenly found themselves in the pig breeding business. The three MBA seniors were soon fostering a boar named Jethro and a trio of sows called Elvira, Clementine, and Myrtle, who produced an average of eight piglets per litter. The students were faced with a new responsibility, having to feed a growing number of animals whose health care needs were immediate and constant. Luckily they found a mentor in veterinarian Danny Haber, a 1972 MBA alumnus whose own story is featured later in this article. Haber stepped in to help, guiding the self-appointed pig farmers through the art of castration and the administration of routine injections. “The bond I developed with these animals (and with Danny, of course) galvanized my career path,” declared David. The pigs played such an important part in their senior year that David, Hank, and Ally included photos of the pigs alongside their own senior portraits in the 1982 yearbook.

In the years following high school and college, three MBA alums would stage their own kind of reunion by joining in partnership at Belle Meade Animal Hospital. Dr. Joe Ed Conn (’83) joined the team a year or so after Edwards, and Dr. Baker Eadie (’93) joined them two years ago. >>>
As a young boy, Dr. Conn knew he wanted to be a vet. “I am not sure what sparked my interest in veterinary medicine, but it did start in elementary school. I read all of James Herriot’s books at an early age, but I think my interest in them came from wanting to be a veterinarian, not the other way around. I just remember always wanting more pets and being interested in medical stuff. I did not become heavily involved in agriculture until I was in college. There was certainly not much exposure to agriculture at MBA, although I think I would have been very interested in it.”

Conn continues to reflect on his high school years. “MBA prepared each of us for the rigors of vet school in a way that few students had experienced. I honestly think I studied more my senior year at MBA than I did during any particular time in vet school. That is probably overstated, but I already knew how to use my study time efficiently and most students in college, or even in professional school, did not.”

The fact that the practice of veterinary medicine has evolved into highly specialized fields is reflected in the student population and in the curriculum. “The people in veterinary medicine have changed dramatically in the years since I graduated from Auburn, with the majority being female and the emphasis on distinct areas of expertise. Most students today do not have the exposure to agriculture that we had when I was in school. Many students go to vet school now with the idea that they will not work on a cow or horse, other than to pass tests. We went to school with the idea that we might end up treating anything. A lot of the change is due to specialization in veterinary medicine. It is now impossible to keep up with the information needed to treat all kinds of animals in a James Herriot fashion.” Conn agrees with fellow alumnus and vet, Mike Corwin, that true veterinary generalists are a dying breed.

David, Joe Ed, and Baker agree that MBA prepared them for the rigors of vet school by focusing on time management, critical thinking skills, and fostering a strong work ethic, with the emphasis on building integrity and character.
Baker Eadie, Class of '93, is the newest partner in the practice. Baker was in the horse racing business breeding thoroughbreds when he decided to study veterinary medicine. After U.T. vet school he joined a thriving veterinary clinic in Charlotte, N.C. He was familiar with Edwards and Conn through MBA naturally, had a deep respect for their clinical skills, and liked the sense of community and camaraderie that defined their practice. So, when an opening became available, Baker jumped at the opportunity. “This was the only practice that would entice me to leave my partnership in Charlotte, and the fact that it was in Nashville made it all the more attractive.” Eadie agrees that a close relationship with pets and their people allows them as veterinarians to provide multi-dimensional care. “A large part of our practice is in educating families about how best to care for their pets and how to prevent accidents. Besides administering injections and giving physical exams, we act as behaviorists for the animals and psychologists to the owners.”

Animals can do some crazy things. The most common domestic pet emergencies involve dogs with unusual appetites. One pet recently helped himself to several pounds of rising bread dough, breaking and then swallowing the glass plate for dessert. The dog arrived at the clinic with a serious case of bloat that continued to expand as did the bread dough. Thanks to the skillful collaboration of these three MBA alums, the dog’s life was saved. In a similar scenario, a ravenous dog gulped down a couple dozen chocolate chip cookies, taking the plastic plate along with it. Cats get into trouble too, mostly by sleeping in the clothes dryer or inside car engines, and by swallowing yarn or pantyhose. A more unusual domestic pet, a python, recently ate a raccoon whole. The reptile developed a pronounced case of midriff bulge in addition to his indigestion. Such is a typical day in the life of the neighborhood veterinarian.

