Whenever I receive *Boston College Magazine*, one of my Alma Mater’s alumni publications, I usually flip through the first couple of pages, check out the table of contents, and then turn directly to the Class Notes section of the magazine to see what my classmates have been up to. While there is always something interesting in the front of the magazine, and the editorial staff has spent countless hours putting it together, what is going on in my world always takes precedence. I would like to think that every reader of *The Hill* pours over it page by page, but I suspect most of you turn to Class Notes just like me. That’s why we need your help. We love providing news about what happens at 4001 Harding Road, but we also want to know what our alumni body is doing, from the (seemingly) trivial, to the earth changing. People like seeing pictures of your children, and spouses love seeing wedding photos. It helps us stay connected. So keep contributing and let us know what our alumni body is doing, from the (seemingly) trivial, to the earth changing.

The story *The Heart of MBA: One Fine Faculty* from the Fall/Winter 2007–2008 issue inspired Patrick Warfield (’02) to submit the following:

*Highland Cathedral* is a song that transcends melody and rhythm. When heard by graduates of Montgomery Bell Academy, it is no longer just a piece of music, but a song that represents a place and a moment in time. I am with my classmates; we are wearing coats and ties, walking through two lines of Montgomery Bell Academy faculty, who regard us with love and pride. That human tunnel was formed by many of the people that I admire most in the world. They shaped my thoughts, my perceptions, and my conscience, and I was permanently altered by their tutelage.

In 2002, as I walked through that double line of distinguished faculty, I knew that I was leaving an institution that had given me so much and which I deeply loved. I am not sure, though, if I ever stopped to say ‘thank you.’

Passing under the gaze of one’s mentors also represents a rite of passage, a sending out into the world unknown. Taking those steps signifies an agreement between the pupil and his teachers that the pupil has shown proficient mastery of all that he has been asked to learn, and that the teacher has prepared the pupil for what lies outside the classroom.

But what were the lessons of Montgomery Bell Academy? The obvious answer is that our heads were filled with a strong working knowledge of all the core subjects. We learned that F-MA, that Atticus Finch is the best marksman in Maycomb, Alabama, and that the Battle of Hastings occurred on October 14, 1066. But these are merely facts of knowledge, proof of a well-rounded education and (as often happens) this knowledge will fade. What will remain, however, and deepen with the passing of time are the intangible gifts of the MBA education—the wisdom, the perspective, and the lessons in humanity that we learned from the faculty.

The morals and lessons that they imparted to us were as multi-faceted as the faculty themselves. Anne Christenson taught Latin III when I was a junior, and she and I met three times a week at 7:15 a.m. to review Latin grammar. For the first several weeks, I came for tutoring without prepping myself the night before, most of the time hacking my way through a translation in deep embarrassment.

Ever the dedicated teacher, she continued urging me to see her for morning tutorials, and because of her confidence in me, I began to prepare more thoroughly for our morning meetings. As the year progressed, I began to work harder and harder to translate with much more proficiency. Mrs. Christenson’s guiding hand was there throughout the entire year. Her commitment and determination to improve my abilities is a constant reminder of a teacher’s dedication and a student’s persistence—values that permeate the MBA experience.

“Six years later, Coach Brown’s compassion became even more real to me.”

- Patrick Warfield (’02)

An MBA boy is encouraged to live the motto “Gentleman, Scholar, and Athlete,” and no one lives that as well as Coach David Brown. Unlike the stereotypical football coach, he cannot be typecast. Yes, he is a rough-and-tumble, make-that-tackle type of coach, and at times, if you are not willing to make the play, he will push you aside and make the play himself. Yet, that is not all that Coach Brown is to me or to his players. In the four years that I played for him, the single greatest lesson that he taught me was the importance of compassion.

No one likes to lose, especially on an upset, and in my senior year that is exactly what happened during the first round of the TSSAA playoffs. What made the loss an even more bitter pill to swallow is that we had won the State Championship for the past three years running, and when it was our turn to bring home the title, we lost. After the game the locker room was sullen and embarrassed. Coach Brown came marching through the crowded locker room toward the defensive line. I expected him to say that we had played hard, that we tried our best all season—the lines that are usually uttered when there is nothing else to be said. But he did not. Instead he came up to us, embraced our shoulders, and choked out the words, “I am so sorry for you boys.” He knew what we wanted and knew that we could not have it, and I am sure that he himself was terribly disappointed. Nevertheless, he attempted to alleviate our pain.

Six years later, Coach Brown’s compassion became even more real to me. This time, instead of a football team, it was a family; instead of a game, it was my father’s battle with cancer; and instead of locker room, it was hospice. In the same manner that he had marched through that locker room, Coach Brown came through the crossed at the hospice unit, embraced my two brothers and me, and again choked out the words, “I am so sorry for you boys.” The lesson was complete.

In the years since I graduated from MBA and Sewanee, I have moved from the chair to the chalkboard and have begun to teach my own lessons. In teaching sixth grade, I have reached back to my own good training, incorporating cherished lessons and values into my own teaching. Education has a definite linear nature; the teacher passes down the lessons and information, and it gives me profound pleasure to pass to my own students what was given to me at MBA. But, the teacher can still be the student, and the student the teacher. During my first year, a young man waited at the end of class for all of his classmates to finish their questions. The last to speak to me, he stretched out his hand, and said “Thank you, Mr. Warfield.” I shook his hand, said, “You’re welcome,” and remembered the gratitude that I never gave to my teachers.

Finally, the entire A&D Office would like to congratulate Gretchen and J.W. Ekiss on the birth of their daughter, Sara ‘Elizabeth’ Ekiss, on March 26. We have certainly missed Gretchen’s work on all of our publications and look forward to her return later this summer. We also would like to thank Jenny Garland for ably stepping in and handling the layout and design of this issue.

CHRIS SMITH
Editor
Alumni Days
Alumni from across the decades came back to campus in late April as The Hill once again served as the backdrop for the annual Alumni Days and Reunion Weekend. From jazz on the quad, to breakfast with the Headmaster, to dancing under the tent, classes from 1958 to 2003 returned to reminisce and reconnect.

Commencement
A close-up look at MBA’s 141st Commencement, including an address by Steven M. Zager (’76) and the Valedictory and Salutatory speeches.

Men of the Cloth
A Rabbi, a small-town Presbyterian minister, a Methodist with a large congregation, and an Episcopal priest who uses teachings of Christianity and Buddhism have all turned a personal calling into a profession. Learn how MBA helped shape their outlook and prepare them for their roles.
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
The gentlemen of the Class of 2008 recess past MBA faculty and staff following the school’s 141st Commencement.

5 FROM THE HEADMASTER
6 BOARD NEWS
18 DISTINGUISHED ALUMNUS
32 ON THE HILL

Father-Son Dinner
Mother-Son Breakfast
Grandparents Day/Grandparents Coffee

Academics
Language Awards
Service
Theater
Music
Debate
Art
Founders Day
Career Day
Sports

Gentleman • Scholar • Athlete

52 SEVENTH GRADERS SERVE A PLATOON IN IRAQ
Assemblies
Leavers Dinner

57 MOTHERS OF ALUMNI COFFEE

72 ALUMNI SPORTS

77 CLASS NEWS

ADMINISTRATION
Bradford Gioia
HEADMASTER

Marc Ardisson
COORDINATOR OF TECHNOLOGY

Alan Coverstone
ACADEMIC DEAN

Greg Ferrell
DIRECTOR OF ADMISSION & FINANCIAL AID

Terry Giffen
DIRECTOR OF COLLEGE COUNSELING

Eddie Guth
DIRECTOR OF ATHLETICS

Samuel E. Jackson
DIRECTOR OF FINANCE & OPERATIONS

David Norton
FACILITY MANAGER

Scott O’Neal (‘84)
DIRECTOR OF ALUMNI & DEVELOPMENT

Peter Thurmond
DIRECTOR OF THE JUNIOR SCHOOL

James A. Tillman
DIRECTOR OF THE HIGH SCHOOL

Beth Warner
COORDINATOR OF GUIDANCE COUNSELING SERVICES
MBA’s 141st year concluded with a beautiful Commencement Ceremony. Alumnus Steve Zager, Class of 1976, delivered a magnificent speech, and we celebrated the graduation of 105 terrific young men. Steve spoke about the virtues of grace, honor, and compassion. His conclusion was that every MBA graduate should live and understand these values of a gentleman. The graduates listened carefully to Steve’s wisdom, and he crafted that talk as if he were writing the ultimate theme from his experiences at MBA. You would have been proud to join us at that ceremony.

As I sit in my office in the middle of a very hot June on a much quieter campus, I reflect on the values of MBA, the beauty and the privileges we share in this community. To work with such focused and balanced and exceptional young men are meaningful experiences. We also share a community of wonderful teachers who care about the traditions and the expectations of MBA’s mission of Gentleman, Scholar, Athlete. I received a note from a recent graduate the other day. He expressed, “MBA did not teach me what I can do with my life, but instead the school provided a great lesson in how I could live my life.” What a beautiful declaration of appreciation and understanding!

Montgomery Bell Academy works extremely hard in investing its resources in young men. We have a magnificent facility, incredible teachers, a clear and prioritized mission statement, but most of all our graduates realize once they graduate that this experience is not simply about skills and lessons and fundamentals. The MBA experience is about living one’s life well and fully. I could not have been more proud of a senior class than I am of the graduates of 2008, and I believe they will build the kind of lives our community and the world will celebrate. Our valedictorian and salutatorian expressed their own appreciation for the school, its character and education, and their friendships in their talks. They highlighted the balance and excellence both their classmates and their education provided.

I write these comments today with great humility in knowing how precious and important our roles are in the MBA Community. We have much to be thankful for in terms of our accomplishments; but we also have much to do to continue to build this school community into a greater and greater place, and to insure that we always find a way to teach young men how to live their lives well. The virtues of the MBA experience, the competitiveness and excellence of our athletic and extracurricular programs, and the amazing connections among the MBA alumni are all parts of the exceptional education one receives at MBA. The sum and whole of these parts, however, are much greater.

The values that Steve Zager expressed are realized in our graduates. As a school, we hope to continue to find ways to express that grace, honor, and compassion in all we do. May we always strive as a school to honor the legacy of education, high expectation and balance, and great friendship inherent in the MBA community. As our two senior speakers said at Commencement, “Let the way in which you live your lives signify the years you spent at MBA” and “step out into the world with eyes for exploration and hearts of compassion.”
Mr. David B. Ingram (’81), vice chairman
Mr. Clay T. Jackson (’72), secretary
Mr. Blair J. Wilson (’70), treasurer
Mr. W. Ridley Wills II (’52), historian
Mr. Nelson C. Andrews (’45)
Dr. Carl C. Awh (’45)
Mr. J. Barry Banker (’69)
Mr. H. Lee Barfield II
Mr. Lee A. Beaman (’69)
Mr. James C. Bradford, Jr. (’50)
Mr. Robert C. Brannon
Mrs. Varina Buntin
Mr. James H. Cheek III (’60)
Mr. William S. Cochran, Sr.
Mr. Thomas L. Cummings, Jr.
Mr. Brownlee O. Currey, Jr. (’45)
Mr. G. Thomas Curtis (’72)
Mr. A. Jackson Dale IV (’95)
YOUNG ALUMNI BOARD CHAIRMAN
Mr. W. Lipscomb Davis, Jr. (’49)
Mr. William T. DeLay (’78)
Mr. Matt H. Dobson IV (’39)
The Hon. Frank F. Drowota III (’56)
Mr. John W. Eakin, Jr. (’73)
Dr. Roy O. Elam III (’64)
Mr. E. Morgan Entrance Jr. (’73)
Senator William H. Frist (’70)
Mr. Ben S. Gambill, Jr. (’63)
Mr. James T. Griscom II (’80)
ANNUAL FUND CHAIRMAN
Mr. William H. Hawkins (’78)
Mr. A. Hale Hooper III (’82)
PAST ALUMNI BOARD PRESIDENT
Mr. John R. Ingram (’79)
Mrs. Pamela R. Koban
Mr. Allen P. McDaniel (’61)
Mr. George B. McGugin (’58)
Mr. Robert E. McNeilly, Jr. (’50)
Mr. Richard M. Miller, Sr. (’49)
Mr. Dortch Oldham, Sr.
Mr. James R. Pickel, Jr. (’60)
Admiral USN (Ret.) J. Wilson Prueher (’60)
Mr. D. Tate Rich (’72)
Mr. Stephen S. Riven
Mr. John T. Rochford
Mr. J. Hanley Sayers, Jr. (’64)
Mr. Marc K. Stengel (’74)
ALUMNI BOARD PRESIDENT
Mr. J. Bransford Wallace (’48)
Mr. Dudley Warner II (’61)
Mr. William M. Wilson, Sr. (’66)
Mr. Steven M. Zager (’76)
ADVISORY BOARD CHAIRMAN
Mr. P. Rhoads Zimmerman (’61)
Alums from across the decades returned to campus this spring as MBA once again played host to Alumni Days & Reunion Weekend on April 25 and 26. The reuniting classes from 1958, 1963, 1968, 1973, 1978, 1983, 1988, 1993, 1998, and 2003 (as well as a host of other classes) were treated to a variety of activities over the course of the weekend.
The weekend began amid an event-filled Friday night on campus. Reuniting classes gathered for a cocktail party on Sloan Quadrangle, while the sounds of varsity soccer and lacrosse games — as well as the Carter Invitational Tennis Tournament — filled the air. Just across campus, the school honored Distinguished Alumnus James O. Bass (’28) with a reception and a program in the Ingram Science Building. >>>
Saturday’s activities kicked off with breakfast and a question and answer session with MBA Headmaster Brad Gioia. After bringing the group up to date on the latest happenings at the school, Gioia offered a personal tour of the campus, highlighting all that has changed since many of the returning guests had last been on campus. Following the tour, visitors were entertained by a concert on the lawn from MBA’s Ellington Band. >>>
The morning festivities concluded with the annual Gold Lunch, hosted by the Class of 1958. A tradition of ever-growing popularity, the luncheon celebrates alumni who graduated 50 or more years ago. Class of 1958 reunion captain George McGugin welcomed nearly 80 alumni back to campus. Class members from the 50th reuniting class shared funny and poignant memories from their time at MBA. >>>
The weekend came to a crescendo with the All-Alumni Dinner Dance on Saturday night. Reuniting classes and other alumni gathered for drinks and dinner under the stars. Following dessert the crowd danced the night away to the smooth sounds of Pat Patrick ('65) and the Pat Patrick Band.
As James O. Bass was completing his final year at MBA, the Ball Building was being rebuilt from the 1926 fire; Charles Lindbergh was being celebrated for his trans-Atlantic flight; Babe Ruth and the Murder’s Row Yankees were the reigning World Series Champions; Josef Stalin took control of the Soviet Union; The Jazz Singer brought an end to the era of silent films; and regular television programming began in Schenectady, New York. Eighty years later, Montgomery Bell Academy is proud to recognize Jim Bass ('28) as its Distinguished Alumnus for 2008.

MBA’s oldest living graduate, Bass matriculated at the University of the South, graduating in 1931. He then attended Harvard Law School and completed his degree in 1934. He began his practice of law at Bass, Berry and Sims, Nashville’s largest law firm the same year. A member of the American College of Trial Lawyers and the American, Tennessee, and Nashville Bar Associations, Mr. Bass has also served Tennessee as a member of the state House of Representatives from 1936-38 and as a state senator from 1940-42. He has been involved in general law practice throughout his legal career.

At 97 years old, Bass still drives to work every morning and he mows his own lawn. Married for 62 years, he and his wife had four children, 11 grandchildren, and 19 great-grandchildren.

Honored before the student body at the Founders Day Assembly, Bass shared his feelings about his Alma Mater, stating, “the depth of my affection for MBA may indeed be shared by a lot of other people, but nobody else’s affection has as much longevity as mine does. I have no doubt that in all the years to come, whatever and wherever your future lies, you will look back at these years at MBA as I have done so many times – with the same devotion, the same affection, the same loyalty which have always been the hallmark of MBA students and alumni.” In addition to his recognition at Assembly, a reception in Bass’ honor was held on Friday, April 25.
141st
Commencement

May 29, 2008
MBA ADVISORY BOARD CHARIMAN STEVEN M. ZAGER (’76) DELIVERED THE 2008 COMMENCEMENT ADDRESS

Zager is the partner in charge of the one hundred-lawyer global intellectual property group at Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld, LLP. He was selected by the National Law Journal as one of the nation’s top trial lawyers in 2007. He was also selected by his peers for The Best Lawyers in America and named one of the top lawyers in Texas by Chambers.

Zager was named the top civil defense litigation lawyer in Texas by The Texas Lawyer in 2002 and one of the 45 best lawyers in America under 45 by The American Lawyer in 2003.

Steve and his wife Debbie have four children: Samantha – 15, Amanda – 8, Katie – 7, and Jackson – 5. >>>
THE MBA GENTLEMAN
Commencement Address by Steve Zager

“Gentleman, Scholar, Athlete.”

