The Maryland Bulletin
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ON THE COVER

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Give the names of the three men collectively known as the Three Musketeers by author Alexandre Dumas. (Aramis, Porthos, Athos).

In DNA, the four nucleotide bases are Adenine, Guanine, Cytosine, and Thymine. Which of these bases does Uricil replace in RNA? (Thymine).

After months of team preparation and weeks of volunteer planning, MSD hosted the Mid-Atlantic Region Academic Bowl sponsored by Gallaudet University. On March 2, 2001, twelve teams began a two-day competition to see which team could answer the most questions in the areas of History/Government, Language/Literature, Science, Nature, Technology Education, Geography, Mathematics, Fine Arts, Current Events, Deaf Studies, Popular Culture, Leisure, and Sports.

Seniors Kimberly Clapp, Joshua Walker, and Charles Sterling, teamed up with Laura Lohmeyer (Junior) and Jenica vonGarrel (Sophomore) to represent MSD. The team was undefeated in its division, winning five consecutive matches against Rockville High School, Delaware School for the Deaf, W. T. Woodson High School, Virginia School for the Deaf, and Roosevelt High School. MSD went on to win the semi-final round against the Western Pennsylvania School for the Deaf before falling to the Model Secondary School for the Deaf in the championship. Overall in the tournament, MSD captured a strong second place title. Rockville High School placed third and Western Pennsylvania School for the Deaf placed fourth.

I. King Jordan, President of Gallaudet University, shared his experiences on the popular TV show To Tell the Truth. His presentation entertained both the team members and the fans following the first day of competition.

A record number of schools attended this year’s event. The competing schools were: Capital Area Intermediate Unit (PA), Delaware School for the Deaf, Eleanor Roosevelt High School (MD), Marie Katzenbach School for the Deaf (NJ), Maryland School for the Deaf, Model Secondary School for the Deaf (DC), Rockville High School (MD), Scranton School for the Deaf (PA), Virginia School for the Deaf, West Virginia School for the Deaf, and W. T. Woodson High School (VA).

Watching the different schools compete inspired many MSD students. The first school day after the tournament found the eighth graders challenging the freshmen to a match. Although the freshmen were victorious, the eighth grade students held their heads high and vowed to practice harder. Thus, the idea for a Pee Wee Academic Bowl was formed. Not to be outdone, the junior class challenged the sophomores to a match. Their competition will occur this spring. The questions are currently being written.

However, fascination with the Academic Bowl is not limited to the older students. The elementary department is now planning its own Academic Bowl match. A high school student is currently generating the questions to be used in the competition between the fourth and fifth graders. The Academic Bowl spirit and quest for intellectual challenge has swept the campus. Bulletin boards can be seen around MSD asking, “What is the most commonly sung song in America?” (Happy Birthday)... “Who is the founder of Girl Scouts?” (Juliette Low)... “How many items are in a baker’s dozen?” (Thirteen)

MSD Submits 6th Year MSA Progress Report

By Melinda C. Padden, FC Director of Curriculum and Instruction/MSA Chair

In 1994, the Maryland School for the Deaf received a ten-year accreditation of its K-12 program from the Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools. MSD was commended for its outstanding Third Year Periodic Progress Report in 1998. MSD needs to file its 6th Year Periodic Progress Report by May 1, 2001.

Shortly after the accreditation was issued, the Instructional Leadership Team (ILT), which consists of the Superintendent and the Frederick and Columbia Campus Principals, established three working committees to develop strategic goals to guide the school during the accreditation period. The committees are as follows: curriculum, communication, and budget.

It is the responsibility of the committees to maintain an action plan for the duration of the accreditation period. The action plan is a series of documentation of various goals that MSD wishes to accomplish. Each goal is reviewed semi-annually in order to assure that it is accomplished by its due date. Sections 3 and 4 of the 6th Year Periodic Progress Report consist of these documents. Section 3 reports on the goals MSD has accomplished since the 3rd Year Periodic Progress Report in 1998 while Section 4 focuses on what MSD wishes to accomplish by 2004. In 2004, MSD will begin its self-study year and reapply for accreditation. In 2005, once again MSD will have its on-site visit from the Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools.

The MSA Curriculum Committee is also known as the Curriculum Core Committee (CCC). This committee meets at least four times a year to focus on all matters related to the MSD Essential Curriculum, including staff development. The committee consists of the Principal, Curriculum Coordinator, and a teacher representative from both campuses. A Family Education teacher is also a member of the committee. Teacher representatives serve on the committee every two years. Its strategic goal is for MSD to continue utilizing the MSD Essential Curriculum to ensure students’ mastery of essential learner behaviors by: its effective communication, problem solving, critical thinking, social cooperation, self-discipline, responsible citizenship in the community and environment, and lifelong learning by successfully completing school and state assessments.

The MSA Communication Committee, which also meets at least four times a year, consists of a wide variety of representatives: Communication Department heads, classroom teachers and student life counselors. The strategic goal of this committee is to enhance communication at all levels within the MSD community.

The MSA Budget Committee consists primarily of the Superintendent, Chief Financial Officer, Personnel Officer, and Campus Principals. Their strategic goal is to effectively identify, obtain, and manage the fiscal resources necessary to facilitate and ensure that high quality educational services are delivered to MSD students.

The three strategic goals of curriculum, communication, and budget have been successful in guiding the school’s development in a positive way. The critical and collateral events have been very helpful in keeping the school committed to implementing ongoing charges to make MSD’s educational program a program that provides positive learning experiences for all students.

A draft of the 6th Year MSA Progress Report is open for review by members of the MSD community. Copies of the report can be found in the libraries of the Frederick and Columbia Campuses.
The Student Development team is made up of two groups: the Judicial Board and Peer Mediation. Students’ primary goal is to facilitate a positive environment at Maryland School for the Deaf through discipline and conflict resolution, which is supported by being an excellent role model.

The team had their first retreat this past January. There were 10 students in the group with four students being members of the Judicial Board and the rest from the Peer Mediation team. Jerry Bush, Bonita Ewan, Karin Polzin, Ann Hirsch, Linda S. Coleman, and Dirk Albrecht conducted in giving workshops to the students. The primary focus of the retreat was to establish the framework for teamwork and camaraderie among the members and at the same time setting up a foundation for the Student Development team.

The retreat was held at the Ole Mink Farm Recreation Resort in Thurmont. The lodge was a marvelous cozy little cabin completely furnished with beds and furniture. It was designed with a small weekend conference getaway in mind. It was the perfect place for the Student Development team retreat. The day the participants were supposed to go to the cabin, it snowed and they weren’t sure if they could have the retreat. Fortunately, they were able to make it to the cabin and the fresh snow on the ground was an excellent start for the retreat.

The Student Development team members went through various activities designed to bring them closer together, to form open communications among each other, and to solve conflicts on the way to achieve solutions. One of the activities was the Telephone Booth Activity where 10 students had to fit within a 3 by 3 foot square (the size of a telephone booth). They achieved that easily and faced an even more difficult task of trying to fit in a 2 by 2 foot square. They did not accomplish this right away, but wanted to do it again later in the day. They discussed strategies during breaks. They were able to achieve it on the first try when they got back to it.

Other activities included The Knotted Rope (trying to untie 10 knots while each student had to keep one hand from the rope at all times). There were activities related on exploring self as well as finding something about others. The Knowledge of Self Activity included students developing a collage of their personalities/goals. The goal was to find things that others did not know about themselves and using that to make a collage. The posters were posted in the cabin and each student had to guess which collage belonged to which student. They learned something about each other they didn’t know before.

The first night covered the fundamentals of the entire retreat and the Student Development Team. Mr. Albrecht started off by discussing Attitude and how it made an impact on how people responded to students. The main focus of Attitude was the quote, “Positive attitude always invites positive results and negative attitude always invites negative results.” The discussion among the students was thorough and brought up a lot of issues. The rest of the weekend was focused on Ms. Karin Polzin introducing the meaning of Peer Mediation and the methods behind it while Mr. Albrecht discussed Judicial Board principles in participants’ respective groups. Teamwork activities and other workshops like Communication Skills and Defusing the Situation were also presented.

“Great Weekend”, “Learned about being a Role Model”, “I learned a lot about myself”, “SDT really hit me and made me realize more about myself”, and “Wish we had a longer retreat”. There were a few of the comments expressed by MSD students in their evaluations. The students were very involved in the whole process and if they were nervous they had the support of their peers in accomplishing the activity. Mr. Albrecht was surprised and pleased by the high level of thinking and seriousness with which the students put themselves into the retreat and at the same time they had fun during the entire weekend.

The best part of the retreat was at the end. The retreat ended on a positive note where the students cleaned up the entire cabin and then sat together to fill out an evaluation of the retreat. Before leaving the cabin each individual participated in the “You Are In The Bag” activity where they wrote a positive note or message to each individual who participated in the retreat and put the comments in each individual’s brown bag. Upon leaving the cabin Mr. Albrecht could see MSD students and staff walking out with a smile on their faces after reading what the other individuals wrote to them.
Cleveland Signstage Theatre Residency Program

By Albert J. Couthen, CC Assistant Principal/Dean of Students

MSD Columbia Campus had the opportunity to work with the Cleveland Signstage Theatre (CST) Residency Program during the week of January 22-25, 2001. The goals of this program were to promote students’ knowledge and ability to execute basic theatre/performance techniques, awareness of deaf individuals’ accomplishments, improvement in students’ written English skills by students and awareness of theatre career choices for students.

MSD-CC staff: Ms. Stella Antonio-Conley and Ms. Pauline Spanbauer taught basic theatre/performance skills to selected students from January 9th to January 19th for an hour daily. The following students who received instruction are: (Middle School) Jonathan Briscoe, Vanishe Buchanan, David Canter, Abdul Crawford, Lili Coryell, Tykera Ward, Chris West, and Stephon Williams; (Elementary School) Michael Haywood, Lauren Simmons, Brooke Hall, Aleasha Harrington, Michael Knight, Kelly Kuhna, Rodney Rich, Tanesha Smith, Tyler Szymanski, and Brittany Wiggins.

Mr. Josif Schneiderman, Mr. Daniel Taylor, and CST staff members worked with MSD students during the week of January 22nd. An hour period during school time and two-hour period after school were dedicated toward the Cleveland Signstage Theatre Residency Program. They worked with Ms. Antonio-Conley and Ms. Spanbauer to incorporate a script for the selected performances. The script focused on the achievement of Deaf Achievers or Heroes. There were eight scenes of different achievers and heroes.

The students presented the performance after the PTCA meeting on January 25th. There was an excellent turnout of their parents and family members at the performance.

The CST staff presented MSD students certificates of participation for the Cleveland Signstage Theatre Residency Program. They received flowers from the PTCA at the end of the program. As a result, MSD students developed their acting talents, self-esteem, and self confidence as performers. MSD-CC hopes that the Cleveland Signstage Theatre Residency Program will be an annual project for MSD students.
WMC-MSD Tutorial Program
By Mary Lynn Lally, FC Elementary Teacher

If anyone were to walk into the Bjorlee Library any day after school, one would see pairs of graduate and elementary students interacting throughout the library. This is a continuation of the WMC-MSD After School Tutorial Program from the fall of 2000.

The program has been expanded to offer tutorial services to 19 elementary students. These students are tutored by graduate students from Western Maryland College’s Deaf Education program. This was made possible by a grant, “Bilingual Pathways for Deaf, Minority, and Deaf-Minority Teachers in Deaf Education” from the U. S. Department of Education. This five-year, $1.5 million grant, was developed by Dr. Judith Coryell, director of the Deaf Education program at Western Maryland College. “Under this grant, the college will recruit and train deaf and minority classroom teachers and Bilingual Specialists to work with Deaf students whose first language is English. The project will address the nation’s critical shortage of deaf education teachers, especially those who are Deaf and/or minority, through various ‘pathways’ such as teacher recruitment, preparation, specialization and induction, while strengthening the College’s reputation as the premier bilingual-bicultural teacher preparation program in the United States.” (Press Release distributed by Western Maryland College)

Due to its close proximity to Western Maryland College, the Frederick campus of Maryland School for the Deaf is very fortunate to be recipient of the benefits generated from this grant. As outlined in the grant, “These graduate students will be assigned to work with specific students after school supporting their classroom instruction with individual or small group tutoring. The graduate student will spend time observing their assigned student in the classroom and conference with the classroom teacher. The hours will be scheduled according to school and student schedules.” (Press Release.)