MBA is the common denominator that has drawn these three veterinarians together in practice. They share memories of Monday morning assemblies and classes with Mrs. Lowry and Dr. Ward. They collaborate on cases while correcting each other’s grammar. They’ve each experienced a delayed appreciation for the study of Latin, as the value of a dead language has become evident in learning medical terms. During their years at MBA, all three claim to have enjoyed AP Biology. Beyond the high school connection, David, Joe Ed, and Baker share a love for the outdoors and for animals in general; they also enjoy a practice that allows them to work as a team.>>>
Danny Haber ('72)
1996 Old Hillsboro Road
Franklin, TN 37064
(Office) 615-794-2660
(Cell) 615-210-7727

Danny has built his practice on common sense and personal relationships. He prefers face to face communication over Facebook, and using a personal cell phone rather than a receptionist. “You won’t catch me using a Palm Pilot, but you will catch me writing a phone number on my palm,” he proudly proclaims. In keeping with his direct approach to the profession, Haber is a veterinarian who prefers to make house calls.

As an ambulatory vet specializing in companion animals, Danny avoids “following the herd” on two levels: he forges his own path as a solo practitioner, and treats domestic pets and farm animals that are companions rather than livestock. Building personal relationships with the client (owner) and the patient (animal) are at the heart of Haber’s practice. To summarize his approach to veterinary medicine, Danny likes to quote a line from the Robin Williams character in Patch Adams: “We need to start treating the patient as well as the disease.” As a generalist, he looks beyond the medical problems and considers other variables when evaluating the benefit of performing a procedure. "If an old dog has a skin lesion that the client wants removed, but also a bad heart, I would most likely recommend that we leave it alone. The risk to the animal clearly outweighs the benefit," reasons Dr. Haber. He has developed a practice built on exercising his practical skills in critical thinking and common sense.

“AT TUSKEGEE UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF VETERINARY MEDICINE, I ALWAYS GOT BETTER GRADES IN ELECTIVE COURSES THAN IN THE REQUIRED ONES. I GUESS THAT POINTS TO MY REBELLIOUS SIDE. I STUDIED BETTER WHEN THE CLASS WAS MY IDEA.”

MBA, of course, would like to take credit for shaping an alumnus who has forged such an interesting career. Was there a teacher, a class, an experience that led Danny down the path of veterinary medicine? Well, yes and no. Dr. Haber would say, “I looked to Coach Owen as a builder of strong character. I try to follow that in my practice every day. I could most closely relate to Coach Bobby Morel and to his way of life. At that time, MBA was more into culture than agriculture, which was where my head was at, and still is. Coach Morel worked the family dairy in the morning before coming into MBA to teach and coach football, and then would go home to do more farm work. He was more like me, and I wanted to be more like him. Over the years he has become a loyal client and a good friend. I had nothing in common with Mrs. Bowen, but I respected her as a dedicated teacher who was stern but fair. Michael Drake taught me history, but I learned more from him about shooting for excellence in your chosen field. He taught me to see my vocation as a way of life, not just as a job or business. MBA definitely prepared me academically for college and vet school, and my teachers influenced my philosophy regarding my practice.”

From the Charles Darwin quote at the beginning of this article, it can be surmised that the ability to improvise can increase the chance for survival. Danny experienced that notion early in his practice. “Evolving from student to vet took some serious improvising. For example, in vet school the conditions for performing a C-section are nearly perfect. The equipment, supplies, sterile room, and experienced surgeons standing by in school don’t follow you into the real world. When my training wheels came off, I had to deal with a muddy barn, crude implements, and total chaos during my first C-section. I had to adapt and improvise. On top of all that, I learned quickly how to treat animals physically and their owners emotionally. If you treat your practice as a practice in human relationships and not as a business, success will follow.” Resourcefulness, while attending to personal relationships, has helped him not only to survive, but to thrive.