MBA Headmaster Francis E. Carter, Jr. first spoke the MBA ideal long ago.

Not all of us can be scholars. I struggled to pass Latin II with a 70. Had Mrs. Lentz not taken pity on me, I might have been the Valedictorian...of summer school.

Not all of us can be athletes. My good friend Steven Eisen and I played tennis because, in those days, MBA did not have enough tennis courts and so we spent many afternoons poolside at the Woodmont County Club.

However, all of us can be gentlemen; and that is what sets an MBA graduate apart from the graduates of other fine schools. Perhaps that is why “gentleman” comes first in the MBA ideal, because it informs every aspect of how we lead our lives.

Today I want to talk with you about three virtues gentlemen share: the virtues of compassion, honor, and grace.

COMPASSION

Winston Churchill wrote, “We make a living by what we get, but we make a life by what we give.” Compassion is how we make a life.

Let me tell you a story about a man who worked long hours to make a living. He was frugal and tough minded.

By 1942, his business had dozens of employees and he and his wife had three young sons. Late one night, his business caught fire and burned.

Though money was tight, he rebuilt his business and he paid every employee even while his business was closed.

The man who understood how to make a life was my grandfather. Morris Zager was a gentleman.

HONOR

The MBA pledge begins with the words, “on my honor as a gentleman...” What does that mean? My grandfather liked to say that no man can take from you your integrity, but you can give it away. You can give it away by breaking your word. Honor is keeping your word.

Let me tell you a story about a lieutenant who was stationed in Memphis, Tennessee where one of his duties was to administer the Army’s qualification test for new soldiers. The test was simple. One question included drawings of several tools and asked which one was a hammer. Those administering the test were sworn to keep the results confidential.
In 1957 Elvis Presley was the most popular entertainer in the world when he joined the Army. Elvis took his qualification test in Memphis where it was administered by the young lieutenant who had graduated from college two years before.

That lieutenant would soon learn that his wife was pregnant with their first son. He was struggling to make ends meet while trying to save enough money to pay for medical school.

He was offered thousands of dollars to reveal the result of Elvis’ qualification test. Lord knows, he needed the money. But he gave his word that he would keep the result confidential and he has never revealed it to anyone to this day.

The lieutenant who kept his word is my father. Jack Zager is a gentleman.

GRACE

Grace is something more than humility. Ernest Hemingway wrote that “courage is grace under pressure.”

Legendary football coach Vince Lombardi explained what Hemingway meant when he said, “it’s not whether you get knocked down, it’s whether you get back up.” Grace is getting back up.

Let me tell you the story of a young man full of hope and promise. He was twice denied admission to one of the finest prep schools in the country. He was rejected by all but a couple of colleges, and he had an unremarkable freshman year at one before he transferred to another.

After graduation, he moved to a new city hoping to outrun some of the disappointments of his past, but he fumbled his first professional assignment.

His marriage was a failure and he gained so much weight that he became an insulin-dependent diabetic who was unable to walk more than a couple of blocks. Indeed, he got so fat that he could not ride a rollercoaster with his young son because the safety bar would not come down over his ample stomach.

But each time he got knocked down, he got back up. He graduated on the Headmaster’s List from the prep school that twice denied him admission. He went on to graduate from Vanderbilt University and Vanderbilt Law School. While he lost the first case he ever tried, it was the last case he lost.

He remarried a wonderful woman, Debbie, and they have four beautiful children—Samantha, Amanda, Katie and Jackson. With the encouragement of his wife and his good friend, Brad Gioia, he lost weight. He is now fit, though not yet thin. He no longer needs insulin. And, last summer, he rode the rollercoaster at Disneyworld with his son.

I am the young man who got knocked down so many times and I learned the grace to get back up here, on this hill, with the support of good friends like Steven Eisen, John Rebrowick, Justin Milam, and Geoffrey Chazen; with the guidance of great teachers like Selma Ridgway, Bill Compton, Mike Caldwell, and Andy Gaither; and with the love of my family, my parents – Jack and Sylvia Zager – and my younger brother – Jeff Zager.

On a personal note, Mom and Dad, to borrow the words of a popular singer/songwriter, “it is good to be home in the place where I belong, where your love has always been enough for me.”

I am an MBA gentleman and it is the proudest of my achievements.

CONCLUSION

We parents often wonder if we matter. By our example, have our children learned the virtues that we have tried to teach them?

Today, you parents of the graduates of the Class of 2008 know that you matter because your sons are MBA gentlemen.

A wise rabbi wrote: “happiness is not having what you want; happiness is wanting what you have.” On this happiest of all days, you graduates need only look into your parents’ eyes to know that the best things in life aren’t things at all.

Each day we are writing the stories of our lives. Today the graduates of the Class of 2008 finish a marvelous chapter and join a fraternity of extraordinary gentlemen. Everything you have learned at MBA has prepared you to write the story of a life of compassion, honor, and grace; the story of a life that matters.
VALEDICTORY SPEECH
Austin Branstetter ('08)

Since our arrival in seventh grade, the Class of 2008 has been hailed as one of Montgomery Bell Academy’s best. In fact, Mr. Thurmond so enjoyed our time in the Junior School that he actually shed a few tears at our Eighth Grade Graduation ceremony. As we have matured from microbes to men, MBA has provided us with an incredible education. We have developed a sense of history, refined our critical thinking skills, graphed equations, conjugated Latin verbs, and diagramed English sentences. Yet Albert Einstein said, “Education is that which remains when one has forgotten everything he learned in school.” I suspect that what we will remember best from our years on The Hill is not the knowledge we gained in the classroom but the lessons we learned outside of class from MBA’s faculty, staff, and students.

Commencement speakers often provide their audience with a set of directives for future success and happiness, and I will too. Almost always, these speakers use famous people as models, but I will not. To find example and inspiration for what I am about to say, I need look no further than the Class of 2008. While our scholastic achievements, athletic prowess, and artistic talents are extraordinary, what makes us truly unique is our unity and respect for one another. I am sure there have been occasions when each of us has shared Mark Twain’s sentiment that “few things are harder to put up with than the annoyance of a good example,” but on the whole, we have benefitted greatly from our association with each other. Being a member of the Class of 2008 has provided me with the following invaluable life lessons.

First, cherish your human connections and support one another. In our young lives, this class has had more than its fair share of tragedy and loss. Some of our family members have battled serious illnesses. Several of us have lost parents, and we all have lost a classmate. Members of the Class of 2008 have demonstrated time and again a willingness to share the sorrows of their peers and to support them in their times of need. Through these trials, we have learned to treasure the time we have with those we love.

While we have shared great sadness, we have also shared great joy. In doing so, I learned my second lesson: value others’ individual strengths and celebrate their unique successes. The entire MBA community honors a triumphant team, whether it be our undefeated football team, our nationally-ranked swim team, or our victorious Mock Trial team. Moreover, assemblies often recognize individuals’ excellence in academics, athletics, and the arts. Yet the Class of 2008 has grown to value some of its members’ more unusual gifts. We will never forget the hilarity of watching our cerebral debaters excel at the great game of wiffle ball. Nor will we forget the pride we felt as our gyrating classmates dominated school-wide dance competitions with such classic moves as the “moon walk” and “chopping the broccoli.” From programming computer games to staging unbelievable photographs, the wide range of talents in our class is much appreciated.

Once you find your passion, pursue it tirelessly. Scores of my classmates are so dedicated to athletics, debate, art, music, theater, or math and science that they have garnered state and national recognition. Others among us have focused their attention on electronics; they have worked diligently behind the scenes to advance their knowledge and hone their skills with...
VALEDICTORY SPEECH
(continued from page 25)

the MBA Technology Department. Though many members of the Class of 2008 participate in monthly service projects such as Soup Kitchen and Special Olympics, several of our classmates are so devoted to their cause that they have tutored underprivileged children at the Preston Taylor Homes each and every week. While these seniors have proven their passions, others have displayed such fortitude that they embody my final lesson. Act courageously in the face of adversity. The way in which some of our classmates have persevered through hardship and overcome challenges is truly inspirational. A member of our class who once needed speech therapy is now considered one of the most elite debaters in the nation. One classmate has Cystic Fibrosis yet is ranked among the state’s best athletes in his sport. Another senior has worked diligently not only to excel athletically but also to earn grades worthy of the Privilege List in spite of his dyslexia. These are but a few examples of the courage and grit exhibited by the Class of 2008.

So I challenge you to remember the lessons revealed to us by our peers. Let not only the diplomas you are about to receive but the way in which you live your lives signify the years you spent at Montgomery Bell Academy. In the words of our president, “degrees and honors are far from the full measure of life, nor is that measure taken in wealth or in titles. What matters most is the standards you live by, the consideration you show others, and the way you use the gifts you are given.”

In closing, I want to thank all those who have supported, inspired, and challenged me here on The Hill and at home. I owe a tremendous debt of gratitude to my family, teachers, coaches, and advisors, but I am especially indebted to the Class of 2008. Henry Ford once said, “My best friend is the one who brings out the best in me” and tonight I will graduate with my 104 best friends. For this, I offer my deepest thanks and heartfelt congratulations to you all.

SALUTATORY SPEECH
Corey Metzman (‘08)

Good evening—welcome to Montgomery Bell Academy’s 141st Commencement exercises. To the Class of 2008—congratulations; the hard work has paid off! Hallmarks of the MBA experience—like assemblies and social awareness meetings—are no longer a part of our educational vocabularies. Essential tenets of character building like the demerit system and its often-ignored little brother—the ban on ankle socks—are finally things of the past. We are about to step beyond the confines of the comfortable and the familiar, as we depart the borders of these verdant quadrangles and classical columns.

Tonight life will change remarkably for all of us who have spent the past four or six years studying, sweating, laughing, and bonding on this Hill. Persisting in our minds may not be specific victories or triumphs, but rather events like roaring pep rallies or smaller traditions like the rewards of Coach Elliott’s Tic Tacs. Of course, we’ll remember the rhetorical flourish of Mr. Tillman’s poetry. It’s unlikely, however, that future generations of MBA students will require students to recite his poetry, so Shakespeare and Milton can probably rest assured of their places in the annals of literature.

When we entered MBA, some of us were attracted to the theater department, some of us strove to be three-sport athletes, and others wanted to focus on music or art. But what is unique about MBA is not that a diversity of interests exists; there will always be the superstar athlete or the AP scholar or the drama enthusiast. What is unique about MBA is that these boundaries are blended and blurred. Most MBA students do not fit neatly into the boxes that the world prescribes for high schoolers. Students like Worth Baker, who balances theater with football, or Christian Waddey, a champion pole-vaulter with a passion for astrophysics, epitomize MBA’s education without borders.

This is not to say that we haven’t left our mark in specific areas—our class has complemented our breadth of experiences with the depth of our accomplishments. Our class includes a future Olympic swimmer, a leader in the field of race relations, and a top five nationally-ranked extemporaneous speaker. Thirteen members of our class have signed with colleges to pursue their sports. During our time here, we’ve won championships in debate, lacrosse, riflery, Science Olympiad, wrestling, mock trial, and, yes, football.

Our memories will extend beyond these tangible experiences. Many of these memories will come from our mishaps. For instance, in eighth grade I broke Mr. Spiegl’s favorite rock. He has told me that the shattered fragments remain in his room as a symbol warning against future uses of reckless geology. Of course, other memories will come from the collective trials of tedious theme writing, long athletic practices, or bleary-eyed studying after theater dress rehearsals.

As for me, several of my memories will stem from my experiences in debate. For many at MBA, the debate team represents a mysterious collection of students who jet set around the country every weekend simply to talk really fast against future uses of reckless geology. Of course, other memories will come from the collective trials of tedious theme writing, long athletic practices, or bleary-eyed studying after theater dress rehearsals.

What is striking about debate, though, is not the number of trophies we bring home [although we’ve brought home a lot] or our successes at the
Tournament of Champions. What endures are the memories we have forged, whether being snowed into our hotel for an entire weekend at the Emory tournament or watching Mr. Tate drive around campus on his golf cart and foist Goo-Goo Clusters on unsuspecting debaters during the annual Southern Bell Forum. As all of you know, all of the world’s famous cities have their distinctive foods. Paris has its crepes, Moscow has its caviar, but somehow we were blessed with…the Goo-Goo Cluster?

Along with teaching us to view each other as multi-faceted individuals who overcome stereotypical classifications, MBA has also taught us a lesson that prepares us for the world we live in—that the world is growing smaller, and with the erosion of traditional borders comes the obligation for a heightened sensitivity towards others. While Facebook and instant messaging certainly flatten the world, they also risk depriving students of the cultural textures only to be experienced in a foreign country first-hand. MBA recognizes the need for an authentic approach, and approximately 20 percent of our class has enjoyed the experience of an international exchange. Whether skydiving in South Africa like Chase Taylor and Elliot Sutter or donning coat and tails at Eton like Dane Ferré, we must remember that this age of unprecedented cultural access is best enjoyed by continuing to celebrate the uniqueness of others. MBA has taught us that a world without borders is indeed a better place, but it is our responsibility to transcend the politically correct and the generic in order to arrive at a genuine understanding of the individual.

We are not defined by MBA, but it has shaped all of us. MBA has not given us all the same voice, yet it has imbued each of us with a common thread of brotherhood. Despite how mundane or silly our daily routines may have seemed here, sometime in the future we will likely find that we miss the safe and defined world that MBA has provided us. By venturing into the foreign and the unfamiliar, we can further discover our own voices, a goal of utmost importance, because, as John Keating imparts in the Dead Poets Society, “you must strive to find your own voice. Because the longer you wait to begin, the less likely you are to find it at all.” To that extent, let us cherish our memories here, but step out into the world beyond with eyes for exploration and hearts of compassion. ■
Austin Branstetter
VALEDICTORIAN

Corey Metzman
SALUTATORIAN

Rasha Harvey
THE HEADMASTER’S AWARD

Andrew Harris
THE WILLIAM MARTIN AWARD
for the Best All-Around Boy in the School

Austin Branstetter
THE WILLIAM BAILEY MEMORIAL AWARD
for Honor, Integrity, and Loyalty in the Senior Class

David Arteaga
THE CUM LAUDE SOCIETY AWARD
for Academic Achievement in the Junior School

Maggie Qian
THE WALTER ROBINSON MATH AWARD

Ben Bartholomew, Jeff Francis
THE MBA ART PURCHASE AWARD

Bennett Davidson
THE JAMES A. POSTON AWARD for Excellence in Theater

Garrett Anglin
THE HONOR THESPISAN AWARD

The Rascoe Bond Davis Award for Creative Writing

Fiction- 1st Hicks Woolwine; 2nd Brendan Mayhew; 3rd Sam Tucker
Poetry- 1st Will Orman; 2nd John Bibb; 3rd Morey Hill

Will Orman
THE JACK ZAGER POETRY AWARD

Max Webster
THE THOMAS H. MALONE, JR. AWARD for Excellence in English Composition

Daniel Arteaga
THE EWING/RANDALL WRITING AWARD

Austin Branstetter
THE MARSHALL AND VIRGINIA FRAZER AWARD for Excellence in Chemistry

Michael Seitz
THE JOHN MOREHEAD DOBSON MEMORIAL AWARD for the Best Sports Article

Alfonza Knight
THE GARRETT FULTON MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP AWARD

Christian Waddey
THE LINDSEY AWARD for the Outstanding Athlete

John Burch, Swan Burnus, Ben Croweover, Morey Hill,
Austin Musice, Brandon Titus
THE FRANCIS E. CARTER, JR. AWARDS for Perseverance and Achievement

Ben Bartholomew, Matt Ferrell, Johnny Mishu,
Jas Rader, Sloan Sanders, Tee Stumb
THE WEICK BIG RED SPIRIT AWARDS

Wilson Nealy
THE RUSSELL W. CARPENTER AWARD for Community Service

Andy McLaughlin
THE LINDSEY RUTH AWARD for Loyalty to MBA

Tyler Ramsden
THE FRANK ANDREWS BOOK AWARD

HONORS & AWARDS

Matt Bellet, Connor Caldwell, Kyle Meadows,
John Moynihan, Brian Swenson
THE WALLACE LATIN BOOK AWARDS

Paschall Davis
THE PROFESSOR C.B. WALLACE SCHOLARSHIP AWARD

Clark Benton, Austin Evans, Ben Gregory, Will Holt, Davis Hunt,
Wade Longmire, Alex Martin, Sulley Mehio, Michael Moore,
Ian Preston, Fadi Pulous, Connor Shope, Crawford Standard,
Brian Swenson, Charlie Watkins
THE BETH AND DUDLEY WARNER INTERNATIONAL STUDENT EXCHANGE

Worth Baker, Jon Eisen, Jay Milam, Clay Money, Chase Taylor
THE PATRICK HALE AWARDS

Daniel Arteaga, Luke Bellet, William Davis, Alec Martin,
Corey Metzman, Max Webster
THE PASCHALL AWARDS FOR SPECIAL CONTRIBUTION TO MBA

Hershel Mehta, Sam Page, Jesse Suh
THE ZAGER DEBATE SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS

The P.M. ESTES SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS

Ninth Grade - Tom Markham, Chase Owen
Tenth Grade - Alex Apple, Tee Griscom
Eleventh Grade - Reggie Ford, Jeffrey Francis
Twelfth Grade - Alfonza Knight, Nathan Wade

Mike Caldwell
DEDICATION OF THE BELL

Andrew Einstman
THE FRANCES E. CARTER AWARD
for the Outstanding Boy in the Seventh Grade

Bryan Oslin
THE WALTER NOEL, JR. AWARD
for the Outstanding Boy in the Junior School

Andrew Powell
THE DONALD ROSS AWARD to the Outstanding Freshman

Matt Bellet
THE HENRY W. BOYD, JR. AWARD to the Outstanding Sophomore

Will Overton
THE LINDSEY RUTH AWARD to the Outstanding Junior

THE GENTLEMAN, SCHOLAR, ATHLETE AWARDS
for the Junior School - Edward Wilson
for the High School - Curtis Lovelace
William Davis
Alliance for Young Artists & Writers - Scholastic Art and Writing Award, Legacy Scholarship, Howard University

Ben Fredericks
Tennessee Hope Scholarship

Grant Gardner
Tennessee Hope Scholarship

Daniel Givens
Tennessee Hope Scholarship

Andrew Harris
Tennessee Hope Scholarship

Rasha Harvey
Bootsraps Foundation, Boys & Girls Club of America’s National Youth of the Year Program
Princeton University Prize in Race Relations
Reader’s Digest Foundation
Sponsors Program
Tennessee Titans Foundation Scholarship

Jonathan Haynes
Tennessee Hope Scholarship
University Scholarship, University of Tennessee, Knoxville

Alfonza Knight
Sponsors Program
Tennessee Hope Scholarship

Curtis Lovelace
National Merit Scholarship - Computer Sciences Corporation
Wendy’s High School Heisman
Men’s Swimming Scholarship, Stanford University

Hayes McWilliams
Rotunda Scholarship
University Scholar, Southern Methodist University

Corey Metzman
National Merit $2500 Scholarship

Jay Milam
Paul & Jane Nagel Scholarship, Miami University

Clay Money
CIC Foundation, Inc.