After a series of workshops with the coordinator and teachers, the graduate students developed various activities to enhance skills in areas such as grade level word recognition, journal writing, creative writing, letter writing, reading comprehension, and math word problem solving skills. The activities are varied to make the learning sessions fun and meaningful. These activities may involve paired reading, read alouds, paired and shared writing, fun math word problems to solve, games from which to read directions and to generate writing activities, as well as activities to help students develop skills in translating ASL into English in writing.

Additionally, the library houses a ‘WMC’ cart filled with various items such as markers, scissors, stapler, pencils, various colored paper, notebook paper, stickers, workbooks. Also, the cart has various teaching tools. One of the teaching tools are boxes filled with common words to be used as flash cards that can be used for review, to generate dis-
cussion on its usage, or can be used as prompts for writing activities. Another teaching tool is a set of flash cards that contains various questions that may generate discussions and writing activities.

The tutors have bought several teaching materials to enhance the quality of their tutoring sessions with the tutees. One tutor bought a workbook of math riddles to use with her tutee, as she knew he loved playing around with riddles. Another tutor bought activities related to dinosaurs. The tutors try to develop activities that they know that their tutees would enjoy.

This has proven to be a positive experience for the ‘tutees’. One tutee remarked, “I am doing well in writing and reading at school.” Another tutee said “I am doing good work in my Language Arts class.” One tutee says that he understands better how to do his homework and that he has an easier time doing his homework independently. One tutee feels that she will become a better reader by working with her tutor. Still another tutee met a famous deaf “pro” six-foot six-inch basketball player, Mike Kent, as an incentive for writing basketball stories.

The tutees often would balk at having to take the trip to the library on beautiful days. However, once they saw what their tutors had developed for them, they would immediately show their eagerness and enthusiasm to do their best work and also to have fun learning new skills.

The Elementary teachers have expressed much enthusiasm for this program. One teacher remarked that she noticed that her student had developed a better confidence in her ability to do school work. Another teacher noted that her student seemed to have more enthusiasm for schoolwork and to understand the purpose of doing schoolwork. Still another teacher stated that there should be a tutoring program for all of her students, as she felt that it has helped those who have been involved with the tutorial program. The teachers have indicated appreciation for the additional support that their students were receiving through this valuable educational tutoring.

In an application form for the After School Tutorial Program, one parent, whose child participated in the fall, wrote, “My child must continue with tutoring!” One can attest that parents do notice an improvement in their child’s schoolwork.

To sum it all up, one parent responded saying, “I liked the program. I think that any practice that my child gets is a benefit. I also think that it is good to give the kids a good deaf role model who is in college. It really gives them something to aspire to. My child is very frustrated with reading. I think any positive exposure that he has to gathering the necessary tools is great. I also like the fact that he has access to the newest practices in deaf education through working with up-and-coming educators. I asked my child if he liked working with his tutor and he said yes! I would enroll him again in the fall.”

MSD will be celebrating the end of the tutorial season in May with a recognition party. Each tutee will receive a certificate of participation and special treats. Several of the tutors have said that they will miss working with their tutees as they have developed a special bond.

The WMC-MSD After School Tutorial Program will be offered again during the next school year of 2001-2002. For more information about this program, contact Ms. Mary Lynn Lally in the Elementary Department at the Frederick Campus.
Senator Bill 876 – "Recognition of American Sign Language"

James E. Tucker, Superintendent

Senator Thomas L. Bromwell (District 8 – Baltimore County and Baltimore City) and Chair of Senate Finance Committee introduced Senate Bill 876, “Recognition of American Sign Language” at the 2001 Maryland General Assembly. The bill passed in the Senate 46-0 on March 22, 2001 and in the House of Delegates 131-6 on April 15, 2001. Governor Parris N. Glendening then signed this bill into law on May 15, 2001. Maryland is now the 31st state in the United States to officially recognize American Sign Language (ASL) as a language.

Senate Bill 876’s synopsis reads, “For the purpose of establishing that American Sign Language is a recognized form of communication and a fully developed language for the deaf and hard of hearing; identifying the deaf and hard of hearing as a cultural minority group; defining a certain term; and generally relating to the use of American Sign Language.” The bill in its entirety can be accessed at the Maryland General Assembly homepage, http://mlis.state.md.us/.

It is with much hope that this new law will further promote awareness and acceptance of American Sign Language in all aspects of community life in the state of Maryland. With increased awareness, it is with hope that bigotry towards ASL will greatly diminish.

For MSD, this law reaffirms MSD’s Bilingual Education Policy, adopted by MSD Board of Trustees in August of 1993. This policy emphasizes the acquisition of ASL, a language of the North American Deaf community and a visually accessible language to deaf children and youth; and acquisition of English language, the language of the United States. All students at MSD on a daily basis are immersed in a rich ASL and English learning environment.

Deaf students in some Maryland local school systems today do not have an opportunity to learn ASL in their classrooms for variety of reasons. It is hoped that this recognition of ASL will encourage special educational administrators to allow these deaf children and youth learn ASL. The myth that ASL somehow impedes cognitive and English language development has been discredited again and again over time. Page two of Senate Bill 876 (lines 17-20) reads, “Current linguistic research indicates early acquisition and fluency in American Sign Language for deaf and hard of hearing children enhance their mastery of English and dramatically improves their literacy skills…”

Today, many universities, colleges, community colleges, and high schools in Maryland offer American Sign Language courses for credit. Currently, these credits, by and large, are counted only as electives. Hopefully, in the future, completion of ASL courses will count toward meeting foreign language requirements. ASL, after all, is the fourth most commonly used language in the United States, after English, Spanish, and German.

Perhaps the most pressing issue facing the Deaf Community is health care. Too often, we hear and read about horror stories where a Deaf person receiving medical attention is denied an ASL interpreter. With the passage of Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) in 1991, many Deaf individuals have requested and received interpreters when they visit their doctors for routine physicals or go to emergency rooms. However, there are still “pockets” of resistance or ignorance in Maryland where requests for interpreters are illegally denied. No one’s health or life should be in jeopardy because of a hospital administrator, doctor, or nurse assumes that a particular Deaf person can lip-read or do written English communication. Deaf individuals know their own communication needs better than anyone and they have the right to choose their preferred mode of communication… may it be lip-reading, written English, or American Sign Language. For example, a Deaf individual who normally employs written English communication with his personal physician may prefer ASL interpreters if he is in the emergency room needing immediate medical attention. That is, different situations may call for different requests.

Law enforcement officers are often in contact with Deaf individuals. Lack of understanding of Deaf people and their language and communication needs are sometimes fatal. Recent stories in Illinois, Michigan, and Maine where Deaf individuals have died after struggling with police officers indicate a great need of awareness and training in recognizing Deaf individuals’ need for visual communication, including ASL interpreters.

Currently, there is only one interpreter training program in Maryland located at the Community College of Baltimore County, Catonsville. Since the passage of ADA, Deaf people have enjoyed access for the first time in many aspects of their lives: education, law, health care, theater, and certain public accommodations. But, this increased demand for ASL interpreters has created an acute interpreter shortage in Maryland. At MSD, I need to compete for interpreters with other Deaf individuals who need interpreters in their workplace, at their doctor’s offices, in courtrooms, etc., or with other Hearing individuals who need ASL interpreters for their contacts with Deaf individuals. Clearly, there is a great need for at least a second interpreter training program in Maryland.

Perhaps the greatest benefit of Senate Bill 876 is the recognition of ASL as “a fully developed language, with distinct grammar and syntax, and art forms and one of hundreds of naturally occurring signed languages of the world…” (Senate Bill 876, page one, lines 20-22). Looking back in the history of Deaf peoples, sign language was often categorized as a collection of crude gestures and Deaf people using sign language were thought of as incapable of abstract reasoning. After almost forty years of research in ASL linguistics and other world sign languages, the field of linguistics now recognize human languages as spoken or signed. Deaf individuals are increasingly recognized as contributing members of the society who happen to be bilinguals and switch from ASL to English count less times during the course of any given day.

Much work still lies ahead of us. However, Senate Bill 876 is a huge and dramatic step towards full ASL access for all Deaf individuals residing or visiting in the state of Maryland!
Certificate of Achievement for Customer Service

“Certificate of Achievement for Customer Service” was awarded to Maryland School for the Deaf for careful attention to customer needs and for innovative programs which promote school nutrition programs. Each year, the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s (USDA) Mid-Atlantic Regional Office of the Food and Nutrition Service recognizes excellence in School Food Authorities. The awards categories emphasize the importance of providing quality service to MSD’s customers and to the community. In the school year 1999-2000 “Innovative Food Service Practices” was one of the categories to be judged by the regional office. Food Service Practices include a myriad of topics. MSD staff were judged on their careful attention to customer needs and innovative programs promoting school nutrition. The Frederick campus of Maryland School for the Deaf received a Certificate of Achievement for Customer Service.

The judges were impressed with MSD’s efforts to involve the students, teachers, and parents in promoting healthy eating practices. MSD was commended for opening the lines of communication with all three groups.

MENU PLANNING

High School: The SGA representative meets biweekly with Ms. Robin Ariosa, MSD Nutritional Services Administrator-FC to review the student comments about the past menus. The students suggest new items they want incorporated in the upcoming menus, every effort is made to use the new items. The students plan a menu for either breakfast, lunch or dinner.

Middle School: The middle school students voice their concerns without a representative. They ask for pizza daily so the school cafeteria added pizza bagels to the breakfast menu cycle to satisfy their appetite for pizza. Many of their other suggestions are being used on a monthly basis.

Elementary School: Meeting was planned with the elementary school parents to explain the nutrition program and receive their feedback. The parents requested the weekly menu to be posted on the school web page so they could decide if they should pack a lunch for their child.

COMMUNICATION

Staffing was adjusted to decrease the time of the tray lines thus allowing more time for the students to eat and communicate.

A Food Preference Survey was developed for the middle and high school students and the elementary parents at the end of the school year to help determine the menus for the new school year. The most popular items will be served twice a month. Naturally hamburgers, pizza, and chicken nuggets were at the top of the least for all three groups. The results were posted in the cafeteria so the students could see what items they choose.

CAFETERIA PROMOTIONS

Each month a special menu is planned for a holiday or special event such as a monotony breaker. The most popular event was the Student Appreciation Day. Papa John’s pizza was served to the students, the cafeteria was decorated with a Papa John’s banner, napkins, and plates. Other specials included an International Food Week, Spring Fling, and St. Patrick’s Day.

The Best Practices Program affords school food service professionals the opportunity to be recognized for their contributions to the children’s health and nutritional well being. The ideas and innovations also give others valuable insight on how they might continuously improve their food service operation.

—Robin Ariosa, Nutritional Services Administrator-FC

Dr. Livingston Guides MSD Teachers to Mine for Gems

Dr. Sue Livingston, a professor at LaGuardia Community College of the City University of New York, has been working closely with many MSD teachers in providing efficient and effective teaching strategies that help students become better readers and writers.

During Dr. Livingston’s October 17th through 20th visit to MSD, she met with
all English/Language Arts teachers in small groups and discussed how they could weave literature into the writing process. She introduced Ralph Fletcher and Joann Portalupi’s book, “Craft Lessons: Teaching Writing to K-8.” The book consists of many mini-lessons that point out particular elements of the craft of good writing used by real authors that teachers could use with students. The focus is to get students to notice crafts such as interesting leads, satisfying conclusions, repeating lines, vivid descriptions and realistic dialogue in well-written, published picture books that they can apply in their own writing. Dr. Livingston also discussed the time and place for grammar instruction from the use of “slot sheets” to the use of X-Word Grammar strategies.

