

The

# Maryland Bulletin

Fall 2000



# The Maryland Bulletin

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Fall 2000

## *The Maryland Bulletin* USPS No. 331-660

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## ON THE COVER

**Ms. Nancy Benton's Photography class students, Anne Greener-Hage (l) and Priscilla Biskupiak, "capture" the colorful foliage with their cameras at Harpers Ferry, West Virginia.**

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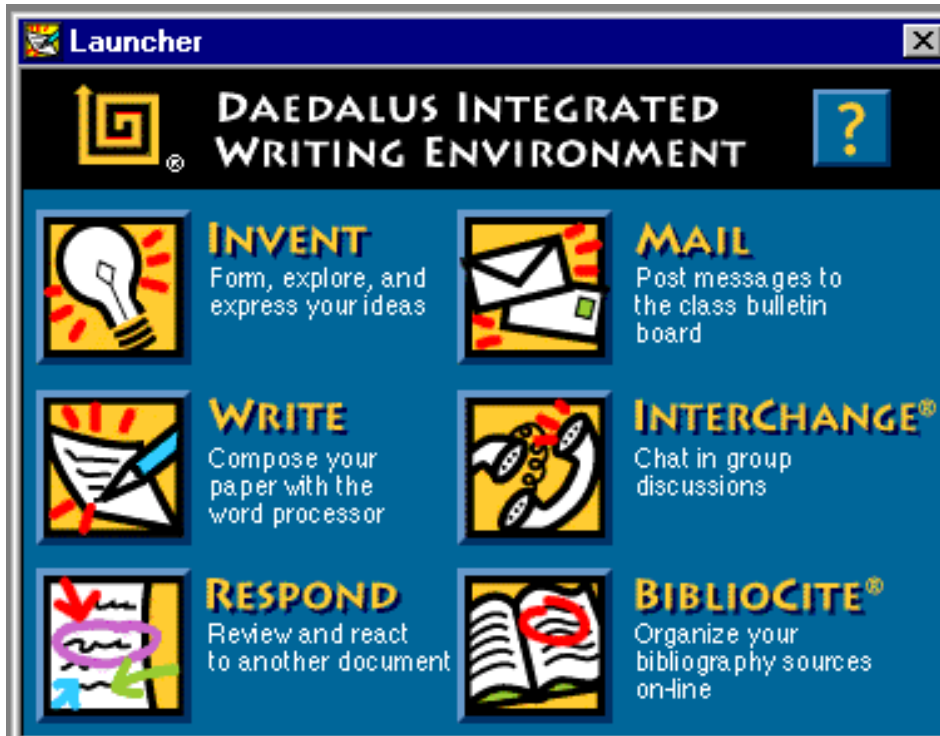
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Questions regarding this policy in terms of employment may be directed to Eva Staubitz, Director of Personnel (301) 360-2008. Questions regarding the school program may be directed to Dr. Deborah Clark, Director of Pupil Personnel Services (301) 360-2025. Both may be reached at the Maryland School for the Deaf, 101 Clarke Place, P.O. Box 250, Frederick, Maryland 21705.



# Daedalus Intergrated Writing Environment DIWE

By Mark Rust, High School Teacher – Frederick Campus



Through MSD Foundation, MSD Board of Trustees, and several key contributions, MSD was able to establish an Online Writing Lab that would enhance our students' experience with written English. This lab provides a wonderful writing environment that allows our students to improve upon the power of the written word as well as develop critical skills in providing peer feedback.

There are several components to this new writing environment called DIWE (Daedalus Integrated Writing Environment). You will be able to read what each component can do. This is a new tool in our bag of tricks that will provide meaningful feedback to the students.



The first component is called **Invent**.

**Invent** is a heuristic prewriting tool. Using

this tool, students are prompted to form, to explore, and to express their ideas, and thus to think divergently about their topics. Writers can then save, export, or print their responses to the prompts in order to generate first drafts. You may customize these questions or create new prompts using the PromptManager to suit specific courses, students, and class assignments.

Furthermore, many teachers use Invent's question and answer organization to focus students' attention on revision exercises by creating a prompt series that substitutes sentences to revise in the question portion of the window. Other teachers use the question and answer module to craft on-line quizzes and tests for their students.