John Moynihan
Sertoma Club - Freedom Essay Contest
United Nations Association of USA
High School Essay Contest
National Merit Scholarship, Washington University St. Louis

Austin Musice
Tennessee Hope Scholarship

Wilson Nealy
Tennessee Hope Scholarship
Merit Scholarship, University of the South

Jimmy Okot
Sponsors Program

Will Orman
University Scholar, Boston University
College of Arts and Science Scholarship, New York University

Alex Owings
Tennessee Hope Scholarship

Jas Rader
Tennessee Hope Scholarship

Sam Robinson
Tennessee Hope Scholarship

Jimmy Russell
Jogues Scholarship, Fordham University

Alan Schulman
Tennessee Hope Scholarship

Jim Shaub
Distinguished Scholar
Rotunda Scholarship, Southern Methodist University

Andrew Snow
Tennessee Hope Scholarship

Taylor Smyth
National Merit Scholarship - 2008 Sieman’s Foundation Merit Scholarship
National Merit Scholarship, University of Texas, Austin

Ian Snyder
Founders Scholarship, Tulane University

Tee Stumb
Tennessee Hope Scholarship

Sam Tucker
Tennessee Hope Scholarship

Eric Vasilevskis
Tennessee Hope Scholarship

E. J. Vinsang
Sponsors Program
The Temple Church Scholarship

Christian Waddey
Naval ROTC Scholarship
Admiral William P. Lawrence Scholarship

Tom Wall
Tennessee Hope Scholarship

Robbie Weikert
Tennessee Hope Scholarship
National Merit Scholarship
Merit Scholarships, Vanderbilt University

Tyler Wright
Tennessee Hope Scholarship
The Trustees, faculty, and staff of MBA proudly recognize the 105 graduates of

THE CLASS OF 2008

They were accepted to 138 different colleges and universities and will attend 45 different schools in 24 states across the nation.

Will Adams
University of the South

Frank Adelman
Belmont University

James Anderson
University of Tennessee

Jimmy Anderson
University of Georgia

Garrett Anglin
University of the South

Daniel Arteaga
Washington University

Chad Augusty
Vanderbilt University

Robert Awh
Washington University

Preston Bailey
University of Tennessee

Carlton Baker
Samford University

Worth Baker
Middlebury College

Ben Bartholomew
University of Tennessee

Luke Bellet
Vanderbilt University

Austin Bennett
Auburn University

Mac Berklacich
University of Tennessee

Zan Berry
Vanderbilt University

John Bibb
Wake Forest University

Lindsay Bohannon
University of Kentucky

Rush Brady
Rhodes College

Austin Branstetter
Washington and Lee University

Mason Braswell
New York University

Rob Broadhurst
University of North Carolina

John Burch
University of Alabama

Nicholas Burn
Brevard College

Swan Burrus
Washington and Lee University

Mike Byrge
Southern Methodist University

Vincent Camarata
Belmont Abbey College

Clay Christain
Vanderbilt University

Charlie Christophersen
Southern Methodist University

Caleb Coker
Samford University

Taylor Colbert
Southern Methodist University

Jay Cole
University of Alabama

Warren Cook
University of the South

Ben Crownover
Miami University, Oxford

Dane Daniels
Cumberland University

Bennett Davidson
Kenyon College

David Davies
University of Alabama

William Davis
Howard University

Trip DeMoss
University of Alabama

Michael Downing
Northwestern University

Jon Eisen
Columbia University, Columbia College

Dane Ferre'
University of Virginia

Matt Ferrell
Furman University

Chris Fike
University of Kentucky

Ben Fredericks
University of Tennessee

Tyler Games
Miami University, Oxford

Grant Gardner
University of Tennessee

Daniel Givens
Vanderbilt University

Carl Grote
Washington and Lee University

Will Hannon
Washington University

Andrew Harris
Vanderbilt University

Rasha Harvey
Bowdoin College

Will Hastings
College of Charleston

Jonathan Haynes
University of Tennessee

Brandon Hays
Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University

Morey Hill
Washington and Lee University

Clay Johnson
Samford University

Alfonza Knight
University of the South

Daniel Leader
Boston University
Curtis Lovelace  
Stanford University

Micah Lutkowitz  
University of Florida

Alec Martin  
Columbia University

Brendan Mayhew  
Belmont University

Andy McLaughlin  
University of Georgia

Hayes McWilliams  
Southern Methodist University

Corey Metzman  
University of Pennsylvania

Jay Milam  
Miami University, Oxford

Chase Miller  
University of Mississippi

Johnny Mishu  
The Lawrenceville School

Clay Money  
Southern Methodist University

John Moynihan  
Washington University

Austin Musice  
Tennessee Technological University

Wilson Nealy  
University of the South

Jimmy Okot  
Trevecca Nazarene University

Will Orman  
Boston University

Alex Owings  
Vanderbilt University

Jas Rader  
University of the South

Tyler Ramsden  
Cornell University

John Ramsey  
University of Georgia

Sam Robinson  
University of the South

Robert Rolfe  
University of Alabama

Jimmy Russell  
Fordham University

Sloan Sanders  
University of Georgia

Alan Schulman  
Vanderbilt University

Daniel Sharbel  
University of Georgia

Jim Shaub  
Southern Methodist University

Taylor Smyth  
University of Texas

Andrew Snow  
Vanderbilt University

Ian Snyder  
Rhodes College

Tee Stumb  
University of Tennessee

Elliot Sutter  
University of Georgia

Chase Taylor  
Bowdoin College

Travis Tipton  
University of Georgia

Brandon Titus  
University of Denver

Sam Tucker  
Rhodes College

Eric Vasilevskis  
University of Tennessee

E.J. Vinsang  
Furman University

Christian Waddey  
University of Virginia

Nathan Wade  
Furman University

Tom Wall  
University of Tennessee

Max Webster  
Yale University

Robbie Weikert  
Vanderbilt University

Rand Woodson  
Eckerd College

Tyler Wright  
University of the South

Krzysztof Zienkiewicz  
Vanderbilt University
FATHER-SON DINNER

A packed Currey Gymnasium played host to the annual MBA Father-Son Dinner. Hundreds of students and their fathers enjoyed a rib-sticking meal catered by Jim ‘N Nick’s Bar-B-Q. Following the meal, the audience was treated to performances by the MBA Jazz Band and Chorus, as well as members of the Class of 2008 offering reflections about their fathers.

The highlight of the evening was MBA Director of Alumni & Development Scott O’Neal’s (’84) humorous and poignant keynote address about his relationship with his father, who passed away in 2004. O’Neal’s speech, particularly his retelling of an evening spent at gunpoint as a carjack victim, left the audience on the edge of their seats.

JUNIOR SCHOOL GRANDPARENTS DAY:
A SPRINGTIME TRADITION

MBA honored the significant contributions that grandparents make in the life of the school with both the Junior School Grandparents Day celebration in February and the Grandparents Coffee in April.

On Valentine’s Day, Junior School students welcomed their loved ones at a reception in Massey Commons. A presentation in Paschall Theater followed, featuring Dobbs Richards (’12) and Ryan Owen (’13) offering their perspectives on the MBA experience. The students then showed off the campus, touring their grandparents around The Hill.

Many grandparents returned to MBA in April for a coffee in their honor and a chance to catch up with their grandsons during the school day.
MOTHER-SON BREAKFAST

The annual MBA Mother-Son Breakfast returned to campus April 22. Hundreds of students and their mothers enjoyed a hearty breakfast sponsored by Waffle House.

Headmaster Brad Gioia began the program by thanking the Mothers Club and event chairs Anna Jacques and Susan Lincoln for their work. Seniors John Eisen and Worth Baker offered humorous and touching odes to their mothers, and the MBA Jazz Band entertained the crowd with its renditions of *Mack the Knife* and *Rock This Town*.

Featured speaker Robert Harris ('75) offered a moving tribute to his wife Cay, the mother of Brian ('05) and Andrew ('08), who passed away last fall. Mr. Harris reflected on the many things mothers provide that often go unnoticed, and encouraged the boys to express their love on a daily basis.

Seniors Daniel Givens and Carlton Baker followed with stories of admiration for their mothers and the determination they have shown in raising them. The MBA Chorus then offered *River of Dreams* and *Who Will Watch the Home Place*.

Senior Clay Money reflected on the many things his mother does for him, from ironing clothes to introducing him to girls on a college visit. Senior Hayes McWilliams concluded the remarks with an emotional speech about his mother’s continuing battle with cancer and his admiration for her courage, spirit, and love.

Singer/songwriter and MBA parent Tom Douglas finished the program with a special musical presentation.

TOTOMOI

The spring Totomoi tapping saw seven students, one Alumnus, and a beloved faculty member inducted into MBA's most prestigious honor society. Totomoi recognizes individuals who have shown outstanding leadership in academics and athletics, in service to the school, in community service, and in appreciation for the arts. Induction into Totomoi is the highest honor an MBA student, alumnus, or faculty member can receive. Current members of the society conducted the ceremony by giving a brief history of Totomoi, tapping each new member, and providing a history of each new member’s accomplishments.

Dr. Inman Fox ('50) was welcomed into the society he helped found. Dr. Fox’s classmate, William Bryan, was on hand to accept the honor in his place. Also tapped was longtime French, English, and Spanish teacher Beatrice O’Connell. Mrs. O’Connell was recognized for the hundreds of lives she has touched both in and out of the classroom, and as the faculty sponsor of the Honor Council. New inductees from the Class of 2008 were Clay Money, Alec Martin, Anderson McLaughlin, and Rasha Harvey. Members of the Class of 2009 inducted included Will Overton, Wade Longmire, and Brian Swenson (whose parents accepted the honor while he was on exchange at Eton College in England).

McLaughlin joins his father Fred ('76) as a Totomoi member. The duo is one of a handful of father-son combinations in the society. Other fathers and sons tapped as students include Tommy ('56) and Billy ('89) Frist; Ben ('63) and Ben ('97) Gambill; Jay ('67), Jim ('94), and Scott ('96) Bowen; Rob ('67) and Robbie ('99) Quinn; Dave ('69) and Cal ('01) Alexander; and Brock ('73) and Brock ('05) Baker.
## French

**Level 1**
- Tennessee: 3
- Nation: 4
- Ford Altenbern
- Chunsoo Park
- Sam Berklacich

**Level 2**
- Tennessee: 11
- Nation: 13
- Dane Ferré
- Clay Johnson
- Will Holt
- George Curtis
- Rush Brady
- Reggie Ford
- Michael Nunan

**Level 3**
- Tennessee: 1
- Nation: 1
- Austin Evans
- Daniel Givens
- Connor Shope
- Uli Kaulfuss
- Ben Gregory

**Level 4 AP**
- Tennessee: 2
- Nation: 4
- Taylor Smyth
- Chad Augusty

## German

- Nineteen of 23 students earned Certificates of Merit from the American Association of Teachers of German (AATG) for their scores at or above the national 70th percentile.
- Fourteen of 23 students scored at or above the national 80th percentile.
- Eleven of 23 students scored at or above the national 85th percentile.
- Nine of 23 students scored at or above the national 90th percentile.
- Seven of 23 students scored at or above the national 95th percentile.

**Level 2 Examinations**
- Pat Killian – wrote a perfect test, 99 percent national percentile
- Wesley Wilson – wrote a perfect test, 99 percent national percentile
- Michal Zienkiewicz – 99 percent national percentile
- Sam Denney – 99 percent national percentile
- Patrick Clarke – 96 percent national percentile
- Thomas Moore – 95 percent national percentile
- Harding McCall – 93 percent national percentile

**Level 3 Examinations**
- Bennett Davidson – 93 percent national percentile

**Level 4 Examinations**
- Zan Berry – 96 percent national percentile

## Greek

Of the 383 university and high school students who took the Intermediate Attic Greek Exam, 195 of them won awards. Robbie Weikert scored 31 out of 40 to earn a Certificate of Merit and Ribbon, roughly equivalent to an NLE Cum Laude score. John Moynihan scored 25 out of 40 to earn a Merit Distinction Ribbon.

## Spanish

**State Rankings**
- Level 1 – Ryan Hill – 4th (regular category)
  - Paul Van Pernis – 1st (outside experience)
- Level 2 – Fitz Lassing – 4th (regular category)
  - Will Gormley – 7th (outside experience)
- Level 3 – Campbell Kinnard – 3rd (regular category)
  - Daniel Sharbel – 9th (outside experience)
- Level 4 – Mason Braswell – 3rd (regular category)
  - Corey Metzman – 6th (regular category)
  - Daniel Arteaga – 1st (outside experience)

**National Rankings**
- 20 Oro (95 – 100% in nation)
- 23 Plata (85 – 94% in nation)
- 19 Bronce (75 – 84% in nation)
- 34 Premio (50 – 74% in nation)

## Latin

**National Latin Exam**
- 268 students earned awards – 86 percent of all our students taking the exam
- 143 students Gold Medals (Summa Cum Laude) 53 percent of the total number of our awards
- 25 perfect papers – 8 percent of our total taking the exam

**Latin I**
- David Arteaga, Aidan Davis, Henry Richardson, Baker Swain;
**Latin II**
- Stephen Bedard, Lane Bullock, Connor Caldwell, Naveen Chadalavada, Chris Goodrich, Ryan Hill, Nicholas Kohler, David Lee, Tom Markham, Max Werthan
**Latin III**

Over 10 percent of the current sophomore class wrote perfect papers.
The MBA Service Club was once again involved with myriad activities in the community. From Soup Kitchen to Special Olympics, Hispanic Achievers to Backfield in Motion, and Peer Tutoring to the Richland Creek Run, MBA students logged more than 3,100 hours of service this year. The Class of 2010 led the way with more than 850 hours dedicated to its community. The senior class also topped 800 hours, with more than 150 hours spent at the Soup Kitchen.

In addition to the normal service-oriented activities, 20 students from Montgomery Bell Academy spent their spring break helping people still in need more than two years after Hurricane Katrina devastated the Mississippi Gulf Region. The trip gave the students the chance to connect with the community of Bay St. Louis, home of MBA senior Max Webster, who came to Nashville following the storm.

The MBA students worked to help finish hanging siding and drywall, as well as other needed jobs at the house of a woman whose family had to cut through the roof in order to swim to safety during the extreme flooding. Limited finances and unscrupulous contractors left the family with a house half built.

In addition to working on the houses, the students stopped on the way to the Gulf at a Little League field in Ruleville, Miss. and helped paint, repair, and groom the field for use by the city’s children. A brief collection of used baseball gear prior to the trip made possible a generous and meaningful donation of equipment for the league. At the end of the trip, students delivered a large number of books for the library at an elementary school in Pass Christian. At each stop, the students developed a deeper awareness of the world around them and a keen awareness of the things they can do to help.