Danny set up his practice without the aid of a practice management consultant or a series of business courses. He again relied on common sense and his gut instinct. He knew he wanted to work for himself and by himself. He wanted to work with companion animals, as opposed to livestock, where decisions on care are more a matter of economics than emotion. To maintain his connection with farms and country living, he decided to treat both large and small animals. He also wanted to be out in the field—not tied to an office. “Being an ambulatory vet gives me freedom and independence, and takes away layers of bureaucracy and paperwork,” says Danny. Advertising consists of an ad in the Yellow Pages and old-fashioned word-of-mouth. His grass roots marketing strategy is obviously effective; he keeps busy day and night taking care of a strong and loyal group of clients and their animals.

Haber is the personal vet to Byron, the outgoing Irish Setter who happens to be MBA’s Bid Red mascot. He has watched Byron evolve from a highly-trained show dog into an easy-going companion to the 680 boys and 120 faculty and staff on campus, as well as the hundreds of fans at Friday night football games. Byron is seen prancing proudly up and down the field at halftime while being led by the boys and girls who volunteer to show off his pedigree. Taking care of Byron has been routine thus far, which is not the case in other areas of Danny’s practice. >>>>
One wintry night fraught with icy roads and swirling snow, Haber got an emergency call. A trailer full of thoroughbred racehorses had been involved in an accident in Brentwood on the way from New Orleans to Lexington. “My job was to triage the animals and stabilize them for the remainder of the trip to Kentucky. They were scared, cold, and injured. It was total chaos, and it took some improvising to get the situation under control.” Emergencies like these balance out the routine cases; they are challenging, exhilarating, and fortunately, infrequent.
In their spare time, Danny, Mike, David, Joe Ed, and Baker mentor students who are considering a career in veterinary medicine. In addition to MBA’s Mentoring Program, these alumni work with students in the Harpeth Hall Winterim Program. As students shadow them from cases that range from the sinus problems of a country music star’s horse to a terminally ill dog in Alive Hospice to a black crow in crisis, they can appreciate the range, depth, and distinguishing characteristics of each of the three practices. In his drive to encourage independent thinking, Dr. Haber asks the students “to look at both a conventional practice and an ambulatory practice and the types of animals you’ll treat – then decide for yourself what suits your personal style.”

Within a 12-year period, these five students-turned-professionals had roamed the halls of MBA – shuffling into Monday morning assemblies, working through theme nights, collaborating on service projects, and playing for the Big Red. Having ventured off The Hill and on to college and graduate school, each has come full circle: they all returned to Nashville, armed with the same professional degree. This is where the similarity ends. Each has taken his professional training and put a personal spin on his practice, finding his unique niche in the world of animal healthcare.
WE KNOW THERE ARE MANY OTHER ALUMNI WHO ARE VETERINARIANS. TO FOLLOW IS OUR MOST CURRENT LIST. LET US KNOW IF WE CAN ADD YOUR NAME AND THE LOCATION OF YOUR PRACTICE.

David F. Coleman (’85)  
Albuquerque, N. Mex.

Alfred M. Green (’76)  
Charlotte, N.C.

James B. McKee, Jr. (’71)  
Nolensville, Tenn.

William R. Parrish (’75)  
Concord, N.C.

Robert V. Russell, Jr. (’78)  
Franklin, Tenn.

Malcolm L. Sewell (’92)  
Hillsboro Animal Hospital  
Nashville, Tenn.

Marcus E. Smith (’88)  
Fairview, Tenn.
1961
Allen McDaniel was honored with the Bransby Christian Leadership Award, the Metro Atlanta YMCA's highest volunteer award. Allen received the award in November for his long-term commitment and service to the organization. He has been a YMCA Board member since 1988 and has served in numerous leadership positions.

Allan Terry retired from Robert Orr/Sysco in April, completing a 37-year career with the food services company.

1966
Alfred Sharp received the 2008 Cartouche Award from the Society of American Period Furniture Makers (SAPFM). The award is made in recognition of the recipient’s reputation for excellence in craftsmanship and contributions toward the understanding and appreciation of traditional American furniture design and construction. Sharp has been practicing his craft in Middle Tennessee for over 30 years. He has worked in numerous museums and historic houses throughout the Eastern U.S., as well as fine homes and corporate offices across the country. His work can be seen on the web at www.alfredsharp.com.