Dr. Livingston returned to MSD for three days in December and February to team with interested Language Arts and English teachers in the classroom to actually implement some craft lessons. She worked closely with Elementary teacher Vicki Kitsembel, Middle School teacher Hal Gamble, and High School teacher Kathy Meagher communicating through e-mail and fax to firm up mutually agreeable lesson plans. The teachers and students found this experience very rewarding and continue to use the methods learned. Students in Vicki Kitsembel’s class wrote short, creative pieces of their own using language modeled after the repetitive patterns found in the picture books The Snowman and Dear Zoo; students in Hal Gamble’s class wrote short stories in the style of author Cynthia Rylant and a mini oral history of Dr. Gamble’s experiences as a language interpreter during the Vietnam War (Watch for their articles in this issue’s Junior Bulletin for some excerpts!); and students in Kathy Meagher’s class wrote descriptive pieces borrowing image-creating techniques from Jane Yolen’s Owl Moon and Cynthia Rylant’s When I was Young in the Mountains.

During her March and May visits, Dr. Livingston will team with interested content area teachers to promote reading and writing across the curriculum. She will work closely with Science teachers Cam Overs in Elementary, Ed Schaberl in Middle School and Brian Thorn in High School.

Dr. Livingston also presented two hour staff development sessions during each visit. She works closely with the Language Arts and English teachers on the use of X-Word Grammar strategies – using the context of young adult literature. X-words are a group of 20 words, which introduce yes/no questions. They have traditionally been called modals, auxiliaries and linking verbs. They are grammatical workhorses that can be put to use to systematize and streamline the teaching of grammar. Most important, they can be coded and used to help students correct their own grammar errors.

During MSD’s first session in December, Dr. Livingston discussed the steps teachers need to take during the writing process. She stressed that in order to help students gain the initial confidence necessary to succeed as writers, teachers need to focus on the ideas or “meat” students choose to write about as well as how those ideas will be crafted, not the grammar. Teachers should give attention to grammar when ideas are as fully-formed as possible and then they should focus on what the students have been taught in prior mini-lessons.

In this session, teachers learned the rationale behind X-Word Grammar and worked on discovering and finding X-words. They also discussed how X-words show time and how they match with the subject. During MSD’s February session, teachers learned about X-word and main-verb match ups and hidden X-words. They also did some editing of students’ writing based on what they learned.

Teachers will learn about equal and unequal sentence parts in March and about “boxes” or the nouny part of English in May. They look forward to continuing this beneficial working relationship with Dr. Livingston and hope to set-up a school-wide pattern of practice in editing grammatical errors.

—Melinda Padden, Director of Curriculum and Instruction-FC

Around the Corner

The elementary school at Frederick Campus had its annual reading cam-
WINTER 2000-01

For the second year in a row: READ 2001 BOOKS. Two elementary parents, Ms. Jennifer Markel and Ms. Karen Sheffer-Tucker helped the elementary school get ready for the READ 2001 BOOKS project.

To kick off the READ 2001 BOOKS campaign and to fit this year’s theme, TAKE THE TIME TO READ!!!, all students and staff were asked to dress up as their favorite literary (story or book) characters on October 31, 2000. Elementary students explained why they chose their characters and explained one POSITIVE thing that their character did in the story. This was connected to one of their themes this year, POSITIVE CHARACTERS!

All students and staff were instructed to read a total of 12 books by March 19, 2001 and submitted book reports, both in ASL and English-in-print. Once students turned in their reports, their names along with the titles and authors of the books that they read were recorded on book-shaped “certificates” for our Kent-McCanner and Ely lobby walls. With thanks to Burger King, readers also received free hamburger coupons! In January when MSD readers were halfway done with six of the twelve books, they got “banana splits” and bookmarks proclaiming them as readers. Then in March during the morning pledge assembly, Elementary School Assistant Principal Ms. Andrea Feldman congratulated all students for helping Elementary School reach the goal of reading 2001 books. She announced that in addition to the MSD certificates for completing READ 2001 BOOKS, they would receive free ice cream cone coupons with thanks to Dairy Queen on Route 26 near Walkersville. She also announced that it was NO HOMEWORK day. That was when the students practically cheered the most.

Thanks to MSD elementary parents, students and staff for their continuing enthusiasm and support in this READ 2001 BOOKS project!

—Andrea Feldman, Elementary Assistant Principal-FC

Community Outreach Program

The 27 sixth graders at MSD experienced a real treat for the first ten days of March. Two Frederick County Deputy Sheriffs - Todd Crum and Tim Moore came to teach the drug education prevention unit.

In 1996, the Frederick County Board of Education approved the C.O.P. curriculum, which replaced the D.A.R.E. program, previously taught. The Community Outreach Program (C.O.P.) was developed by Officer Wayne Ferrell of the Montgomery County Department of Police and is being taught in Frederick, Montgomery and Prince George’s county schools. Throughout this unit, students learn about the dangers of drugs, tobacco, alcohol and inhalants. They also learn about self-esteem, how to resist peer pressure, violence and conflict resolution. The curriculum allows for the officers to tailor their lessons to meet the needs of each individual school rather than being tied to a generic curriculum. Emphasis is placed on what is

Pre-Kindergarteners show their happiness over enjoying their banana splits. From bottom left: Jehanne McCullough, Jake Grindstaff, Alexa Paulay Simmons, James Dolittle, Lance Brewer, and Corey Rosko.

5th Grade Students show their pleasure at being treated with banana splits. From left to right: Jessica Feldman, Rami Traurig, Sabrina Roult, Brandon McMillan, and Brittany A. Frank.

Ms. Charlene Anderson interprets the directions for skits on the last day of C.O.P. for officers Crum (l) and Moore (r).
legal and illegal, and the reasons why students should avoid using drugs. At this grade level, it is critical for students to understand the facts about alcohol, tobacco, inhalants, and marijuana as these are considered the “gateway drugs”. Gateway drugs are defined as those substances (mostly legal) which are easily accessible and inexpensive but which tend to lead to the use of harder drugs and illegal substances. Students who understand the dangers of these substances, their addictive abilities and the sometimes life-threatening results of usage can better make decisions as to WHY they should “Just Say No!” This also, gives students useful information in understanding how such substances may affect their daily lives at home and in their community.

Officers Crum and Moore related personal experiences and used videos to teach about the drugs and the consequences of their use. They loaned display cases to students which vividly showed the physical damages caused by alcohol, tobacco, inhalant and drug abuse. The students were shocked to see such widespread effects of the decision to use drugs.

The students were divided into small groups for making posters summarizing the effects of smoked and smokeless tobacco. An undercover officer came in one day to describe his type of work in arresting persons involved in the use, sale and purchase of drugs within the area around Frederick County. The students kept him busy telling stories and answering their questions for a full 90 minutes!

The culminating activity was skits made-up in the small groups to demonstrate their understanding of the eight ways to resist peer pressure. A video was made of all, the skits and the students enjoyed watching each other perform MSD looks forward to next year having Officer Crum come again. Both officers were impressed with the attention of the MSD students and their excellent questions.

Whenever you see an MSD student proudly wearing their orange and black C.O.P. shirt, stop to read the messages and ask them what they learned in this class. Our goal is to make MSD a drug-free community. Will you help us?

—Charlene Anderson,
Life Skills Teacher-FC

Student Life Program’s Guest Speakers

The Student Life Program sponsors guest speakers every month. Speakers give presentations, show videotapes, slides, and pictures of their experiences or interests. Their information is very beneficial to the students and are well received by the students.

Ms. Lorraine Stoltz, Art Teacher and Varsity Girls Basketball Coach, shared her experiences as the USA Women Basketball Head Coach at the Pan Am Deaf Olympics in summer of 2000 held in Cuba as well as her travels in Cuba.

Ms. Bonita Ewan, Student Life Coun-
selor, Supervisor of High School Girls and Mr. Brian Thorn, Science Teacher, shared their experiences living in Alaska for three years.

Mr. Dwight Benedict, father of two girls at MSD, gave abundant information about the Winter and Summer Deaf Olympics.

Ms. Yolanda H. Colston, Night Student Life Counselor, talked about Martin Luther King, Jr. She is an alumni of MSD and the mother of two children who attend MSD.

Ms. Jennifer Clupper, Advocate of Mothers Against Drunk Drivers (MADD), from Rochester, NY, shared facts about drunk drivers.

Mr. David Ennis, father of one son at MSD, shared his traveling experience in Africa in the summer of 2000.

Ms. Leticia Arellano, teacher at Kendall School (DC) shared information on Mexican culture. She explained her childhood in Mexico and showed different signs and examples of Mexican food.

Ms. Catherine Griswold, mother of a MSD student, demonstrated the Irish dance during the St. Patrick’s Day week.

—Linda Coleman, Dean of Students-FC
Introduction

The following oral history is the result of a writing project at the Maryland School for the Deaf conducted by Dr. Sue Livingston of New York University. Dr. Livingston has worked with Dr. Hal Gamble’s eighth grade language arts class during her periodic visits to MSD this year.

During one of Dr. Livingston’s earlier visits, she noticed that several of Hal Gamble’s language arts classes had read and written about the Vietnam War. They had also visited the Vietnam Veteran’s War Memorial in Washington, D.C. Dr. Livingston immediately recognized the importance of MSD students collecting first-hand, experiential information from one of the two Vietnam War veterans at M.S.D. (Mr. Dennis Reen is the other Vietnam War veteran.)

Dr. Livingston’s goals for the oral history writing project were twofold: 1. to familiarize the students with the necessary editing skills they will be required to know and use at the high school level and 2. to develop the unique organizational skills for an interview essay.

Four Eighth grade students- Maggie McLaughlin, Lisa Monroe, Kathryn Tau, and Jennifer Timmons – interviewed Vietnam War veteran Dr. Hal Gamble who is teaching language arts in middle school department. The following essay is a compilation of the efforts of all four girls.

Good and Bad Experiences in Vietnam

Dr. Hal Gamble, my language arts teacher, went to the Vietnam War for his country. I interviewed Dr. Hal Gamble and realized he was excited to serve at first but he then became disillusioned. He went to BOOT Camp to train for the war, so he would know what was supposed to do during the war. Then he went to the North Vietnamese Language School near Washington DC for fifty-two weeks. His job was to work with Navy pilots to listen to the North Vietnamese communications to find out where S.A.M. missiles were. He could give information to the jetfighter pilots to go destroy S.A.M. missile sites. He guided the B52 bombers to destroy the rocket targets in North Vietnam. Dr. Gamble was excited to join the navy for his country and to put his skill with language to good use.

Dr. Gamble enjoyed his language training. Although he preferred speaking English, he felt proud of himself for learning a new language.

“My Vietnamese language school was The Crowell-Collier Institute in Roslyn, Virginia near Washington, D.C. The training was 52 weeks. When people join the military, the military wants to know what their special skills are. I scored very high on their language skills test, and the Navy suggested that would be a good job for me. The teacher spoke in English and North Vietnamese for two weeks. After that it was only North Vietnamese for 50 weeks. If we failed we would be transferred on a ship as a deck hand.”

“I prefer English, but while I was learning North Vietnamese, I thought that was really cool because it gave me a good feeling to know a different language. Here’s how to say “I studied Vietnamese in Washington D.C. for one year.”

“TOI HOC THINH VIETNAM A THANH PHO WA-TIN-TON MOT NAM ZOL.”

There were bad experiences for Dr. Gamble. He told me many of them and most of them really hit me hard. One thing happened before he even arrived in Vietnam.

“On the way to Vietnam, we stopped in Hawaii, but they would not permit us off the airplane. I asked why. They said, “Because we already lost a few people.” (Men had escaped from previous planes.) They kept the doors to the airplane locked. So, at that point, I was nervous.”

He had finished Survival School training in San Diego, California and left to go to Vietnam. He was amazed at the beauty of the country.

“It was a very beautiful, green and lush country from the air... full of forests.”

When he arrived in Vietnam, almost immediately bad things started happening to him.

“We landed but we stayed out on the runway - far from the terminal. I couldn’t understand why we parked so far away. (later I learned it was because they were ready to take off fast.) I got off the airplane and I asked another person ‘Why are we parked here?’ A man said, ‘The North Vietnamese are in the mountains all around here. They will try to kill the soldiers who have just arrived with their 122mm rockets’ - they’re about 8 feet long. They will make a hole in the ground 5 feet deep and 12 feet wide. I learned by asking a lot of questions. Things like that you don’t forget. I started to walk
with both bags and my guitar, and I had to walk 200 yards. Two things happened right after I arrived. Immediately the plane took off. I started to walk and guess what happened. Six rockets went off while I was walking to my barracks. I was only in the country 5 minutes! I walked, I fell, I walked, I fell... rockets all around me. See the scar right there [shows us his scar] my first five minutes in the country... when I fell. Five minutes in the country and they were trying to kill me. I was ready to go home."