Eight seniors, seven juniors, and two faculty members were inducted into MBA’s Cum Laude Society in January. The Cum Laude Society honors individuals with superior academic achievements. Cum Laude member Dr. Cal Fuller was the ceremony speaker.

Dr. Abram W. Harris of the Tome School in Port Deposit, Maryland, founded the first chapter of the Cum Laude Society in 1906. The Cum Laude Society evaluates secondary schools for membership by examining the school’s academic qualifications, the credentials of the school’s faculty, and the college choices of the school’s graduates. MBA’s chapter was founded in 1981. The Cum Laude motto is excellence, justice, and honor.

This January, 15 students were inducted into the King Society, which honors students who exhibit the characteristics of Dr. King, such as kindness, integrity, yearning for a just society, and selflessness. King Society president Rasha Harvey (‘08), vice-president Austin Branstetter (‘08), and secretary-treasurer Tyler Ramsden (‘08) conducted the ceremony of induction.

(R to L) Front Row: Corey Metzman (’08), Sloan Sanders (’08), Ben Crownover (’08), Robbie Weikert (’08), Alex Owings (’08), Will Overton (’09), John Floyd (’09), Daniel Arteaga (’08)
Second Row: Brandon Hays (’08), Daniel Givens (’08), Tyler Wright (’08), Brandon Titus (’08), Connor Shope (’09), Wade Longmire (’09), Clayton McQuiddy (’09)
Not Pictured: Brian Swenson (’09)

Front Row: Corey Metzman (’08), Sloan Sanders (’08), Ben Crownover (’08), Robbie Weikert (’08), Alex Owings (’08), Will Overton (’09), John Floyd (’09), Daniel Arteaga (’08)
Back Row: Brandon Hays (’08), Daniel Givens (’08), Tyler Wright (’08), Brandon Titus (’08), Connor Shope (’09), Wade Longmire (’09), Clayton McQuiddy (’09)
Theater

Continuing a growing tradition, MBA’s Theater Department produced its third annual Junior School show February 1–3. Under the direction of Dr. Rick Seay (’79), the production of Tolkien’s *The Hobbit* (adapted by Brainerd Duffield) was a big success, featuring eighth graders Aaron Ardisson as Bilbo Baggins, Marshall Sorenson as Gandalf, and John Mark Bellet as Thorin, and seventh grader Mattison Asher as Gollum. The entire cast was strong, showcasing MBA’s up-and-coming theatrical talent.

Later in February, Mr. Malcolm Morrison directed *The Visit* by Friedrich Durrenmatt. This satirical story takes place in a depressed European village where the townspeople anxiously await the return of a native girl who has gone on to great wealth. They hope she will save the town with her financial generosity, but she has a sinister goal of revenge against her old boyfriend, passionately portrayed by Garrett Anglin (’08). Morrison said of his production: “This is a highly motivated and artistic company that has come together to produce this play. Their willingness, commitment, and diligence to understand and perform Durrenmatt’s masterpiece to its full potential has made a lasting impression on me.” On March 8, in the middle of Nashville’s biggest snowstorm of the season, Garrett Anglin also won first runner-up in the English-Speaking Union’s regional Shakespeare Contest.

At the end of April, the students in Dr. Cal Fuller’s Studio Theater class produced the 2008 One-Act plays (“A Stab in the Dark”) as the culmination of a year of study and practice. The short plays were directed by seniors Bennett Davidson, Garrett Anglin, Brendan Mayhew, Jimmy Russell, Worth Baker, and Tom Wall. They featured especially strong performances by Austin Archer (’09), Warren Cook (’08), Will Holt (’09), Alex Martin (’09), and Tommy Harless (’10). Dr. Fuller admitted the challenges for seniors to “remain conscientious so late in the year,” but he applauded their efforts: “Their passion for theater is insatiable. Mr. Morrison, Dr. Seay, and I appreciate the dedication of these young men and will miss them.” He encouraged the audience: “Think back about what they have contributed to our stage over the past six years. As they graduate, I hope they take with them pleasant memories of what they have learned and humbly created while here on The Hill.”
Music

The Music Department was active in the second semester, as always. The Rock Band played for all home Varsity Basketball games, entertaining the crowd with music from the 60s to the present. Almost every assembly contained music from the Ellington Band, Headmaster’s Singers, Chorus, or soloists. Justin Park (’11) and Jack Warne (’11) participated in the All Mid State Band. They rehearsed and performed at MTSU. Zach Sternberg (‘10) represented MBA in the All Mid State Jazz Band, which rehearsed and performed at Blackman High School. In late January, chamber musicians were featured in a Music in the Round Concert.

In February musicians played Dixieland music at the breakfast for the Gulf Coast relief effort. There was a concert featuring all of the Jazz Bands, and the Junior School musicians performed for Grandparents Day.

One of the highlights of the year was the concert with members of the Nashville Symphony Orchestra in March. The combined choruses of MBA, Harpeth Hall, and St. Cecilia performed Faure’s Requiem, and the Ellington Band performed Children’s Hour of Dream by Charles Mingus, and Riverdance from the show of the same name. The Jazz Band and the Chorus performed for the Father-Son dinner.

In April members of the Ellington Band played at the Country Music Hall of Fame for the National Junior Achievement convention. Chamber musicians had the final Music in the Round Concert of the year. The Jazz Band and the Chorus performed for the Mother-Son Breakfast. The Ellington Band played for the alumni on the lawn during Reunion Weekend, and members of the Rock Band played for the Senior Picnic. The year concluded with the Spring Concert in May featuring eight different groups and music for Junior School Honors Night, High School Honors Night, and Graduation.
The MBA Debate team continued the successful run it began in the first semester. Over the winter break, MBA hosted the annual Southern Bell Forum, considered one of the most renowned high school debate tournaments in the nation. Max Webster ('08) received the second place award out of 16 of the best Extemporaneous speakers in the country.

At the Vestavia Hills High School Debate Tournament in Birmingham, the team of Robert Awh ('08) and Hershel Mehta ('10) finished second in Varsity Policy. Awh received the Fourth Speaker award. The novice team of freshmen Jesse Suh and Justin Park also came in second in their division. Sophomore Aaron Lutkowitz continued MBA’s consistent performance, placing second in Extemporaneous Speaking.

In the districts tournament MBA once again turned in a stellar performance. The policy team of seniors Andrew Snow and Micah Lutkowitz came in second, and senior Corey Metzman was the champion of the Lincoln–Douglas division. Aaron Lutkowitz, John Moynihan ('08), and Tom Wall ('08) swept the top three spots in International Extemporaneous Speaking, a feat never before accomplished by one school in Tennessee. As a result of their achievements, Aaron Lutkowitz, Corey Metzman, Micah Lutkowitz, and Andrew Snow will be competing in the National Forensics League Tournament in Las Vegas this summer.
Montgomery Bell Academy was founded in 1867, the legacy of Montgomery Bell, who left a $20,000 bequest in his will stating that "a classical education should be made available to all boys." Soon after Mr. Bell’s death, his school for boys was started. The lives of thousands of young men have been affected by MBA’s opportunities, principles, and ideals. For that reason, and many others, the school honors the vision of its benefactor and celebrates another year of educating Gentlemen, Scholars, and Athletes at Founders Day.

The celebration began in Assembly, where the school honored its 2008 Distinguished Alumnus, James O. Bass, Sr. from the graduating Class of 1928, who spoke of his love of MBA and of how the values that the school instilled in him have served him in the eight decades since his graduation. (For more on Mr. Bass, please see page 18).

Following the Assembly, students gathered on the quad outside for one of the school’s newest traditions. Much like the race around the quad in the 1981 film Chariots of Fire, the Founders Day Bell Run evokes a sense of camaraderie and competition that is unique to MBA. The race, run in memory of Vann Webb (’00) who lost his battle to cancer, pits four high school sprinters (one from each respective class) against each other. Chris Goodrich represented the freshmen, Brad Bars – the sophomores, Spencer Wise – the juniors, and Alec Martin – the seniors. The entire MBA student body surrounded the course to encourage their classmates. After a couple of spills by the upperclassmen, Bars proved to be the winner this year, becoming the first non-senior winner in the five-year history of the race. ■
Following an event-filled Prom weekend, members of the Class of 2008 were given a break from normal classroom activities on Monday, April 7. The seniors enjoyed visits from more than 30 alumni and members of the MBA community as a part of the school’s Career Day. Visitors talked with students about potential occupations and offered career advice.

The day’s activities kicked off with a morning panel comprised of Leslie Hill, Sam Porter (’55), Art Rebrovick (’69), and Linus Hall discussing topics that related to their careers. Panelists commented on interview skills and the importance of character, networking, the skill sets required for sales jobs, the value of internships, and the stepping-stones of building a successful career. Students engaged in the forum and probed the panelists with insightful questions.

Following the panel, Keith Davis (’75) spoke to the entire school during Assembly. Davis works in Washington, D.C. for a firm that focuses on accounting practices for campaign finance. He spoke about the intricacies of Federal campaign finance, but also how his time at MBA and at Amherst College taught him to “look outside the box” and find a career he truly enjoys.

After Assembly, small groups of professionals discussed their career tracks in Architecture, Banking, Investments, Venture Capital, Charities and Non-Profits, Corporate Business and Management, Engineering, Entrepreneurial Business, Government, Journalism, Media, Publishing, Law, Medicine, Real Estate, Restaurants and Franchises, and Technology and Programming.

As Noon approached, students were able to have lunch with their guests, pose further questions, and get to know the visitors on a personal as well as professional level. Bobby Frist (’85) offered his thoughts on following a career path that not only mirrors your unique skills, but also feeds your passion.
CAREER Day
1. Alumni Board President Marc Stengel ('74) discusses publishing, media and journalism.

2. Wendy Long speaks to seniors on careers in government.

3. A roundtable on architecture with Eric Stengel, Tommy Brown ('94), and William Hastings ('90).

4. Dr. Jordan Asher ('82) shares his perspective on careers in medicine.

5. David Fitzgerald ('92) discusses banking, investments, and venture capital.
**BASKETBALL** This year’s MBA Basketball team, led by eight seniors, finished the season 14-11 to record consecutive winning seasons for the Big Red Basketball program. With the majority of the basketball team involved in football season through the playoffs, the Big Red hoopsters were behind most other teams in early season preparation.

However, the team was able to start the season in fine fashion winning three of its first four games before alternating wins and losses to finish the holiday break at 6-4. The first two weeks of January were difficult as the Big Red lost four straight, including two heartbreaking overtime losses on the road at JPII and Ensworth in back-to-back games.

The team continued working hard, however, and was able to put together an eight-game win streak immediately after these tough losses. There were a number of notable victories during the streak, including wins at BGA, over Dickson County, at Brentwood Academy, at McCallie, and a win at Father Ryan on their Senior Night. Home wins over JPII and Baylor concluded a great three weeks of basketball.

During this period the team really hit its stride. Physical defense, a deep bench, and timely scoring were the keys to success. After leading at halftime at Brentwood Academy in the opening game of the region tournament, a second half shooting slump ultimately did in the Big Red and ended a good season much too early.

Seniors William Davis, Austin Bennett, and Nathan Wade captained this year’s squad, while fellow seniors Carlton Baker, Grant Gardner, Alfonza Knight, Daniel Sharbel, and Robbie Weikert made solid contributions as well.

Several underclassmen saw extensive action at the Varsity level this year as well. Juniors Joseph Sloan and Spencer Wise, along with sophomores Luke Colbert, Holden Mobley, and Tyler Paslick all played meaningful roles on the Varsity team and will help form a solid nucleus for the next several seasons.

A number of players from a successful 13-5 Junior Varsity team will join the Varsity next season, and help to continue moving MBA basketball back toward the top of Division II.

**BOWLING** The bowling team finished the 2007-2008 season as the Division II Middle District runner-up with a team average of 164.8 over a 23-game season. The season opened with a big victory over Father Ryan. The team battled hard all year, but lost the season series to eventual state champion JPII. The team won the season series against the 2007 state champion and power-house Father Ryan, swept the series against region opponents USN, Brentwood Academy, BGA, and Ensworth, and defeated Division I foes David Lipscomb, Hillsboro, and FRA. The team finished the regular season with an 18 - 4 record and second place in the district. The team qualified for the state tournament, but lost a close match in the quarterfinal round of the Division II State Tournament to St. Benedict School.

The Big Red qualified two bowlers for the state individual tournament, Captain Rand Woodson (’08) with a 202 average and Will Andrews (’09) with an impressive 183 average. Rand performed superbly in the state tournament and walked away with the state runner-up trophy and the honor of Tennessee Bowler of the Year. Will finished in the Top 10, and will be the team captain for the 2008-2009 season.

The top senior bowlers this season were Woodson, (who received a first team all-state recognition for the third year in a row), Elliott Sutter with an average of 127, and Chase Miller with a 131 average. Both Sutter and Miller contributed great senior leadership in their first year on the team. Rising stars for next season include: Will Andrews (’09) – 183, John Andrews (’10) – 159, Brian Swenson (’09) – 137, Denney Sandwith (’10) – 156, Caldwell Ritter (’09) – 166, Logan Lechleiter (’09) – 176, Charlie Watkins (’09) – 151, Ben Sutter (’10) – 144, Oliver Oldacre (’10) – 144, and Connor Hastings (’10) – 143. These bowlers will form the nucleus of another strong Big Red machine.

**HOCKEY** The 2007-2008 MBA Hockey team finished the regular season with a winning record of 13-7-1. With a young team of only two seniors and 11 freshmen, the Big Red completed the regular season third in the standings, but fell short of its goal of making it to the state playoffs.
the state tournament. The team started the season with early losses to BGA and JPII, but rebounded with an eight-game winning streak, including two decisive wins over Mt. Juliet. Highlights of the season included playing Ensworth’s first hockey team, a 10-0 victory for MBA, and defeating two-time state champion JPII, the only loss of their season, with a 2-1 upset.

In the playoffs the Big Red advanced to the third round with a playoff record of 1-2, which included tough losses to both JPII and Hendersonville. Senior captain Chris Fike led the team in scoring with 21 goals and 9 assists. Junior Crawford Standard, an assistant captain, followed with 14 goals and 13 assists. Freshman Eddie Lang (15 goals, 5 assists), sophomore David Dalton (6 goals, 13 assists), and freshman Zach Turner (2 goals, and team-high 16 assists) rounded out the team’s leading scorers.

Aided by a strong defense, freshman goalies Nick Bessette and Alex Austin backed the Big Red’s freshman-heavy team. Junior defenseman Bailey Brandon and Dalton were selected to the league’s all-star team along with Fike, who was voted team captain for the North.

RIFLE Competition kicked off in September and continued through April. Every year for the past 13 years MBA has conducted an invitational tournament in October. The tournament, now known as the MBA Rifle Classic, started small and has grown nearly every year. It is now the largest high school-sponsored tournament in the U.S. This year’s Classic had more than 400 entries representing 72 high schools from 17 states. Nearly 3,000 targets are fired and scored and the results bulletin runs more than 40 pages. Junior Chris Whitlock fired a 569/600 to lead our four-man team to a sixth place finish.

On the first weekend of April the team suffered a “wakeup call” loss to Blackman High School in the State Junior Olympic Qualification Round Match. The team had beaten Blackman earlier in the year and got blindsided in the QR which determines who represents Tennessee in the Junior Olympic National Team Championship fired in July. MBA fired a good score; however, Blackman fired a great score and deserved to win.

After the tough setback, the team recovered to win half of its shoulder-to-shoulder matches and ended the season with a win in the State Championship—for the 12th year in a row.

An individual highlight of the year was junior Vic Goetz earning an invitation to compete at the Olympic Training Center in Colorado Springs for the Junior Olympic Individual Air Rifle Championship. During three days of competition in early April, against 80 of the top junior shooters in the nation, he placed in the middle of the pack but learned a great deal for next year.

Chris Whitlock and Vic Goetz were selected as members of the Tennessee High School All-State Rifle Team while Gray Taylor (’09) and Alex Fettroll (’10) were named All-State Honorable Mention.

SWIMMING & DIVING The MBA Swimming and Diving teams have long held a strong tradition of excellence. Many athletes have earned honors as region, state, and national champions as well as Athletic and Academic All-Americans. Our athletes have also earned scholarships to many Division I schools, become conference champions, and Olympic trial qualifiers.

The 2007-2008 Varsity team boasted a young, but talented, group of swimmers and divers led by senior Captain Curtis Lovelace. Its goal was simply to regain our supremacy and recapture a division and region championship last won by the 2004 MBA team.

Behind two seniors, Curtis Lovelace and Tyler Ramsden, these young men achieved their goals, capturing both a division and regional championship. Qualifying 17 boys for the Tennessee State High School Swimming Championships, MBA placed second, improving upon its 12th place finish from the previous year. Curtis Lovelace set two individual state records and posted the fastest 100 Breaststroke time in the country for High School.