1967
Bobby Rogers and his wife Jennifer live in Roswell, Ga., where Bobby has owned a construction consulting company for the past 25 years. Jennifer recently retired from skydiving after 350 jumps and one hard landing. Bobby continues riding off-road motorcycles and is currently planning the final leg of a 3200-mile off-road group ride along the Continental Divide from the Mexican border to the Canadian border.

1972
In August Lytel Brown and two friends took a 2-1/2 week trip to Sturgis, S.D. on their Harley Davidsons. They traveled more than 5,000 miles in temperatures approaching 100º. Following the trip, Lytel returned to his surgical career.

1975
Joseph Davis is now the rector of the Episcopal Church of the Resurrection in Williamson County. He, his wife Cindy, and his sons Paschall and Maclin, are living in Nashville. Paschall is an eleventh grader and Maclin is an eighth grader at MBA.

1980
Joseph Knight is working as a designer at Forterra Systems Inc. in San Mateo, Ca. (www.forterrainc.com). He designs custom solutions for virtual world training environments for health services, emergency response, corporate, military, and intelligence applications.

1984
Garrett Asher completed his first Ironman in August. The race consisted of a 2.4-mile swim, a 112-mile bike ride, and a 26.2 mile run. Garrett’s finishing time was 14 hours and 46 minutes. He reports that participating in an event of this kind was a wonderful experience and that if he had studied at MBA half as hard as he trained for this race, then his GPA would have been much higher.

John Gallaher O.D. has opened an eye practice in Lebanon, Tenn. His solo private practice, Gallaher EyeCare, opened after 14 years in Optometry, the last nine at The Eye Center (a multispecialty group practice he co-founded). Gallaher resides in Lebanon with his wife Ashlie, and their three children – Grace, Anna Belle, and Lofton, ages 9, 7, and 5 respectively.

Larry Hayes was named a fellow in the esteemed American Academy of Matrimonial Lawyers. Members of the Academy are generally recognized by judges and attorneys as preeminent family law practitioners with a high level of knowledge, skill, and integrity. Larry is the fourth lawyer from Nashville and the twelfth from Tennessee to be recognized by the Academy.

1987
Ted Rice has spent the past ten years working with chemically dependent persons, including adolescents, adults, and health care professionals. Ted is a Licensed Professional Counselor and currently serves as the Assistant Director for the Tennessee Lawyers Assistance Program. Ted and his wife Hosanna Banks, live in East Nashville with their twins, Trillium and Gabe.

1988
Tom Cuto and his wife Amy own and operate The Castine Inn in the small, coastal village of Castine, Maine. He recently closed the restaurant part of the operation so that he could spend more time with daughters Hanna (9) and Syra (5). In lieu of running the restaurant, Tom has become heavily involved in the emergency services: volunteering for both the local ambulance and fire department (in which he is a lieutenant) as well as working as a career EMT for a larger town’s ambulance service.

Additionally, Tom is in the interview process to become a full-time firefighter/EMT for the Bangor Fire Department, the ‘large’ city about an hour from their home. Amy has been named the Director of the Conference Department at the small maritime college in Castine.

1989
Scott Galloway was promoted to Vice-President of Agency for the Performing Arts (APA). Scott represents a variety of acts, including “Asleep at the Wheel,” and “Cowboy Mouth.” He and his wife Jody welcomed son Slater Dean Galloway, born July 28, 2007.

Jeremy Russell is heading to Northern California and a position with Apple Computer following an eight-year career with Dell in Austin, Tex. Jeremy can be reached at jrussell@apple.com.

1993
Sean Murphy is the principal of Coastal Ridge Elementary School in York, Maine.

1997
Scott Blount just received his Juris Doctorate from the University of Tennessee. He is currently living in Dallas while pursuing a MBA at SMU.

Patrick Hitt is a Realtor with Zeitlin & Company Realtors in Nashville. He has been selling residential real estate for almost four years and recently received his Broker’s license. Patrick also

Bill Collins was named a Nobel Laureate for his work with the United Nations Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change. Collins was a key contributor to the research on global climate change that won the 2007 Nobel Peace Prize, sharing the honor with former U.S. Vice President Al Gore.