**Write**, the program's streamlined word processor, allows you to teach



writing, not word-processing. It includes many of the most popular basic operations (copying, pasting, spell-checking, bolding, underlining, printing) and allows importing/exporting to and from other word processing applications. To further facilitate drafting and revising, students are free to copy Write and to use it outside the classroom.

The Write word processor is, of course, the primary tool for composing in DIWE. The standard editing tools for copying, cutting, and pasting text are located under the **Edit** pull-down menu. Using the **Write** pull-down menu, students can modify text style, size and font, line spacing, and printing options as well as find and replace text. The program accepts both text-only files and rich text format files created with other applications, and can create text-only files, which can be further edited using other word processors.

The next program is one that I have enjoyed using with my students. It allows the students to not only read their peers' papers, but to offer critical feedback as well. It is called **Respond**.



**Respond** is a revision heuristic which helps students respond to their peers' drafts. At the top of the screen appears a revision prompt; at the bottom, a place for the student's response. A peer's draft, or other texts like sample reports, poems or essay excerpts, can appear simultaneously on the

screen. Students can work independently through the prompts, and then save their responses to a file that can be printed out or returned electronically to the writer of the draft.

Respond allows students to read on-line peer drafts or printed texts, and then guides them through an evaluative process using a series of prompts. As with Invent, you can customize existing prompts or create your own. For instance, writers can use Respond to look at specific areas in peer drafts (punctuation, standard language, and so on); or, they can use a series of questions you have created as a reading template for professional writing, literary analysis, or critical evaluations.

In the Respond window, as in the **Invent** window, a revision question appears in the upper portion of the window with space for the peer reader's response in the lower portion of the window. The buttons across the top of the window allow readers to move from question to question and to get more information on the question appearing in the window.

As with **Invent**, you may customize existing prompts or create your own for the type of paper being critiqued (i.e., personal narrative, persuasive, expository, comparison, etc.) or for the level of revision appropriate for the stage of the paper. For example, you may want special prompts for first drafts that focus on macro concerns like audience, content, and organization. You may want another set of prompts focusing on style and tone for the second draft. Finally, you may want special prompts concerned with mechanics for the third draft.

**Mail** allows me an opportunity to have to students produce writings that can be posted as in an electronic

bulletin board. The usefulness of this program allows different classes to interact with their peers on a certain topic or novel. Students reading Romeo and Juliet can post their comments and have another class respond. It is a great way to carry on a discussion with classmates who cannot meet at the same time.



**Mail** is a simple LAN e-mail function allowing a range of communication, from private mail to group work. Students may send messages, drafts, or responses to peer work to individual students, to members of a collaborative group, or to the instructor. Because writers must always address their Mail messages to someone — an individual classmate, the instructor, members of a peer group, the class as a whole — Mail helps them build a sense of audience. Date, time, and receipt stamps make this module an effective class management tool, too.

Mail permits writers to send private messages that only the sender and the recipient can read. Teachers can use this tool to respond to student drafts, send grades and comments, connect with students who cannot make office hours, and even take attendance.

By far, the most popular component of DIWE is the **Interchange (IM)**. The students love carrying on discussions through this program and all discussions can be printed out for reference when using this for a paper.



**InterChange®** facilitates synchronous, or “real-time,” discussions for whole classes, small groups, or both simultaneously. Students compose private messages and send them to all the members

of a discussion group for immediate viewing. Transcripts of these discussions are automatically saved to your files server, and can be saved to disk or printed and reviewed at any time.

In an InterChange session, writers compose their messages in a separate window at the bottom of the screen while the group's comments scroll in the upper window. All students can participate in a single, full-class discussion or a class can be broken into several, smaller discussion groups.

This program will be beneficial but has not been utilized as of yet. There have been many times when one becomes frustrated with typing out an accurate bibliography. **BiblioCite** will be a blessing to the English Department.



**BiblioCite** helps writers build a bibliographical database during their research. As they gather sources, they enter the pertinent bibliographic information into **BiblioCite**. The program prompts them for the information that should be recorded using simple template, making the process a matter of filling in the relevant blanks.

**BiblioCite** also helps students create a Works Cited page based on their bibliography database. A student can produce a bibliography using the MLA style or the APA format.

