Lowry Hall Dedication
January 26, 2012
Friday, April 27, 2012

Casual Lunch and Campus Tours
11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. on the Sloan Quad
Come by MBA to enjoy a nice lunch, see the campus improvements since your last visit to The Hill, and visit with the faculty.

Saturday, April 28, 2012

Alumni Games
9:30 a.m. - Soccer on the New Soccer Field
10:00 a.m. - Lacrosse on Andrews Field
10:00 a.m. - Baseball on Bennett-Forehand Field

Gold Lunch
11:00 a.m. - In Big Red Room of Lowry Hall
Honoring all alumni who graduated 50 or more years ago. Hosted by the Class of 1962. Spouses/guests welcome
Casual attire

Second Annual “Endada” Arts Festival
11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. on the Sloan Quad
Come enjoy great music, artwork, and multi-cultural activities

Selma Ridgeway Lunch
Noon in the Lowry Hall Debate Center
Lunch to celebrate those who have been involved in debate and to honor Selma Ridgeway who taught at MBA from 1965 to 1977.

Alumni Dinner
6:30 p.m. on the Sloan Quad
All Alumni are invited. $30 per person.

ALUMNI DINNER

SATURDAY, APRIL 28

6:30 p.m. (Sloan Quad)
All Alumni are invited
Casual attire

GOLD LUNCH

SATURDAY, APRIL 28

11:00 a.m. (Big Red Room of Mary Helen Lowry Hall)
Honoring all alumni who graduated 50 or more years ago.
Hosted by the Class of 1962
Complimentary all-you-can-eat buffet
Spouses/guests welcome
Casual attire

Register for all events online. Go to www.montgomerybell.edu/alumni, then click on “Reunion.” Please register by Monday, April 18

For event questions, contact Presh Killebrew in the Alumni Office at presh.killebrew@montgomerybell.edu or 615-369-5364.
While many aspects of MBA seem to change at an amazing pace – boys seem to grow into young men overnight, buildings rise and the face of campus transforms in the blink of an eye – one thing that has not changed is the quality of teaching on The Hill. This issue is in large part a celebration of teachers – from the dedication of a beautiful new building named in honor of a beloved teacher, to profiles of some of the legendary people still on the faculty. As part of our salute to the impact of teachers, we thought this page would be a great place to include a tribute to Mrs. June Bowen written by Gil Lackey ('84), one of her former students. Lackey originally submitted his piece to the schools’ blog, www.waffleironblog.com, and we have reprinted it here with his permission.

Ode to Mrs. Bowen

I was afeared of her ages before she had me raking leaves on The Hill to work off her demerits. The legend of June Bowen, militaristic seventh grade English teacher, had preceded her.

But the truth behind Mrs. Bowen turned out to be more complex than the folklore. She was tough and fair and intimidating and hilarious. With her infamous in-class grammar contests, she fostered competition and a demand for perfection. I vividly recall diagramming sentences in my restless sleep (hopefully not while in her class).

Because of Mrs. Bowen, I can’t help but cringe when I hear the split infinitive at the beginning of each Star Trek episode, “To boldly go where no man has gone before.” That is just poor grammar up with which I will not put!

But Mrs. Bowen didn’t just cultivate lifelong grammarians. She mass-produced proper grammarians. Yes, Mrs. Bowen’s discipline ushered me to demerit hall on many a Saturday. There I learned a myriad of didactic vocabulary words, but mostly just raked a boatload of leaves.

Many years later, I broke free from the bondage of school, teachers, parents, bosses, or any authority whatsoever. Yes, I purchased my own house.

As I strolled to the mailbox on that first autonomous day, my next-door neighbor introduced herself. “Welcome to the neighborhood. I’m June.”

Holy moly, it was Mrs. Bowen! If I yawned without covering my mouth or left my shirttail hanging out, would I once again be relegated to raking leaves on Saturday? I felt that familiar shiver of afearedness!

On the contrary, Mrs. Bowen (no way I was calling her “June”) turned out to be a dear friend and extraordinary neighbor. She probably hadn’t changed much since I was in seventh grade, but 20 years had changed my perception of her. She was brilliant and witty and sarcastic and wonderful.

She called on me for small favors every once in a while, so I wasn’t surprised when I saw her name on the caller ID that day. I agreed to come over to help her with a diagram. Only after I got off the phone did the terror hit me. A diagram? Are you kidding me? This lady wrote the book on diagramming sentences. That’s not an idiomatic expression – I mean she literally wrote grammar books. I hadn’t had fitful dreams about diagramming in 20 years, so how in the world could I not look the fool? This time, she really, really afeared me!

I searched in vain for my old “Rulebook” to jar my grammatical memory before fretfully knocking on her door.

As I crept into her living room, I saw ceiling fan parts strewn about the floor. Next to the clutter, you may have guessed, were the ceiling fan instructions in the form of a diagram.

I have never been so relieved and overjoyed to put together a ceiling fan in all my life. I filled her in on the diagram miscommunication, and we both belly-laughed until tears ran down our faces.

These days, I envision Mrs. Bowen, red pen in hand, sending even the finest souls to rake leaves on an even bigger hill in Heaven. I also fancy thinking she would be pleased with the way she influenced my life. Although I graduated Mrs. Bowen’s course with flying mediocrity, I think I have applied more of what I learned in that class than any other.

I married another hopeless grammarian and enjoy a career as an outdoor writer and editor. I have my own red pen, although it’s in the form of a computer editing tool. I daily use a superfluity of didactic vocabulary words. And there are plenty of leaves to rake in the outdoors. But I must confess, she still afears me a little.
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Montgomery Bell Academy admits quality students of any race, color, religion, national, or ethnic origin to all the rights, privileges, programs, and activities generally accorded or made available to students at the school.

ON THE COVER
Twilight shot of the East entrance to the new Lowry Hall, dedicated to past MBA English teacher Mrs. Mary Helen Lowry.

PRINTED ON RECYCLED PAPER
Much of the work that I have been focused on the past year has involved our new Strategic Plan. I am proud of its focus and vision. The theme of building boys into men of character is undoubtedly MBA's most important mission. I was also pleased with the accreditation process the school underwent this past November. The six independent school administrators who evaluated MBA introduced their report with the following comments:

A sense of tradition and pride is palpable, evident not only in the signage and statuary around the campus, but also in the halls, the classrooms, and the assemblies. The camaraderie and mutual respect among the boys are readily apparent; they truly love the school. There is a healthy sense of community engagement from all constituents.

I am very humbled by the strength and history and goodness of the MBA community. We have many people and traditions to be grateful for in the foundations that were laid these past 145 years.

Much of the school’s news and attention these past ten months, however, also focused on the public reports related to the TSSAA and our football program. I am saddened by all of those issues because of the pain and hardship it has caused individuals and families, a former coach and his family, and our school community. Ultimately, the TSSAA report stated that MBA did not try to circumvent the rules and forthrightly provided all information to the TSSAA. We can and will move forward. It is important now to admit that we should have done things better, and our students and coaches and school leadership will do everything they can to express the integrity and goodness inherent in the fabric of MBA.

Our first semester was a time of building and developing on the campus. We opened the school year with our new parking garage and soccer field above that building. On January 9, 2012, we opened the doors of the new Lowry Hall. There is a new and beautiful entrance to MBA on its east side on Wilson Avenue. The efforts we have undertaken, in terms of how we have handled construction and the environment, as well as community-building events, have strengthened MBA's relationship with the neighborhoods that surround the campus. These new bonds will benefit our students and faculty for many generations. We will soon have all the facilities and programmatic means we had envisioned 15 years ago when we launched this new campus plan.

I am pleased with a number of programs the school continues to see prospering and developing. Both our exchange programs and Wilson Grant opportunities continue to send students around the world. We opened our observatory on Long Mountain with a beautiful dedication in October of 2011. The college admission results so far this year and the PSAT scores from the October test look very strong. We are hoping this Admissions season will be among the best in MBA history. Our athletic and extracurricular programs remain strong. Probably one of the proudest news items to report is the increased awareness and involvement of service at school. This fall our students rallied to support the Race For the Cure program and the Wounded Warrior Project. We also continue to host soup kitchens and numerous other service projects on a regular basis.

MBA’s most important focus is building young boys into better men. We enjoyed a wonderful opportunity in mid-January to celebrate the influence of Mary Helen Lowry, who is the namesake of our new building. Very few buildings around the country are named for a teacher. This opportunity expresses bountifully how important teachers are in the mission of a school like ours to change the horizons, the perspectives, and the lives of young boys. For 50 years, from 1943-1993, Mary Helen Lowry made her classroom a beautiful stage on which boys saw possibilities and visions much greater than they could ever imagine. She would instill in young men lines like, “With each new sentence gain ten more yards.” Mary Helen Lowry had the vision to transport all of us into a greater realm and to uplift MBA in ways in which this great community has served young men for generations. This vision and commitment to building young men of character should and must be MBA’s main mission forever.

Bradford Gioia, Headmaster
The Board of Trustees at its January meeting approved the school’s strategic plan for 2012 to 2017. The plan was sent electronically to members of the MBA community in February and can be found online at www.montgomerybell.edu/strategicplan.

On July 1, 2011 MBA welcomed nine new members to the school’s boards.

**Alumni Board:**
- Mr. A. Jackson Dale IV ('95)
- Mr. Karl E. (Sandy) Haury, Jr. ('68)
- Mr. Taylor B. Mayes ('91)
- Mr. Samuel M. Porter, Jr. ('55)

**Young Alumni Board:**
- Mr. Moses I. Osemwegie, Jr. ('01)

**Advisory Board:**
- Mr. M. Frederic Evans ('65)
- Mr. Craig A. Franklin ('82)
- Mr. Gary S. Guttman ('79)
- Mr. Robert W. Latimer ('72)

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**BOARD NEWS**

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In a tradition that dates back to the 1940’s, MBA opened its campus up for the annual Spaghetti Supper, the school’s largest community event and fundraiser. Thanks to the leadership of Spaghetti Supper Co-Chairs Kim Greene and Carolyn Beckner, and tireless efforts of hundreds of volunteers, the event was a tremendous success.

Between on-campus diners and a steady stream of take-out customers, the Spaghetti Supper served more than 5,000 helpings of pasta, salad, bread, and cookies. The event raised more than $100,000 that will be donated directly back to programs at the school ranging from Chinese course materials, to professional development, to a hydration unit for the athletic training room.
Face painting, pony rides, an inflatable obstacle course, and thousands of prizes were just part of the celebration at MBA’s annual carnival. Sponsored by the Student Council, the carnival has become one of the most popular events on the school calendar, drawing hundreds of visitors to campus. This year’s carnival also featured food trucks and a balloon artist, as well as entertainment from many of MBA’s finest musicians.
LONG MOUNTAIN Dedication
On October 9, more than 100 members of the MBA community travelled to the Long Mountain campus near McMinnville, Tenn. to officially open the observatory. The guests toured the observatory and surrounding property, learned about the capabilities of the PlaneWave CDK 24” Telescope, and gathered in the classroom to view some of the images of deep space taken by the SBIG STII CCD Camera.
Parking Garage
Soccer Field
& Wilson Avenue Entrance
As the school year got underway, MBA was treated to a special visit by Louis Zamperini, the subject of Unbroken, the all-school read for 2011-2012. Zamperini, an Olympic athlete who participated in the 1936 Berlin Olympics, survived more than 40 days lost at sea and unspeakable torture in a Japanese POW camp during World War II. Now 93 years old, Zamperini shared the story of how he survived and came to forgive the guards who tortured him. Four-time Olympic Gold Medalist John Nabor joined Zamperini on his visit and introduced his fellow University of Southern California alum to the students, faculty, and staff.
Seventy-seven students at Montgomery Bell Academy earned AP Scholar Awards in recognition of their exceptional achievement on AP Exams.

The College Board recognizes several levels of achievement based on students’ performance on AP Exams.

Eleven members of the Class of 2011 qualified for the National AP Scholar Award by earning an average score of 4 or higher on a five-point scale on all AP Exams taken, and scores of 4 or higher on eight or more of these exams. These students are: Stephen Bedard, Connor Caldwell, Carter Callaway, Cody Fisher, Chris Goodrich, Jack Hallemann, Ryan Hill, John Keller, Will McCaskill, Andrew Powell, and Max Werthan.