The next sentence will make you realize that Dr. Gamble was very brave to go to Vietnam to face danger, no matter what. He wanted to serve his country.

"I was involved in combat 143 times [missions] because every time I flew to North Vietnam, I was involved with danger. Everyone counts over there. Now that does not mean people shot at me 143 times. They chased and shot at me 9 times. I counted every one."

Dr. Gamble had hard work in Vietnam. He flew 143 combat missions in Vietnam and he survived them all! This was because he was able to tell pilots exactly where the enemy was located.

"You already know that I was sent to listen to the North Vietnamese communicate. I had headphones, special radios, tape recorders for getting immediate information and passing it on. Our B52 bombers were trying to destroy rocket (surface-to-air missile) targets in North Vietnam. It was my job to guide the bombers into North Vietnam and back safely without being shot down. It was also my job to find out where the rocket (S.A.M) sites were and then pass on that information. My job usually started at 11 PM and finished 6 AM. I almost always flew in the dark. The National Security Agency (NSA) in Maryland has a special technique so that when I listen to a North Vietnamese man in a mobile trailer, I put down how many miles he is from me. He can see me on the radar. He says HAY MUI which it means 20 miles away, HAY MUI MOT means 21 miles away and HAY MUI HAY means 22 miles- it means I am moving away. I can plot exactly where he is down there. I can pass this information on to the fighter jet pilots and they can go down and destroy the missiles. It’s a system to plot and destroy targets. NSA devised this special way of using geometry (triangulation) to destroy targets. The North Vietnamese man is talking to other North Vietnamese. I am the enemy listening in. I sometimes listened to inexperienced surface-to-air (S.A.M) technicians in North Vietnam—they were easy to find because they didn’t know the proper procedures. I could hear the technician’s chickens in the background and I could hear them telling their family to shut up so they could hear. I was 35,000 feet up, interesting!"

It might seem hard to believe, but Dr. Gamble did not think about the constant danger he was in. He did feel lonely, though, after a girlfriend back home dumped him.

“My feelings in Vietnam were several. 1.) I was lonesome like many men there. I had a girlfriend at that time. She supported me one-half of the way through the year and she dumped me. She wrote me a letter that said, ‘Dear John, Bye Bye... I have another boy-friend.’ I felt so terrible. But if you’re thinking how I felt about being afraid, I did not think of danger much. Just kept thinking ‘one more day passed until I go home.’"

Can you imagine drinking black coffee all night for one year!! Well Dr. Gamble had to, if he wanted to do his important job. One night, however, there was a very close call.

“I had a hard time staying awake my first month. I had to drink lots of black coffee. It tasted terrible. One night I almost fell asleep. We were not very busy and I started to fall asleep-something like 2 in the morning. All of a sudden, in one ear I could hear a Vietnamese technician tracking me at 19 kilometers. At that range he could push a button and kill us easily. I should never have let our jet airplane get that close [to the target]. I sat next to the pilot on the left. I should have told the pilot to turn at 23 kilometers. I was doing and not used to staying awake all night. I woke up and heard 19! OH MY GOD! We were very lucky that the SAM technicians did not fire. It was pure luck. I was a bad boy that night. Later on, I got used to it. I never made that mistake again.”

During the day, Dr. Gamble had his own time off and he liked to do three things. One of those things brought him face to face with deaf children!

“During my time off, I did three things: 1.) I like to read; 2.) I liked to lift weights; and 3.) the reason I’m here - Right next to where I lived, my barracks, was an orphanage. And guess what?... Deaf kids were there and they were different. I noticed it and I asked questions to the nun and she told me the kids couldn’t hear. I noticed they gestured. They didn’t have signs and from that time on I always looked for extra food from the cafeteria and gave them candy on their birthday - a special day - I bought a cake. The people in the cafeteria were South Vietnamese people- they knew what I was doing. It was for a good reason. They knew the kids were hungry."

When he returned to the States, the people didn’t treat him like he was a hero. He felt disillusioning.

"Other people who saw me were not excited. People did not really treat me like a hero, not that I was expecting it. Inside I felt bad. They did not insult me, but they did not praise me. The point is not if it’s [the war] right or wrong. The point is: Do we have people who are willing to do what the Government says? Unfortunately, maybe the war was wrong, but you have to have people to serve.”

Dr. Gamble came back to the States, 30 years ago. Can you do your math?? If you can’t, then read on. There was good news that he received when he returned home.

“I stayed exactly one year, November 1970 to November 1971. I came home in 1971: 365 days exactly!! Including my training, I was enlisted a total of three years and two months. When I came home they had a new rule. Whoever had one full year in Vietnam and less than a year left could be discharged. I had nine months. I said goodbye and I left the navy.”

When he arrived, he was thrilled to see his parents, but he had changed so much that his mother didn’t recognize him!

“Yeah, very happy to see mom and dad. I did not see my brother. He was in college in Massachusetts. I lived with my parents for two months before I started my Masters in the University of Arizona Deaf Education program. When I arrived in Vietnam, I was 150 pounds. I gained 30 pounds - all muscle. I was 180. Two navy men were on the airplane with me. The first got off. My mother couldn’t see me. She started waving and hugging the first Navy man. I looked through the plane window, but she couldn’t see me."

“NO NO NO” You have to know my mother to appreciate that one.”

After he came home to the States, he had terrible experiences with nightmares.

“For six months when I came home I had
bad dreams. I dreamt that rockets were hitting me all around. These dreams knocked me out of bed. I would jump up screaming and start to run. I realized that I was not in Vietnam but in America. The rockets on the ground—not the airplane—those were what did not make me feel safe. I remembered those rockets would hit at 1 AM - we would all have to run to the bunker, then come back to the barracks. Then again at 2 AM - back to the bunker and again back to barrack. Four AM the same thing. This is what woke me up—I thought I was running from the rockets.”

Finally! Dr. Gamble made a good choice! If he had stayed there for another year, he may have been shot down. But lucky for us, he retired. Now he is a teacher at MSD and has been teaching Deaf kids for 28 years. He is a nice and funny guy! You should meet him! He is a great teacher and he taught me a lot of things. He made the right decisions at the right times in his life.

“If I signed for one more year, the government would have given me $10,900-tax free. I looked at the money, drooled like a dog, and said, ‘NO THANKS’.”

It was exciting but disillusioning for Dr. Gamble in Vietnam. Seeing the dangers of war made him realize he had had enough. I learned a lesson from Dr. Gamble’s experience in the Vietnam War. The Vietnam War was not pleasant. I agreed with him because our life is worth more than MONEY!

I feel that Dr. Gamble should be a hero and I feel it’s so lucky for me to have him as my Ph.D. Language Arts teacher. People should praise him for serving and for knowing when to come home.

—Maggie McLaughlin, Lisa Monroe, Kathryn Tau, and Jennifer Timmons, 8th Grade

**Winners of the 2001 McCanner History Contest**

The annual McCanner History Contest has been held recently to coincide with MSD’s Gallaudet/Clerc Month. The contest is in honor of Ms. Hazel McCanner who was associated with MSD from 1921 until her retirement in 1968. Ms. McCanner served under the administrations of Dr. Ignatius Bjorlee, Mr. Lloyd Ambrosen and Mr. David Denton. She was Superintendent between Mr. Ambrosen and Mr. Denton in 1968.

Ms. McCanner was the assistant editor of the Maryland Bulletin for many years. She assisted in the editing of the American Annals of the Deaf and had written a pamphlet, “The History of the Hessian Barracks.”

Ms. McCanner loved to research and write about the history of MSD and encouraged MSD students to do the same. Through research, MSD students learn to appreciate the historical events of the school and the people of its time.

The contest is open to 6th Graders, freshmen, and seniors. One winner per department. The winners will receive cash prizes during the Honor and Awards Night in June as well as have their essays published in the Maryland Bulletin. This year, nine middle school students participated. The middle school committee members were Ken Kritz, Ron Sisk, Marcia Kolander, Barbara Stevens, Agnes Padden, Eleanor and Merle Foley. This year’s winner is Meira Kirschbaum. Her topic was “A Journey Through MSD with Beth Benedict.” Ms. Benedict attended MSD from 1964 until her graduation in 1976.

Eleven high school students participated and had their essays judged by committee members Ron Sisk, Raymond and Marcia Kolander and Barbara and William Stevens. This year’s high school winner is Kami Padden. Her topic was “Mary Manning Ijams.” Ms. Ijams was considered MSD’s first student in 1868. She graduated in 1872. Both winning essays are published in this issue. MSD hopes you will enjoy them.

—Mr. Chad Baker, Assistant Superintendent/Principal-FC

**Mary Manning Ijams: MSD’s First Student**

For the McCanner History Contest, I am going to write about the Maryland School for the Deaf’s first student. This essay may draw a lot of attention because there is some information that you probably never knew.

Mary Manning Ijams was the first student to attend Maryland School for the Deaf. She was well known as Mollie. She was born on October 31, 1851. She was the oldest of three children. Her younger sister Rebecca Ruth died in infancy. Her brother’s name was Richard Plummer. Mollie’s family was well known. Ijamsville, a small town east of Frederick was named after Mollie’s grandfather, Plummer Jr. who was also the town’s first postmaster. He was a member of the Maryland House of Delegates and on the committee that helped found the Maryland School for the Deaf. Mollie’s uncle, John Ijams was a captain in the War of 1812 and one of Baltimore’s “Old Defenders.”

When Mollie was born, her mother could sense that she had a hearing loss. After the sudden death of her father, Richard Ijams, a lawyer and alumnus of Mt. St. Mary’s College, Mollie’s mother enrolled her in the Columbia Institution for the Deaf, now known as Kendall School, for six years. Later she was transferred to the deaf school in Staunton, Virginia. She attended the Virginia School for the Deaf for only six months. Her mother, Mrs. Eliza Aldridge Ijams, was determined that Maryland should have its own school for deaf students. She approached some influential men in the Maryland legislature. Mr. Henry Baker, the delegate from Frederick County, agreed to be the author of the bill that founded MSD.
When MSD opened in the Hessian Barracks, Mollie enrolled with her brother, Richard. Her name is on the enrollment list as the first student in attendance on September 2, 1968. Her brother’s name appears as No. 2. She was one of the six members of her class. As a young girl, Mollie remembers coming to the grounds near the Hessian Barracks to attend the Frederick County Agricultural Fair. In 1869, Mrs. Eliza Ijams, Mollie’s mother, was appointed matron at MSD, a job she held until her resignation in 1875.

Mollie’s deaf brother, Richard Plummer Ijams, was born on June 14, 1853 on the Ijamsville farm. He was diagnosed to be deaf when he was eighteen months old. Like Mollie, he also attended the Columbia Institution for the Deaf and the Virginia School for the Deaf. After graduating from MSD, he helped build Chapel Hall on the campus of Gallaudet University. He died suddenly when he was nineteen years old.

During her young days, Mollie was well known as a fun-loving, vivacious, and attractive lady. She was a social leader. She loved outdoor sports. She actually saw Abraham Lincoln when she was a teenager. She also attended his funeral when he died.

On September 1, 1872, Mollie became the first deaf teacher at the Maryland School for the Deaf. Mr. C. W. Ely thought highly of her. She taught students in first to third grade in the Old Main building. She taught them arithmetic, reading, writing, grammar, geography, and history. The students also had speech. The boys would learn cabinet making and printing while the girls were taught dressmaking and light house work.

In 1875, a new fourteen-year-old boy was put in Mollie’s class of beginners. She thought the boy was too bright to be in her class so she told Mr. Ely to put him in a higher class. Mr. Ely agreed to do so. Mollie was right after all because that particular boy received the highest grades upon graduation. He then went to Gallaudet University and returned to MSD as the school’s first full-time vocational teacher. His name was George W. Veditz.

When Mollie was living and teaching at the Maryland State School for the Deaf, there was another school established for the colored deaf and blind in Baltimore. It was opened in October 1872 with sixteen students. It did not last very long as it collapsed in 1893.