As stated above, this is a powerful tool that will enhance our students' written and thinking abilities. We are just beginning to scratch the surface as to how to use this tool within our English classes and other subject areas as well. We look forward to the fruits of this tool with excitement.

To learn more about this exciting program, go to [www.daedalus.com](http://www.daedalus.com).

# DHR LICENSE UPDATE:

By Dirk Albrecht, Coordinator of Student Development

The Office of Student Development at Frederick Campus went through a face-lift in the past year with new responsibilities including an expanded role for staff training in the Student Life Department. Working in the Office of Student Development, Mr. Dirk Albrecht is looking forward to all the challenges and responsibilities that come with the position.

Many of the staff members at MSD have probably seen Mr. Albrecht around during the beginning of the school year talking to staff members at both Frederick and Columbia Campuses and coordinating staff training for both campuses. He began working at MSD last summer, and is now working closely with Mr. Stanley C. Baker, Principal of Frederick Campus and Ms. Linda S. Coleman, Dean of Students of Frederick Campus. His job is to ensure that the Frederick Campus Student Life Counselors are properly trained and ready for any event while supervising MSD students who live in residence halls. This new responsibility and the staff training are now part of the requirements for maintaining Department of Human Resources (DHR) residential programming licensure. Mr. Al Couthen, Assistant Principal of Elementary School/Dean of Students of Columbia Campus is now responsible for providing training to Student Life Counselors at Columbia Campus.

## **What does the Department of Human Resources have to do with MSD?**

The Maryland Assembly passed a bill in the 1999 General Assembly requiring certain Maryland residential facilities, including the Maryland School for the Deaf, to have a Residential Child Care Program License. DHR has been designated as the state agency to monitor Maryland residential facilities that have a Residential Child Care Program License. MSD was awarded two site licenses (for Columbia Campus and

Frederick Campus) on December of 1999. This license is renewed every two years with the next license renewal being in December of 2001. MSD will be working closely with DHR to ensure that MSD is in compliance with state regulations. DHR officials will inspect MSD facilities every 6 months and review student files as well as Student Life Counselors' files.

## **Why are Student Life Counselors being required to do all the training and meet the requirements for their positions? Do teachers have to do the same thing?**

Teachers are not required under the requirements for Residential Child Care Program since they do not work in the Student Life Department. The Student Life Counselors are identified by the DHR as staff members who must go through training.

## **What kind of training do Student Life Counselors need to receive and how much training are they required to receive?**

The Student Life Counselors are required by the Residential Child Care Program License to undergo 40 (or more) hours of training each year. Student Life Counselors are required to go through the following training topics each year:

1. Emergency preparedness and general safety practices
2. Cardiopulmonary resuscitation leading to certification
3. Annual first aid training either through completion of the:
  - American Red Cross standard First Aid course (valid for the period of time recognized by American Red Cross) or,
  - First Aid training by a certified or otherwise qualified instructor
4. Medication monitoring
5. Infection control and Maryland Occupational Safety and Healthy

Bloodborne Pathogen Standards

6. Child abuse and neglect identification and reporting
7. Parenting issues and collaboration with families
8. Psychosocial and emotional needs of children, family relationships, and impact of separation
9. Suicide prevention training as appropriate for the age of children in program
10. Approved forms of discipline and behavior management techniques including crisis management and use of isolation
11. Special needs of population served
12. Child development
13. Role as Child Care Employees

With extensive training, Student Life Counselors are equipped to meeting the needs of MSD students and providing a positive environment for them. They have been motivated and enthusiastic with the training they are going through. They also have expressed a desire to receive additional training in various Student Life topics, which are important to them and the students.

## **What has the Office of Student Development done since the beginning of the fall semester?**

The Office of Student Development has achieved in meeting half of the required list of training for Student Life Counselors. CPR/First Aid, Bloodborne Pathogens, Sexual Abuse, Child Abuse and Neglect Identification, Discipline and Crisis Management Techniques, Drivers Improvement Program, and Role of Child Care Employees. At present, other required training has been scheduled or is being scheduled. In addition to the Office's responsibility in meeting the required hours for training, Mr. Albrecht ensures that each staff member's file has all the required documents.