Forty-three students qualified for the AP Scholar with Distinction Award by earning an average score of at least 3.5 on all AP Exams taken, and scores of 3 or higher on five or more of these exams. These students are: Christian Alford, Myles Anderson, Paul Baker, Stephen Bedard, Nicholas Bessette, Lane Bullock, Connor Caldwell, Carter Callaway, Zachary Chen, Will Farrar, Cody Fisher, Will Flautt, Franklin Gaglione, Sam Givens, Chris Goodrich, Scott Gould, Will Granbery, Jack Hallemann, Kelly Haselton, Ryan Hill, John Keller, Nick Kohler, Chase Lovelace, Walton Macey, Tom Markham, Will McCaskill, Callen Moran, Will Norton, Connor Pagnani, Andrew Powell, Partha Reddy, Christopher Sandwith, Joe Scherrer, Mitchell Shope, Warren Smith, Philip Spelman, Jesse Suh, Bradford Swain, Paul Van Pernis, Max Werthan, Edward Wilson, and John Wyse.

Fifteen students qualified for the AP Scholar with Honor Award by earning an average score of at least 3.25 on all AP exams taken, and scores of 3 or higher on four or more of these exams. These students are: Jimmie Anderson, Gray Curtis, Van East, Mason Foote, Braxton Fralick, Harrison Luna, Daniel Mace, Bryan Oslin, Preston Palm, Michael Peters, Jordan Rundberg, Karthik Sastry, Eddie Seay, Ryan Shephard, and William Stewart.

Nineteen students qualified for the AP Scholar Award by completing three or more AP Exams with scores of 3 or higher. The AP Scholars are: Clay Adams, Ford Altenbern, David Arteaga, Weston Bell, Maclin Davis, Patrick Duffey, Rob Edwards, Andrew Fortugno, Clay Garrett, Augie Houghton, John Hughart, Michael Kosson, Christopher McClure, Patrick Meehan, Mohammad Mehio, Wilson Parker, Ethan Spencer Vines, John Whitson, and Wentao Zhang.

The College Board’s Advanced Placement Program (AP) provides willing and academically prepared students with the opportunity to take rigorous college-level courses while still in high school, and to earn college credit, advanced placement, or both for successful performance on the AP Exams. About 18 percent of the more than 1.8 million students worldwide who took AP Exams performed at a sufficiently high level to also earn an AP Scholar Award.
NATIONAL MERIT SCHOLARS

MBA is pleased to announce that the National Merit Scholarship Program has selected five members of the Class of 2012 as National Merit Semifinalists.

The list includes (l to r): Rob Edwards, Joe Sherrer, Preston Palm, Will Stewart and Daniel Mace.

These boys scored in the 99th percentile on the National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test/PSAT and join the list of approximately 800 MBA students recognized by the National Merit Scholarship Corporation since 1981.

There are approximately 16,000 National Merit Semifinalists across the country chosen from the 1.5 million entrants in the competition. These high school seniors have an opportunity to continue for $34 million in National Merit Scholarships to be awarded in the spring of 2012. About 90 percent of the students selected as Semifinalists are selected as Finalists, and approximately half of that number attain the National Merit Scholar title.

In addition to the National Merit Semifinalists, seniors Myles Anderson, David Arteaga, Scott Blackwell, Zach Chen, Gray Curtis, Maclin Davis, Austin Doebler, Harris Elledge, Noah Fardon, Blair Griffith, Kelly Haselton, Augie Houghton, Michael Kosson, Daniel Peters, George Preston, Anderson Rader, Karthik Sastry, and Jack Whitson scored in the 97th percentile on the NMSQT/PSAT and earned recognition as National Merit Commended Scholars.

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This year the music department will send 13 singers to honor choirs in Tennessee. Nineteen MBA boys auditioned amongst hundreds of students from around Middle Tennessee. Out of the 19 that auditioned, 13 made the Freshman Honor Choir or the Middle Tennessee Honor Choir, nearly twice the number of MBA students who were accepted in the past. The students honored were Clay Andreen ('15), Blake Burns ('12), Chris Burrus ('14), Andrew Dupuis ('14), John Elam ('12), Nathan Fouts ('13), Nicholas Heim ('15), Warren Lipscomb ('12), Mark Lowe ('15), Bates O’Neal ('14), Andrew Porter ('15), Greg Quesinberry ('15), and John Triplett ('15).
On November 11 students, faculty, alums, and other members of the MBA community braved the cold to celebrate the contributions and sacrifices of our nation’s veterans. The MBA Veterans Day ceremony began with the raising of the flag by members of the MBA Venture crew. Captain Will Norton (’99), MBA Dean of Students, thanked all the alums currently serving on active duty and introduced Mrs. Judy Auer, whose son John (’03) is currently serving as a Marine First Lt. in Afghanistan. Auer thanked MBA for the support they have shown her son, particularly a service project that resulted in the collection of hundreds of recreational balls for distribution to Afghan children.

Auer provided details of her son’s duties overseas and remarked that he often compares the training in the Marines to the education he received at MBA, and the sense of brotherhood that both institutions foster is remarkably similar. Auer concluded by sharing the difficulties and trepidation that comes with being the parent of a service-man deployed overseas.

That theme was echoed by Marie Bellet, whose son Ben (’06) is currently serving as an infantry officer in Afghanistan. Bellet sang a song she wrote after being inspired by the entry gate at the United States Military Academy. The name of the gate and the song, Stony Lonesome, evokes images of the difficult things soldiers and their families must endure in the service of their country.
ON THE HILL

THEATER

The Mouse that Roared

The Mouse that Roared
Actors at MBA and Harpeth Hall returned to school early on August 1 to begin working on their 14th musical collaboration — The Pajama Game. In the play, employees of the Sleeptite Pajama Factory are looking for a pay raise, and they won’t take no for an answer. Babe Williams (played by HH senior Claire Crawford) is their spirited employee rep, but she may have found her match in the new superintendent Sid Sorokin (played by MBA senior Aaron Ardisson). Enthusiastic audiences enjoyed the battles between labor and management, as well as the age-old battle between the sexes. Colorful, energetic musical numbers and the humorous antics of Hunter Woolwine (‘12) as Hines and John Elam (‘12) as Prez contributed to the show’s success. Director Janette Fox Klocko applauded her cast and crew for their ‘labor pains.’ “The actors have demanded hard work of themselves and each other and have risen to the occasion. Our young crew has been tireless in their efforts and have proven themselves worthy of many accolades.”

This fall’s production of You’re A Good Man, Charlie Brown was a delightful experience because of a terrific, extremely dedicated, and hard working cast and crew. Their efforts paid off at the state one-act competition held in Dickson on October 21 where the team won second place and advances to the next level of competition. Named to the All-Star Cast List were junior Alex Floyd (Linus) and Woolwine (Schroeder) with Lizzie Boston earning Best Actress honors for the entire competition for her wonderful portrayal of Lucy. The team competes at Southeastern Theatre Conference on Thursday, March 8, in Chattanooga. On Monday, March 5, there will be an encore performance in the Paschall Theater at 7 p.m. in preparation for the regional competition.

On November 18-21, the MBA players presented Christopher Sergel’s adaptation of Leonard Wibberley’s The Mouse that Roared. When an American winery destroys a tiny duchy’s economy, Fenwick declares war! The ‘mouse’ expects quick defeat to be followed by rehabilitation by the United States. The plot hinges on the efforts of Tully Bascom (superbly portrayed by Alex Floyd). As Fenwick’s forest ranger turned army commander, he humbly determines to honor his homeland’s past and to secure its future. It all goes terribly awry, but just how so is a matter for Mr. Wibberley’s risible ingenuity and our audience’s pleasure! As global economic worries mount and debates over bail outs of companies and countries anguish politics everywhere, MBA’s revival of Mouse was quite timely. MBA audiences found this ‘David and Goliath’ story both entertaining and enlightening. Director Cal Fuller praised his talented cast and crew: “They have recreated Grand Fenwick’s predicament and found the play’s humor and poignancy.”

Montgomery Bell Academy
On the morning of November 9, eight students were welcomed into Totomoi, MBA’s honor society. Totomoi recognizes individuals who have shown outstanding leadership in academics, athletics, service to the school, community appreciation for the arts. Induction into Totomoi is one of the highest honors an MBA student, alumnus, or faculty member can receive. Current Totomoi members Rob Edwards, Bryan Oslin, Karthik Sastry, and Joe Scherrer conducted the ceremony. They offered a brief history of Totomoi, tapped each new member, and provided a history of each new member’s accomplishments.

Inductees from the Class of 2012 are (l to r) Weston Bell, Austin Doebler, Daniel Peters, Eric Walsh, Scott Arteaga, Will Stewart, and Daniel Bellet.
In November six MBA students had their works selected for the Middle Tennessee Regional Student Exhibition at the Renaissance Center. The students were:

- Andrew Dupuis ('14) – photography
- George Preston ('12) – computer graphics
- John Mark Bellet ('12) – drawing
- Greylon Gawaluck ('12) – printmaking
- Daniel Bellet ('12) – printmaking
- Robert Hoover ('12) – sculpture
DEBATE

With the finishing touches being put on Lowry Hall, home to a brand new debate complex, the MBA Debate team showed that it could succeed in all sectors while in limbo. Major highlights include a successful competition in Singapore, strong performances and depth in Extemporaneous Speaking, and continued national success in Policy Debate.

The most adventurous competition of the semester was most certainly the World Debate Championships in Singapore in November. Juniors McKay Proctor and John Mellow, and senior Kelly Haselton represented MBA and the U.S. in the international event. In its first experience with a more global style of debate, MBA finished in the top 10, with Proctor earning a top 15 speaker award. MBA defeated several schools on its way to that finish, including the Thailand National Team and the Chinese International School in Hong Kong.

The “Extemp” speakers had an enormously rewarding semester, with great finishes in both local and national tournaments. Seniors Will Stewart and Karthik Sastry competed well around the country, finishing in the top tiers at The Glenbrooks Tournament in Chicago and the Earlybird Invitational at Wake Forest University, with Stewart reaching Semifinals in Chicago and both speakers reaching Semifinals at Wake. Sastry also competed at MBA’s own Southern Bell Forum Extemporaneous Speaking Round Robin, featuring the nation’s top competitors. The future for the Extemp squad looks bright as well, with up-and-comer Armand Jhala (’14) earning first place honors in Portland, Tenn., and Milton, Ga. (helped there by MBA placing four speakers in the top five) before reaching the Quarterfinals at Emory University’s Barkley Forum, a tremendous feat for a sophomore.

Finally, the Policy Debate squad looks to have another great year, with strong national showings and the largest group of first- and second-year debaters in recent history. The top team of Haselton and junior Galen Bullington started the year off strong, earning an invitation to the prestigious Greenhill Round Robin, where they produced a winning record and bested teams now ranked in the top five in the country. Their success continued all semester as they look to become the Varsity team for MBA this year that will continue its streak of qualifying for the Tournament of Champions in April.

The whole team is abuzz with the excitement for the new Lowry facilities, and is on its way to create a new tradition of filling up the new debate classrooms and practice room with diligent preparation and strong arguments.

CHESS

The MBA Chess team has had a great deal of success during the first semester. Junior Sal Neglia has distinguished himself as one of the top chess players in the area, taking first place honors at the USN Scholastic Chess Tournament and the Nashville City Championships. Eighth grader Alvin Zhang has led a strong group of Junior School players, earning a tie for second in the Nashville City Championships, and helping the MBA team to a second-place finish at USN.

This semester MBA will also be hosting local chess pro Todd Andrews in the Anne Potter Wilson room on Thursdays from 5:30-6:30 p.m. Andrews will be teaching any interested students all about the game of chess.
FOOTBALL  The 2011 Football Season can be described as one of great adversity yet one with a relentless desire to overcome. A productive and exciting spring laid the groundwork for players to understand a new philosophy and a new mentality. The summer workouts were demanding physically, mentally, and spiritually. The bonds developed among players and coaches over those few months foreshadowed the challenges they would face later in the year. This group of young men strove to become something bigger than each individual: a powerful team. Through the 7-on-7 contests, team camp, and early scrimmages, the squad began to put its new mentality and philosophies into action. As August came to a close, the leaders of this group began to emerge, helping the boys transform into one team.