A mysterious event happened during Mollie’s time. In the November 1, 1882 issue of the Maryland Bulletin, there was a story about some students who were anxiously looking out the window of the Old Main building and saw the school matron, a lady teacher, and four boys carry two large wooden boxes and a spade out the front door. They murmured in curiosity and reacted in great suspense. The next day, the students wondered where Craw Thumper was. He was missing! For many years, they wondered if it were true about the rosewood boxes. The answer was never found.

Mollie decided to retire after 44 years as a teacher. She knew all MSD students from the opening in 1868 to 1916. That was approximately six hundred students. When she retired, she decided to live on her family’s farm near Ijamsville. In her Ijamsville home, she had a female roommate, Alta M. Lowman Kavanaugh, who was the first lady to graduate from the National Deaf-Mute College, now Gallaudet University.

On the morning of April 7th, 1926, the news of Mollie’s death came as a shock to her friends and co-workers at the school. She died of a stroke of paralysis at the age of 75. She is buried in the Mt. Olivet Cemetery, which is one block from MSD.

No one has yet matched Mollie’s 58 years of contribution to MSD as an alumna and a teacher. As our first student, Mollie has the honor to hold this record forever.

—Kami Hye-Mee Padden, 9th Grade

A Journey Through MSD with Beth Benedict

Ms. Benedict pensively said that MSD brought so many changes to her life. Beth Sonnenstrahl Benedict is the MSD alumna I had the privilege of interviewing on December 6th. Even though I have known Ms. Benedict as my friend Meira Kirschbaum (l) and Ms. Beth Benedict (r).

Rachel’s mom for many years, my interview with Ms. Benedict gave me a better understanding of her as a former MSD student and a current Ph.D. candidate at Gallaudet University.

Ms. Benedict was born in Baltimore, Maryland on September 16th, 1959. Two weeks later, her family moved to Silver Spring, Maryland. Ms. Benedict’s parents are deaf. She has one older sibling. His name is Samuel. He is also deaf. Ms. Benedict had a happy childhood in a family that communicated fluently in ASL, American Sign Language.

As a young child, Ms. Benedict went to pre-school at Gallaudet University. After that, she enrolled in MSD’s Kindergarten in 1964. She slept in the dorm even though she was only five years old. At that time, most kids slept in the dorm. Ms. Benedict’s parents decided to send her to MSD because Kendall School was an oral school back then. MSD was the closest school her parents found that used ASL with a Total Communication philosophy.

Ms. Benedict remembers her first day of Kindergarten at MSD. Her teacher’s name was Ms. Mary Benson. Ms. Benson worked from 7:00 a.m. to 11:00 p.m. She was a very good teacher. Two of Ms. Benedict’s classmates and best friends were Sandra Ammons, sister of Paula Ammons, and Mary Ann Richmond. Her other classmates were Karen Bowman, Mary Smith, Aretta Hathaway, Ernie Shockley, and Jerra Jones. Ms. Benedict enjoyed MSD very much. When she went home every Friday, she would look for—
Beth (r) stands beside her brother, Sam in 1965.

ward to going back to school Sunday evening. Two weeks before school started in August, she was already packing her clothes and preparing to go back to MSD. All of Ms. Benedict’s teachers wrote in her reports that she loved school very much.

Since I am eleven years old, I asked Ms. Benedict to tell me about her time at MSD when she was my age. In 1970, when Ms. Benedict was eleven, she was in Middle School. Back then it was called the Intermediate Department. Sixth grade was called Intermediate 1, seventh grade was Intermediate 2, and so on. Ms. Benedict took classes that are similar to our classes today. One of her Language Arts teachers did not know any sign language. Ms. Benedict’s class had to teach her sign language during class time. Often Ms. Benedict’s classmates would become frustrated, so they taught her improper signs for different words. Another teacher would tell them to read a chapter from their social studies book while the teacher read the newspaper. When Ms. Benedict’s class finished reading, they would spend time chatting with each other. However, Ms. Benedict did have many great teachers at MSD. Her favorite teacher was the math teacher. The teacher would write a couple of problems on the blackboard, and let the students solve the problems. When they all finished, the teacher would tell them about her life experiences.

Ms. Benedict remembers one day, the president of the Alexander Graham Bell Association visited MSD because MSD used Total Communication. The president of AGB tended to visit Ms. Benedict’s class a lot. Her science teacher was so nervous about the visit so the day before the visit, she trained the class to raise their hands straight up when they knew the answer and to raise their hand low when they did not know the answer. That was the way the teacher would know which student to call on to give the answer. She thought this was terrible.

Ms. Benedict’s classes were in a building called the Old School Building. The kids sat in rows. Teachers always gave lectures. They did not do much small group work. Ms. Benedict’s best memory from when she was eleven years old was playing sports, joining different organizations, being in the drama club, and having fun with her classmates.

Ms. Benedict mentioned that she did not have much homework. She received very good grades and was on the Academic Honor Roll a couple of times. There was also another kind of Honor Roll called the Library Honor Roll. Ms. Benedict and her classmates had to read and write ten book reports. When they accomplished it, they would have one afternoon free and go to a park.

When she was eleven, she recalls that the Elementary School principal was Ms. Margaret Kent. Mr. Ken Kritz was the assistant principal. The Superintendent was Mr. David Denton.

When Ms. Benedict was in high school, it was called the Advanced Department. Elementary School was called the Primary School. Ms. Benedict’s favorite teachers were Ms. Gertie Galloway, Ms. Mary Benson, Ms. Bette Hicks, Ms. Sarah Quinn, and Mr. Wayne Sinclair. There were not many deaf teachers during Ms. Benedict’s time. The Elementary School had no deaf teachers at all. Middle School had one or two deaf teachers. When Ms. Benedict was in high school, five out of her seven teachers were deaf. The reason that deaf teachers could not work in the elementary school was because the kids had to learn how to correctly pronounce the words out loud and a deaf teacher could not teach a child to say the words correctly.

The Hessian Barracks that is located right next to the Ely Building was closed.
I am writing an interesting article about a charming woman named Florence Doub. Florence was born on August 27, 1851. When her mother held Florence in her hands, she noticed she had fair skin, dark hair and merry gray eyes. She had plump hands and small feet. In 1852, her parents decided to move from the farm outside the city of Frederick, Maryland to 344 North Market Street. Florence lived there for the rest of her life until she died. Florence's house is a typical red brick, two-story house that is still standing.

She went to private schools and completed her education at the Frederick Female Seminary. Beth as a cheerleader during her Intermediate Department years. She certainly looks like her daughter, Rachel, who is presently a 6th grader at MSD.

Ms. Benedict felt that during her time at MSD, there were too many rules. She thought that the rules were very unfair because the rules for boys seemed more flexible while the rules for the girls seemed very strict.

In the dorm in Elementary School, the rules were not fair either. The Elementary dorm counselors would make kids sit down in front of the television and watch shows without captions. When a kid wanted something, the kid would have to raise her hand and tell the counselor what she wanted. The kids had snacks at 3:15 in the afternoon. Bedtime was between 7:30 and 8:00. The dorm counselors were mostly hearing. The kids went home every weekend just like we do today.

Ms. Benedict’s best MSD memories are that of her friends. She enjoyed socializing with her friends. She also enjoyed being on the cheerleading squad. She and her classmates became friends for life and they are still in contact with each other. She is very glad about that.

Ms. Benedict graduated from MSD in June 1976. She felt very excited and very nervous at the same time. She knew that MSD had prepared her for the college life that was waiting for her.

Ms. Benedict now is studying for a PhD degree in early literacy. She takes classes for three years at Gallaudet University. She is now working on her dissertation. MSD changed Ms. Benedict’s life in many different ways. She learned that sometimes life could be unfair in some ways. She learned the importance of caring and that she is very lucky to have had good communication at MSD. She has a special bond with her former classmates. She will be friends with them forever. Overall, Ms. Benedict really had good experiences at MSD.

Ms. Benedict would like to see some changes happen to MSD in the future. She would like to get Home Economics back, have more up-to-date books, more technology, and more shared academic and service organizations with other schools.

This is my interview of what Mrs. Benedict’s life was like at MSD many years ago. You might realize some changes have happened at MSD throughout the years from 1959 to today. I enjoyed my interview with Ms. Benedict and I truly learned a lot from her.

—Meira Kirschbaum, 6th Grade

Florence W. Doub

I am writing an interesting article about a charming woman named Florence Doub. Florence was born on August 27, 1851. When her mother held Florence in her hands, she noticed she had fair skin, dark hair and merry gray eyes. She had plump hands and small feet. In 1852, her parents decided to move from the farm outside the city of Frederick, Maryland to 344 North Market Street. Florence lived there for the rest of her life until she died. Florence’s house is a typical red brick, two-story house that is still standing.

She went to private schools and completed her education at the Frederick Fe-
Old Sports

A long time there were lady’s basketball and men’s basketball teams. The games were so odd. Eastern States schools did not participate in any tournament. Mr. Harlow, who was associated with sports in Eastern State schools was instrumental in helping players develop their basketball skills. Maryland School for the Deaf started a line-up and won many games. M.S.D. played against the Middletown basketball team, but lost. M.S.D. played against Blue Ridge College and lost the game by ten points. M.S.D. had different kinds of basketball equipment. For example, the ball looked like a volleyball, but right now our basketball looks like a basketball. The uniforms were different because men had large numbers on their uniforms. Women had different uniforms, too. MSD basketball teams had to use the same color socks and shoes.

Currently MSD varsity basketball team is almost the same as the old basketball team, but the players play against deaf teams more than hearing teams. It is nice to know about other schools for the deaf.

—Misella Tomita, 6th Grade

Dr. Bjorlee

When you enter the Bjorlee Library, you see a portrait of a man. Who’s that person? That’s Dr. Ignatius Bjorlee. He was a superintendent of MSD. He also was the editor of “The Maryland Bulletin.” Here is a story about Dr. Bjorlee.

Ignatius Bjorlee was born on a farm in Minnesota on December 9, 1885. He grew up in Northwood, Iowa. He was a teacher of the deaf at Fanwood, a New York City School for the Deaf. While at Fanwood, he married Mrs. Cornelia Bjorlee on February 19, 1916. Later Dr. Bjorlee became a superintendent of MSD. He also was the editor of “The Maryland Bulletin.” Soon, he changed many things. He told the teachers to teach the deaf students to exercise their speech and to improve their voices.

For many years, Dr. Bjorlee always wanted to build a library-study hall in MSD. But all he could do was dream about it. On November 20, 1952, they had a meeting and voted the name “Bjorlee Library” after Dr. Bjorlee. They began to build this new library-study hall in December 1952. It was done in less than a year. The young building has a portrait of Dr. Bjorlee. He retired in 1955. We still remember and love him today.

—Zoe Sedlak, 6th Grade

Margaret S. Kentak

What do you think of when you hear the name Margaret Kent? It’s not just a name of a building; she is a living, older woman who put a lot of time, sweat, and

Florence, twelve years old

female Seminary, graduating on June 24, 1868, after the end of the Civil War. After her graduation, she conducted a school for the Gambrill children on the farm of J.H. Gambrill for about eight years. Then she became an art teacher at her former Female Seminary for three years. In 1881 she started teaching students at Maryland School for the Deaf until 1932. She served for 50 years as an art teacher at MSD.

Her idea of the Frederick Art Club was established. She had been the president of the art club for 35 years and participated in many art activities with friends in the community. In 1893 she was also appointed head of the Art Department of Hood College and served for twenty seven years.

When she was thirty, she was upset that she had a hearing loss. She had to use an aid called a tortoise shell horn. She held it to her ear to hear any sound waves.

She died in her sleep at 4:20 am, on Tuesday, January 19, 1932, at age 82 at her house. The death followed a stroke and paralysis. Many people went to Florence Doub’s funeral to pay their respects. For many years her interest in the art department was impressive and very remarkable.

—Scott Lehmann, 6th Grade

Margaret, 70 years old, before her retirement in 1973.
Ms. Margaret Kent, 94 years old, with Michelle Lapides.

energy into MSD for 48 years. She worked at MSD from 1925 to 1973. She had to retire at the age of 70. She is very proud to have worked at MSD all those years and enjoyed it very much. She learned a great deal about deafness at MSD. She had great many good experiences at MSD.