**MB**

# Maryland Youth Leadership Forum: An Interview

By K. C. Russell, Transition Coordinator and Kimberly Clapp, 12th Grade

**K.C. Russell:** Kimberly, thank you for meeting today to tell me about your experience at the Maryland Youth Leadership Forum (YLF). As you know, this past summer was the first time Maryland hosted this unique leadership program for high school students with disabilities. I know that high school students were recruited through the school systems within Maryland using a rigorous application process including essays and interviews. Students were selected on the following criteria: applicant accomplishments, disability diversity, ethnic and racial diversity and geographic representation. Can you tell me a bit more about the program?

**Kimberly Clapp:** Sure. The program lasted four days and three nights (I wish it were longer), and twenty-nine students attended. We stayed in the Bowie State University dorms, and part of the time was spent in lecture-style activities learning about the ADA and leadership techniques. During the other half we participated in workshops and group activities designed to motivate us to become active in our communities and realize our leadership potential. We also toured Annapolis where we met Governor Glendening and several delegates.

**Russell:** YLF Chairperson, Cathy Raggio told me that a main objective of the forum is to practice leadership through team building activities. What types of activities helped you practice leadership skills?

**Clapp:** There were two main types of activities. In the first one we listened to panels featuring adults with a variety of disabilities. One of the panels consisted of college students who talked about overcoming barriers they faced as a result of their disability, and another

was composed of people who had to overcome workplace barriers. The second type of activity was group projects where each team solved problems through leadership and cooperation.

**Russell:** As for the panels, what kinds of jobs were represented and what type of barriers did they face and/or overcome?

**Clapp:** Most of the panel members held either government jobs or were business entrepreneurs. I was amazed at the variety of barriers they had to overcome, from convincing their boss to modify their workplace, to getting a job in the first place. Unfortunately, there were no deaf panelists.

**Russell:** I assume that many of the adults have used the American with Disabilities Act (ADA) to help reduce barriers. What did you learn at YLF that will help you to advocate for greater implementation of the ADA?

**Clapp:** At YLF I learned how to speak up for myself and lobby for new laws. I was also able to develop a network that I hope to retain in the years to come. But most importantly, I've developed a new appreciation for others with disabilities. I don't view the word "disabled" in the same way as I used to. I don't find it negative; it is just one descriptive word of millions and millions of people. There are SOOOO many disabilities out there...one boy at the forum has diabetes. I never thought of that as a disability, but now I see how it can be. Being "disabled" just means that I am a member of an extremely large group of people.

**Russell:** Seeing yourself as connected to such a large group must be empowering. I'm sure that you will view that as an asset in your future leadership roles. YLF Staff leader Chad

McCruden told me that you were "a true leader - able to take charge of a situation and effectively direct people". In what way were you able to demonstrate your leadership ability?

**Clapp:** One of my favorite team activities was developing a skit using all of the props that were given to our group. Our basket of props included candles, forks, plates, magazines, dress-shirts and a lunch-box. I really enjoy theatre and have had a lot of experience in this area. I also like to be creative, so the plot of the skit came to me quickly. We enacted a robbery at a restaurant where all but one person died. The twist was that it wasn't the robber who was left alive; it was the person who had brought his lunch in the lunch-box. All others had all died of food poisoning! The whole skit was performed with gestures - no one spoke. It pretty much brought down the whole house.

**Russell:** I wish I could have seen that skit and the talent show that Ms. Raggio mentioned. She wrote, "Kim did the most incredible mime performance that any of us have ever seen. What a talented young woman!" It sounds as if you represented MSD and the Deaf community very well. What do you think was your greatest contribution?

**Clapp:** I'd have to say that my creativity was my greatest contribution. In addition to creative problem solving and performances, I was creative in my communication style. I decided not to use an interpreter during one-to-one conversations because I wanted to keep it casual. It wasn't always easy, because many of the participants had mobility impairments that prevented them from writing or gesturing, but in those situations one of the other students would



**Maryland Youth Leadership participants (MSD's Tomeka King and Kimberly Clapp) gather at a workshop to discuss their leadership potential.**

write for them.

By being there I also gave others a better understanding of Deaf people and MSD. My roommate and good friend during the program is deaf as well, but went to a mainstream school. Through our conversations, she became so interested in MSD that she decided to investigate the possibility of transferring here. She and her parents came for a tour, met with other students and staff, and in the end she has decided to become a student at MSD! That alone is worth the entire YLF experience.