The Big Red kicked off the season with a dominating win against a talented squad from Kingsbury. The offense rolled by scoring a touchdown on every possession. The passing attack was prolific with junior Dylan Hall throwing four touchdown passes to Austin Blackwell ('12), Gary Jackson ('13), Mattison Hamilton ('12), and Brooks Best ('13). The three-pronged running attack of Jackson, Jhamall Wright ('12), and Je'Tarii Donald ('13) controlled the clock with Donald scoring twice. The tough MBA run defense proved too much for Kingsbury, led by Jay Robertson ('14), James Kay ('12), and John Morphis ('12).

The Big Red followed the opening success with a difficult stretch, falling to a nationally-ranked Trinity team from Louisville, and then dropping consecutive games to league rivals Brentwood Academy, Baylor, and BGA. Despite the early roadblocks, the team grew tougher and more determined than ever. Their focus remained on point through the ups and downs with remarkable composure.

The team rebounded for a 31-7 homecoming win versus Pearl-Cohn. MBA took the opening kickoff into Firebird territory and quickly scored on a touchdown run by Wright. Pearl-Cohn answered with a tremendous touchdown drive. MBA promptly responded with a spectacular Hall to Blackwell touchdown. Landon Bullock ('13) continued the first half scoring with a field goal. Senior Jack Beckner squashed a Firebird drive with an interception. MBA dominated the second half on both sides of the ball. Donald added the last score with a 30-yard touchdown run.

MBA followed up the success against Pearl-Cohn by pushing its winning streak against Father Ryan to 17 games, notching a 17-10 victory over the Irish. The Big Red dominated the first half on both sides of the ball. Sophomore Tony Drew scored the first varsity touchdown of his career in the first quarter. After a successful onside kick attempt late in the fourth quarter, Father Ryan threatened to tie the game. The MBA secondary, which tallied three interceptions on the night, was once again up to the task. Junior Cade Hooper ended the Irish’s hopes with his second pick of the game.

The next week MBA faced the eventual state champions from Ensworth. The Tigers proved too much to handle, handing the Big Red a tough defeat. Despite concerns, doubts, and distractions from the outside, the team members stayed dedicated to each other and fought valiantly to improve in every way possible. When push came to shove, the young men trusted and depended on each other. They became a team unified by their competitive spirit.

Vanderbilt players Reggie Ford ('09), Wesley Johnson ('09), and Fitz Lassing ('10) meet up with Kentucky’s William Tanner ('10) before their game on November 12.
As the fall leaves began to change, the Big Red rallied with a big road victory over McCallie. Both teams fought hard and the scoring went back and forth. The Big Red defense did a tremendous job slowing down the prolific McCallie running attack. MBA Quarterback Aaron Simonis ('12) led the offensive attack both on the ground and in the air. Simonis scored two first quarter touchdowns. Wright led MBA in rushing with 70 yards. The score remained tied at 14 until a methodical McCallie drive gave the Tornadoes a 21-14 lead at the start of the fourth quarter. Minutes later, Bullock hit a crucial 22-yard field goal to close the gap 21-17. A 46-yard scamper down the sideline by Drew provided the go-ahead touchdown for the Big Red.

MBA closed out the regular season with a resounding 35-0 victory over Pope John Paul II. Wright opened up the scoring with a 74-yard touchdown run, giving the Big Red a 7-0 half time lead. MBA received the third quarter kickoff and marched down the field with a six minute scoring drive. Simonis added another score with a quarterback sweep and senior William Reames punched a touchdown in midway through the fourth quarter. The most electrifying play of the night occurred in the last minute of the game. JPII threatened to score when sophomore Grey Reames intercepted the pass in the end zone, then zig-zagged his way to pay dirt en route to a school record 104-yard return for a touchdown.

The final two wins of the regular season clinched a playoff birth in the first round game at Tommy Owen Stadium. MBA hit the ground running and never looked back against Briarcrest Christian. Simonis engineered a magnificent offensive attack as the leading rusher and passer in the game, scoring two touchdowns on the ground. Senior Conry Miler added two receiving touchdowns. The defense was outstanding. Hooper led the charge with an intercepted pass in the end zone, a huge tackle on a punt return, and a second interception that he brought back for a touchdown.

The playoff run ended for the Big Red in Chattanooga, as the Big Red was unable to overcome the #1 seed and eventual state runner-up Baylor. While the 2011 season will not be remembered for points scored or wins, it will be remembered as a tremendous success. What started out as an assortment of boys, developed into one unit of strong young men. They developed an understanding of the value of hard work, determination, sacrifice, and loyalty, while also gaining a stronger love for the game of football. The team will never forget the season for the lessons that they all learned and will carry with them for the rest of their lives.

CROSS COUNTRY

Following back-to-back state championship seasons, the 2011 MBA Harriers entered the season hoping for the school’s first ever three-peat and with Daniel Peters (’12) eyeing an individual state title. When official practice began in the sweltering heat of late July, the boys had already logged hundreds of miles on the roads and trails. Before school began, the team held its annual camp, spending two nights at St. Mary’s Retreat Center near Monteagle. At camp, the boys ran twice each day, attended workshops, played volleyball, and competed in the ‘Gallon Challenge.’

The competitive season began in mid-September with the varsity running in the Trinity Invitational in Louisville, Ky., and the JV running against varsity competition in Nashville at the Tennessee Classic. Peters led the way for the varsity, with Eric Anderson (’14) surprisingly close in a career best time. The first weekend of competition was also the first real look at this year’s large and talented freshman class with three freshmen competing with the varsity in Louisville and several others facing varsity competition in Nashville. One week later, 18 MBA runners competed in the Gatorland Run in Bowling Green, Ky., winning a close race over eventual Division II state champion Brentwood Academy. Peters was the individual winner, and junior Alex Smith finished fourth with his best performance of the season.
Throughout September, the JV competed each week in the Vaughn’s Creek Cross Country Conference. The final meet of the VCCCC series coincided with the annual Tour de Pants, and MBA won the conference finale even though its runners were completing a tempo workout for stage two of the Tour instead of racing. Myles Anderson won the Tour de Pants, making him the third member of the Class of 2012 to claim the coveted prize. Following the tour, 15 runners traveled to Hoover, Ala., for the Southeast XC Showdown. Running on the challenging and slow Veterans Park course, MBA finished second behind eventual Alabama state champion Mountain Brook High School.

MBA won the Metro meet for the fifth year in a row; Peters captured the individual title, and all seven MBA runners finished in the top ten. Anthony Swenson ('15) won the JV title as he and runner-up William Snow ('15) led eight MBA runners in the top ten of the JV race; the JV Harriers captured their 34th consecutive Metro title. The last week in October, the JV finished its season against McCallie, Brentwood Academy, Father Ryan, and Ensworth at the Steeplechase. Winning the JV Finale capped an excellent season for the largest and most talented group of young runners in several years, which obviously bodes well for the future.

Going into the state meet, MBA was evenly matched with McCallie and Brentwood Academy; unfortunately, the Big Red fell short of its goal, underperforming at state and finishing third. Tempering the disappointing team result, the tremendous crowd of students, teachers, parents, and alums were able to cheer loudly in recognition of senior Peters and his individual state championship. Peters was the fastest runner in any race of the day, his time of 15:57 making him the only runner to break 16:00 on the Steeplechase course this year. Sophomore Eric Anderson also ran extremely well, finishing third and earning all-state honors. Peters capped off his impressive senior campaign by finishing seventh and earning all-region honors at the Nike Cross National Southeast regional meet in Cary, N.C.

**GOLF**

The 2011 Golf team had a very up and down season with many great successes but ultimately fell short of our ultimate goal. Senior Captains Roe Moore and Austin Doebler led the Big Red. Joining them were fellow seniors Will Peffen and Brandon Saueremann, both of whom proved vital to the success of the team.

The Big Red started the season with a strong showing at the Tullahoma Invitational, finishing second to Brentwood High School. The team next faced off against Ensworth in a two-day Ryder Cup Style match, ultimately won by MBA in decisive fashion. The teams played four best-ball matches on day one, and ended the day even with each team securing two points. The team of Moore and Cal Fisher ('14) won their match when Moore sank a 45-foot eagle put on the 17th hole. The team of Bevan Petrikin ('13) and Peffen won as well. Day two consisted of eight separate single matches that were each worth a point. MBA captured six of the eight matches to secure the win.

As the season progressed MBA paired up with Ensworth to play a duel city Ryder Cup Match against a combined team from Memphis. The MBA-Ensworth combination proved victorious in a match that included some great highlights, such as a Doebler hole-in-one on the 14th hole to win both his individual match and clinch the team competition. Other highlights included Peffen rallying from five holes down through hole nine to winning every hole on the back nine and taking his match 3&2.

A few days before the Regional Tournament, the Big Red turned in their strongest team performance of the year, defeating Brentwood Academy at Richland Country Club with an incredible score of MBA 291 (4 over par) to BA’s 312. The biggest highlight of the day came courtesy of Moore, who recorded a hole-in-one on the second hole. Unable to maintain the momentum from that BA victory, the team fell short at Regionals the next week, barely missing the State Tournament with a fifth place finish. Despite the team disappointment, Saueremann managed to card a 79, qualifying for individual State Tournament.

The team ended the season with a record of 4-4 in head-to-head matches, but also had some great finishes at tournaments throughout the year. The Big Red has a very bright future with some great young talent and will look to improve next season under Petrikin’s senior leadership.
In early November MBA welcomed a team from the Southern Association of Independent Schools/Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SAIS/SACS) for the school’s accreditation visit. A school that is able to achieve accreditation demonstrates a commitment to a process that requires the school to meet a set of rigorous, research-based standards; to engage in a program of continuous school improvement; and to demonstrate quality assurance to its stakeholders through self-evaluation and peer review. SAIS-SACS accreditation provides schools access to an integrated network of services and technical assistance that supports every school’s ability to identify and meet its goals for improving student performance and the teaching and learning process.

Led by Visiting Team Chair Barbara H. Daush, President of St. Agnes Academy & St. Dominic School of Memphis, the five-person team conducted an on-site visit to review MBA’s self-study and standards compliance that was submitted earlier. The team conducted interviews with board members, parents, school personnel, students, and community members; applied the SAIS and SACS standards for accreditation; developed a draft of commendations and recommendations; contributed to the content and focus of the written report; and provided input as to the determination of accreditation.
The team looked at four critical areas in evaluating the school:

1. **PROFILE**: Where is the school today? The PROFILE should include clear, comprehensive information reflecting current student performance data, stakeholder perspectives, community characteristics, and analysis of strengths and limitations in the areas of student learning and school performance.

2. **VISION**: Where does the school want to go? The VISION is a clear, compelling purpose communicated through the school’s vision and mission statements, beliefs, and core values.

3. **PLAN**: What is the plan to get there? The PLAN should be based on an analysis of pertinent data, research of best practices, and alignment with generally accepted expectations for student learning at schools with similar missions.

4. **RESULTS**: How will the school know when it has accomplished its plan? The RESULTS are documented evidence demonstrating successful implementation of strategies that resulted in accomplishment of the school’s mission and student achievement gains related to the school’s mission.

The assessment of MBA’s profile included commendations for “a high level of stability and coherence of culture among the faculty/staff, Board, students, and administration, and staunch support from parents and alumni.” It praised the “high faculty morale and enthusiastic support for the Head of School, reflecting a strong belief in the mission and direction of the institution.” MBA’s Advisory and Big Brother programs were noted to be “beloved by the boys, effectively delivering support and guidance.” The team also found an “impressive range of rigorous academic offerings within a defined curricular framework.”