Collins is currently a professor of earth and planetary science at the University of California, Berkeley. After graduating from MBA in 1977, Bill earned a B.A. in physics from Princeton University, and an M.S. and Ph.D. in astronomy and astrophysics from the University of Chicago. Congratulations to an alumnus whose contribution to research is of worldwide significance.
recently graduated from the 2007 Class of Leadership GNAR (Greater Nashville Association of Realtors) and will be chair of the 2008 Membership Committee.

Robert Sawyer married Claire Goodman on December 22, 2007 in Wightman Chapel at Vanderbilt’s Scarritt Bennett Center. MBA alums in the wedding party included Brew Davis (’97), Robert Arendale (’98), Michael Griffin (’98), Michael Martin (’98), Joe Pat McGuigan (’98), and Doug Oliver (’98). Robert and Claire live in Nashville where Claire is an attorney with Waller, Lansden, Dortch, and Davis, while Robert teaches and coaches at MBA.

Todd Moran and his wife Jamie announce the birth of another daughter – Aubrey Lyn Syler Moran, born December 12, 2007.

Chase Roady and his wife Lauren welcomed son Thomas Whititngton “Whit” Roady on December 19, 2006.

1998

Justin Janco married Maggie Thompson on September 1, 2007 in Evergreen, Colo. The wedding party included MBA alums Kyle Siesser (’98), Kevin Cherrington (’98), and Dan Sanders (’98); Keith Bruno (’98) served as officiate. Justin and Maggie reside in Denver, where Justin works for Adolfson and Peterson Construction.

2000

Taylor Sutherland passed the Tennessee Bar Exam and was admitted to practice in November 2007. He is an associate at Leader & Associates, PLC in Nashville.

2001

Will Bruce received one of six Post-Graduate Fellowships for study at Oxford and Cambridge given by Williams College. Chosen by faculty and alumni, the fellowships are awarded on the basis of intellectual ability and the promise of original and creative work as demonstrated by attainment in their major field(s) of study. Will, an economics and history double major, will pursue a M. Phil in Comparative Social Policy at Oxford, and looks forward to a career in public service. In addition, Will was named a finalist for the Coach Wooden Citizenship Cup, an award given to the most outstanding role model among collegiate and professional athletes. Will is a four-year letterman on the Williams Hockey team, and was directly involved in more than a dozen community service activities during his college career.

Eric Larence was married on June 9, 2007 to Ashley Ryan, from Connecticut. They are living in Green Hills with their two-year-old dog Wrigley. Eric recently started a new career with Oman Systems. In his spare time, Eric helped out with MBA’s seventh grade football team, and also coaches a baseball team in West Nashville.

Earl Tally is in his final year of law school at the University of Tennessee in Knoxville. He plans to return to Nashville to pursue his legal career. Earl is engaged to Sarah Virginia Tyler Lodge and will be getting married in September of 2008.

MBA Alums on a Mission: It Takes Two to Tanzania

Brian Christie and Paul Reynolds, close friends throughout high school, went their separate ways upon graduating from MBA in 2003 – Brian to Dartmouth College and Paul to the University of Pennsylvania. The two staged a reunion of sorts, driven by friendship and a shared interest in the field of medicine. After college and life in suburban USA, they became roommates in sub-Saharan Africa. The opportunity to work at an HIV clinic with the Dartmouth Pediatric Program took Brian to Tanzania; Paul went to work for the Elizabeth Glaser Pediatric AIDS Foundation.

To get a true sense of their Tanzanian experience, please view the pictures and read about their work. Brian’s blog is entitled “The Other Side of Who We Are” at www.quickasfoxes.blogspot.com. Paul’s insightful comments can be found at www.paultanzania.blogspot.com.
2003

Chris Douse graduated Cum Laude from the University of Georgia in December 2007 with a double major in English and Political Science. He is currently living in Nashville and waiting to hear back from law schools for enrollment in fall 2008.

2004

David Amiot earned the Distinguished Cadet Award at the United State Military Academy. Distinguished Cadets demonstrate academic excellence by achieving a grade point average of 3.67 or higher. In addition to his academic prowess, David also graduated from Airborne School at Ft. Benning, Ga., and Air Assault School, earning both his Airborne Wings and Air Assault Wings.