Margaret was born in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania on December 15, 1906. She often visited Frederick because her grandmother and aunt lived there. Her aunt worked at the superintendent’s office at MSD. The superintendent’s wife had studied to be a concert violinist and she was looking for someone who could play the piano to accompany her. Margaret got the job at MSD then she was trained to be a teacher of the deaf. She went to Columbia University in New York City, then to Northwestern University in Evanston, Illinois. She went back to Frederick and got the job at MSD and taught deaf children to tap dance. At that time tap dance was very popular. They showed off their skills at several conventions. The superintendent, Dr. Bjorlee, was very proud. Margaret learned sign language from the children and the house parents.

Margaret was promoted to principal of MSD in the year 1932. She was principal for 28 years. She was also a leader for Camp Fire Girls at MSD in the year 1927.

I had a chance talk to her through the relay service, and she was thrilled to be asked a few questions. She mentioned that in a few days on December 15th she would be celebrating her 94th birthday. She allowed me to visit her on her special day at her lovely home. Before the interview, I was pretty nervous and excited to meet her, she is part of the great history at MSD. Margaret has never been married, and has no children. She had a brother, but he died. When Margaret worked at MSD, there were only 150 students. Today, her hobbies are reading books and doing crossword puzzles. Margaret’s last visit to MSD campus was in April 1991. She said she would love to visit the campus once again soon. She lives so close to MSD, at the Record Street Home for the aged in Frederick, MD. Many of us might not realize this woman is still around and lives near MSD. I’m delighted to write about her because she seems to be very interesting, and I felt so honored that I was able to talk with her and meet her in person on her birthday at her lovely home. She was a still beautiful and remarkable woman when I met her. We talked for about 45 minutes.

—Michelle Lapides, 6th Grade

Ms. Margaret Kent (upper right) with Camp Fire Girls in 1927.
Weight Room Opens

There is a new weight room in MSD’s Benson Gym now open for MSD students. The room is located in the previous physical education office next to the Athletic Director’s office.

The room was painted in MSD’s school colors last month and new floor mats were installed and cut down to fit the room by Mr. Denis Reen’s woodworking class over a few days’ time.

Mr. Brad Cleaveland, the supervisor of the maintenance department helped advise the staff on the machines to purchase and MSD decided on “Hammer Strength” equipment. They are known to be some of the finest exercise machines available today.

The machines are Iso-lateral chest press/lat pulldown, Iso-lateral front lat pulldown, Seated leg curl, Iso-lateral rowing, and Iso-lateral leg extension.

The new machines, combined with MSD’s free weights already owned give MSD a very good exercise program to offer MSD’s PE students as well as MSD’s student-athletes involved in sports.

The boys’ and girls’ track teams have been using the weight room as they prepare for the upcoming season. Mr. Morrison is sure everyone will be bursting with new muscles as time goes on. Watch for more new equipment to arrive before the fall is here!

—Scott Morrison, Athletic Director-FC

Boys’ Varsity Basketball Season

The 2000-2001 Boys’ varsity basketball team completed its season with a 15-14 won loss record and third place in the Eastern Schools for the Deaf Athletic Association (ESDAA) boy’s basketball tournament.

The season began in a promising fashion with early season wins over Highland View Academy, Western Pennsylvania School for the Deaf (WPSD), and New Life; but after beating California School for the Deaf, Fremont in the opening round of the Clerc Classic (DC), MSD suffered two losses against Lexington (NY) and South Carolina School for the Deaf that defined its season-long “roller coaster ride” from game to game.

Some bright spots for the season included

- Jason Coleman had a fine year with 354 points in 25 games for a 14.1 average. Jason also scored a season high 28 points in the same game against New Life Christian School that Joshua reached that mark. He also pulled 141 rebounds for a 5.6 average. Robin Shannon had 118 assists in 26 games for a 4.8 average and a game high 8 against North Carolina School for the Deaf on January 20, 2001.
- This year’s captains were Emil Cornish, Robin Shannon and Joshua Walker. The seniors are Emil Cornish, Joshua Walker, Jason Yeh, and Jason McAnnally.
- The highlight of the season was the triple overtime game at home against Quantico on January 16, 2001. MSD lost 67-65 but played a thrilling game that gave the fans their money’s worth!
- The ESDAA tournament was held this year at the Marie Katzenbach School for the Deaf (NJ) on February 23-24, 2001. MSD lost the semi-final game to WPSD after having a bye in the first round and not playing until Saturday. WPSD played an excellent game and two of its players combined for 43 points out of 61. The third place game against the American School for the Deaf was one of MSD’s best of the year as MSD smothered them, 77-49. Lexington (NY) won the championship.
- The assistant coaches this year, Eric Mansfield and Steve Walker did a fantastic job instructing the team and deserve a “five high five”. Ray Shannon also contributed as the team’s manager and deserves a huge handwave as well.
- Coach Morrison would also like to thank the parents, fans, MSD students and MSD wonderful cheerleaders and coaches for their support throughout the season!
- To the departing seniors, good luck. To the returning players, hit the weight room!!

—Scott Morrison, Boys’ Varsity Basketball Coach-FC

Lady Orioles Basketball Team 2000-2001 National Deaf Prep Champs

THEY DID IT! THEY MADE HISTORY AGAIN!! The Lady Orioles Basketball team has been making history at MSD for two straight years. Last year, during the 1999-2000 season, they broke the season record with 17 wins and 6 losses. It was the most wins in a season in Lady Orioles’ basketball history… until this season when the 2000-2001 team surpassed that record, winning 25 games and losing only one!

Highlights:

- The best season win-loss record, 25 wins – 1 loss.
- The team brought home the Eastern
Schools for the Deaf Athletic Association (ESDAA) Championship trophy.

- Senior Jessica vonGarrel was the first female MSD player ever to score 1,000 career points.
- The team was chosen as the Silent News and the National Fraternal Society of the Deaf’s National Deaf Prep Champions for the first time in MSD history.
- Jessica vonGarrel and Priscilla Biskupiak were selected as First Team All Americans, and Head Coach Lorraine Stoltz as the Coach of the Year by the Silent News.
- Jessica vonGarrel was selected as the Player of the Year, Priscilla Biskupiak as First Team All American, and Sheena Lyles and Jenica vonGarrel as Second Team All Americans by the National Fraternal Society of the Deaf.
- The Frederick News Post honored Jessica vonGarrel as Third Team All-County and Mid-Maryland State Basketball All-Star; Priscilla Biskupiak as Honorable Mention; and Coach Stoltz as the co-winner of the Coach of the Year award.
- Priscilla Biskupiak, Laura Lohmeyer, Sheena Lyles, and Jessica vonGarrel were the ESDAA Tournament’s All Tournament players; MSD team won the Free Throw and Layup Competitions; and Jessica vonGarrel won the Hot Shot Competition.
- Priscilla Biskupiak was one of the Clerc Classic Tournament’s 5 All-Stars.
- Jessica vonGarrel was MVP and Priscilla Biskupiak was one of 4 All-Stars at the New Life Tournament.
- Priscilla Biskupiak, Laura Lohmeyer, Jessica vonGarrel, and Lacey Wilhelm were selected to the Carolina Classic’s All-Star Team.

On March 19th, the whole school gathered in the Ely Auditorium to honor and recognize the Lady Orioles basketball team as the National Deaf Prep Champions. Team members were: Seniors: Nancy Hoover, Tiffany Reeder and Jessica vonGarrel; Juniors: Laura Lohmeyer, Tomeka King, and Lacey Wilhelm; Sophomores: Sheena Lyles and Jenica vonGarrel; Freshmen: Krystal Berrigan, Priscilla Biskupiak, Kami Padden, and Amanda Stone; and student manager, Latrice Bishop. Also recognized were wonderful assistant coaches Sherry Bradley and Dan Biskupiak. Coach Stoltz in her 16th year as head coach of the Lady Orioles beamed with pride as she talked about the team, stating that this team had all the right chemistry and desire to win. They deserve all the recognition and celebration. The team, however, will truly miss the seniors next year. Senior Jessica vonGarrel told the crowd in the auditorium, “We have worked very hard for this… I feel good about leaving with a great feeling!”

MSD is very proud of the team and the coaches. Coach Stoltz’s remarks of the team were... “This is a special team! This season will always be remembered for a long, long time.” The team looks forward to a basketball summer camp at Penn State University. They can’t wait for another challenging season!

—Lorraine Stoltz, Girls’ Varsity Basketball Coach-FC

MSD Cheerleaders

Maryland School for the Deaf’s varsity basketball cheerleaders have bloomed from a rough beginning in November with a change in coaches to a victorious end at the Eastern Schools for the Deaf Athletic Association
(ESDAA) cheerleading competition hosted by the Marie Katzenbach School for the Deaf in Trenton, NJ last February 23-25.

MSD’s cheerleader squad placed 3rd place at the cheerleading competition. All of the cheerleaders worked hard to accomplish this. Senior Hayley Thayer performed an individual cheer. Yuri Randall, a senior, demonstrated three different jumps. MSD cheerleaders Gisella Tomita, Kaye Fernandez, Charles Sterling, Yuri, and Hayley with Jenica von Garrel and Nikki Nowalski as spotters showed two cheers, one chant and one creative dance movement.

Captain Gisella Tomita won top all star honors and brought home a medal.

MSD’s 3rd place trophy is currently on display in the lobby of Benson Gymnasium. MSD cheerleaders did a wonderful job at the competition and also at home games and away games throughout the season. A BIG HANDWAVE to all of them!

To MSD seniors, Yuri, Hayley and Charles, MSD thanks them! They will be greatly missed!

—Trudy Morita, Co-Coach-FC & Jane Nowalski, Co-Coach-FC

**MSD’s Amazing Wrestlers:**

**11 – 5 – 1**

This year’s wrestling season record speaks for itself. Before January 2001, MSD was 1-4 and, as the season progressed, MSD showed signs of great improvement. In December, MSD grapplers participated in St. James tournament and the opposing coaches were very impressed with MSD’s young wrestlers which won fourth place out of 10 teams. MSD’s Clint Zarembka captured an individual championship. All in all, MSD had many tough dual matches this year but MSD came back with a winning season record at the end of the season.

One of the most exciting matches this season was between MSD and Model Secondary School for the Deaf (MSSD). MSD’s head coaches Travis McFadden and Jerry Solomon formerly wrestled under MSD wrestling coach, Jeff White. MSD defeated MSSD when MSD’s Jimmy Etheridge defeated MSSD’s Leto in a double overtime heavyweight match. The final team score was 33 to 28. The gym erupted with loud cheers from MSD fans that made the trip to Washington, D.C.

On January 26 and 27, 2001, MSD hosted the 2001 Eastern Schools for the Deaf Athletic Association (ESDAA) Wrestling Tournament. The tournament was a huge success: thanks to the co-chairpersons Vicki Kistemebel and Michelle Fetterman. Seven teams participated in the tournament; and the Texas School for the Deaf won the championship, edging MSD by 25 points. Six out of seven MSD wrestlers, wrestling in the championship round, won gold medals.

The champions from MSD were: Clint Zarembka (135), Charles Sterling (145), Adam Baker (152), Wayne Wilkinson (160), Jason Sunderland (171), and Mike Gardner (189) while James Etheridge (HWT) placed second. Daniel Grossinger (125), James Markel (130), and Eric Oliver (140) won bronze medals. Cody Reidy (103) and Ryan Curry (112) placed fourth. Clint Zarembka was voted as the most outstanding wrestler of the tournament by coaches at the ESDAA tournament.

MSD’s 3rd place trophy is currently on display in the lobby of Benson Gymnasium.

MSD-CC’s 10 games:

- MSD-CC 44 MSD-FC 40
- MSD-CC 44 Tree of Life 26
- MSD-CC 44 Kendall School (DC) 33
- MSD-CC 44 Tree of Life 37
- MSD-CC 44 Kendall (DC) 42
- MSD-CC 44 Mid-Atlantic Jr. Classic Basketball Tournament (Seventh Place):

**MSD-CC Middle School Boys Basketball Team**

This year, Columbia Campus provided MSD students an opportunity to participate in the extramural sports program such as Middle School basketball. This is the second time in history that the basketball team had a winning season. The final team record was six wins and four losses. MSD Columbia students gained valuable playing experiences. There are two or three players who will help MSD Varsity Boys Basketball team down the road when they move to the Frederick campus. Danny Rinas, MSD Head Coach and Rick Kaufman, MSD Assistant Coach were pleased with the players’ over-all play. The players are: Rodney Rich, Mark E Dobbies, Gary Carter, Gregory Hodge, Quinten Fury, Lusan Kamara, Davonta Foreman, Avon Blue, Tykeria Ward, Abdul Crawford, and Andre Watley. Adonica Harris was the manager.
In the season’s opener, MSD-CC basketball team played against the MSD-FC team (1-2 years younger). MSD-CC led all the way, and it was 34 to 16 after the end of the 3rd quarter. The Frederick team scored 20 points in the 4th quarter to MSD-CC’s 10, but MSD-CC prevailed at the end winning, 44–36. Andre Watley and Markeis Dobbins scored 16 points each while Gregory Hodge chipped in 10 points.