In looking at the vision for the school, the accreditation team praised “the clarity and coherence of [MBA’s] mission, in particular its ideal of “Gentleman, Scholar, Athlete,” as well as its emphasis on providing a classical education for boys in an environment where young men learn to work hard, celebrate legends, and develop character.” The report continued that the school excels in, “asking timely and important questions about relevance and balance, about how to prepare its students for the 21st century, and about how to align an all-male institution committed to a classical education model with an increasingly connected, complex, dynamic, and diverse world.”
The report noted that MBA’s plan going forward showed “ample evidence of commitment to institutional improvement, both from the recent changes in program and facilities that enhance learning, and from the departmental attention to goals for curricular and pedagogical refinements.” It also recognized “the Steering Committee, under the leadership of [Director of the High School] Rick Seay and the departmental leadership, for working hard to solicit and compile an impressive list of school initiatives.” The report’s final commendation for the plan lauded MBA’s goal of “pondering the questions posed by the Strategic Plan and wisely soliciting from its constituencies feedback on its draft Strategic Plan.”

In the final portion of the review, the team looked for documented evidence that MBA is striving to achieve the goals it has set for itself. The report commended “all key academic and scholastic departments participating in the self-study for investigating ways to improve and advance in the coming years.” The team also was pleased that the school was “beginning the process of identifying measures of accountability for the realization of the eight Pillars in the draft Strategic Plan.”

Perhaps the most impressive thing that the visiting team gathered from their assessment was their conclusion that MBA “students respect and cherish the tradition and culture of the School and are proud to say that they attend Montgomery Bell Academy,” and that “the school has created a competitive school environment in which students feel strongly supported and capable of succeeding both at MBA and beyond.”

The school was also commended for, “recognizing the emergent imperatives associated with the ongoing changes in the world and for imagining and crafting new global programs, international exchanges, and language grants that enable MBA students to have authentic and formative experiences that complement their academic work and prepare them to succeed in college and beyond.”
Under the strong leadership of Service Club Officers David Arteaga, Zach Chen, Augie Houghton, and Austin Doebler, the first semester has offered many opportunities for students to experience the rewards of helping the community. Every class has been busy participating in Loaves and Fishes Meals and Titans Parking, the Second Harvest Food Drive, the Autism Speaks Walk, as well as numerous tutoring projects each week, and various food, clothing, and toy drives before the holidays. New initiatives this fall have included working with the Hands On Nashville Work Day, the School for the Blind Track Meet, and helping the Fannie Battle Day Home for Children move to their new location.

In November, the school took part in the MBA Wounded Warrior Service Project to raise money and awareness of wounded U.S. servicemen and women who selflessly give of themselves to protect our freedoms. Upon leaving their tour of duty, oftentimes injuries sustained during a war result in the need for counseling, mental treatment, and medical care. These support services are essential in the transition back into society. The Wounded Warrior Project (WWP) is a national non-profit organization that was created by veterans to address, support, honor, and empower our wounded warriors during this time of need. In late October, with Veterans Day approaching, Miles Curry, sophomore at MBA, believed the timing could not be better to launch a service project to help raise awareness and funds for WWP. Thus, the Wounded Warrior Advisory and Student Challenge was launched on October 31, 2011 and ran through Veterans Day, November 11, 2011. MBA school officials, administration, faculty, advisors, students, and parents rallied in support of this worthy project. As a result, their efforts raised nearly $10,000 in just two short weeks! Needless to say, the challenge was an amazing success at MBA. This was an incredible demonstration of how the entire MBA family came together to make a difference in the lives of our heroes and heroines locally and around the world.

With over 2,000 hours of work this semester, many MBA students have certainly made serving the community a high priority. In the new year, the Service Club looks forward to continuing these efforts, as well as working with Urban Housing Solutions on “Last Saturday of the Month” dinners and with Better World Books on recycling efforts.
RACE for the CURE

Komen for the Cure is the global leader of the breast cancer movement, having invested more than $1 billion since its inception in 1982. Komen’s promise is to save lives and end breast cancer forever by empowering people, ensuring quality care for all, and energizing science to find the cures. At MBA, we believe it is important for boys to be involved in that fight, and last fall we once again showed our dedication to that effort.

The MBA Race for the Cure team, led by a committee of students, faculty, and parents, began its work in September with hopes of building on the success of previous years by increasing awareness, participation, and the amount of money raised. Towards these goals we made great strides.

• In late September we hosted Our Mission in Motion, a mobile unit which performed screening mammograms right here on The Hill. In one day 37 women benefitted from this service.

• We sold t-shirts and wristbands designed by senior Eric Walsh.

• A group of boys, led by seniors Hunter Woolwine and Eric Walsh, planned and executed a flash mob in which dozens of students participated. The “mob” ended with the dancers using themselves and fabric to form a large Komen ribbon in the middle of the football field during the MBA vs. Ensworth game. The “mob” was filmed by a crew from Studio Now, the world’s largest and most innovative resource for web-based video creation, which in turn produced a final product raising awareness about Komen for the Cure and advertising MBA’s efforts across the internet.

• Boys participated in a competition to design a label for MBA Bongo Java Blend coffee, which we sold to raise money for the Komen Foundation. Freshman Luke Wooten’s design was chosen as the cover for Coffee for the Cure.

• MBA’s very own bluegrass trio, Boy Named Banjo, performed a benefit concert October 23rd on MBA’s Sloan Quad. The boys gave their time and donated all proceeds to the Komen Foundation.

The race season ended on October 29, when the MBA community showed up in droves at Maryland Farms for the actual Race for the Cure. We topped the charts with the highest participation (having 299 registered participants) and as the lead fundraisers, contributing over $35,000 to the Komen Foundation. Most importantly, we shared a day with those struggling with breast cancer, those celebrating their victory over cancer, and the families of those who lost the fight. We ran, walked, and cheered in their honor.

MBA looks forward to furthering our efforts in 2012. Be sure to visit www.montgomerybell.edu/raceforthecure for information about upcoming events, or contact Annie B. Williams at williaa@montgomerybell.edu to get involved.
In celebration of the dedication of Mary Helen Lowry Hall and Mrs. Lowry's 50 years at MBA, *The Hill* asked the current faculty’s most tenured members to reflect on their years at the school. Between the eight of them, they share a total of 251 years teaching at MBA.

Scan this QR code and see the video “Remembering Wallace Hall”, which includes an interview and surprise ending with Mr. Gaither! Or go to www.montgomerybell.edu and click on the Media Gallery.
Latin II (H), Latin III; Language Department Chair; The Bell Ringer sponsor; 11th Grade Class Chair

University of Tennessee, B.A., English/Latin; Univ. of Tennessee, M.A., Classical Languages

Years at MBA: 40

What attracted you to MBA back in 1971?
I grew up on Brighton Road, right behind MBA. I had cousins who attended MBA. So, I was very familiar with the school from my earliest years. After I returned from Vietnam and was working on a master’s degree, Mr. Carter called the head of the Department of Classics, who just happened to be the head of my graduate committee, to ask if there was a young, male, potential Latin teacher in his program. Dr. Rutledge passed the message to me, and I contacted Mr. Carter.

What about teaching in general - and teaching at MBA specifically - has kept you here for this long?
First, I genuinely believe that the study of Latin is essential to composing and articulating thoughts. I think that what I am doing is important. I feel, therefore, as though I am almost on a mission. I enjoy bringing to young people words and ideas and history which they may never have seen or considered before.

I have stayed at MBA for over 40 years because the administration has never interfered with the teacher’s efforts, unless, of course, there may be some sort of real problem with the teacher. The administration has always allowed the teacher to be himself in the classroom. MBA has a culture of excellence which I have always supported and which I see manifested in so many ways by so many of the elements of MBA — the teachers, the students, the coaches, etc. Working in such an environment where everyone wants to do his best cannot be matched in many other jobs. This is the reason I have not left MBA. It is just such a delight to come to work each day to be a part of the common mission and of the tradition.
Jim Womack

Art History (AP), Studio Art I, Studio Art II, Jackson Family Chair, Visual & Performing Arts Department Chair

Davidson College, B.A.; Virginia Commonwealth University, M.A.

Years at MBA: 32

What brought you to MBA?
To put it bluntly, it was a job, and one where I could teach art history. I had no clue of what I was really getting myself into at MBA. I knew nothing about MBA or even Nashville for that matter. After graduating from VCU with a Masters in Art History, I found a teaching job at the Glade Valley School in North Carolina. In the mountains of North Carolina, Glade Valley was a tiny Presbyterian boarding school for students who had difficulties with the traditional structure of school among other issues. By December, I knew that the life at a boarding school was not for my family or me.

I came in the spring of 1979, interviewed, and Mike Drake, acting headmaster at the time, hired me.

What about teaching in general - and teaching at MBA specifically - has kept you here?
It is not a question of whether to stay or go as much as it is a question of me being able to continue to grow and learn as both a person and professional. In doing so, I become a better teacher. From the beginning, opportunities were open to me that forced me to broaden my perspectives and enrich my experience of teaching art history. Likewise, I was constantly challenged in the classroom by students capable of teaching me, making wonderful connections with ideas and other images in art that I never considered before. Over the years, that has not changed. How rewarding it is to look back on the completion of a school year and recall the individual struggles, the individual discoveries, and the successes in each class that led to students taking ownership over this material. I may have difficulty remembering names, but not the experience. I’ll finally be able to give you a definitive answer to “what kept me here,” when I finally decide to leave.
American History (AP), World History (AP), American History

Carson-Newman College, B.A.; University of Tennessee, M.A.

Years at MBA: 33

How did you get your start at MBA?
Mike Drake brought me to MBA back in the summer of 1978, and just in time. I had just gotten out of grad school at the University of Tennessee, and with a pregnant wife, was desperate for a job. I had already accepted a job at a small private high school in northern Louisiana (the name of the school escapes me) when Mike called me. I was working for the federal government/Disability Determination Section/Social Security. He needed a freshman football coach (to work with a guy named Mike Caldwell) and a history teacher. I had never coached football (I played in high school and college) and had taught only adult education in Metro (briefly). I’ve been here ever since.

What has kept you here?
I stayed because I love the field of history and really enjoy working with (mostly) highly self-motivated students. I try to impart that love of history to my students, along with helping them achieve the essential tool of mastering factual information in order to analyze and interpret the evidence. I try to emphasize that the study of history is, as much as anything, a debate about what happened in the past, its significance on succeeding generations, and whether or not the past is really the past (how it continues to affect us in the present). Overall I have found MBA to be a great place to work.
Palmore

English IV (AP), English I

University of Tennessee, B.A., English; University of Tennessee, M.S., English Education

Years at MBA: 30

What brought you to MBA?
My husband Buddy was working for South Central Bell, and he was transferred near the end of the summer in 1981 to Nashville. At the time we were living in Clarksville, and I had been home with our son for two years after teaching for eight years in Knoxville. With the move to Nashville, I decided it was time to go back to work, so I sent letters to a number of schools here explaining my qualifications and asking if a job were available. Fortunately, my letter arrived at MBA just after an English teacher had resigned. After interviews with Mrs. Lowry and Mr. Gordon Bondurant, the current headmaster, I was hired.

What do you love about teaching?
First, even though this comment probably sounds melodramatic, I’ve always felt I was meant to be a teacher. Teaching has given me the opportunity to interact with hundreds, maybe even thousands of teens. At my college commencement, the president of the university said in his address, “Try to touch one life each day.” That advice has been my lodestar because teaching provides so many ways to touch lives and even change lives.

What has kept you at MBA?
Teaching at MBA is utopia for me because we have the best of all possible worlds. Having taught in public schools, I’m aware of the differences between public and independent education; however, we have something special here with an all male enrollment. Although I was initially dubious about teaching only boys, I’ve found the experience to be very rewarding, and I’ve enjoyed my years here tremendously. MBA has excellent students, outstanding facilities, a remarkable faculty and staff, a sound curriculum, and demanding expectations. To be part of the formative years of a young man’s life as he experiences an MBA education is a joy for me, and I’m grateful for all the years I’ve been here.
Algebra II, Calculus BC (AP), Computer Science (AP)

Varsity Track

Davidson College, B.S., Mathematics; Duke University, M.A.T., Mathematics; Tennessee State University, M.B.A.