Corey Burton was an invited guest panelist of the Cincinnati Human Relations Commission and spoke on the historical significance of college students in leading positive social change. He also addressed the role students play in addressing contemporary social issues. Corey serves in the Student Senate at Xavier University and is president of Alpha Phi Alpha fraternity.

2005

Tom Santi was honored with the James E. Tatum Award, given annually by the Atlantic Coast Conference to the top senior student-athlete among the league’s football players. The award is named for the late Jim Tatum, a two-time ACC Coach of the Year, who placed a great deal of emphasis on the student-athlete concept.

While starring for the Cavaliers on the field, earning second-team All-ACC honors and serving as a team captain, Santi has maintained a 3.35 GPA in sociology and has been very active in community service in the Charlottesville area. “There is a reason why the award going to an individual who embodies numerous outstanding qualities is named after Jim Tatum, who established a legacy of performance and integrity during the formative years of the ACC,” said Virginia head football coach Al Groh. “Tom is a player, teammate, leader, and student who Jim Tatum would be impressed with and proud of. He stands for everything we prize about Virginia football.”

2007

Will DeLoache was recently featured in the Davidson University alumni magazine for his work in the school’s Research Initiative in the field of synthetic biology. Will is also the captain of Davidson’s nationally-ranked Ultimate Frisbee team.

Scott Schwartz helped lead the United States Maccabi Baseball Team to the gold medal in the Maccabi Pan American Games in Buenos Aires, Argentina. The games bring together Jewish athletes from around the Western Hemisphere. Schwartz, a freshman at Emory University, saw time as both a pitcher and a catcher during the week-long competition.

For more information, including online registration, click the “Special Programs” tab at www.montgomerybell.edu

---

More Than 100 Camps, Courses, and Creative Ways to Spend a Summer, Including:

- All-sports
- Cooking
- Summer League Lacrosse
- Outdoor Adventure
- Football
- Computer Skills
- Baseball
- Leadership
- Music
- PSAT/SAT Prep
- Grammar
- Basketball
- Theater
- Soccer
- Digital Video Production
- Debate
- Wrestling
- Latin
- Tennis
- Short Story Writing
- Science Camp
- Reading Comprehension
- Rifle
- Experimental Drawing
- Strength & Conditioning
- Track
- Math, Writing, & Study Skills
- Digital Photography

© 2007 Rob Skinner/RobShots
Building on the momentum from last year’s record-setting attendance and fund-raising effort, the tournament committee is working feverishly to make this year’s P. Hale the best to date. We will once again offer a silent auction for some incredible golf vacation packages at top courses around the country. The Putt to Augusta will be back, as will the morning and afternoon tee times. If you would like to be a sponsor in this year’s tournament, contact Scott O’Neal (’84) in the Alumni Office for details.

The MBA Alumni Players are planning something new for the next alumni show. The troupe will be performing a concert version of Meredith Willson’s The Music Man. A concert version presents the show but with minimal staging. In addition, the actors use scripts so there is no memorizing involved. There will be only about two weeks this summer in preparation for this event. All alumni singers or actors are welcome to participate, so please contact Rick Seay (’79) if you are interested (seayr@montgomerybell.edu).

In the summer of 2009, the Alumni Players will be mounting a fully-staged production of the classic musical 1776. We hope interest generated by this summer’s The Music Man will help us toward our goal of 1776 next summer.
George Benjamin Garis ('39) 1922 – 2007


James Atkinson passed away January 3, 2008. Awarded an academic scholarship to MBA, he served as President of his freshman, sophomore, and junior classes and engaged in varsity athletics. He was elected Captain of the MBA Football team and received “All Nashville” honors during his senior year. Upon graduation, he attended Vanderbilt University on an athletic scholarship.

After receiving a Business Administration degree from Vanderbilt, Atkinson joined the United States Marine Corps as a Private. Upon acceptance to Officer’s Candidacy School in Quantico, Va., he was commissioned as a Second Lieutenant, on whom he volunteered for duty as a Infantry Platoon Leader in Korea. Serving in combat with the First Marine Division, he was wounded in the right leg from a hand grenade while on patrol on January 18, 1953, earning him a Purple Heart.