Playing against the Kendall School team, MSD-CC team notched its second win with a score of 38–33. They led all the way, as it was 32 to 15 after the end of the 3rd quarter. Andre Watley scored 14 points while Gregory Hodge and Markeis Dobbins contributed 12 points each.

MSD-CC team played next against Tree of Life. It was a close game all the way as MSD-CC led 14 to 12 after the 1st quarter. Tree of Life led at halftime by 3 points (23 to 20). MSD-CC came back in the 3rd quarter and scored 16 points to their 10 points making the score, 36 to 33. Both teams were cold in the final quarter. The final outcome of the game went to MSD-CC with the score of 44 – 37. The score was a lot closer than the final score indicated, as MSD-CC led by 38 to 37 with about 3 minutes left on the clock. Andre Watley scored 16 points while Markeis Dobbins scored 14 points. Gregory Hodge chipped in 12 points.

MSD-CC team played against Tree of Life, again, six days later. This time, the game was not close, as MSD-CC led all the way! The final score was 41 to 26. Andre Watley scored a game-high 20 points while Markeis Dobbins contributed 17 points.

With a four game winning streak, MSD-CC team played against Covenant Life. MSD-CC was never in the game, as it was a blowout. Covenant Life won easily over MSD-CC by a score of 69 to 27. Markeis Dobbins and Andre Watley led MSD-CC with 17 and 9 points, respectively.

MSD-CC team played next against the Kendall School team. It was a close and exciting game from the beginning to end. MSD-CC and Kendall School were tied at 14 to 14 at halftime, and 34 to 34 at the end of the 4th quarter. However, Kendall prevailed in overtime and won by 2 points with a final score of 42 to 40. Andre Watley scored 20 points while Markeis Dobbins added 18 points in a losing cause.

MSD-CC team played against the MSD-FC team (1-2 years younger) for the second time this year. Frederick led this time with a score of 19 to 15 at halftime. MSD-CC scored 16 points to Frederick’s 2 points in the 3rd quarter to make the score 31 to 21. As usual, Andre Watley and Markeis Dobbins helped the team by scoring 15 points each while Gregory Hodge added 8 points. The final score was 44 – 40 with MSD-CC winning.

MSD-CC (boys) team participated in the 2001 Mid-Atlantic Jr. Classic Basketball Tournament at the Frederick Campus. A total of eight schools for deaf students participated in the tournament. MSD-CC played against the North Carolina team in the first round. The game was close in the first half as both teams scored 6 points in the 1st quarter and 9 points in the 2nd quarter. However, it was a different story in the 2nd half. North Carolina pulled away easily, scoring 29 points to MSD-CC’s 6 points for the final score of 44 to 21. Andre Watley chipped in 11 points in a losing cause.

In the second round, MSD-CC played against MKSD (NJ). MSD-CC led by a score of 11 to 10 at halftime. However, in the second half, MKSD played well and prevailed with a final score of 24 to 17. Markeis Dobbins and Andre Watley led MSD-CC with 8 and 7 points, respectively.

MSD-CC played against Pennsylvania School for the Deaf (PSD) in the final round. MSD-CC led this game all the way as MSD-CC was ahead 15 to 8 by halftime. After the 3rd quarter, MSD-CC was leading, 25 to 16. However, PSD rallied and closed the deficit to 31 to 28. PSD almost tied the game on a last 3-point attempt that looked good but was a little short. MSD-CC then jumped with joy! Andre Watley scored 15 points while Markeis Dobbins added 12 points. Gregory Hodge played well in defense and rebounding. Andre Watley was voted as a First Team All-Star.

—Danny Rinas, Middle School Boys’ Basketball Coach-CC

MSD-FC Middle School Boys Basketball

This year, MSD joined the Mid-Maryland basketball league and played more than 30 games. The boys developed their skills as the season progressed. The final record of 21-9 showed the level of basketball played throughout the year.

MSD Middle School Boys team went undefeated this year against other schools for deaf students when MSD won the championship at the Mid-Atlantic Jr. Classic Basketball Tournament. MSD defeated the Marie Katzenbach School for the Deaf, 22-8, in the first game, followed by wins over the North Carolina School for the Deaf, 39-3, and the championship win over Lake Drive (NJ), 32-24. This was one of the highlights of the season.

Another highlight was defeating Linganore at home in a double overtime game by the score of 41 – 38. This was a game MSD boys refused to lose. Their determination showed as MSD’s defense forced them into many turnovers to give MSD a well deserved win.
MSD will lose eight players next year. Those players are: Martise Colsten, Davon Cook, Darren Hause, Jonathan McMillan, Bruce Persons, Jake Rutledge, Ryan Shepard, and Francis Steele. The three players who will return next year are Daniel Fava, Scott Lehmann, and Ryan Turner.

Mr. Shortes would like to express his appreciation to his assistant coach, Ray Lehmann for his outstanding help throughout the year, as well as many parents and fans that cheered MSD all season long.

—Gentry Shortes, Middle School Boys’ Basketball Coach-FC

MSD Hosts 2001 Mid-Atlantic Jr. Classic Basketball Tournament

The Maryland School for the Deaf played hosts to sixteen schools during the weekend of February 23 and 24, 2001. As the chairman of the tournament, Daniel Biskupiak was fortunate to have full cooperation of the invited schools to assure the smooth running of this two-day event. Games were played using two courts simultaneously and the fans were allowed to watch with standing room only, but no one seemed to mind! The boys’ tournament results were:

1. MSD (Frederick)
2. Lake Drive (NJ)
3. Metro Deaf School (MN)
4. North Carolina School for the Deaf
5. Kendall School (DC)
6. Marie Katzenbach School for the Deaf (NJ)
7. MSD (Columbia)
8. Pennsylvania School for the Deaf

The girl’s results were:

1. Metro Deaf School (MN)
2. Kendall School (DC)
3. MSD (Frederick)
4. Lake Drive (NJ)
5. North Carolina School for the Deaf
6. MSD (MYBA)
7. Indiana School for the Deaf
8. Pennsylvania School for the Deaf

Boys First team All Star:
Davon Cook – MSD - Frederick
Ryan Johnson - Metro Deaf School
Lawrence Dorsey - Lake Drive
Andre Watley - MSD - Columbia
Sherrod Webb - Kendall

Boys Second team All Star:
Cedric Bostic - NCSD
Michael Badie - MKSD
Bryan Lewis - Metro Deaf School
Francis Steele – MSD - Frederick
Scott Lehmann – MSD - Frederick

Girls First team All Star:
Amy Siebert - Metro Deaf School
Shana Lehmann – MSD - Frederick
Janna Erlandson - Metro Deaf School
Arlene Ngalle - Kendall
Saprina David - NCSD

Girls Second team All Star:
Molly Larkin - Lake Drive
Esther Drake - Kendall
Terelle Webster - Indiana
Jenna Pochmarm - Metro Deaf School
Larissa Clapp - MSD-Frederick (tied)
Amanda Biskupiak - MSD-Frederick (tied)

Boys Sportsmanship: Metro Deaf School
Girls Sportsmanship: Lake Drive

Contests

Boys:
Knockout: Marvin Hajdamacha - Lake Drive
Free Throw: Metro Deaf School and NCSD (tied)
Hot Shot: Ryan Johnson - Metro Deaf School

Girls:
Knockout: Lisa Monroe - MSD-Frederick
Free Throw: Lake Drive
Hot Shot: Amy Siebert- Metro Deaf School

—Daniel Biskupiak, Tournament Chairman

Front row: Brittany Williams, Frances Sorrentino, Amanda Biskupiak, and Jessica Frank.
Youth Basketball Program

The 2000-2001 youth basketball season was an excellent one for MSD students. MSD had a good number of boys and girls playing in both the YMCA league (for 1st/2nd graders) and the Monocacy Youth Basketball Association (MYBA) league (for 3rd/4th graders and 5th/6th graders).

MSD had 3 teams in the YMCA league this season. One team was composed of 1st/2nd-grade girls, coached by James Tucker and Paul Roult. The girls’ team held their own against competition with all-boys team in the league and that holds promise for our girls basketball program. Our other two YMCA teams were composed of 1st/2nd-grade boys. Jeff Lewis and Rommey Kerchner coached one team. Lee Kramer, Dan Biskupiak, and Dan Frank coached the other team. Players on all three teams played against each other and against other teams in the league. It was wonderful to watch the players develop their basketball skills.

MSD had 5 teams playing in the MYBA league. MSD’s two Under-10 girls’ teams were coached by Jeff Lewis/Rommey Kerchner and by Dwight Benedict/Dan Frank. MSD’s two Under-10 boys’ teams were coached by Lindsey Heisey/Robert Harrington/Joel Wiener and by John Grindstaff/Mike Rosko/Gerard Sorrentino. Our two Under-12 girls’ teams were coached by Dave Frank/Dwight Benedict and by Paul Roult/George Boyd. Garrett Wooten/Wally Witzczak coached MSD’s Under-12 boys’ team. These teams played 10 regular season games and participated in the end-of-year tournament. Congratulations to the Boys U-12 team for winning the championship of their tournament, and to Paul Roult’s U-12 girls for finishing 2nd in their tournament. This league helps MSD’s student athletes to develop sound basketball fundamentals and to prepare for higher levels of competition as they get older.

Great appreciation goes to the volunteer coaches who gave so freely of their time to work with MSD elementary student athletes.

—Jeffrey Lewis, Youth Basketball Coach-FC
MSD Youth Wrestling Club had a great season, considering its small membership: 16 wrestlers. Other local clubs have an average of 50 wrestlers. More than half of MSD wrestlers have only one year of wrestling experience, which may explain why they have improved so much since last year.

On March 4th, MSD wrestlers made history when they had the largest number ever to qualify at a division wrestling tournament: 9 out of 14 wrestlers captured first through fourth places. Then, on March 11th, at the league championship tournament at Catoctin High School in Thurmont, 6 out of 9 wrestlers received first through fourth places!

The winners at the league championship tournament were: Ethan Kramer- 1st, Zachary Israel and Brian Grossinger- 2nd, Clayton and Daniel Grossinger-3rd and Cody Reidy- 4th.

Throughout the season, MSD wrestlers showed much motivation, willingness to learn, and good sportsmanship, which are the qualities of becoming a champion. If they keep up with these necessary qualities, there will be no limit to their future successes!

MSD Youth Wrestling Club gives tons of credit to its coaching team and Varsity Wrestling Head Coach Jeff White for its success. Thanks also to the parents who were the backbone of this program. They were the ones who were willing to take their kids to various places for wrestling meets. MSD will have a good chance to improve next season with its returning wrestlers.

Finally, many thanks to the volunteers who were willing to help MSD host a wrestling meet on February 10th. It was a success!

—William Thompson, Coordinator of MSD Youth Wrestling Club


Howard M. Amberg ’33, of Rehoboth, Delaware, formerly of Baltimore, Maryland, passed away at the age of 86 on February 2, 2001. Married for 59 years, he was the husband of Margaret “Peggy” Amberg. He was the brother of Ann Marie Dietrich and the late Leroy Amberg ’32; brother-in-law of Evelyn Amberg ’34; and uncle to two nephews and one niece. One of two nephews is Alvin Amberg ’62. Mr. Amberg was cremated and buried at sea. The family suggests contributions to the Maryland School for the Deaf, 101 Clarke Place, P. O. Box 250, Frederick, Maryland 21705.