Years at MBA: 43

How did you become a teacher at MBA?
The introduction from Jay Bowen ('67) of Nashville, I met Francis Carter, then the Headmaster of MBA, when he visited Camp Greenbrier in Alderson, W. Va., where Jay and I were working as counselors during the summer of 1967. I asked him about a teaching job at MBA after I graduated from Davidson in the summer of 1968. He suggested that I write him a letter, which I did. He flew me to Nashville during homecoming weekend in October 1967 and offered me a contract around Christmas. I promptly accepted. I majored in math at Davidson and had taken 18 hours of education, including student teaching. I had done a lot of math tutoring at the camp during the previous summers, so I had decided that I wanted to try this as a career choice.

What about teaching in general - and teaching at MBA specifically - has kept you here?
I had taught at MBA about five years when my wife, Jo Lynn, and I considered moving back to North Carolina or Virginia to be closer to where both of our parents were living. I visited about seven private schools in the Charlotte, Durham, Roanoke, Richmond, and Norfolk area. Once I had visited these other private schools, I realized what a good place MBA was to teach and Nashville such a good city to raise a family. I realized that the quality of students and the facilities provided here taken overall were better than any of the other schools that I had visited. I was comfortable at MBA and really have not considered leaving since then.
**Robert Pruitt**

**Biology, Environmental Science (AP), Head Varsity Track Coach, Varsity Cross Country**

**Vanderbilt, B.A., Biology; Tennessee State, M.S., Agriculture**

**Years at MBA: 33**

**What brought you to MBA?**

I had made friends with T. Michael Drake through coaching Cross Country and Track. I was at BGA teaching Biology. In addition to coaching, Mr. Drake was also the MBA Assistant Headmaster. During the winter of '77-'78, both he and my mother-in-law, Jeannine Bowers (teaching French at MBA), told me that a Mr. Kevin Harkey, one of the two Biology teachers, was leaving MBA. Mrs. Bowers convinced me that MBA was a better fit, and I interviewed with Headmaster Francis Carter during Spring Break of 1978. Bringing me on board was the last hire that Mr. Carter ever made. He died of complications of elective surgery that summer, and Mr. Drake became Acting Headmaster.

**What is it about MBA that has enticed you to stay for 33 years?**

MBA is likely one of the few schools in Nashville where I should be able to count on each year having at least a few students that are smarter than I am. While I have a few students each year smarter than I am, I need to make sure that none of them know more Biology than I do. That will keep you on your toes, and makes it even more important to keep current in your subject. Genetically modified organisms, stem cell technology, and who has the right to your DNA are examples of subjects that should be of interest to us all. Bright MBA students want to know about these topics. Helping them make decisions based on sound science and not Internet or TV voodoo is important.

**What about teaching has kept you engaged for so long?**

Biology is the study of life. Who couldn’t love that? Biology has changed over the last 40 years from a mainly descriptive science to one of molecules and cells. It explains so much about how life has changed over the history of the earth, and seems with each passing discovery to increase the awe and wonder we all feel for the living world. For some subjects the course matter is static. In Biology, we teach things unheard of 50 years ago, and do labs with ninth graders that people were winning Nobel Prizes for when I was in college. Trying to help students see the wonder in that is a continuous and changing goal of mine.
Ed Gaffney

**Latin (AP), Classical Greek (H), Latin I, Website Content Manager, Cum Laude Society, Jr. Honor Society**

**Vanderbilt University, B.A., Latin; Vanderbilt University, M.A., Latin; Vanderbilt University, Ph.D., Classical Studies**

**Years at MBA: 35**

**What brought you to MBA?**
I had just finished my Ph.D. in March, after the university hiring period was over (in a year when jobs were not easily to be had anywhere), and MBA called the Classics Department at Vanderbilt in late May to see if there was someone who would be interested in teaching the following September. I took the position then thinking I would give it a year or two. I knew right away, though, that I was in a very special place here at MBA. Mr. Carter wanted to start the AP Latin program at MBA, so I did that and taught all the eighth-grade Latin I. With amazing colleagues, good administrators, and fantastic students, I realized pretty quickly that I had found a wonderful fit.

**What is it about MBA that has kept you here this long?**
The fact that I have been privileged to serve in several roles at MBA, always teacher first, but ten years as Principal of the Junior School, four years as Department Chair, and eight years as Academic Dean, and 16 years as website content manager, has let me see the school’s growth from many different perspectives and has confirmed my early hunch that I have been lucky to be associated with this special place.

**What do you love about teaching?**
I love teaching. Most of the time I can’t believe I actually get paid to do what I do! The collaboration that has to exist between teacher and students (both individually and a class as a whole) is such a magical thing. Teaching is not always easy, but I can’t think of anything more rewarding than to see students come out of a course knowing something truly greater than they knew coming in.
What brought you to MBA?
I was finishing up at Vanderbilt when Whitney Kemper, MBA’s soccer coach at the time, decided not to return to the school and asked if I would be interested in taking over the job. I accepted and was soon teaching at MBA and coaching the soccer team with Mike Drake.

What has kept you at MBA for 35 years?
I was initially attracted by the chance to be a head coach and to pass my love of soccer on to the boys at MBA. I considered the opportunity at such a young age to be a privilege. In addition, the small size of the school was also very appealing to me. I was also drawn to the emphasis that MBA has always placed on academics. I’ve greatly enjoyed my time at MBA.
2011 saw more MBA students than ever enjoy educational experiences abroad thanks to the school’s International Exchange Program and language grants made possible by the bequest of David K. Wilson (W ’37).

MBA students who took part in the International Exchange included:

Paul Brazil at Eton (United Kingdom)

Robert Hoover, Baker Swain, and Gray Curtis at Winchester (United Kingdom)

Jake McDonald, Jack Whitson, and Edward Wilson at Melbourne Grammar School (Australia)

Myles Anderson and Marshall Sorenson at King’s College (Australia)

Jamie Bradshaw and Gray Jones at Lindisfarne (New Zealand)

Blake Burns and Clay Cauble at Michaelhouse (South Africa)

The Wilson Foreign Language Grants sent more than two-dozen students across the globe to immerse themselves in the language and culture of their host countries.

Wilson Grant recipients included:

Argentina: Harris Elledge

Chile: Trent Holbrook

China: John Mark Bellet, Hayden Deakins, Rett Hooper, Andrew Karpos, John Mellow, Eric Walsh

France: Aaron Ardisson, Noah Fardon, Lucas Littlejohn, Daniel Mace, Wesley Nealy, Henry Richardson

Spain: Preston Evans, Barry Goldsmith, McLean Hudson, Jake Macey

Germany: Chris Habermann

Germany & Czech Republic: John Bradshaw, Paul Brazil

Honduras: Preston Palm

Italy: William Reames, Kevin Wang

Peru: Matt Anderson
ABROAD

Africa
(Adam Hobbs)

Daniel Bellet
New Zealand
Out Of Town Events

D.C.

DelMar

N.Y.C.
Atlanta
On December 1, members of the MBA Class of 2013 gathered in the Paschall Theater to receive their class rings. The MBA Ring Ceremony, now in its 17th year, has quickly become one of the more meaningful traditions for MBA students and their families. Each junior was presented his ring by a representative of the senior class, a group that included Joe Barry, Weston Bell, Adam Cornett, Alex Kohls, Daniel Mace, Sam Martin, Bryan Oslin, Brandon Sauerman, and Will Sullivan. If the recipient is the son of an alumnus, his father can present the ring.

The 2011 ceremony featured an address by Kempton Presley (’99), who offered reflections on his time at MBA and how the school community became such an important part of his life. He encouraged the recipients to look outside themselves and pass along the good things they have received from their MBA experience.
It is an honor to be here with you for this special occasion. When Mr. Gioia first asked me to speak to you today, naturally, I began to reflect on my time here at MBA and my high school years in general. It is amazing to me how many more things make sense now than they did then.

At his well-circulated Stanford commencement address, Steve Jobs explained, “You can’t connect the dots looking forward; you can only connect them looking backwards. So you have to trust that the dots will somehow connect in your future.” I can really appreciate the truth in that statement, and you will, too.

When I see you, your families, and your teachers as I stand within these walls, I quickly am able to return to where I was 15 years ago. I had many of the same worries you have — grades, girls, college, being cool, etc. My focus was very much inward. But we will get more into that momentarily.

As a student at MBA, you have an incredible opportunity. You have worked really hard to get where you are. Your families, teachers, and coaches have invested their time and energy to help you grow and embrace what life has to offer.

It might be your sister who stops practicing piano so that you can study.

Or it might be your brother who comes to all of your games, but never gets to play.

Many people make sacrifices to ensure your long-term success; they keep promising you that it will all be worth it someday; they are proud of you; they can see those dots ahead even when you cannot; and you will appreciate them more and more throughout your lives. Again, you are in a great place here at MBA. Not everyone has this opportunity.

My brother James wasn’t able to attend MBA. In fact, he didn’t attend high school or make it too far beyond the second grade. While he looks just like you and me, James has an intellectual disability that makes his life very different from ours.

Can he drive a car? No.

Can he read? Not really.

Will he ever be able to live on his own? Probably not.

However…

Can he hear a song once and memorize it? Yes. Does he have four girlfriends (one of whom is 25 years his senior)? Uh huh.

Does he say what everyone else wants to say? Yep.

Does he change the perspective of everyone around him? Pretty much.

Again, when I was in your shoes, so much of my focus was inward: “Will I finish my Latin homework?” “Will I get into college?” “Will I be able to cut enough weight to eat Skittles and still wrestle in my match?” “Will that girl ever call me back?”

You know, that kind of “stuff” that is probably running through your heads right now, understandably. My focus was inward and small worries often blinded my perspective. Again, I couldn’t see the dots and didn’t trust that they would connect.

Given the typical concerns of being in high school, I didn’t really know how to appreciate my brother James, much less incorporate him into my life. Having a younger sibling can seem embarrassing at times, regardless of their situation. Having a younger brother with disabilities was hard to understand and harder to explain.

Once again, it was all about me, and how James’ situation would make me look, while he was dealing with more difficult questions such as: “Why can’t I go to a normal school?”

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"AS A STUDENT AT MBA, YOU HAVE AN INCREDIBLE OPPORTUNITY. YOU HAVE WORKED REALLY HARD TO GET WHERE YOU ARE. YOUR FAMILIES, TEACHERS, AND COACHES HAVE INVESTED THEIR TIME AND ENERGY TO HELP YOU GROW AND EMBRACE WHAT LIFE HAS TO OFFER."
“Will I get beat up when I go to my special school?” “How come I have to take these medicines all the time?” “Why don’t I have any friends?”

Eventually, as I grew up a bit more, and started driving and going out more with my own friends, I was saddened when I would get ready to leave the house and James would ask if he could go with us. He didn’t have any plans for the night, but I would still normally have to say no. “What a pain that would be to take him out with me! After all, there were going to be girls there!”

“With so many gifts and the world at your fingertips, you will be tremendous leaders and will continue to be called to help others.”

Finally, I couldn’t take it anymore, and I said with trepidation, “Yes, James you can come out with us tonight.” That opened the floodgates!

At first, people didn’t know what to think.

“Who is this kid that keeps telling my girlfriend she is beautiful?”

“Who is this guy that drinks all of the cokes in our fridge?”

“Why’s Kempton’s little brother always asking if I will buy him toys?”

“Who is this guy that tells his brother and little sister that he loves them in public?”

However, slowly but surely, it became a lot more fun to take James out with us. People began to know him and got used to his quirks and they even became addicted to them! He’d be a staple at parties and events, we would be quoting him at school, and my friends would be a staple at parties and events, we would be and they even became addicted to them! He’d began to know him and got used to his quirks more fun to take James out with us. People However, slowly but surely, it became a lot more fun to take James out with us. People

Thinking back, my situation is really not unique. I didn’t do anything special. We all have “James’s” in our lives. People who seem to need our help, but who actually end up helping us.

Maybe it is that nervous mom on the first day of school, who hands her son over to you as his Big Brother. Comfort her. Tell her you were in the same boat not too long ago!

Maybe it is that teacher or coach who you can tell is having a tough time. Encourage your classmates to respect them and help them with what they are trying to do for you.

You’ll become outward-focused and your own troubles will start to fade away. In other words, a few James’s can help you start connecting the dots.