Following two years of medical treatment for his wounds, Atkinson was discharged from the Marines in 1955. He returned to Nashville and turned his interests to the construction and development field. Mr. Atkinson worked briefly with Euclid Tennessee and L.C. Anderson Construction Company in Nashville, and moved to Dallas, Tex. in 1956 at the age of 28. He joined The Ashton-Richards Company for a brief time until September 1957, at which time he joined Dallas-based real estate firm Hudson & Hudson. After almost eight years with Hudson & Hudson, Mr. Atkinson formed The Atkinson Company in 1965, pursuing his career in brokerage and development of commercial and industrial properties in Dallas and Nashville.

Atkinson is survived by his wife Annette Y. (Sandi) Atkinson, son James (Jeb) Fitzgerald Atkinson ('88) and his wife Tiffany, and son Thomas Kerr Atkinson ('00).

Herbert M. Bates ('46) 1928 – 2008

Wilber F. Creighton III ('49) 1931 – 2007

Watson Gilbert Templeton ('51) 1933 – 2007

Watson Templeton passed away November 13, 2007. While at MBA Templeton was a member of the Bell Ringer staff, competed in the declamation contest, and was the recipient of the best actor award. Following MBA, Templeton attended Vanderbilt University, graduating in 1955.

After two years in the U. S. Navy Reserve, Templeton joined the Nashville office of Spencer Trask in 1957, where he became the Assistant Manager. In 1978 he bought the Percy Cohen Showroom, and in 1986 moved the store to 1111 Church Street under the name of W.G. Templeton & Co.

Templeton is survived by his wife of 52 years, Eleanor Halliburton Templeton; sons John Gilbert Templeton, David Bradford (Kathryn) Templeton; grandchildren Ryan Templeton, Rozlyn, Jack, and Webster Templeton, and brother J. Lillard (Martha) Templeton.

Starkey Davis Duncan, Jr. ('53) 1935 – 2007

Dr. Starkey Duncan, Jr. passed away May 15, 2007 in Chicago, Ill. While at MBA Duncan was a member of the football and basketball teams. He was also on the staff of both the Bell Ringer and The Bell, and was a member of the National Honor Society. Duncan received a bachelor’s degree in philosophy from Vanderbilt University, and then served two years in the Navy. He went to the University of Chicago for his doctorate and never left, joining the faculty in 1967.

Duncan made a lifetime study of the gestures, pauses, and facial expressions that are part of human communication. His research uncovered the complexities and subplots, the twists and turns in what (on the surface) appeared an ordinary conversation between two people. The goal was to map out predictable patterns of behavior. Duncan’s methods and the language he developed to describe his studies were put forth in Face to Face: Interactions: Research, Methods and Theory, a 1977 book he co-authored.

After studying adult communication for many years, Duncan turned to the interactions between parents and children. He again used videotape to study, for example, how a parent gets a child to eat with a spoon. He found that children understood complex interactions much earlier than once thought and were engaging in winning conflicts with adults as infants. More recently, he was working on sequential behavior patterns of children to understand disorders such as autism. His research showed that the behavior of autistic children was contingent on their interaction with others and therefore could be predictably diagrammed, opening the way for earlier diagnosis of the problem.

A folk music aficionado, he played banjo proficiently and was for many years the faculty representative for the University of Chicago’s annual folk festival. Duncan is survived by sons Arne and Owen, daughter Sarah, and his fiancé Marilee Marchelya.

Arthur Lawrence White ('54) 1936 – 2007

George Roger Peek ('58) 1940 – 2007

Mr. Peek died at home August 12, 2007 after a brief illness. Preceded in death by his father George Winston Peek, and his grandparents Emma Tucker Peek and Edwin Frank Peek, Sr. He is survived by a loving wife of 45 years, Elinor Berger Peek, son George Roger Peek II, and daughter Madison Shirley Peek (Kelja Kristi Calley). He attended Eakin Elementary School, graduated from Montgomery Bell Academy in 1958, and from Vanderbilt University in 1962 with a B.A. degree.