Otto Stephen Sebly ’34 died on February 26, 2001. He was the husband of Ethel Hall Sebly ’35; father of Stephen T. Sebly and Wayne N. Sebly; father-in-law of Carole B. Sebly; grandfather of Brian J. Reagan; brother of E. Joseph Sebly and Olga Mlinarchik. Numerous nieces and nephews including Stanley Eure ’62, and Irma Jane Eure ’66, also survive him. Visitation was held on February 27 and 28, 2001 at the Hubbard Funeral Home in Baltimore, Maryland. Funeral service took place on March 1, 2001 with interment private. The family requests that donations in Mr. Sebly’s name be made to the Maryland School for the Deaf, 101 Clarke Place, P. O. Box 250, Frederick, Maryland 21705.

Roger C. Kraft ’85 and his wife, Christine, welcomed their third child and second daughter, Teresa Elizabeth Kraft, on January 28, 2001 in Sioux Falls, South Dakota. She weighed 7 lbs. 2 oz. and measured 19 inches in length. Teresa has two older siblings, Calvin and Natalie, who are thrilled to have a new baby sister.

Christopher ’88 and Celeste Swiney Boswell E-’88 wish to announce the birth of their second child and daughter, Caitlin Jean-Rae Boswell. She was born on February 9, 2001 at 6:55 p.m. She weighed 8 lbs. 1 oz. and measured at 21 ½ inches long. Her big brother, Caleb who is exactly 19 months older, is thrilled to have a baby sister.

Bonita Ewan E-’88, and her husband, Brian Thorn, became the parents of their first child and daughter, Denali Ewan Thorn, who was born on January 31, 2001 at Shady Grove Adventist Hospital in Rockville, Maryland. Denali weighed 6 lbs. 9 oz. and measured 19 ¾ inches long. Bonita is a student life counselor supervisor for the high school girls at MSD and Brian is a high school teacher at MSD. They reside in Frederick, Maryland.

Bobbi Sue Renfrew Murray ’89 and her husband, Roscoe Murray, are proud to announce the birth of their daughter, Ashlanna Sue, who was born on October 4, 2000. She weighed 7 lbs. 8 ½ oz. and measured 20 inches long. Ashley Sue and Ashton are thrilled to have a new baby sister. Bobbi Sue is a full time mother and Roscoe is a high school teacher at MSD. They reside in Frederick, Maryland.

Julie C. Bourne ’96 received her Bachelor of Arts degree in Professional and Technical Communications with high honors from the Rochester Institute of Technology in May 2000. After graduation, she went to Europe with a fellow RIT graduate for 30 days. Their original plan was to tour three countries for ten days each; however, Italy stole their hearts so they ended up extending their stay in Italy to 20 days. In Italy, they met many Deaf Italians who welcomed them into their homes and dinner tables. She also met a few Americans including a recent Gallaudet graduate who is involved in the preparation of the Deaf World Games to be held in Rome this coming summer. Coincidently, there was an International Deaf Soccer tournament taking place during her visit, so she had the privilege to meet several more Deaf people from all over Europe. Upon her return to the United States, Julie landed a job as a sales manager for an e-mail software company, Commtouch (www.commtouch.com), in Mountain View, California. She currently resides in San Francisco, California.

Terri Monroe ’99 and Jason Dietz
announce the birth of their first child and son, Rory Jason Dietz, born on February 22, 2001 at 6:58 p.m. in Frederick, Maryland. Rory weighed 8 lbs. 1 1/2 oz. and measured 20 3/4 inches long. Both of his parents, Terri and Jason, are attending Gallaudet University.

Mrs. Helen Gertrude Biser died on January 1, 2001 at Homewood Retirement Center at Crumland Farms in Frederick, Maryland. She was the wife of Thaddeus McCauley Biser Jr. who died on January 9, 1985. Born October 18, 1911, in Frederick County, she was a daughter of the late Frank and Mattie Buesing. Mrs. Biser had been manager of the former Bells’ Hat Shop on North Market Street, and the former Martha Washington Candy Shop on Patrick Street for a number of years. She later was employed in the cafeteria at West Frederick Junior High School. She retired as a counselor at Maryland School for the Deaf. She was a life member of Trinity Circle at the church, Frederick Women's Business and Professional Club and the Frederick Garden Club. Surviving are two daughters, Marie Smyth and Kira Streeter, both of Washington, California, and Neil Streeter and husband John of Hertford, North Carolina, and Margaret Streeter and husband Will of Washington. There are four grandchildren, Bruce Gordon and William Streeter, both of Oakland, California, and Neil Streeter and Kira Streeter, both of Washington. Mrs. Biser was preceded in death by one granddaughter, Elizabeth Gordon, in 1981. Funeral services were held on January 5, 2001 at Trinity Chapel of Evangelical Reformed United Church of Christ. She was buried in Mount Olivet Cemetery in Frederick.

TABLE: MSDDAA’s 2001 Hall of Fame Inductees

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Sport</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1943</td>
<td>John Hook</td>
<td>Basketball</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1948</td>
<td>Mary Lou Jones Shram</td>
<td>Basketball</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1953</td>
<td>Jane Angell Miers</td>
<td>Basketball</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1962</td>
<td>Stanley Eure</td>
<td>Track and Field</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1979</td>
<td>Norma Long Adams</td>
<td>Track and Field</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1982</td>
<td>Lorrey Smith</td>
<td>Track and Field</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1987</td>
<td>Anthony Epps</td>
<td>Football, Basketball, and Track and Field</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2001 Alumni Day

MSD’s Annual Alumni Day was held Saturday, March 10, 2001 and was a huge success. Over one hundred players and fans came to join in the fun-filled day where the alumni competed against MSD varsity players. Everyone had fun and no matter how old or out of shape the alumni members were, and the alumni men even managed to upset the boys’ Varsity Basketball Team!

This year, MSD Alumni Association added two new sports which were flag football and volleyball. The results were basically the same in each contest: the MSD varsity teams beating the alumni. While the varsity beat alumni in wrestling, the flag football game was a close contest before the varsity pulled out a 18-12 victory!

The MSD varsity volleyball team creamed the alumni in 4 straight sets! MSD’s championship girls’ varsity basketball team whipped the Alumni with no mercy.

In one of the most thrilling upsets in recent years, the alumni came from behind to down the varsity boys’ basketball team by a few points. The alumni players filled up the bench while the varsity only dressed 7 players as several were unable to attend.

—Conrad vonGarrel, MSD Alumnus

PTCA-CC News

This year has proven to be very busy for the Maryland School for the Deaf—Columbia Campus. Parent, Teacher, Counselor Association. The PTCA sponsored a Holiday Spaghetti Dinner and Bazaar. The spaghetti dinner was priced right for everyone to attend at only $1.00 per person. Over 200 people were able to join for dinner. The Bazaar was very successful with people showing off their crafts. The children had fun with many crafts, activities and a Signing Santa. Thanks to some generous donations from local businesses, the PTCA was able to give away some wonderful door prizes to both adults and the children who attended. If the reader would like more information about any upcoming PTCA events, please contact Cheri Dowling at (410) 795-0388 or CAD800@aol.com.

This year with the dedication of the Maureen Brothers Student Assistance Fund, and donations in excess of $8,000 the MSD – CC, PTCA has been able to do some wonderful things for families. This year the PTCA provided 30 Thanksgiving Baskets to families. This allowed all the MSD families to have a happy Thanksgiving. The fund also was able to send over 25 MSD children to summer camp. The children will be going to camp for 1 week during the summer. The PTCA would like to thank everyone who donated to the Maureen Brothers Student Assistance Fund, for without their donations the fund would not have been able to help so many families and children this year. If the reader would like more information about the Maureen Brothers Student Assistance Fund or would like to donate to this fund, please contact Cheri Dowling or Judy Pannier at (410) 480-4572, pannieju@msd.edu.

—Cheri Dowling, PTCA-CC President
Larry D. Johnson

by Mary Sue Boxer, Alumni and Community News Editor

Larry Donell Johnson

A member of the Class of 1972, Larry Donell Johnson, was born on April 16, 1953, in Salisbury, Maryland. He was the sixth child of his parents. He was born deaf. His cause of deafness was unknown. His parents had eight children – four sons and four daughters. There are sixteen grandchildren in Larry’s family. Larry’s older brother, Bobby, is hard of hearing but does not realize that they were both deaf. One day in 1963, Larry and his mother rode to Frederick with Jerome Long’s mother. They met with Mr. Kenneth Lane who was the assistant principal at that time and decided to enroll Larry in the fall of 1964 when he was 10 years old. He remembers fondly his first year teacher at MSD, Ms. Mary Lynn Lally, in the Intermediate (now Middle School) Department. For the first time, he learned many things at MSD. It was a tough challenge for Larry. He was grateful to his teachers – Ms. Lally, Ms. Schoppert, Mr. Sullivan, Ms. Nickell, Ms. Dodge, Mr. Parks, Mr. Phelps, Mr. Sinclair, Mr. Gobble, Mr. Dodge, Mr. Marsh, Mr. Barr, and Ms. Payne – for opening his world to communication.

Sports changed Larry’s life dramatically. He loves sports and was an excellent athlete at MSD. He played football, basketball, and track. He remembers the first football game in the fall of 1969 playing against the Virginia School for the Deaf. The score was 60 – 6 in favor of VSD. Larry made the first touchdown during that game. Larry scored 12 touchdowns in that first season of the newly formed football team. He also played basketball on the junior varsity team and varsity team. His coaches were Mr. Dodge, Mr. Phelps, and Mr. Barr. He participated in several events on the track team such as 100 yard dash, 220 yard dash, 440 yard relay, 880 yard relay, low hurdle jump, and long jump.

Larry recalled fondly his special memories of MSD. After supper each evening, he would join a bunch of students playing different sports and it was so much fun. He also enjoyed dancing at the school parties. He remembers fondly his trip down to the North Carolina School for the Deaf in Morganton with Pedro Jennings, Larry Kent, and Mr. Emory Marsh for the Deaf Olympics tryouts in track. He did not make the team due to a muscle pull in his leg. It was a special time for him to meet other people.

After his graduation from MSD in 1972, Larry returned home in Pocomoke City. He did not know what he wanted to do. Fortunately, Mr. Ron Sisk contacted Larry to return to Frederick to work as a dishwasher at the Francis Scott Key Hotel so he could play in a deaf basketball league. After a year at the FSK Hotel, Mr. Foley, Mr. Sisk, and Mr. Stem encouraged him to apply for a job at MSD as a custodian in the Veditz Vocational Building. He was eventually transferred to Maintenance Department where he is now responsible for groundskeeping, taking care of the school mail, working on cars and vans for tune-up, making furniture, and other school-related chores. He has been here for 24 years. In addition to his MSD job, he has worked full-time at the Wags Restaurant for 13 years as a cook during the evenings of Mondays, Tuesdays, and Saturdays from 4 to 10 p.m.

On November 20, 1987, Larry wedded Pamela Thompson who is now a secretary in a doctor’s office. They are the parents of two children, Larry Johnson, Jr. born on February 1, 1988, and April Johnson born on November 29, 1991. Larry Jr. is a seventh grader at the Thomas Johnson Middle School. April is in the 4th grade at the North Frederick Elementary School. During his leisure time, Larry enjoys fishing, cooking on the grill, watching his son play baseball in the Babe Ruth league, and playing different sports. He was inducted into the MSD Alumni Association’s Hall of Fame in 2000. It was a big honor for him.

Larry Donell Johnson offers advice to MSD students:
1. Love MSD!
2. Respect teachers, faculty, and staff at MSD!
3. Study hard!
Thames Fine Arts & Framing is pleased to announce the release of Maryland School for the Deaf - Hessian Barracks, a signed and numbered print by the renowned artist, Pat Buckley Moss.

- Prints purchased at the exhibition may be personalized by Pat Buckley Moss.
- Signed & numbered prints, including artist's proofs available of new print, Maryland School for the Deaf - Hessian Barracks.
- 10 x 13 1/2 (finished)
- Original P. Buckley Moss painting of Maryland School for the Deaf - Hessian Barracks will be on display and available for purchase.
- Order Thames' Framing Special of the new print... and save!

Frederick Gallery
30 E. Patrick St.
Frederick, MD

Portion of print sales benefits Maryland School for the Deaf Foundation.

Phone Now to Order Your Maryland School for the Deaf - Hessian Barracks Print!!

301-663-0707 or 301-829-0440
2000-2001 MSD-CC Middle School Basketball Team