The good times with James would continue for a while until it became time to begin the next chapter in life. My senior superlative had been “most likely to take his brother to college.” However, when it became time for me to go off, James couldn’t go. All of a sudden, with all of his friends gone, he was thrust back to a world without a community of peers. It didn’t make sense to him. While we were all off having a good time and moving forward, he began to regress — gaining weight, not wanting to leave the house, and becoming depressed. He didn’t understand what had happened to his social life. He was dealing with inward struggles. The dots were, once again, out of alignment.

However, the dots would come back together. James, who had brought so much to our family, our community of friends, and I would like to think, to the MBA community, got picked up by one of its own members. Barry Banker, a great MBA alum whom many of you may know, partnered with his wife’s family to lead a school in Kentucky for adults with special needs.

Sacrificing time and energy, Barry has poured himself into that school and helped to serve many special people. He has dedicated his career to an outward cause, and in turn, has a sense of fulfillment that is contagious. At that point when James was really struggling, Barry brought him in. James moved to Kentucky, and all of a sudden was back in a social network. Now he considers his school to be his college and his home. He is learning many new skills, was crowned homecoming king, and again has multiple ladies in his life. The dots are now back in check.

When you get your rings today, you will put them on with the waffle facing toward you. You will continue to work hard until next spring and continue to develop as gentlemen, scholars, athletes, and/or artists — a lot of inward growth — which is still important. Then you will walk across that stage to get your diploma and turn your ring upside down with the waffle facing toward the world — outward. With so many gifts and the world at your fingertips, you will be tremendous leaders and will continue to be called upon to help others. As you look around this room, you know the community of people that has been willing to help you is unbelievable and you will pay that forward.

I am telling you you’ve got to think outward! And the dots will connect.

Thank you.

Wilson and Jody Johnson (’79)

The Hill • Fall/Winter 2011-2012
On January 26, 2012, members of the MBA Board of Trustees, friends of the school, and special guests gathered for the dedication of Mary Helen Lowry Hall. The 42,000 square-foot classroom building is named in memory of Mrs. Lowry and her 50-year career as an English teacher on The Hill.

Renowned Shakespeare authority Dr. Ann Cook Calhoun offered a talk to celebrate Lowry’s love for the Bard of Avon. Afterwards, MBA Board of Trustees Chairman Jimmy Webb ('66) and Capital Campaign Chairman Jake Wallace ('48) cut the ribbon to officially open the building.

Lowry Hall features 15 classrooms with sweeping views of Kingfisher Creek and the south side of campus; the Dead Poets Society Room – a lecture hall dedicated to the spoken word; a debate center; a student center; and a new home for the Big Red Store, student publications, the service club, and technology.
A Balanced Vision, MBA's Capital Campaign, seeks to ensure that the school provides the quality of teaching, facilities, and financial resources for generations to come. Opportunities include Davis Building renovations for music and drama, endowment, financial aid, construction of a lodge and cabins at Long Mountain, planned giving, and completion of Mary Helen Lowry Hall, and a new dining hall. For information on how you can contribute to A Balanced Vision, please contact Jenny Hannon, Director of Alumni & Development, at 615-369-5360, or jenny.hannon@montgomerybell.edu
Nearly 100 college-age alumni packed the Paschall Theater on the Wednesday before Thanksgiving to catch up, enjoy a home-cooked meal, and to pass on news from campuses across the country. Headmaster Brad Gioia and Assistant Director for Alumni Relations Alex Dean (’93) welcomed the young men back to MBA and shared some of the events of the past semester.
On a chilly November morning on the Wednesday before Thanksgiving, close to 250 students, alums, and their fathers gathered for the Fathers of Alumni Breakfast in the Paschall Theater. In an event that has become increasingly popular, NFL Hall of Fame receiver Raymond Berry treated the guests to a talk about his life in football and beyond.

Berry shared his memories of his time in the NFL with legend John Unitas and their two NFL championships with the Baltimore Colts. He also detailed how he helped build the New England Patriots into the 1985 AFC Champions after taking over as head coach in the middle of the previous season.

Berry related how the lessons of discipline, hard work, and truthfulness that he learned from his father — himself a legendary high school coach in Texas — have served him in whatever task he has undertaken.
"You can’t turn on the television without seeing something about the environment or sustainability," says William Hastings (’90), Chief Executive Officer of Hastings Architecture Associates. "A lot of people talk the talk, but do not necessarily walk the walk." Commuters driving past 4001 Harding Road over the last year have certainly been able to notice all of the construction on The Hill. What has been less obvious, and quite literally lying beneath the surface, are systems designed to conserve environmental resources while also, in many cases, lowering long-term costs. As the lead architect for new construction at MBA, Hastings has been able to directly contribute to his alma mater’s aim to act consistently with its goal of environmental stewardship. MBA has been truly blessed with a campus rife with natural and architectural beauty. The Kingfisher Creek on the east side of campus is a tranquil reminder of MBA’s heritage as “The Country School for The City Boy.” Confronted with the need for modest expansion and modernization, MBA Headmaster Brad Gioia, the school’s Board of Trustees, and a host of engineering and architectural professionals, have set out to implement environmentally sustainable systems and set an example for how environmental and fiscal stewardship can be unified in one vision.

**Geothermal Heating and Cooling**

When engineer Rob Barrick (’70) spoke to MBA students at assembly about geothermal heating and cooling, he explained that an understanding of geothermal heating and cooling must begin with an overview of the three laws of thermodynamics:

1. **The total amount of energy in the universe is constant. Matter and energy are conserved.**
2. **Disorder in the Universe always increases. Heat always moves to cold.**
3. **All molecular movement stops at absolute zero (-273 degrees centigrade).**

In Dr. Jim Dickens’ or Dr. Gabe Carro’s physics classes, students may sometimes wonder why the laws of thermodynamics are so important; however, they need go no further than Lowry Hall to experience the fruits of such knowledge. Barrick and his company, Smith, Seckman, Reid, Inc., have helped MBA implement a geothermal heating and cooling system with an aim at lowering utility costs, reducing MBA’s total energy footprint, and pioneering sustainable energy in the Nashville community.

MBA’s “lower field” along Harding Road has been the long-time home of lacrosse practice and other school activities. However, last year the earth beneath the surface of the field became the epicenter for the school’s geothermal system. Eighty holes were drilled to a depth of 500 feet and filled with a closed loop pipe system. Water is run through the pipes and serves as a vehicle through which energy is transferred between a heat pump and the earth. As disorder increases at the molecular level, heat moves from a higher temperature to a lower temperature. This concept allows for the water in the pipe to act as a direct heat exchange with the earth.

In the winter, water moves through the pipe system and is warmed to 55º before it is brought back to the heat pump inside Lowry Hall. While 55º may seem too low a temperature to be useful in heating a building, because the water is still well above absolute zero, it still contains a significant amount of heat. Through the work of a compressor, heat from the 55º water is extracted and increased to a comfortable temperature around 70º, then distributed throughout the building. While traditional heating systems require both natural gas and electricity to heat the indoor air, this geothermal system merely requires a small amount...
electricity to run the heat pump, thus creating a considerable savings.

In the summer, this process is reversed. Barrick explains that an evaporator "extracts heat from one surface [the indoor air] and pulls it to another [the water in the pipe system]." Every time you have shivered stepping out of the shower you have experienced this very same reaction. Water evaporating from the surface of your skin extracts heat from your body, causing a chill even on a warm morning. The closed loop piping system then carries the heat below the surface to be absorbed by the cooler ground. A kitchen refrigerator utilizes this same process. Heat is extracted from the food inside the refrigerator using an evaporator and then is transferred to the outside air, providing many a family pet with wintertime relief from cold floors.

The initial investment required for a geothermal system often dissuades potential users. However, the drastically reduced utility costs for geothermal makes it a very attractive investment for organizations such as academic institutions with lasting plans for buildings. The geothermal heating and cooling system constituted an increased cost of approximately 15 percent beyond a traditional system, yet MBA's Building and Grounds Committee anticipates the geothermal system will more than pay for itself within ten years based on the savings in natural gas and electricity usage. Recent reductions in natural gas prices could potentially extend the timeline by several years; however, the reduced maintenance required for geothermal systems, coupled with the enduring nature of MBA's buildings, make the long-term viability of this investment a forgone conclusion.

The value of the geothermal system certainly goes far beyond the bottom line. As a prominent academic institution, MBA is poised to model the value of geothermal technology and encourage other Nashville organizations to implement similar systems. As Barrick notes, "taking a leadership role in energy conservation is the right thing to do." He added that MBA is "setting an example for the community for how to be a sustainable organization."

**Bio Swales and Pervious Pavement**

Two major environmental problems can arise from the presence of a parking lot. First, storm water, which would have otherwise been absorbed evenly throughout an entire vegetated area, collects on the surface of the parking lot and flows to one central waterway via a storm drain. This standard system is also known as a directly connected impervious surface. The concentration of storm water often contributes to downstream flooding and erosion. The second problem is more subtle, but equally pervasive. Automobile pollutants, such as motor oil, inevitably accumulate on the surface of a parking lot as they leak from parked cars. While these pollutants cause little threat in dry conditions, they can become a serious environmental hazard during a rain storm. Storm water washes these pollutants into drainage systems ferrying them directly to local waterways and harming local eco-systems and wildlife. Civil engineer Dan Barge ('74) and landscape architect Joe Hodgson have helped implement solutions to both of these problems using natural and sustainable techniques.

Ever the educator at heart, Gioia has seized an opportunity for future scientific learning and research to be coupled with MBA's new water management systems. He explains, "we have made decisions about the buildings and the landscape so that the environment is better, more sustainable, and educationally important to both our students and faculty and staff." Rather than apply one single water purification structure, landscape architects and engineers intentionally installed a variety of water management systems across campus. As a result, MBA faculty and students will soon be able to conduct environmental science experiments testing the long-term efficacy of these various water management methods without even needing to leave The Hill.

Also known as bio-filters, bio-swales are vegetated depressions along roads and parking lots designed to retain storm water and subsequently filter out harmful particulates. MBA's bio-swales appear to be nothing more than medians in the gym parking lot; however, in many cases they dip down two-to-three feet creating small gullies. Contour lines and breaks in the curbs in help guide water to these swales which subsequently deposit the water into the ground. Pollutants are separated, deposited into the soil and decompose over time with the assistance of natural bacteria inherent in healthy soil. Underground filters further purify the quality of water before it follows a series of pipes to Kingfisher Creek.

As tennis spectators arrive at MBA and park in the south parking lot, they will notice a dual surface of asphalt and a concrete material appearing much more like a sponge than a slab of concrete. This "pervious concrete" is manufactured by denying the majority of fine aggregate material used in standard concrete. The result is a more porous or "pervious" surface allowing water to flow through the surface of the parking lot directly to the soil below. Pervious concrete coupled with a similar system using
brick pavers has allowed for the direct flow of storm water to the soil across campus and further management of water quantity and quality as it leaves the school’s property.

**Water Conservation**
While excavating on the east side of campus in preparation for the new parking garage, workers unexpectedly discovered a spring with tens of thousands of gallons of water. Knowing much of the water would need to be removed in order to continue construction, engineers implemented a solution that has turned out to be another success in environmental conservation. The Building and Grounds Committee approved the installation of a water pump system and a 10,000 gallon cistern for the main level of the parking deck. The system now draws from both groundwater below the deck and rain water from the soccer field above. The cistern now provides all irrigation water for the northeast corner of campus without the need for additional water purchased from the city of Nashville. While the exact pay-off timeline for the cistern is not yet clear, the benefits of this investment are plainly visible. Water bills at the school have been reduced by an estimated five percent every month and MBA is continuing to thoughtfully consider how to further increase the efficiency of water usage on campus.