Although the Big Red will certainly miss Curtis and Tyler’s contribution to the team, many strong underclassmen return, along with several talented swimmers still participating in the Middle School. The future of Big Red Swimming looks very bright. >>>

Mike Byrge ('08)
**WRESTLING** The 2007-2008 MBA Wrestling team battled through injuries and inexperience to post a successful season. Although their dual meet record was a disappointing 5-14, the Big Red competed in every match and gained valuable experience at every turn. The team managed to place fifth in the state individual competition, and finished the year ranked in the top 12 of all divisions in Tennessee.

Junior Max Jerrell’s state championship and junior Jeff Francis’ runner up finish in the state tournament highlighted individual achievements. Seniors Christian Waddey (4th) and Luke Bellet (3rd), along with sophomore Daniel Todd (3rd) joined them on the medal stand.

**LACROSSE** The 2008 MBA Lacrosse team completed a successful season with a 9-6 record and a state semi-finals appearance. The lacrosse team began the season with numerous positions to fill, adding 14 new players to the roster. The season was highlighted with wins over Libertyville (Ill.), Ravenwood, and Christian Brothers, and a hard-fought playoff battle with eventual state champion MUS.

Younger players stepped up throughout the season and have shown tremendous promise for the future. The Big Red was anchored by a veteran defense of seniors Mac Berklacich, Charlie Christofersen, Jay Milam, and Chase Taylor. Junior goalie Bailey Brandon, team MVP, will look to return as the top goalie in the state next year. The offense was aided by seniors Sloan Sanders, Swan Burrus, Carl Grote, and Mike Byrge. George Curtis (‘10), Sam Lincoln (‘09), Kile Garrett (‘09), and Clay Adams (‘11) filled key roles on offense and will look to lead the team next year.

The Big Red produced five all-state players, with Mac Berklacich, Swan Burrus, and Mike Byrge earning Honorable Mention All-State, Bailey Brandon capturing second team honors, and Sloan Sanders making the first team. The lacrosse team will say goodbye to nine seniors while looking ahead to next year in their quest for a championship.

**SOCCER** The MBA Soccer team performed well throughout the whole season but was not strong enough to advance past the quarterfinals in the state tournament. After a Cinderella-like run in the regional competition, where MBA beat BGA in a brilliant come from behind win, the Big Red was downed by Father Ryan and knocked out of the state tournament.

After having graduated the majority of the team last year, this year’s team was looking for the underclassmen to step up and fill the gaps. Five freshmen, three sophomores, eight juniors, and four seniors assembled to “have a go” at the opposition.

After three games, the soccer team still had not won, and everybody was wondering if the year could be disastrous. Following a humiliating first loss to Independence, the squad headed up to JPII for the first league game of the year. JPII took an early lead but surrendered the lead after MBA showed some fighting spirit and went up 2-1. A late game comeback by JPII saw the resilient MBA side fated to two loses in a row. Next, Franklin High School proved a large portion for MBA to swallow, and the game ended in a tie, 1-1. Three games, two loses, one tie.

Following a rough two losses and one tie start to the season, the team banded together and did not lose a single match over the next eight games. Freshman Goalie Alex Blanton, with help from a strong defense anchored by junior Max Jarrell, built a brick wall in front of the goal as the offense produced multiple goal games. Late goals by both Andrew Fletcher (‘10) against BGA and Houston Oldham (‘09) against BA kept the Big Red highly ranked within regional competition. Freshman Ryan Shepherd and German...
The Hill • spring/summer 2008

ON THE HILL • SPORTS

exchange student Uli Kaulfus helped solidify the middle of the field.

The final five games of the season saw the Big Red hit emotional highs and lows. When MBA traveled to Father Ryan, they expected to challenge the Irish for second place in the region. The squad did not show up to play and were beaten by a strong Ryan team. Next, two come-from-behind wins in the regional tournament gave MBA a third place finish and qualified them for the State Tournament. A victory over BGA in the regional tournament marked the best game of the year as MBA battled a full-strength opposition and came from a goal down to win the game in the last 15 minutes. Finally, the Big Red’s run came to an end with another defeat to Father Ryan in the first round of State.

TENNIS The 2008 MBA Tennis team took on one of the toughest schedules in team history this year as a change in TSSAA rules combined the Middle and East Regions. Despite a tougher schedule and a young squad, the team had a successful year. With a final record of 12-3, the team turned a corner early in the season at the St. Xavier Jamboree in Louisville, Ky. MBA went 3-0 defeating Indian Hill (the defending state champion in Ohio), St. Xavier (the defending state champion in Ky.), and Centerville, Ohio.

MBA wrapped up the season and a top three spot in the Middle/East Region with final week wins over new rival Ensworth and traditional rival Baylor. Against local teams of Father Ryan, Brentwood Academy, BGA, and Ensworth, MBA went 4-0 going 43-2 in total matches won and lost.

In the post-season, MBA secured a spot in the state tournament by defeating Christian Brothers 5-0 in Memphis. In the semi-finals, the Big Red put up a valiant fight before falling to eventual state champion McCallie. With five of the top six returning next year, the future is bright for Big Red tennis.

TRACK The 2008 version of Big Red Track started the season with many question marks. They also started with over 100 lads, the largest turnout in the history of the sport. The first real meet after Spring Break was the Highland Games, and MBA won the Scottish-style event for the fourth time in four tries. The high point of the meet was Ben Bartholomew (’08) winning the “Big Man” award for the second consecutive year, a combination of excellence in the shot, disc, stone, and caber toss.

After a disappointing trip to McCallie where they failed to defend their championship from last year, the team rebounded to win the Doug Hall Nashville Relays, setting records in the discus relay (Matt Ferrell (’08), Scott Bubis (’09), and Austin Locke (’10)) and the pole vault relay (Christian Waddey (’08), Leland Howe (’09), and Baker Mulherin (’09)). The team then defended their City Championship for the third year in a row. City champions were Ferrell in the disc, Bartholomew in the shot, and Tyler Ramsden (’08) in the 1600.

The region held at MBA was the culmination of the team’s season, as the Big Red defeated five-time champion Brentwood Academy by a scant two points, sealing the win with a third place effort in the 4x400 relay. Champions were Bartholomew in the shot, Waddey in the vault, and Patrick Crum (’09) in the long jump. The season ended with that trio all repeating their championships in the state meet, each for the second time, and Waddy setting a new state record (all divisions) with a leap of 15’11”.

Scott Bubis (’09) at the Highland Games
As the 2007-2008 Service Club President, Johnny Mishu oversaw more than a dozen projects that encompassed nearly 3,100 hours of student involvement. He also served as Sports Editor of The Bell Ringer and the Business Editor of The Bell. Mishu also excelled in the classroom, garnering AP Scholar with Honors accolades and was named a National Merit Finalist. A dominating force for the Big Red Baseball team, Mishu was named to the 2008 All-region team, the All-tournament team at the Eagle Invitational in Phoenix, Ariz., and was selected as the team’s most valuable player by his coaches. He will attend the Lawrenceville School in Princeton, N.J., for a postgraduate year in expectation of continuing his baseball career in college.
Alfonza Knight’s career at MBA can be defined by the words maximum effort. A solid student, a talented artist, and a three-sport athlete, he gave his all to every task placed in front of him. As captain of the 2007 football team, Knight received the inaugural Floyd S. Elliott Award as the team’s leading tackler, and was also selected for first team All-state for his role in leading the Big Red to an undefeated season. Knight was also a finalist for the Nick Coutras Award, which recognizes the senior football player from Middle Tennessee who best exemplifies the qualities of exceptional individual effort, superior attitude, dedication to team, academic, and athletic excellence and commitment to community service. A two-time winner of the P.M. Estes Award, the Sewanee-bound Knight was also a member of the African American Studies Club and served as a mentor for Backfield in Motion.
A quiet leader in the classroom and on the field, Christian Waddey has seen success in nearly every endeavor at MBA. Waddey not only helped the MBA Football team to a state championship with a 1,000-yard rushing season, he also led the Big Red to the 2007 Physics Bowl state title with one of the highest test scores in the competition. An accomplished three-sport athlete, Waddey was the winner of the Adm. William P. Lawrence Award, which goes to the top high school football scholar-athlete in Middle Tennessee, placed in the state wrestling tournament, and currently holds the school and region record in the pole vault. A member of the Junior Honor Society, Cum Laude, and a three-time winner of the National Latin Exam Gold Medal, Waddey was also a member of the MBA chorus and served at Soup Kitchen and Special Olympics. Waddey will attend the University of Virginia this fall on a track scholarship.
Over its 141-year history, MBA has sometimes been compared to—for better or for worse—a military school. If by “military” one means tradition, integrity, discipline, respect, teamwork, camaraderie, pride, and service—so much the better.

One junior school advisory group has taken the meaning of those words to a whole new level. In the spirit of respect, teamwork, and service, the 16 boys in Mrs. Cherie Roberts’ seventh grade homeroom came up with a project that hits close to home and affects service men far away. Over the past year the boys have corresponded with a soldier and collected supplies for his platoon stationed nearly 7,000 miles away in Iraq—a platoon with an MBA connection.

Bringing the connection closer to home is Mr. Pat Woolsey, the affable junior school mathematics teacher who has patrolled the halls of Massey for the past 18 years. In addition to his roles as teacher, adviser, and coach, Woolsey is also father to Chris, MBA Class of 2005, and to Matt, MBA Class of 1999.

In the nine years since graduation, Matt Woolsey has descended The Hill only to find other mountains to climb—or more specifically, to fly over. He is currently the captain of an Army Apache helicopter unit stationed in Balad, Iraq; he is also the beneficiary of a student initiative back home.

The seventh-grade service project began as a way to provide Captain Woolsey and his fellow soldiers with personal supplies. Thanks to the boys’ teamwork and organizational skills, and through the generosity of MBA faculty, staff, students, and alumni, 33 boxes of the soldiers’ favorite things were collected. The boys carefully packed articles ranging from Pringles potato chips and phone cards to batteries and (what??) floral note cards; the boys were shocked to learn there were women soldiers in the unit. To cover the $700.00 needed for postage, Mrs. Carol Pettus’ homeroom teamed up with Roberts’ class by hosting bake sales to raise the necessary cash. Their joint effort was successful; every single box arrived safely in Balad and just in time for the holidays.

Pat Woolsey described the scene on the front lines when the boxes arrived. “The amount of supplies that MBA students sent to Matt and the battalion was overwhelming to him. Matt shared the goods with his unit by laying it out on a big table with a sign saying “Courtesy of Montgomery Bell Academy of Nashville, Tennessee.” The gesture warmed his heart, not to mention mine.

In the nine years since graduation, Matt Woolsey has descended The Hill only to find other mountains to climb—or more specifically, to fly over. He is currently the captain of an Army Apache helicopter unit stationed in Balad, Iraq; he is also the beneficiary of a student initiative back home.
and touched a lot of his fellow soldiers' lives. An MBA pennant was in one of the boxes, and Matt flew it on his helicopter missions. Needless to say, he is proud of his old school and is proud of the students for taking action.

Actions are said to speak louder than words, but thanks to the written word, the service project has taken a more personal turn. In doing the “write stuff” the boys have forged a lifelong friendship with the former MBA student. Writing to Captain Woolsey has helped the students to see him as not just some soldier over there, but someone who, too, once was an MBA seventh-grader; whose father is on campus every day; who has recently become a father himself; and who happens to be a highly-trained helicopter pilot.

His father comments on the bond Matt has formed with the boys through e-mail correspondence. “He has stayed in contact with Mrs. Roberts’ seventh-grade homeroom, and has written them about his feelings of how things are going over there, and what is really happening. He has a few months to go out of the 15-month deployment in Iraq, and he is anxious to get home to his wife and new baby. Once Matt has finished his tour, one of his first stops will be to come to MBA to meet the boys and speak at Assembly.”

One seventh grade boy was convinced that he had written the “wrong” stuff, and that his correspondence had caused the Army to mark him as a terrorist. In an e-mail to Captain Woolsey, the student did not fill in the subject line, which raised a red flag of suspicion; apparently the federal government considered the oversight a security risk. On the surface, the content of the correspondence in question seems rather harmless:

“We, Mrs. Robert’s advisees, would like to congratulate you on your baby girl. We would like to help you in any way possible. We will collect the materials that you need. We once again congratulate you and your wife on the new girl. Thank you for your service in the military.”

Sincerely,

James Higgins, Faulkner Werkhaven, Mattison Asher, Andy Seay, Trip Adams, Hamilton Millwee, John Garrett, Penn Murfee, Robert Papel, David Maynard, Will Campbell, Alex Smith, Jack Benton, Mrs. Roberts, and the class representatives, Todd Baker and Will McFadden

Captain Woolsey, in turn, shows respect for the Junior School boys’ level of maturity by sharing with them inside information about the situation in Iraq. To follow are excerpts from an e-mail he sent to the class:

“I, too, watch the news and they do not always know what is really happening. Right now the U.S. Forces have managed to push most of the insurgents out of Baghdad. The problem is these bad guys have spread out into provinces, harassing the smaller towns. Pretty soon we will turn more of the country over to Iraqi security forces.”

Mrs. Roberts expresses her appreciation for Matt’s effort in keeping in touch with the students. “You have given us a rare and special opportunity to have a

“IT HAS BEEN A BLAST FLYING OVER THE SKIES OF IRAQ. IF IT WERE NOT FOR MISSING MY FAMILY, I WOULD SAY THIS IS THE MOST EXCITING JOB EVER.”

CAPTAIN MATT WOOSLEY
Many an alumnus has taken MBA’s emphasis on community service a big step further by honoring his country through military service.

• General Frank M. Andrews—for whom both Andrews Air Force Base in Maryland, and Frank Andrews Field on the MBA campus are named—served his country as Supreme Commander of Allied Forces in Europe in 1942.

• Admiral (Ret.) J. Wilson Prueher (’60) was Commander in Chief of the U.S. Pacific Fleet in 1996 at the same time Vice Admiral (Ret.) John L. Mazach (’62) served as Commander of the Naval Air Force of the U.S. Atlantic Fleet. It is remarkable to note that two MBA alumni were simultaneously in charge of protecting the waters on either side of our country. Prueher went on to represent the U.S. as Ambassador to China.

• Colonel Joseph R. Wood (‘77) first served in the United States Air Force and is currently working in the White House as Vice President Dick Cheney’s Deputy Assistant for National Security Affairs.

The tradition of military service continues as Captain Will Norton (‘99) and Captain Matt Woolsey (’99), U.S. Army are currently serving in Iraq.

We would like to compile a complete list of all MBA alums currently serving in the military. Please contact our office with the information at 615-369-5360 or alumni@montgomerybell.edu.
Assemblies

Former Mafia Boss Michael Franzese
April 15

Fisk University President Hazel O’Leary
January 29

Peace Corps Volunteer Rick Gotwald ('01)
February 11

Washington Post Columnist David Ignatius
February 4

Cranium Inventor Richard Tait
April 14

SMU Basketball Coach Matt Doherty
May 7

Belmont University Basketball Coach Rick Byrd – March 31

Imbedded Journalist Willie Stern
January 13
Inspired by a longstanding British tradition, MBA has created its own version of the Leavers Dinner as yet another way to honor the graduating senior class. In the spirit of celebration more than ceremony, the soon-to-be 2008 alums enjoyed dinner and entertainment by singer/songwriter Pat McLaughlin and select members of the Ellington Band. Frist Hall was transformed into a formal dining experience with candles, flowers, and table linens, where the seniors enjoyed steak, shrimp, and spirited exchanges by trading toasts with each other and making candid tributes to honor their teachers.

For many of the schools with which MBA has exchange programs (such as Eton and Winchester in England, Lindisfarne College in New Zealand, and the King’s School and the Southport School in Australia), the Leavers Dinner is held in lieu of prom and graduation.
For the fifth consecutive year, mothers of MBA alumni gathered to catch up on the latest news, reminisce about time spent on The Hill, and enjoy the talents of the Headmaster’s Singers. The Mothers of Alumni Coffee was held in the Paschall Theater on April 10. The mothers were once again treated to a cooking demonstration from MBA faculty member and gourmet chef Malcolm Morrison. With the flair of a TV chef, a British accent that could make peanut butter and jelly sound exotic, and with the help of volunteers Carol Yarbrough, Cindy Piana, and Ramsey Doran, Morrison treated the assembled to Provençal chicken, ratatouille, and spicy shrimp with garlic, red pepper, and paprika.
MBA Men of the Cloth

by: Nina Thomas

“All religions, arts, and sciences are branches of the same tree. All these aspirations are directed toward ennobling man’s life, lifting it from the sphere of mere physical existence and leading the individual towards freedom.”