Daniel Alexander Eadie ('63) 1945 – 2007

Daniel Eadie died October 30, 2007, following an illness of two years. At MBA, Eadie was the recipient of academic medals in Spanish I, Modern History, and Ancient and Medieval History. He was a member of The Bell and The Bell Ringer staffs, and the Forensic Club.

Following MBA, Eadie graduated from Washington and Lee University, where he was a member of its Army ROTC and Lambda Chi Alpha fraternity. He served in Vietnam as an Army first lieutenant in the transportation corps.

Eadie is survived by his mother Anne Long, and his wife Annette J. Eadie. Also surviving are three daughters — Catherine Louise Eadie Howard and her husband Joseph C. Howard, Rachel Ann Eadie Williams and her husband Troy A. Williams, and Cassandra Margaret Eadie; two granddaughters — Lorraine Francis and Caroline Alexandra Morales; and his great-granddaughter Carmen Elise Morales.

Joseph Lamar Fall ('73) 1954 – 2007

Christopher Taylor Hannon ('80) 1962 – 2007

Chris Hannon passed away September 4, 2007. At MBA Hannon was a member of the Varsity Soccer team, the Big Red Club, and the Bell Ringer staff. He earned his undergraduate degree from the University of Georgia, later earning an MBA from Belmont University.

He began his career with SunTrust Banks in 1984, eventually rising to serve as a senior healthcare lender. In 1997 he joined Province Healthcare and was named CFO in

MONTGOMERY BELL ACADEMY 59
2002. He served in that position until the company sold to LifePoint in 2005. Since the sale of Province, Hannon had been involved in the development of Telagent Solutions, a Franklin-based revenue cycle management firm. He served as a director, and chairman of the Audit Committee, for the Louisville-based healthcare real estate investment trust Ventas Inc.

Hannon is survived by his wife Jenny, and four daughters.

**Eric Mace Falk (’90)**

1971 – 2007

Reverend Eric Falk died at age 35 on February 2, 2007. Eric was the Missions Pastor at Christ Church in Nashville. Prior to this position, he also served as the College and Young Adults Pastor as well as the Junior High Pastor at Christ Church.

A Nashville native, Eric graduated from Montgomery Bell Academy in 1990. He continued his studies at Northwestern University where he graduated magna cum laude with a double major in religion and English in 1994. Eric was ordained into the ministry in 2004. At Christ Church, he ran summer youth programs and seasonal retreats, taught Sunday School classes and led youth services, preached regularly, and led numerous overseas mission trips to Russia, Jamaica, Israel, Costa Rica, El Salvador, Africa, and Romania. Eric will be remembered for his wit, charm, joy of life, love for the outdoors, and love for God and for others. He is survived by his loving wife Amanda Fay Falk, his mother Janice Akin Buck, his brothers Jay Simms and Tommy Falk, his sister Katherine Falk, and his step-father Bob Buck.
Board of Trustees
CHALLENGE NEW BENCHMARKS

2007-2008 Annual Fund Campaign

The MBA Board of Trustees has issued a challenge! They will give collectively an additional $150,000 to the Annual Fund, if the campaign hits the following participation goals by

JUNE 1, 2008.

Alumni Participation in the Annual Fund -- 50% or greater
Parent Participation in the Annual Fund -- 95% or greater
Alumni Parent Participation in the Annual Fund -- 25% or greater
Grandparent Participation in the Annual Fund -- 25% or greater

GENTLEMAN • SCHOLAR • ATHLETE

These words -- and the ideals behind them -- are what you support when you give to the MBA Annual Fund. To make a gift or pledge, you may contact the MBA Development Office at 615-369-5360 or give online at www.montgomerybell.edu.

MORE THAN EVER...YOUR PARTICIPATION MATTERS
"COLLEGE AND GRADUATE SCHOOL TAUGHT ME ABOUT HOW LIFE IS, BUT MBA TAUGHT ME MUCH ABOUT HOW LIFE SHOULD BE."

Mauro M. Mastrapasqua ('90)
from the 2007 Junior Class Ring Ceremony