**LEED Certification and Beyond**
When plans for Lowry Hall formalized, Gioia and the entire Board of Trust set out to achieve a LEED certification to acknowledge the great lengths to which the school has taken to use sustainable techniques and materials in the building process. LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) is a rating system developed by the U.S. Green Building Council to provide careful inspection and verification of green building practices from an independent organization. As environmental sustainability has been elevated in our society’s consciousness over the past few years, many product marketers have stamped words like “organic” throughout grocery stores with little-to-no accountability of what exactly “organic” actually means. The LEED certification ensures a standardized process and guidelines to which organizations such as MBA can follow and the public can trust. In the coming months the USGBC will complete this process for MBA with an anticipated Gold or Silver rating. As the new Wallace Hall is built throughout 2012, MBA will continue to pursue a balanced vision of environmental and fiscal responsibility. Reflecting on the work completed so far, Gioia says, “one of my greatest pleasures in seeing this work done so far is the natural beauty now evident on the east side of the campus as well as the return of a number of wildlife, such as families of ducks and herons. We are proud that we have made these decisions to improve the campus environmentally.”
Facebook, Twitter, Foursquare, LinkedIn, YouTube, blogs, and Ustream — MBA, a 145-year-old institution built on tradition, is diving headfirst into the New Media Era. Fading quickly are the days of receiving news from a newspaper, or communicating by phone. Snail mail has been replaced by email, which is becoming more and more outdated, too. New media, also known as social media, has taken over, and MBA is on the cutting edge of high schools using this new form of communication.

New media is an interactive form of instantaneous communication that meets on-demand and social needs. New media is engaging. It’s viral. It’s accessible, and it’s interactive. Elijah Reynolds (‘99) was named Director of New Media in the spring of 2011. He feels that interaction through social media can offer a clear window into daily campus life. Elijah also sees social media as a key way to build community. “Alumni can stay connected and prospective parents can make new connections with the school. Social media also gives everyone else a chance to advocate for the school. Through guest blog posts or comments on the fan page (for example), people can share their own stories about MBA — this media offers everyone in the MBA community a chance to participate, not just those working on campus. I love this new space for telling the stories that could fall through the cracks otherwise.” He has been eager to pursue MBA’s opportunities in this relatively new communication space.

With over a fifth of all web traffic spent on social sites, it makes sense that MBA would use new media to communicate with people already on these sites. They are used to engage the rapidly growing number of parents, alumni, and constituents who use these outlets; to tell stories that don’t qualify as “news” but are still interesting, compelling, inspiring, or funny; to help people find specific content on the MBA website; to report updates of athletic contests; or to capture the intangible or inexpressible aspects of campus life and school culture.

In less than one year, Reynolds has ushered MBA into this brave new media world using the following social sites:

**Facebook** — The Facebook fan page serves as the hub of MBA’s social media sites. The fan page is instrumental in promoting alumni in the news, school news, on and off campus events, athletic events, assembly speakers, contests, or pointing people to MBA’s blog. Even if you don’t have a Facebook account, you can still see the posts. If you “like” the fan page, you’ll get updates about MBA right in your Facebook feed.

In addition, MBA also has a profile page that is used for participating in conversations of interest, sending out birthday wishes, thanking donors for gifts, and finding friends.

**The Waffle Iron Blog** — Using the tagline, “All the best of MBA smashed into one delicious blog.” The Waffle Iron has paid tribute to O’Neal (‘84), gives up-to-the-minute scores feed, controlled by Athletic Director Scott Reynolds (elijah.reynolds@montgomery-bell.edu) if you have suggestions for future posts or if you would like to write a guest post.

**Twitter** — MBA has two Twitter feeds. The first feed, controlled by Reynolds, is used primarily to connect people with school news and the latest posts on The Waffle Iron. The second feed, controlled by Athletic Director Scott O’Neal (‘84), gives up-to-the-minute scores and updates for certain athletic contests. Many people are in the habit of checking their Facebook or Twitter feeds first thing in the morning and throughout the day. These two sites serve as a great way to make a quick connection with MBA.

**YouTube** — The YouTube channel hosts short video clips of all things MBA: pep rallies, speakers, musical performances, athletic highlights, play teasers, poetry contests, and even a time-lapse movie of Lowry Hall being erected. Longer videos are available on the media library on the MBA website.

**LinkedIn** — The LinkedIn group helps alumni network with each other and promotes news related to professional networking. The LinkedIn community has even been helpful in finding speakers and volunteers for MBA’s annual Career Day for seniors.

**Foursquare** — Although MBA has not actively utilized Foursquare yet, it will soon be used to increase attendance at school events by creating rewards like t-shirts or free concessions for campus visits. Foursquare can help make attending events more social, competitive, and incentivized.

Foursquare allows people to send out a mass message to others about their current whereabouts. It also serves as a free promotion or advertisement for businesses. Businesses, in turn, provide incentives for patrons who “check in” using Foursquare. This same idea can apply to schools to bolster attendance and call attention to events involving the school.

**Google+** — Keep your eye on this upstart social network. MBA has a presence there for those who have ventured there already.

**Ustream** — This streaming video site has already been used to broadcast MBA’s College Essay contest. In the future, it will be used to broadcast assemblies, athletic signings and events, or lecture series in real time.

Facebook fan page: www.facebook.com/rollredroll
YouTube: www.youtube.com/rollredfilms
Waffle Iron: www.waffleironblog.com
Twitter: www.twitter.com/montgomerybell
Not being a native Nashvillian, my first direct contact with Montgomery Bell Academy began in 1979 when my son Trey (’83) enrolled as a freshman. My observation of the quality of education offered to him and later to my son John (’90), as well as the emphasis that was placed on character building in its students, fueled my desire to become more personally involved with the school—not just as the parent of a current student, but in an even more permanent way. My interest increased as I was asked by Hale Hooper (’82), then President of the Fathers Club, if I would consider becoming more active in that organization, which I then did. With the help of Jimmy Morrissey (’49), I cooked hot dogs in the Rochford Company office. We transported them to the school in countless numbers to be sold on game nights, as the concession stand had no kitchen in those days. Eventually, I became President of the Fathers Club, an office that I twice held while my sons were students at MBA.

During those years, I had the opportunity to observe firsthand the amazing dedication of men of stature in our community; leaders such as Ridley Wills (’52), the late Dr. Thomas F. Frist, Sr., John Sloan, Tom Cummings, and so many others like them. They all gave unselfishly of their time and collective experience to lend support and give guidance to the school in order to help shape a positive future for the young men enrolled there. Of particular significance in those early years was the leadership displayed by Headmasters Gordon Bondurant and the late Douglas Paschall, who, in spite of serious health problems, chose to spend the last months of his life on campus where he could continue to interact with and mentor the students.

An accomplishment of my years of service as Fathers Club President, which gives me particular joy, was that of instituting the Teacher Recognition Award, now presented annually at the Father-Son Dinner, to outstanding faculty members. The group thought it appropriate to recognize those who so positively impact the lives of our students and not wait until their retirement to express to them our appreciation.

In 1990 I had the honor of being asked to become a member of the MBA Board of Trust. Today, as I continue to serve in that capacity, I join the other trustees in a constant effort to make this great school the best that it can be for current and future students, as well as a source of pride for those who have gone before them.

My wife Carol and I are delighted to say that we now have three generations of family involvement with this fine school. In addition to our two sons, we have one grandson, Wade Sims (’05), who is an MBA graduate, and two grandsons, Ross (’15) and Luke (’17) Rochford currently enrolled. In the case of our family, we have found that where Montgomery Bell Academy is concerned, giving has truly been receiving, as we know that our association with this school through the years has enriched all our lives in ways that we could not have imagined and continues to do so even today.
The Rochford family has graciously included Montgomery Bell Academy in their estate planning. There are many benefits to planned/creative giving, the greatest of which is the timeless gift that will ensure the continued world-class educational experience for generations to come. For more information on planned giving opportunities, please contact David Richardson at david.richardson@montgomerybell.edu or 615-369-5549.
1950
Matthew B. Wills is the author of the recently published In the Highest Traditions of the Royal Navy: The life of Captain John Leach MVO DSO. The Times of London selected the book as a military book of the year.

Leach, Captain of the HMS Prince of Wales, went down with that ship when the Japanese sank her on December 10, 1941. Wills became interested in the actions of the Royal Navy while a teenager and student at MBA. Wills’ book launch was held at the National Museum of the Royal Navy at Portsmouth, England on November 3, 2011. In attendance were two former First Sea Lords: Admiral Sir Jack Slater and Admiral Sir Jonathon Band.

1962
Bill Ozier has been elected chairman of the Board of Directors of the Tennessee Chamber of Commerce & Industry for 2012. The Chamber is dedicated to protecting free enterprise in Tennessee and supporting jobs creation for Tennesseans. Ozier has practiced law at Bass, Berry & Sims for more than four decades. He is a former chair of the Labor and Employment Practice Area and has served as managing partner of the firm. He is a Fellow in the American College of Labor and Employment Lawyers, has been listed in Best Lawyers since 1982 and in Who’s Who in American Law. He has been named one of Tennessee’s leading employment lawyers since 2003 by Chambers USA and is listed on the Lawdragon 500 and Lawdragon 3000 Leading Lawyers in America.

1980
John Hollins has recently published his first book, Surviving Divorce: A Lawyer’s Common Sense Guide to What You Should Know Before, During, and After Divorce. Complete details about the book can be found at survivingdivorce-book.com. Hollins has been a domestic relations attorney in Nashville for nearly 25 years. He is the president and managing partner in the firm of Hollins Raybin and Weissman.

1984
Drew Moore has produced A Neighborhood Reborn: Life in Lower Manhattan 10 Years After 9/11, a documentary about Tribeca and its renewal ten years after the September 11 attacks. The film can be seen at: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2XjZV-Ilvy4.

1988
Richard Speight and his wife Jaci welcomed their third child, Frank Hays Speight, on August 17, 2011.

1993
Clint Russell and his wife Shannon welcomed their third child into the family on April 11, 2011. Mary-Claire Ermena joins Ryan (6) and Elizabeth (4).

1998
John Hart and his wife Angela are the proud parents of a son, Samuel Thomas Hart, born June 16, 2011.

1999
Matt Davis has been living in New York City for the past five years. He currently works as a project specialist in the research department for the Planned Parenthood Federation. He is also a worship leader at his synagogue, Congregation Beth El of Manhattan.

2001
After spending the last two years in the Middle East and southwest Asia, Michael Osburn, has returned to Dallas, Tex. to work in forensic engineering for Nelson Architectural Engineers, Inc. There is no place like home.

Steele Yancey and his wife Jessie are the parents of Russell Vaughan Palmore Yancey (named in loving memory of Jessie’s father, Russell Vaughan Palmore, Jr.) He was born on September 25, 2011 and weighed in at nine pounds, five ounces.
2002
Patrick Lewis was married to Brianna Jordan on October 1, 2011 at Montgomery Place in Rhinebeck, N.Y. His brother Michael Lewis (’99) served as his best man. Groomsmen included Will Howorth (’02), Jack Turner (’02), Drew Oldham (’02), Clark Rollins (’02), Will Grehouse (’01) and David Close (’02). They will reside in New York City where Patrick works in fixed income research and Brianna is a doctoral candidate in clinical psychology at Fordham University.

2003
Jackson Balthrop was married to Mary Niemann of Austin, Tex. on August 27, 2011. They were joined by several dear friends from the Class of 2003 including Vahid Azamatarrabian, Alec Berryman, Brian Elliot, Vamsi Gaddipati, and Josh Kupershmidt. The Balthrops currently reside in Dallas, Tex., where Jackson works as an Associate in J.P. Morgan’s Investment Bank.

Matt Wall recently moved back to Nashville after completing both his undergraduate and DVM degrees at Auburn University. He is currently practicing in Cool Springs at Crossroads Pet Professionals, LLC. Wall and his wife Lauren are the parents of a one-year-old daughter.

2004
John Murdock works at the Entrepreneur Center at Montgomery Bell Academy. He has started a new blog for Young Professionals at http://ypblog.com/

2008
Blake Sloan and his wife Elizabeth are proud parents of twins born on November 11, 2011. William Price Sloan weighed 5lbs 11, and Palmer Elizabeth Sloan weighed 6lbs 2oz.

2010
Tommy Harless was nominated for an Ostrander award — an annual ceremony honoring excellence in Memphis Theatre — for best cameo performance for his work in Rhodes College’s production of Twelfth Night.