—Albert Einstein

MBA alumni in the clergy, with roots firmly planted in The Hill, have branched out through their study of a range of religious traditions—each turning a personal calling into a full-time profession. Just as Einstein suggests that all religions, arts, and sciences grow from the same source, so have these ‘Men of the Cloth’ shared common ground from their time at MBA.”
Reverend Scott Bowen (’96)
First Presbyterian Church of Opelika
900 2nd Avenue
Opelika, AL 36801
334-705-4303
revscottbowen@gmail.com
At the age of 30, Scott is the youngest of our featured alumni religious leaders— and the only one who was inspired to go into the clergy while still at MBA. As a matter of fact, his mentor was the priest whose story you will read later on. “On Career Day my senior year, I had signed up for law and education and needed to add one more field. I saw only three other students had signed up for the Episcopal priest, and thought I may as well help fill up the space. The speaker happened to be Gordon Peerman. I remember asking him what a pastor did the other six days of the week; his response was so enthusiastic and compelling when he described the many facets of his ministry that I thought, ‘Now that’s an interesting job.’”

After graduating from MBA and UNC, Scott served four years on the Youth Ministry staff of Signal Mountain Presbyterian Church in Chattanooga. He then entered the Masters of Divinity program at Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary in Hamilton, Mass. before beginning a call as the pastor of First Presbyterian Church of Opelika, Ala. near Auburn University, where he continues to serve. As the solo pastor for this 100-member congregation, his skill as a pastoral care counselor was urgently called into service following the tragic murder of an Auburn student this past winter.

As a youthful minister, Scott easily attracts college students to his flock. “We have about 25 or so young adults who make the drive over from Auburn to be a part of the life of this church. The congregation loves their unbridled energy. Students bring a unique dynamic to the discussions; they examine and question every element of their lives, which most definitely includes their faith. Whether they are reaffirming or questioning their faith, I love being part of the process. It is the chance to surprise them – to say, ‘Guess what: God is bigger than you. And believe it or not, He is even big enough to handle the expanding intellectual curiosity (or should I say skepticism) that you are now experiencing. He is not offended by your search.’ What is so refreshing about college students is that they know they’re searching, so they’re not as prone to covering up their questions with an air of invincibility.” Scott is keenly intuitive about human nature and has an almost sage-like ability to understand his church members in particular. His wisdom defies his youth. Reverend Bowen’s ability to read the spiritual needs of his congregation grows out of a love of reading and of scholarship in general.

Through his roots in school and family and his study of the Reformed tradition, Scott has cultivated a reverence for scholarship: “The work ethic and pursuit of academic excellence that I learned from MBA and my grandmother have helped me in studying the Bible. Learning Hebrew and Greek in divinity school was a breeze because of my foundation in French and Latin.” Scott was a diligent language student as his French teacher, Mrs. O’Connell, can attest: “He was an excellent French student and followed all the way through to French III Honors. He would not have made the short list among my students as one who would go into the clergy, but when I think about it, his constant good humor, ability to get along with everyone, and his keen perception about people make him a natural!”

“I loved cross country and track. I loved the self-discipline and the time alone competing with myself. Building on the interior strength I developed on the track is something I am constantly pursuing as a pastor.”

“HE WOULD NOT HAVE MADE THE SHORT LIST AMONG MY STUDENTS AS ONE WHO WOULD GO INTO THE CLERGY, BUT WHEN I THINK ABOUT IT, HIS CONSTANT GOOD HUMOR AND ABILITY TO GET ALONG WITH EVERYONE MAKES HIM A NATURAL!”

—Beatie O’Connell, Foreign Languages

>>>
Scott also credits his classes in ancient history and English for lighting his career path. “Officially I had only two different English teachers while at MBA, but my grandmother was Mrs. June Bowen, a well known—some would say legendary—English teacher in the junior school. She would fix us a Sunday lunch of fried chicken and apple pie, and then sit us down for a grammar test. She never took a day off from teaching and we, her grandchildren, never got a day off from learning. So, realistically, I would say I had three English teachers while at MBA.”

Having been at the receiving end of great teaching, Bowen strives to ‘pay it forward’ as he spreads the word: “I see myself foremost as an educator. To be able to ask the right questions in search of answers which are not always right or wrong is a skill I try to emulate. MBA taught me to read critically and to question unconditionally, and that is reflected in my ability to write and communicate clearly—skills that have come in handy in my roles as a teacher and a preacher.”

In addition to teaching and preaching, a third facet of his clergy life involves counseling and hospital visits. Scott tells a story of one such visit where the element of surprise led to a kind of epiphany. “On the 4th of July, a church member had been taken to the emergency room. When I appeared from behind her curtain, she exclaimed with fear, ‘Scott, did your little boy have an accident with fireworks? Is he in the emergency room?’ To which I replied, ‘My son is fine, but I do have someone here. That someone is you!’ The relief on her face was immediate; she wasn’t worried the least bit about herself. As a pastor I love moments like these: opportunities to genuinely surprise people, where my presence represents God’s care. Whether occurring in a hospital room, at my desk, or at the door following a sermon, those ‘a-ha moments’ remind me of the privilege and joy of pastoral ministry.”
Dr. Peerman is an Episcopal priest who considers himself a student of contemplative practices, both Christian and Buddhist. He is a thinker. Were a statue to be erected in his honor, Auguste Rodin’s *Le Penseur* would come to mind.

After graduating from MBA, Gordon studied English and history at the University of Virginia. He then attended Yale Divinity School and was ordained as an Episcopal priest in Richmond, Va. Over the course of his career, he has worked in pastoral care and marriage counseling, psychotherapy and consulting.

Peerman now spends more than half his time as a psychotherapist. He describes the nature of his practice in this way: “People who come to me are pushed through the door by suffering: losses, illness, death, relationship challenges, vocational uncertainties — the whole range of challenges that life throws at us. The dominant note of our work as clergy is listening, helping people to hear themselves in perhaps a fresh and different way, and eventually to find new ways of understanding the story they think of as themselves.”

He often uses stories in great literature to draw parallels to a patient’s personal history. “The clergy’s work is a journey of transformation, not unlike the journeys we read about when we were at MBA, like the stories of Huck Finn or Siddhartha or Job. Sometimes it helps people ‘read’ their own stories in the light of the story of another journey like one of these, or in the light of one of the ‘big’ stories of Jesus or Moses and the Prophets or the Buddha.”

The balance of his time is spent teaching and writing. Similar in vein to MBA’s approach to the ideal of gentleman, scholar, athlete, maintaining ‘balance’ in one’s life is at the core of Peerman’s philosophy. He is a proponent of mindfulness meditation and centering prayer, approaches which form the basis for his work at the Vanderbilt Center for Integrative Health. As an Episcopal priest, he incorporates Buddhist ethics and teachings, and is keenly interested in interfaith dialogue with Buddhist and Christian contemplatives. In his book entitled *Blessed Relief: What Christians Can Learn From Buddhists About Suffering*, Peerman offers a practical guide...
“So to come to this open-hearted, open-minded place the rabbi is talking about, most of us need some kind of spiritual practice to catch the winds of grace.”
through eight Buddhist practices that can bring ‘blessed relief’ to a wide range of human sufferings: from fear and anxiety to anger and stress. Having established a stress reduction program at St. Thomas Hospital in 1997, Gordon has long been intrigued with the relationship between stress and personal health.

Acknowledging the power of nature in the process of stress reduction, healing and meditation, Peerman leads a program called Contemplative Kayaking in Southeast Alaska. On a recent kayaking retreat, he tells a story that reveals his self-deprecating sense of humor, and shows that a man of the cloth can have a few flaws in the fabric of his being: “I was with my good friends Seth Cooper and fellow MBA classmate, Rob Barrick (’70). As I was teaching around the campfire, an abrasive student who continually managed to annoy the entire group, said, “Gordon, I still can’t hear you.” As I moved closer, smoke burned my eyes. Then an ember from the fire landed on my coat. I smelled something burning – I was on fire! Breathing in, I chanted a mantra: “I’d like to set her on fire… breathing out… I’d like to set…” Later that night Rob whispered to me in the supposed-to-be silent period, “Peerman, I could tell you were annoyed when you had to move closer to her…and it got worse when the smoke got in your eyes. But when your coat caught on fire, you sort of lost your groove.” Well, there it was: my cover as a dharma teacher. For me, about what you believe, and more about what you practice, what you do to catch the winds of grace.”

An old Hasidic rabbi asked his pupils how they could tell that night had ended and the day had begun. “Is it,” proposed one student, “when you can see an animal in the distance and tell whether it is a sheep or a dog?” “No,” answered the rabbi. “Is it when you can clearly see the lines on your own palm?” “Is it when you can look at a tree in the distance and tell if it is a fig or pear tree?” “No,” answered the rabbi each time. “Then when is it?” the pupils demanded. “It is when you can look on the face of any man or woman and see that they are your sister or brother. Until then, it is still night.”

**Peerman’s interpretation:** “So to come to this open-hearted, open-minded place the rabbi is talking about, most of us need some kind of spiritual practice to catch the winds of grace.”

In addition to his roles as therapist, teacher, and author, Peerman has added a community service project to his list of ministerial accomplishments. Along with fellow alumni Berry Holt (’69), Rob Barrick (’70), and his brother Bill Peerman (’71), Gordon established Mobile Loaves and Fishes, an initiative to alleviate hunger by delivering food directly to the homeless in areas where they congregate. In a year’s time they have recruited 300 volunteers, served over 10,000 meals, and are in position to start up a second truck.

“Religion was not a dominant energy in the late ’60s at MBA. The Fellowship of Christian Athletes was not very active and there was as yet no Jewish Advisory Group. A member of the clergy would occasionally speak on campus.”

---

**What it means to Gordon:** “The divine wind or breath (pneuma in Greek, spiritus in Latin, ruach in Hebrew), is very close, both within and all about us, closer to you than your jugular vein, the Sufis say. Because we are not aware of this presence in a moment-to-moment way, spiritual traditions offer a variety of contemplative practices, to help us ‘catch’ the winds of grace, through calming the mind and opening the heart. Walking a spiritual path has become less, for me, about what you believe, and more about what you practice, what you do to catch the winds of grace.”

---

**Acknowledging the role nature plays in nourishing the soul, Mr. Gioia recently contributed a book to the MBA library entitled Last Child in the Woods: Saving Our Children from Nature-Deficit Disorder by Richard Louv.**
Pastor Peter van Eys was Nashville educated, venturing down the road from MBA to Vanderbilt for an undergraduate degree in social work and continuing on to divinity school. For the past nine years he has tended a flock of 1,360 members who gather in a prime Green Hills location where parking is ample and the sermons, inspiring. His audience is a rich balance of retirees, young families, single professionals, and nursing home residents.

Peter serves a large congregation made up of a broad demographic, while managing a big group of employees. “Here at Calvary I spend a lot of my time as an administrator to a large staff. As I prepare to lead worship, write a weekly column for our church paper, or cultivate a lay leadership, I make it a priority to address the needs of all these people from diverse backgrounds.”

He most enjoys pastoral care as it challenges his training in social work. Being well-grounded in his faith and sense of self, Peter’s temperament is well-suited to counseling. “I like people. Blessed with a good supply of patience and the ability to maintain a calm demeanor in tense situations, I can absorb anger, complaints, and confidences as well as their joys and affirmations. I have a particular heart for the ways our faith community is involved in missions and community service.”

Pastor van Eys discovered early in his career that some of the most powerful exchanges occur away from the pulpit and not necessarily on Sunday. He also came to realize that pastoral care is often more about improvising with humor than proselytizing with drama. His favorite story goes like this: “While a student at Vanderbilt Divinity School, I received my first appointment: I was assigned to two churches in rural Robertson County. Having decided I would try to re-activate members who had become inactive, I paid a visit to a local tobacco farmer. There I found him in his barn tending the fires to cure tobacco leaves.”
“MBA’s influence continues to echo throughout my life: Mrs. Bowen was my seventh-grade English teacher, and 40 years later would come to my sermons at Calvary; Choirmaster Hal Hopson’s music still reverberates throughout my service every Sunday.”

Negotiating my way through a fog of smoke, I introduced myself as the new preacher, and encouraged him to come to church. I was met with an awkwardly long silence. At that point I was suffocating from the smoke, so I decided to say my goodbyes and leave. Just as I turned away he stood up and said, “I know who you are, and I heard you were boy enough to preach; but are you man enough to chew this?” He then grabbed a leaf of tobacco and stuffed it in his mouth. After what seemed an eternity, I, too, reached for a tobacco leaf, put it in my mouth and said, “I hear you’re boy enough to chew this, but are you man enough to come to church?” I then ran out of the barn and threw up. The tobacco farmer obviously didn’t see what I did, but he must have heard what I said. He came to church the very next Sunday.” After that encounter it became clear to Peter that, away from the safety of a prepared Sunday sermon and the comfort of the pulpit, a minister in the field has to think fast on his feet.

While at MBA van Eys was singled out—not for his eyes but for his hair—in Ridley Wills’ The History of Montgomery Bell Academy. “Soccer player Jan Peter van Eys wore his hair so long that Headmaster Carter asked his father, a physician at Vanderbilt, to come to his office to talk about the situation. The headmaster was a bit unnerved when Dr. van Eys walked in with hair longer than his son’s.” Had Peter wanted to lend credibility to the value of his long locks, he might have alluded to the passage in the Old Testament from Samson and Delilah that associates hair length with physical strength.

In spite of this infamous anecdote, Peter was known more for his athletic strength than the length of his hair. In 1969 he was instrumental in starting the school’s first soccer team, and was one of two students to play on the varsity team all four years.

In addition to his athletic endeavors, van Eys was a student of the arts. Peter’s life-changing experience in a fine arts class...
(taught by a particularly fine teacher) underscored the intertwining of art and religion to which Einstein alludes. "Art History with Mrs. LeQuire helped me to develop another dimension to my spirituality; studying the religious icons and works of art over the centuries touched me deeply."

During his undergraduate years at Vanderbilt, Peter found himself gravitating toward the ministry. His first passion was social work; he was fascinated with the notion of healing the human condition one person at a time. When his longtime friend, a Belmont United Methodist Church organist, advised him to combine church work with social work, Peter thought, “That’s it.” Divinity school was the next stop on his educational and spiritual journey. After moving to the East with his family and making intermittent stops, Peter returned to Nashville to nest and nurture his Green Hills flock.

"In the late ’60s and ’70s the MBA chorus would rehearse at Vine Street Christian Church under the direction of church organist and entertainer Greg Colson, and nationally-known composer Hal Hopson. I remember Fred Guttman, now a rabbi, was also in the choir. Their effect on us may have subliminally influenced our career paths.”
The Hill
spring/summer 2008
70

Rabbi means master or teacher; when referring to Rabbi Fred Guttman, the term is somewhat limiting. To do him justice, it is necessary to add humanitarian; political activist; musician; institutor of programs; advocate of toddlers, teens, and the elderly; soldier on reserve; even, warmed-over hippie. With a curriculum vitae chock full of accomplishments, awards, and activities, Guttman is a renaissance man wrapped in a rabbi’s robe.

Prior to serving as senior rabbi of Temple Emanuel in Greensboro, he was the associate rabbi of Congregation Ahavath Chesed in Jacksonville, Fla. until 1995. To follow is a newspaper clipping written in 2002 that sheds light on Guttman’s personality, lending insight into the person he is, as a complement to the breadth of what he does.

As the clipping suggested - he may be out there, but the planet he’s from and the high school he attended are a given. “MBA helped me define my strengths and weaknesses, and taught me how to play to my strengths and follow my passions. I flourished in English and history. There were only four students in my Ancient and Medieval History class, but that subject (along with my teacher John Riggins) stirred my interest in exploring the Bible. Foreign languages and sciences were my weak areas. In order to master Hebrew I had to move to Israel so that I could learn through immersion.” The strategy obviously worked as he continued to live there for more than a decade, spending four years as principal of Alexander Muss High School in Israel.

Whether communicating in English or Hebrew, Rabbi Fred has an ability to speak to students. As a teacher, then department head, and finally as the principal at AMHS, he developed an internationally award-winning curriculum. His objective was to help students understand Israel’s living history by following the Bronze Age through the Holocaust and into the current Middle East conflict. “We created an intense academic experience, similar in scope to MBA’s, spending three days inside the classroom and three days out in the field where the students can experience a kind of crusader classroom. Having benefited from – or should I say ‘having survived’ – the rigors of MBA, I knew in my role as principal just where to set the bar in terms of excellence at AMHS.”

“Terry Holcomb was a powerful English and drama teacher from whom I learned a great deal about stage and sound work. That background has helped me throughout my career at the pulpit and podium.”
Reflecting on MBA’s religious climate in the ’70s in comparison to the present, Guttman had this to say: “Back then, there was a small group of Fellowship of Christian Athletes but no Jewish Advisory Group at all. In fact, only two of us in the Class of 1970 were Jewish. Although the two of us didn’t socialize much with Christians on the weekends, we all got along well in class and had heated discussions about current events; I remember clearly talking with Bill Frist about Bobby Kennedy’s assassination. When I was on campus recently I was glad to see a much more balanced diversity with regard to religion and ethnicity.”

Rabbi Guttman, as a chaplain and orator, revels in religious diversity—relishing the free exchange and cross-pollination of spiritual ideas. He spoke as part of a “pulpit exchange” program at the First Presbyterian Church in Greensboro, N.C. In his speech he made reference to the Star of David (located in the church’s sanctuary and pointing to the Temple Emanuel) as a symbol of gratitude and ecumenical unity between Christianity and Judaism.