IN MEMORIAM

John Bernard Platz, Jr. (’34)
1917-2012
John Platz, Jr. died peacefully surrounded by loved ones on January 15, 2012. Following MBA, he attended Vanderbilt University and Cumberland Law School. Platz served four years in the army during World War II as a Warrant Officer, J.G. in combat, in Europe, 80th Division Patton’s 3rd Army. He was awarded a Bronze Star Medal. Platz’s early professional career included working at Naron-Platz Motor Co., founded as a Chevrolet dealership by his father in 1926. He retired from Vanderbilt University at age 78, after working 27 years in the Treasurer’s Office.

Platz was preceded in death by his wife of 45 years, Joy Todd Platz. He is survived by beloved daughter, Mary McGinnis Platz Enoch (Leslie) and two grandsons.

Kermit Christian Stengel, Jr. (’47)
1930-2011
Kermit Stengel died suddenly September 6, 2011 of complications after suffering an intra-cranial abscess. He was a graduate of Vanderbilt University and The Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania. After a tour of duty as an officer in the U.S. Navy, Stengel went on to lead a successful career in commercial real estate development. A local pioneer in the creation of planned office park developments, Stengel was also an early proponent of historical preservation, leading to the commercially successful adaptive re-use of many prominent, much-loved structures, both downtown and in the suburbs. Best known among these are the sprawling St. Cloud Corner development at 5th & Church, and the complex now known as Belle Meade Town Center, which saved the iconic Belle Meade Theater from certain demolition.

A lifelong tennis enthusiast, he played for Vanderbilt from 1949-51 and was SEC Champion in 1950. Stengel was a nationally-ranked amateur singles player with dozens of regional, state, and local titles to his credit. Among his most cherished feats was to claim the over-65 singles title in the Southern Seniors Championship before retiring from tournament tennis for good.

In his latter years, Stengel devoted ever more time and energy to philanthropic interests through the charitable organization he had established, the Baros Foundation. He is survived by his wife, Patricia Gregg Stengel; his sister Nettie Elizabeth Stengel Joy (Maurice); his sons Marc Kermit Stengel (’74) (Terry), Sudokum Stengel (Charlotte), and Eric Lafond Stengel; his step-daughter Karen Pennington; his eight granddaughters; and his first wife, Suzanne Charlotte Lafond.

Dr. Denzil Y. Causey, Jr. (’51)
1933 - 2010
Dr. Denzil Causey, Jr., passed away on August 3, 2010 at Starkville Manor in Starkville, Miss. Causey received his law degree from Emory University with distinction, and he earned his doctorate in accounting at the Graduate School of Business at the University of Southern California.

Causey was a retired professor of accounting at Mississippi State University, taught part-time at East Mississippi Community College, and was owner of Causey Properties. His professional experience included accounting, law practice, and teaching, as well as service as a consultant and expert witness. His articles appeared in Journal of Accountancy, American Business Law Journal, Mississippi Law Journal, Mississippi College Law Review, and Accounting Review. He chaired and moderated AICPA national conferences on accountants’ professional liability, and served as a consultant to the AICPA professional liability insurance plan committee.

His wife, Sandra Morgan Causey, preceded Causey in death.

John Bachman Hardcastle (’54)
1936-2011
John Hardcastle passed away on October 6, 2011. He graduated from Vanderbilt University in 1958 and the
Harcastle was a member of Westminister Presbyterian Church, where he served as a deacon, an elder, a Sunday school teacher, and Clerk of the Session. John served as the moderator of the Presbytery of Middle Tennessee, was a commisioner to the 237th General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church (USA), and served on the advisory board of Columbia Theological Seminary.

He also served two terms as president of Friends of Warner Parks and received its Best Friend Award. John served two terms as a member of the Conservation Commission of the State of Tennessee and one term as its chairman. He was one of the four citizen members of Governor Alexander’s Safe Growth Team and a member of the Tennessee Outdoors Commission. For more than a decade, he served as a trustee of the Tennessee Chapter of the Nature Conservancy, and three terms as its chairman. He received the Nature Conservancy’s National Oak Leaf Award for effective leadership and outstanding service.

Harcastle was active in the effort to save Radnor Lake from commercial development, and served for a number of years on the board of Friends of Radnor Lake. He was a director of the Tennessee Historical Society, served four years as its president, and was a significant contributor to The Tennessee Encyclopedia of History and Culture. He served as a commissioner on the Metropolitan Historical Commission, and was an alumnus of Leadership Nashville.

Harcastle is survived by his wife of 52 years, Frances Keltner Hardcastle; sons John Bachman Hardcastle, Jr. (’50) (Stephanie), MacDonald Keltner Hardcastle (’83) (Emily), and Wilson Gaut Hardcastle (’89); and three grandchildren.

**John W. Nolan III (’55)**
1937 - 2010

John Nolan died peacefully on February 9, 2010 after a courageous struggle with pancreatic cancer and a neurological disorder. He attended college at the University of Tennessee, where he was a member of the Sigma Chi Fraternity. Nolan attended law school at the University of Tennessee College of Law and began practicing law in Nashville in 1962, while at the same time serving as a member of the United States National Guard. He was a fellow of the American College of Trial Lawyers and the American Board of Trial Advocates.

He practiced law for 45 years. In addition to being a loving father and hard working lawyer, John was a cattle farmer, photographer, collector, philosopher, beekeeper, horseman, and lover of people.

Nolan is survived by his wife, Starr Bright Nolan, and his four children George Nolan (Tobi), Susan Nolan Lubow (Barry), Jennifer Nolan Diamond (Brad), and Michael Nolan (Victoria). Nine grandchildren also survive him.

**John Gilbert Dale (’58)**
1940 - 2011

John Dale died November 8, 2011, in Red Bank, N.J. At MBA Dale excelled in baseball, basketball, and football. He also served as president of his class and in other officer roles, including Honor Council, and was inducted into Totomoi. He earned his B.A. in English at Vanderbilt University, and played for Vanderbilt’s baseball team. After service in the U.S. Air Force Reserve, Dale spent most of his life in the Northeast.

Dale is survived by his wife Adrienne; his children John G. Dale, Jr., Ashley Dale Rosen, and Cameron Dale Liberty; two stepchildren; five grandchildren; and siblings Karin Cole and Lewis Dale (’60).

**Clifton B. Sobel (’65)**
1947 - 2012

Clifton Sobel died in Nashville on February 1, 2012. Following MBA, he went on to graduate from the University of Kentucky, where he was an award-winning member of the Fellowship of Christian Athletes, and the Pi Kappa Alpha Fraternity. Sobel was a supporter of the Boys Scouts, a member of the University of Kentucky Alumni Association, and the Franklin Road Jaycees. He was a respected member of the West End Church of Christ from childhood through his passing. Sobel was most successful in his dedication as a loving father and grandfather for his children. He will be fondly remembered for his kindness, generosity, and particularly his sense of humor. Mr. Sobel was preceded in death by his wife Yvette “Debbie” (Hill) Sobel. He is survived by his son Clifton B. Sobel, Jr. (Michelle); his daughter Caroline Sobel Crouch (J. Crouch); two granddaughters; and loving companion, Ms. Susan Pritchett Allison.

Pendleton C. Waugh (’68)
1950 - 2011

Pendleton Waugh passed away on August 27, 2011. After graduating from MBA, Pendleton got a B.A. degree in History and Political Science from Vanderbilt University. He later earned his J.D. degree from Vanderbilt University Law School and was an articles editor for the Vanderbilt Law Review. He later studied at New York University School of Law and earned a Masters in Taxation (LL.M.). Waugh worked in tax, corporate and securities, and litigation fields for many years. He transitioned into the telecommunication industry where he became president of Express Communications, Inc. (1990-1994). He was a consultant for Telecellular, Inc. from 1993-1998. He then created and helped form a brokerage firm, Preferred Communications Systems, Inc. (“Preferred”) to purchase 800 MHz SMR General Category site licenses with the intent of repackaging and selling them to operating companies. Pendleton worked with Preferred for over nine years and focused on the development and changes occurring in the wireless industry. Many industry experts considered Waugh to be one of the most knowledgeable individuals in the wireless industry relative to the allocation and ownership of frequency rights. His brilliant vision led him to co-found and become president of Smartcomm, LLC, a company that specializes in the research, development, and marketing of opportunities in the wireless mobile broadband industry.

Pendleton is survived by his brother Whitney Hunt Waugh (55’) (Julie).
David Welby Wells (’74)
1956-2011

David Wells passed away on December 10, 2011. He was a graduate of The University of Virginia and the William and Mary School of Law. David was funny, a great storyteller, a voracious reader of history, and a brilliant thinker. Information and donations are at a special memorial website: http://david-wells.memory-of.com/about.aspx.

He is survived by his wife Jane; his children, Robert, Elizabeth, Jennifer, and Curtis; his mother Joan Welby Wells; and siblings Stephen, Bill, Jr. (Debbie), and Patricia Kronk (Larry).

Steve Holt, an MBA classmate of David Wells, offered the following remembrance of his friend:

A storyteller, writer, and actor in his days at MBA, David was President of the Drama Club, editor of The Bell, and achieved lasting notoriety as “Chicken Man the Magician” in a senior year talent show. His gift with words led to more than a few stirring debates with teachers, particularly Mary Helen Lowry. From pranks — placing a frog from biology class at the word “frog” in the old dictionary in Wallace Hall — to sports, to trivia contests to debates about novels, David had universal interests, contagious energy, and an extraordinarily bright and engaged mind. David completed his course work at the University of Virginia in three years in 1977, and then received a J.D. at William and Mary in 1980. He had a strong career in government contracts and procurements, largely in technology fields, where his considerable skills at the negotiating table served him well. He will be missed by those from the Class of 1974 whom he kept laughing and thinking.

Alice Marie Gericke Springer
1942-2012

Dr. Alice Springer died January 18, 2012 in Nashville, Tenn. She received her undergraduate degree from Florida Presbyterian College (now Eckerd College), and an M.A.T., M.A., and Ph.D. from Vanderbilt University. Springer taught Spanish at Montgomery Bell Academy for 28 years, retiring in 2008. During her tenure at MBA, Alice served numerous years as Chair of the Foreign Language Department, head of the Service Club, class sponsor, and trusted advisor to many students and colleagues. In 2004, she was honored with the Teacher of the Year Award by the TFLTA. She was the author of three books on Advanced Placement testing for Spanish Language and Literature, including the Barron’s AP Spanish Guide. Through her lifelong commitment to learning and service, Alice transformed the lives of not just her students, but all who knew her.

She is survived by her husband of 45 years, John Springer; sons Jonathan (’85) and Thomas (’93) (Cristina); five grandchildren; siblings Albert Gericke (Pat) and Grace Moran (Kurt Merkling); and numerous nieces and nephews.
Dr. Charles Sawyers (’77), MBA’s Distinguished Alum 2011, greets the crowd at the luncheon honoring his achievements in the field of cancer research.

Following the ceremony for Dr. Sawyers, MBA dedicated the John Bell Keeble Tennis Center. Steve Riven and Jim Cheek (’60) cut the ribbon to officially open the complex.
Friday, April 27, 2012
Casual Lunch and Campus Tours
11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. on the Sloan Quad
Come by MBA to enjoy a nice lunch, see the
campus improvements since your last visit to The
Hill, and visit with the faculty.

Saturday, April 28, 2012
Alumni Games
9:30 a.m. - Soccer on the New Soccer Field
10:00 a.m. - Lacrosse on Andrews Field
10:00 a.m. - Baseball on Bennett-Forehand Field

Gold Lunch
11:00 a.m. - In Big Red Room of Lowry Hall
Honoring all alumni who graduated 50 or more
years ago. Hosted by the Class of 1962.
Spouses/guests welcome

Second Annual "Enada" Arts Festival
11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. on the Sloan Quad
Come enjoy great music, artwork, and
multi-cultural activities

Selma Ridgeway Lunch
Noon in the Lowry Hall Debate Center
Lunch to celebrate those who have been involved
in debate and to honor Selma Ridgeway who
taught at MBA from 1965 to 1977.

Alumni Dinner
6:30 p.m. on the Sloan Quad
Cocktails and a casual dinner honoring the classes
All Alumni are invited. $30 per person.

Register for all events online. Go to www.montgomerybell.edu/alumni, then click on "Reunion."
Please register by Monday, April 18

For event questions, contact Presh Killebrew in the Alumni Office at presh.killebrew@montgomerybell.edu or
615-369-5364.