The sermon entitled “Being God’s Messengers” is posted on the church Web site: www.fpcgreensboro.org/pages.asp?pageid=60167

Each of these MBA Men of the Cloth wears a garment that signifies individual religious traditions, yet each remains open to other ways of thinking. Peerman embraces the tenets of Buddhism and applies them seamlessly to Christianity; Bowen welcomes youthful doubt, inviting any and all points of view; van Eys reaches out to a congregation in vastly different stages of life; Guttman steps up to the pulpit exchange to address diverse religious issues. By staying true to their spiritual beliefs and branching out into the realms other religious thought, these MBA alumni in the clergy are able to wrap themselves in “a coat of many colors.”

As Einstein so aptly reminds us, different religions “are all branches of the same tree...directed toward ennobling man’s life.”

We would like to compile a complete list of all MBA clergy, where your ministry is located, etc. Please contact our office with the information at 615-369-5360 or alumni@montgomerybell.edu.
ALUMNI

BASKETBALL
On a cold March Sunday, nearly a dozen MBA Alumni put on their Chuck Taylors and Air Jordans for a chance to take on the Big Red Basketball team in the annual alumni game. After a hard-fought up and down the court battle, the alumni were able to prevail. Helping lead the alumni to victory were Alan Huggins (’98), Whit Smith (’98), Nick Anand (’06), Deon Gaines (’06), Ryan Holt (’01), Jeff Scobey (’01), Warner Jones (’02), Ric Gotwald (’01), John Otzer (’98), Eric Lawrence (’00), and Clark Rollins (’02). Special thanks go to Coach Kevin Anglin, Coach Ronnie McMahon, and the members of the MBA Basketball team for taking part in this fun event.
The Alumni soccer game saw former Big Red players lace up their boots one more time and take the field against the future of the MBA program. John Markham (’97) helped organize a team that included Tyler Yarbrough (’07), Jake Lawrence (’04), Rob Welhoelter (’95), Paul Wieck (’98), Adam Wieck (’81), and Frank Andrews (’82). After a spirited game and a narrow victory by the current squad, the two teams enjoyed a hearty lunch together. Special thanks go to Coach Lanier and Coach Klausner for their help in putting the day together.
The MBA Alumni Association continued to cross the continent with three gatherings in the past few months. In March Headmaster Brad Gioia and Director of Alumni and Development Scott O’Neal (’84) traveled to the Lone Star state for a pair of Texas events. Houston alumni gathered for a brunch at ICON Restaurant in the Hotel ICON. The pair continued their Texas swing, hosting Dallas-area alumni at the home of Advisory Board member Bill McNutt later that night. In May Gioia and O’Neal got the chance to catch up with Southern California alumni at the Los Angeles home of Miriam and Tom Schulman (’68).
Battling a Resistant Form of TB in Tugela Ferry, South Africa

By Lee Hampton (’97)

In many ways, the patient was just like others I had seen that day at the Anti-Retroviral Clinic. She was gaunt and weak, and having been infected with HIV and TB, had come to start anti-retroviral drugs. In one very important way, however, she was different — she had a drug resistant form of TB. While she was receiving a cocktail of drugs for her TB, the effectiveness of her treatment regimen was far from guaranteed. I was glad I was wearing a protective mask.

I encountered this patient while working at the Church of Scotland Hospital (COSH) in the town of Tugela Ferry, KwaZulu-Natal Province, South Africa. COSH is an old missionary hospital that was taken over by the provincial government in the 1970s. Tugela Ferry is a market town and center of local government. The local terrain is dry and arid and resembles a Navajo reservation in the southwestern United States. The area is rich in history: the Zulu victory over the British at Isandlwana (depicted in the movie Zulu Dawn) and the British victory over the Zulus at Rorke’s Drift (depicted in the movie Zulu) occurred nearby, along with a later Zulu rebellion against British taxation. During the period of Apartheid, the area was part of the KwaZulu homeland, a region of land that whites did not want and where Zulus were required to live.

In most ways, COSH is a typical South African rural community hospital. It provides basic outpatient and inpatient services for the hundreds of thousands of Zulu people. The hospital’s patients range from badly malnourished children pushed over the edge by vomiting and diarrhea; to mothers with complicated deliveries requiring caesarian sections; to gaunt men with tuberculosis. Many of these patients have HIV. In one way, however, COSH is unusual. It operates a program with the Yale University School of Medicine in which Yale medical students, clinicians, and researchers travel to COSH to treat patients and conduct research. This collaboration helped lead to the recent discovery that it had one of the largest known clusters of drug resistant (XDR) tuberculosis (TB) in the world.

XDR TB refers to cases that are resistant to the most effective first- and second-line drugs for treating tuberculosis. There is a vaccine against TB, which children in South Africa receive, but it only seems to be effective in preventing children from developing TB disease outside of the lungs. It offers very little or no protection against TB of the lungs in adults.

Of the first 53 patients identified with XDR TB at COSH, 52 died. This prospect of an almost untreatable, airborne XDR TB lay behind the strong U.S. government response to reports of an XDR patient traveling on a trans-Atlantic flight and the resulting media frenzy in 2007. Having HIV increases a person’s risk of developing symptomatic TB and dying from it because the immune system cannot contain the TB. All of the patients who developed XDR at Tugela Ferry were HIV positive.

My work in Tugela Ferry, as a second-year pediatrics resident at Yale-New Haven Hospital in Connecticut, allowed me to treat patients with diseases that I would rarely encounter in the U.S., to provide assistance in a medically under-served area, and to learn more about the country of South Africa.

Working in the clinic gave me a much greater appreciation of the difficulties and uncertainties of treating patients with HIV in an area with high rates of TB infection. Many of the patients we saw who came to start anti-retroviral therapy for the first time also had symptoms of TB, including cough, fever, and weight loss.

On the plane ride back to the United States I developed an upper respiratory tract infection, complete with runny nose and cough. My cough reminded me of how someone who picked up XDR TB in a country like South Africa could potentially spread it to other international travelers and then to their family and friends once they reached home. Given the amount of international business conducted with Africa, this is not an idle concern. Furthermore, tourism now makes up the largest portion of South Africa’s Gross Domestic Product (GDP), outpacing even mining, and the country hopes to attract even more visitors as a result of hosting the 2010 World Cup. While XDR TB probably cannot take the same human toll in developed countries today as TB did during the 1800s and 1900s (due to improved nutrition, building ventilation, and overall better health) the possibility of even a limited XDR TB epidemic in the United States from cases overseas is worrisome.

The specter of such an epidemic makes me thankful for the foresight of leaders such as former Senate Majority Leader Bill Frist (’70) and their support for programs such as the Global Fund to Fight HIV, TB, and Malaria and for the U.S. President’s Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR) program. By helping to reduce the burden of disease in other countries, these programs reduce the odds that a very dangerous infectious disease such as XDR TB might be imported into the United States. In other words, by helping others we help ourselves — a bargain for all concerned.
1958

Tony Edmonds was named George and Frances Ball Distinguished Professor of History at Ball State University in 2005. He has recently written a biography of Muhammad Ali (Greenwood Press 2006). He is the proud grandfather of Maggie (b. 2006) and Finn (b. 2008) Edmonds. His wife of 44 years, Joanne H. Edmonds, will retire in June 2008 as Associate Dean of the Honors College at Ball State.

1959

The Class of 1959 will celebrate its 50th reunion in the spring of 2009. Make plans to attend.

Sam Pickering’s wife Vicki reports that Sam enjoyed a sabbatical from the University of Connecticut in Perth, Australia. He spent his time walking, running, reading, writing, and observing his environs and the natural world. He is nearly finished with his third volume of essays on Australia. Sam also toured three of New Zealand’s premier resorts for an article in Town & Country Travel magazine. His daughter Eliza, a recent graduate of Harvard and an assistant editor with the magazine, accompanied him on the trip. Sam’s son Edward is working on his Ph.D. in English at Yale with the hopes of becoming a third generation university English professor. Francis, the youngest child, has just completed his masters in Environmental Management from the Freie University of Berlin, Germany.

1960

The Class of 1960 will have a class retreat on Sept. 26th and 27th of this year. It will be held at the farms of Eulick Daniel, Tony Suvolle, and Jimmy Pickel. We had a similar event in 2002 which was highly successful with 34 classmates in attendance. For more information, contact Jimmy Pickel (jpickel415@comcast.net).

1962

Joe Binkley, Jr. was appointed in March to the bench of the Fifth Circuit Court by Tennessee Governor Phil Bredesen. Binkley has been in private practice since his graduation from Vanderbilt Law School in 1969.

1965

After six years running a London subsidiary of Munich Reinsurance Company, Jay Branum retired last September, and moved to central Oregon, where his main past-time has been riding horses (English tack), with an emphasis on jumping - something he took up while living in the English countryside. Last July he took part in a fantastic five-day ride across a stretch of Tuscany, traversing the Val d’Orcia (southeast of Montalcino). He “can’t recommend too highly the value of riding horses as a way to keep in shape, to sharpen your balance, to empty your brain of business and other concerns and live completely in the moment (and sometimes get a great adrenaline rush), and if lucky, to find yourself bonding with one of these wonderful animals.” Branum and his wife Rachel have three sons - the oldest in Seattle, the middle one in Waltham, Mass., and the youngest in music conservatory in London.


A fter graduating from MBA in 1984, John Carter rode off to college and into the sunset — first becoming a cowboy in Texas, and finding greener pastures as a cattle rancher in Brazil. Central to the issue of greener pastures is an environmental debate related to land use that has landed Carter in the eye of a controversial storm. The current tug-of-war between food production and bio-fuel production, deforestation and rainforest preservation has led him—kicking and screaming—into the international spotlight.

John’s rugged individualism, passion for all things environmental, and compassion for fellow ranchers are manifested in his creation of Aliança da Terra, a nonprofit organization dedicated to sustainable ranching.

As founder of this Brazilian land alliance, Carter has been the focus of articles in Time magazine and the International Times of London. Read about a fellow alumnus whose pioneer spirit and strong convictions are featured on the international stage. Look on the News & Upcoming Events page in the Alumni section of the MBA Web site for the links to these articles above.
1971
Tom Neff won an Emmy this past year for Best Feature Documentary: Shake Hands with the Devil.

1972
Trigg McClellan works at the University of California-San Francisco in the Department of Orthopaedics as Associate Clinical Professor. He is also the Director of the Orthopaedic Spine Service at San Francisco General Hospital. Clinical Director of the Biomechanics Lab at SFGH and a Deputy Sheriff in the San Francisco Sheriff’s Department Mounted Unit. Not many can say they have ridden down Market Street on horseback.

1973
Tom Loventhal is engaged to Monica Thompson. They will be married August 8, 2008 in Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada.

1976
Steven M. Zager has been named to the Vanderbilt Law School National Council which is chaired by another MBA alumnus, Frank Garrison (’73).

1977
William Anderson reports that his oldest daughter Melissa will be graduating with a degree in Exercise and Sports Science from the University of Georgia this December (six months early). She continues to compete for UGA in both cross country and track and is a huge dawg football fan. Youngest daughter Lauren is a junior in high school and would also like to attend UGA as well. His wife Debbie continues to work for the Babies Can’t Wait Program in Clayton County, Ga. and William is the CFO for Hoshizaki America in Peachtree City. He has been training for the ING Marathon in Atlanta, hoping to run a 3:20.

1978
Tim Kurtz passed the Louisiana bar exam and is now cleared to be a full-fledged Pelican State lawyer. He currently resides north of New Orleans in Mandeville, where he serves with the Navy Reserves.

1982
Billy Rolfe has moved over to United Surgical Partners International as a Partnership Vice President after 17 years in the orthopaedic implant business. He is responsible for physician recruitment and management of current partnerships within our six Middle Tenn. outpatient surgery centers. United Surgical Partners is the second largest outpatient surgery center owner and operator with over 160 ASC around the country.

1986
Chip Fridrich and his wife Heather welcomed their first child, Hannah Lee Fridrich, into the world on September 12, 2007.

1987
Bob Pate and wife Amy live in Nashville with their son, Hawkins. Bob works for a genetics lab based in Massachusetts, while Amy is currently staying at home with Hawkins.

1988
Just recently, the Northwest Chapter of 1988 Big Red Alumni (i.e., Robert Archer from Spokane, Wash., and Stephen Smith from Kalispell, Mont.) coincidentally and rather spontaneously had their own 20-year reunion. In lieu of attending the official bash in greater Nashville, the two met at a hole-in-the-wall pizza joint near Rob’s home when Stephen traveled that way for business. Much mirth was had by both as the two old men helped each other reminisce over such topics as experiencing the wrath of Mrs. Bowen’s grading policies, playing Ultimate Frisbee during eighth period study hall, enjoying dunk-ball at Charlie Hailey’s home, playing church-league basketball far too passionately, and establishing an MBA-esque hellish work ethic very early in their lives. As a side note, both still have full heads of hair, a fact of which they are singularly proud.

1989
John Moore and his wife Elizabeth welcomed their first child, Margaret Frances, on December 24, 2007.

1990
Scott Burrow just completed his Emergency Medicine Residency at Wake Forest Baptist Medical Center. He and his family have decided to move to Alabama and take a job in Dothan. Daughter Anna (8) just completed second grade. Son Owen (4) will be in Pre-K.

1991
George Adams, Jr. and wife Jamie have added a third child to their family. Big sisters Olivia (6) and Meg (3) now have a wonderful little brother to entertain. William Austin Adams was born on December 4, 2007.
Thomas Carlton and his wife Ellen welcomed their first child, a daughter named Gracyn Ebright Carlton, on February 18, 2008. Gracyn was 6 lbs 10 oz and 20 1/2 inches long. Everyone is happy and healthy.

Emma and Tate McDaniel celebrated the birth of their second girl, Mary Charles McDaniel, on March 21, 2008. Riley (4) loves her little sister and is a big help.

Miranda and James Nash welcomed their first child, Quincy James, on November 14, 2007. Miranda is directing a software division at Oracle Corp., and James just released his fifth album with The Waybacks. Miranda, James, and Quincy live in San Francisco, Calif.

Alex Waddey and wife Isse are expecting a baby girl in September.

1992
Ray Brooks is a Congressional Fellow on the U.S. House of Representatives Committee on Foreign Affairs.

1994
Erik Daugherty has returned to Nashville with his family after working abroad as a work-package leader on a Pan-European Renewable Energy project. His passion for Sustainable Development and Green Building practices motivated Erik to establish an innovative and cutting-edge company in Nashville, E3 Innovate, LLC, that offers solutions to energy, efficiency, and environmental needs.

1995
Thomas F. “Freddie” O’Connell was recently appointed by Mayor Karl Dean to the board of directors of the Metropolitan Transit Authority. His partner of almost nine years, Whitney Boon, just completed her first year at Meharry Medical College.

1996
Andy Anderson and his wife Jenny welcomed Claire Elise Anderson on May 5, 2008. Claire joins big brother Jack at their Birmingham home.

1997

John Buchanan has finished his first year at Wharton Business...
School and is working this summer for Citigroup in New York City. Prior to business school he worked six years in New York City on a trading desk.

Neely Coble has been accepted to Vanderbilt’s Owen Graduate School of Management to pursue his MBA as a member of the Class of 2010.

Brew Davis married Jennifer Pharr in Charlottesville, Va. on June 8, 2008. Representing MBA were his father Harrison Shull Davis (’65), uncle W. Lipscomb Davis Jr. (’49), cousin Houston Sarratt (’66), and friends Robert Sawyer (’98), Miller Harris (’01), Jake Beesley (’97), Carter Paine (’97), Benjamin Gambill III (’97), Andrew Ward (’97), Scott Denbo (’97), and Drew Robers (’97).

Robert Ross writes that, “I am engaged and will marry the exceedingly lovely and brilliant Marta McEllan at the Cathedral of the Incarnation in Nashville in August 2008. Marta and I both live in Washington, D.C., where I am a second-year at Georgetown University Law Center and Marta works as a foreign policy analyst. Strangely enough, we met back in high school during one of those debate camps that Mr. Tate always convinced us debaters to attend during the summer. The moral of the story is that high school debate is (contrary to common belief) a great place to pick up hot women! Go Big Red.”

Hanley Sayers married Mary Birch McLaughlin on June 9, 2007 and they are expecting their first child on August 20 of this year. Additionally, they are moving from Jackson Hole, Wyo. to Austin, Tex. where Hanley will be enrolled in the McCombs School of Business at the University of Texas.

Justin Vaughn and his wife Debbie had their second little boy. Kyan joined their family on June 8. He weighed 8 lbs 6 oz, which is the same as his brother Jake weighed just a short 22 months ago.

James Walton and his wife Marissa are happy to announce the birth of Andrew Patrick, born in London, England on January 16, 2008. James and family are now living in Dallas, Tex.

1998

Phil Berry, his wife Amy, and daughter Piper have moved to Black Mountain, N.C. Phil is the Assistant Camp Director at Ridgecrest Summer Camps. Amy is employed by Young Life and is expecting the couple’s second child.

William Billips is engaged to Ann Claire Clauer. They are to be wed on June 13, 2009. She is also a native Nashvillian who attended David Lipscomb High School. She works locally for Coomer-Wells & Co., P.C. The couple met after William moved home from Ole Miss (Masters of Taxation in 2005). He currently works as a tax consultant for Deloitte in Nashville, Tenn.

Rob Brackin and his wife Tricia welcomed their first son, Rylan Robert, on September 14, 2007. They are now living in Grapevine, Tex. which is just outside of Dallas. Tricia continues her work as an RN in the NICU and Rob is working as systems design engineer on the new Boeing 787 airliner.

Matthew Wallace is now Director of Clinical Operations for the Saint Thomas Heart Group.

1999

Brian Brooks graduated with a Masters in Business Administration from the University of Oxford a few months ago and is enjoying life in sunny London, England.

1999

Captain Michael Lewis has just returned after 15 months in Iraq. He was with the 4-9 Infantry Battalion, which is part of the 2nd Infantry (Stryker) Division. His Battalion spent the last six months in the desert near Tikrit attached to the 101st Airborne Division. Michael graduated from Georgetown in 2003.

2000

Tom Hancock has recently relocated to New Orleans, La. He works in supply chain management for Solar Turbines Inc. and will be pursuing his MBA at Loyola University of New Orleans starting in spring 2009.

Tee Isenhour married Lauren Peoples on January 26, 2008 at St. Patrick’s Cathedral in New York City, N.Y. MBA alumni in the wedding party included best man Ben Davis (’00), and groomsmen Jeff Krones (’00) and Mark MacDonald (’00). Tee and Lauren live in New York City.

William Lee recently graduated Vanderbilt Medical School and his wife Kerry graduated Vanderbilt Law School this past May. They will be moving to Indianapolis this summer where William will soon begin a 5-7 year residency in general surgery at the Indiana University Hospital.

Benjamin Sabel and Judson Mulherin are opening up a microbrewery in Austin, Tex. They are currently in the process of completing their equity financing and are on target to open in early 2009. Their Web site is circlebrewing.com.

2001

Will Greathouse married Amy Katherine Warner (HH ’02) on February 2, 2008 at St. George’s Episcopal Church in Nashville. MBA alums in the wedding party were Richard Greathouse (’05), Bill Alley (’01), Britt Groomes (’01), Drew Oldham (’02), Clark Rollins (’02), and Adam Sinks (’00). Will and Amy reside in Nashville, where he works for Greathouse Landscape Co. and she works for Vanderbilt University.

Steve Ingram married Ashley Eaves on May 31, 2008.
2002
Jamie Carroll is presently a second year law student at Emory, and is working in Atlanta this summer.

After working for Pricewaterhouse Coopers for two years and obtaining his CPA license, Will Howorth recently switched careers and is now working for Merrill Lynch as a financial analyst in private banking in Washington D.C.

Richard Jacques has been named the recipient of the Endel Medal for Excellence in Mass Communication from Furman University. The award honors a student whose work in mass communication exemplifies the highest standards. In granting the award, the department considers excellence in scholarship, but may also consider a student’s practice of mediated communication as well as service to the department, the university, and the community. Jacques is a double major in History and Communication Studies and graduated with the highest GPA in the department. He is a member of the Lambda Pi Eta and Phi Beta Kappa honor societies and is the winner of a variety of scholarships, including the Gilpatrick History Prize. Jacques plans to attend law school.

Graham Lea will begin a Master of Architecture degree at the Graduate School of Architecture and Urban Design at Washington University in St. Louis this fall.

Zach Wall married Olivia Mansfield of Athens, Ga. on April 19th of this year. Class of 2002

2003
After graduating from Trevecca with a masters degree in theology Hunter Cummings (’03) went on to study at Vanderbilt Divinity School. This past May, Hunter graduated with a masters in divinity from Vanderbilt. This fall he will start a Ph.D research program in Wesleyan theology at the University of Manchester. Hunter currently serves as the Executive Director for the East Nashville Cooperative Ministry. He attributes his academic success and success in ministry to fellow classmate and friend John Lane Denson V. Lane’s unwavering support and encouragement during times of trial and his ability to make Hunter laugh at himself was and will forever remain invaluable.

John Eason, Jr. will be starting Vanderbilt Law School this fall.

Peter Power is engaged to Krista Galloway; they will be married at the Basilica of the Sacred Heart on the campus of Notre Dame on July 26, 2008. Krista will work full time as a nurse and Peter will begin his first year of medical school at Creighton University Medical School in Omaha, Nebr.

2004
Neal Idnani graduated from the University of Chicago with a degree in Economics. He will be staying in Chicago, working with hedge fund, Citadel Investment Group. Over the past year he served as President of the Delta Delta chapter of the Delta Kappa Epsilon Fraternity, and was a member of the Student Leaders Council, an advisory board to the Vice President and Dean of Students of the University.

Shaun McFall has traveled to Mexico for study twice, spent a semester living and studying in Buddhist monasteries across Japan, and worked as a community organizer and ESL teacher in New Orleans, La. Most recently, he graduated with honors from Vassar College with a degree in political science and religion. Upon graduation he received the J. Howard Howson prize for excellence in the study of religion as well as a Mark of Distinction on his senior thesis. He has finally returned to Nashville for the summer where he will work as a research intern at Vanderbilt’s First Amendment Center while preparing to take the LSAT in the fall. After the LSAT, he plans on moving to Paris, France with his girlfriend Sophie Hirabayashi of New Orleans, La. (also Vassar Class of ’08) before applying to law schools.

2005
Derek Pendergrass received a job designing concert scenery for Tait Towers. He is currently working on shows for Elton John, the Jonas Brothers, Madonna, and the Radio City Christmas Show.

2006
Jordan Klein has been named First Sergeant of the Unit S-1 of the Texas A&M University Corps of Cadets. Klein is completing his sophomore year at Texas A&M. Jordan, who is majoring in Biological and Agricultural Engineering, was awarded the prestigious George H. Follett Undergraduate Endowed Scholarship by Texas A&M’s Department of Biological and Agricultural Engineering.

2007
Brooks ‘Ocean’ Jones successfully debuted his first album, Live and Learn, at a live concert at City Hall in Nashville on May 31st. The boisterous crowd included a number of MBA alumni. Jones wrote the lyrics to all 14 songs on the album and is back in the studio working on new material. You can catch the Ocean Jones sound at www.myspace.com/oceanjones.

Chipo Mulaisho qualified for the Dean’s List at the University of Michigan School of Engineering.
Howard Ezra Frost, Jr. (‘38) 1919-2008

Howard Frost passed away on Memorial Day, May 26, 2008 at the age of 88.

He attended Montgomery Bell Academy on a full scholarship, graduating in 1938. At his graduation from Montgomery Bell Academy, he was awarded the Martin Medal, an award given to the Most Outstanding Boy in the Senior Class. While at MBA, he was a starting guard on MBA’s 1937 City Championship football team. He was also President of the Alpha Chi Fraternity in 1937.

After graduation from MBA, Frost joined Third National Bank in Nashville. In 1941, after the attack on Pearl Harbor, he joined the US Navy. Frost served in Naval Radio Intelligence, utilizing then top-secret high frequency direction finders to monitor the communication transmissions of the German Navy, principally the German U-Boat submarine wolf packs operating in the Atlantic Ocean.

In 1945 he was discharged from the US Navy and he returned to Nashville. Frost joined J.C. Bradford & Co. in 1951, ultimately becoming Investment Limited Partner with the firm. He served with J.C. Bradford & Co. and its successor entities for 56 years, retiring from UBS at age 87 during the summer of 2007.

Frost served as a Deacon of the Downtown Presbyterian Church and also as a Deacon of the First Presbyterian Church after its formation in 1955.

IN MEMORIAM

He is survived by his wife from 1951-1956, Elliewyn Lewis Leechliter Frost; and by his sons, Dr. Howard E. Frost III ('73) (Miley) of Falls Church, Va., Mark B. Frost ('79) (Michel), and Lewis R. Frost, all of Nashville. He is also survived by his granddaughters Bailey Woodward Frost and Riley Anderson Frost, by his nephew Hamilton Frost, Jr., and his niece Emmy Frost Phillips, all of Nashville.

Frank Williamson Blair, Jr. (‘43) 1926-2008

Frank Blair passed away May 17, 2008. Following MBA, Blair was graduated from Vanderbilt University School of Engineering. A veteran of World War II, he served in the US Army Air Corps. Blair was a retired vice-president of the former Steel Service Company. He was a member of St. George's Episcopal Church, the English Speaking Union, Sons of the American Revolution, and The Society of the Cincinnati.

Blair is survived by daughters Linda Blair Cline (William) and Ella Blair Johnson (Douglass); son Frank Williamson Blair III ('70) (Florence); grandchildren – Polly Hayes Cline Baur, Sarah McGavock Cline, William Crockett Cline, Blair Chambers Cline, Frank Williamson Blair IV ('97), Florence Hayes Blair Blackburn, Douglass Stevens Johnson, Jr. ('87), Christopher Hayes Johnson ('84), and McGavock Martin Johnson ('06); great-grandsons – Robert McGavock Baur and Frank Williamson Blair V; and his sister Margaret Blair O’Brien.

Robert Cabeen Mathews, Jr. (‘45) 1927-2008

R.C. ‘Bob’ Mathews died June 5, 2008 at the age of 80. At MBA he was one of the football team’s famed Four Horsemen. During World War II, he joined the Army and served in the Army Signal Corp. After returning home from the war, he graduated from Vanderbilt University Engineering School in 1951. He was a member and President of the Phi Delta Theta fraternity. He also launched the engineering magazine called the V square. Shortly after graduation in 1951, he joined his father at R.C. Mathews Contractor.

At the time of his death, Mr. Mathews served as Chairman of The Mathews Company, and associated companies, including NAI Nashville and R.C. Mathews Contractor. For nearly 60 years he held leadership positions within the company, always spearheading projects that shaped the character and pace of the city he loved. In 1954 Mr. Mathews poured the foundation of L&C Tower, then the tallest building in the Southeast. As a contractor, Mathews built or renovated a number of Nashville landmarks, including the Frist Center for the Visual Arts, the Ryman Auditorium, the Hermitage Hotel, and the Stahlman Building.

He served on the board of directors of the Nashville Area Chamber of Commerce for many years and as President in 1976. Mathews served as volunteer Chairman of the Metropolitan Nashville Airport Authority for 22 years, leading the effort to attract the American Airlines hub, expand air service by Southwest Airlines, and secure a nonstop flight to London, England. Mathews also served as Chairman of the Long Range Planning Committee for the City of Belle Meade. He was past Chairman of the Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta, Nashville Branch. Since 2001 he was a board member of the Central Business Improvement District.

Mathews was a member of the Urban Land Institute, the Society for International Business Fellows, the Society of Cincinnati, the Land Trust of Tennessee, the National Trust for Historic Preservation, the YMCA Foundation, and the Rotary Club of Nashville. He also served as Chairman of the Advisory Council of the Cumberland Valley Girl Scouts.

End of Document.
Robert F. Lance (‘52)
1933-2008
Bobby Lance passed away April 29, 2008 in the company of friends on the tennis court, leading 5-0 for the match. Lance attended Montgomery Bell Academy until 1950, but was always considered an honorary member of the Class of 1952. He moved to Kingsport, Tenn. and graduated from Dobyns-Bennett High School. Lance attended the University of Florida on a football and track scholarship. While playing as a quarterback and safety for the Gators, Bobby recorded the longest punt return in Gator history, as well as the most rushing yards in a game by a quarterback (a record only recently broken by Tim Tebow).

After his graduation from Florida, Bobby enlisted in the Army at Brook Army Medical Center. In 1956 Bobby was drafted by the Green Bay Packers, where he played alongside Forrest Gregg, Bart Starr, and Fuzzy Thurston. Following pro football, Lance enjoyed a lifelong career in real-estate investment.

Lance is survived by his son and daughter-in-law, Fletcher (’84) and Diane Lance; grandchildren Samantha and Sims Lance; dear friend Kathleen Briordy; brothers Sims and Lee Lance; and nephews – Thomas Lance, Clark, Lance, Scot, and Bruce Crawford.

Zach Anderson Coles, Jr. (‘55)
1937-2008
Zach Coles died January 1, 2008. At MBA Coles was the Valedictorian of the Class of 1955. He was also a member of Totomoi, the Senior Honor Society, the Varsity Football and Baseball teams, the debate team, and the forensic team. Coles won academic medals in five different subjects.

Rollin Amos Lasseter (‘57)
1939-2008
Rollin A. Lasseter, Ph.D. passed away May 12, 2008 at his home in Granger, Ind. At MBA Dr. Lasseter was a member of Totomoi, the Honor Council, and the Senior Honor Society. He also served as Vice-President of the Student Council, and the editor of The Bell. He was the recipient of the Lindsey Ruth Award for the outstanding member of the Junior Class.

Lasseter graduated from Vanderbilt University, and Yale University where he received his Ph.D. in English. He taught at the University of Kentucky, North Carolina State University, St. Mary’s College in South Bend, Ind., Trinity School at Greenlaken, and the University of Dallas, Tex. After retiring, he shaped the Catholic Schools Textbook Project and published poetry.

Lasseter is survived by his wife Ruth Davis Lasseter of Indianapolis, Ind.; as well as his sisters Nancy L. Wolgast of Leesburg, Fla. and Gertrude Patch of Lexington, Ky.; his children and eight grandchildren.

James Collins Thurman III (‘57)
1939-2008
James Thurman died March 1, 2008. At MBA he was a member of the Senior Honor Society, as well as the Varsity Football and Track teams. Following graduation Thurman attended Georgia Tech.

Walter Miles Warfield, Sr. (‘72)
1955-2008
Walter Warfield passed away February 20, 2008 with family and friends surrounding him. At MBA he played football and was a member of the 1972 State champion baseball team. Following MBA he attended The University of the South. At Sewanee, Miles played football, was a member of the Order of Gownsman, President of the SAE Fraternity, and a member of the Society of Highlander and the Red Ribbons Society.

Warfield was a founder and owner of Brookside Properties where he had the great pleasure of working in the real estate business with his two brothers, one of his sons, and loyal partners and friends. He was founding president of Nashville’s Ronald McDonald House, was a graduate of Leadership Nashville, and served as president of the Nashville Junior Chamber of Commerce. He had served as a member of the MBA Alumni Association, the Middle Tenn. Chapter of the March of Dimes, and the Nashville Apartment Assoc. He also served on the Board of Directors of Cumberland Valley Girl Scout Council, Vanderbilt University Children’s Hospital, and the Leadership Nashville Alumni Association. Warfield was also a member of the Board of Trustees at The Ensworth School and the Fathers Club at MBA.

He is survived by his wife of 30 years, Sharon McCellan; his three sons – Walter Miles, Jr. (’99), James Patrick (’02), and Andrew Thomas (’06); his father Charles Horace; and his brothers – Charles Horace, Jr. (Betty) and William Montgomery (Janet).

Hue Wesley Novak (‘78)
1960-2008
Hue Novak died February 24, 2008. While at MBA, Novak was a member of the basketball team, chorus, and the Fellowship of Christian Athletes. Following MBA he attended David Lipscomb University.

He is survived by mother Sally Novak; his brother Frank Novak, Jr. (Lora) (’77); his sister Katy Miller (Ron); and his nieces – Laura and Alison Novak.

John Lane Benson V (‘03)
1985-2008
Lane Benson died February 11, 2008. While at MBA, Benson was a member of the Varsity Football team and the Fellowship of Christian Athletes. He was a passionate supporter of all things related to the school.

Denson worked with the youth ministries at Christ Church Cathedral in programs for junior high school students. He also volunteered in a number of church community programs, including Room in the Inn, the young adult ministry at Christ Church, and outreach efforts such as the Amistad Mission in Bolivia.

Denson returned to MBA in 2007 to help with the football program. His tireless efforts and upbeat spirit left an indelible impression on everyone who came in contact with him.

He is survived by his parents Deborah Ezell Denson and John Denson; his sisters, Sarah Finney Denson and Molly Ezell Denson; his grandmother Alona Ezell; his grandfather the Rev. Lane Denson; 11 aunts and uncles, and 15 cousins.

Zachary Arnz Juszkiewicz (‘07)
1989-2008
Zachary Juszkiewicz died suddenly in Franklin on May 25, 2008. At MBA, he was a goalie on the ice hockey team, earning All-Star honors in his senior season. He had just completed his first year at Clemson University, where he was a member of Alpha Sigma Phi Fraternity.

Zach is survived by his mother Patricia A. Arnz, M.D.; his father Henry E. Juszkiewicz and step-mother Catherine Juszkiewicz; his brother Henry Alexander Juszkiewicz (’04), and his sister Lyra Kensington Juszkiewicz.