**Russell:** I was planning to ask you if you are still in touch with any of the other participants. When I watched the YLF videotape, you looked like you had a really good time with everyone.

**Clapp:** I definitely did! YLF was much more fun than I had expected. Of course I taught many of the participants some basic signs. Most of them were really interested in learning American Sign Language and after YLF a boy e-mailed me telling me that he is plan-

ning to take an ASL course! In addition to that boy, I am still in touch with several other YLF participants via e-mail.

**Russell:** You previously told me that besides making the program longer, the only thing you would change would be to have some deaf mentors and panel members at YLF. What is required of a mentor, and how could one get involved?

**Clapp:** Actually, I'm the wrong person to ask since I'm not knowledgeable of the process one has to go through in order to become a mentor or panelist at YLF. However, I think YLF will be more active in recruiting next year as I included on my evaluation form that they should contact Gallaudet University or MSD to get some deaf adults involved. I hope to be a mentor or panel member in the future as well.

**Russell:** It would be great to have a student AND a mentor from MSD selected for next summer. What would you say to other talented students to

encourage them to apply to future YLF programs?

**Clapp:** I have been involved in numerous academic and extracurricular activities, but none has broadened my horizons as much as this one did. The dance on the last night of the program was so much fun, and YLF gave me a network of people who otherwise I never would have met. Because of the Youth Leadership Forum, I have a better understanding of all disabilities, and am able to find the common thread among all of us. It was the best experience, and if you still need more convincing to attend...don't forget, it's FREE!

**Russell:** Ha, that it is! I do hope that students, staff and other readers of this publication will consider getting involved in YLF. It may be hard to top this past summer's forum, but I'm sure that every year will be unique in what it offers to Maryland students – hopefully including those from MSD. **ME**



# MSD Policy Regarding Confidentiality of Student Records

All school records are confidential. It is the responsibility of the Principal to ensure that only authorized persons are permitted access to student files. Student files are kept in file cabinets and rooms which have locks.

Professional staff providing direct services to students may have access to information in the files by making a request to the appropriate department head. Professional personnel may gain access to the main file (Principal's file), through the following procedure:

- (1) Fill out request form for information desired from the student file;
- (2) Present request form to Principal's secretary (request form becomes documented record of who had access to student's file);
- (3) Principal's secretary will provide only the specific information requested, not the entire file;
- (4) Certain information, designated "sensitive information" by Principal, will not be provided by the Principal's secretary except with written authorization by Principal;
- (5) Information borrowed from the files is not to be xeroxed or duplicated and is to be returned on the day it is borrowed.

Professional personnel may gain access to the departmental files (i.e., Family Education/Early Intervention, Elementary, Transitional, Middle School, High School, Enhanced Program) through the following procedure:

- (1) Fill out a request form for information desired from student's file;
- (2) Present request form to the Assistant Principal or his/her designee (request form becomes a documented record of who has had access to the student's file);
- (3) The Assistant Principal/designee will provide only the specific information requested;
- (4) Information borrowed from the files is not to be xeroxed or duplicated and is to be returned on the day it is borrowed.

Parents and eligible students (18 years old and older) may have access to data according to the following guidelines:

- (1) A written request to review the school records must be made to the Principal;
- (2) The Principal will arrange to make the records available without unnecessary delay, and no later than 45 days from the date of the request;
- (3) The parents and/or eligible student shall review the student's school records with an appropriate qualified staff member present;
- (4) Copies of records will be made for a fee of ten cents (10¢) per page to cover duplicating cost, unless there is a demonstrated financial hardship or this would prevent a parent or eligible student from

exercising the right to review and inspect records;

- (5) Amendment of records, at the parents' request:
  - (a) A parent who believes that information in education records collected, maintained or used by the school is inaccurate or misleading or violates the privacy of other rights of the child, may request the Maryland School for the Deaf to amend the information;
  - (b) The Maryland School for the Deaf shall decide whether to amend the information in accordance with the request within fifteen (15) school days of the receipt of the request;
  - (c) If the Maryland School for the Deaf decides to refuse to amend the information in accordance with the request, it shall inform the parent of the refusal and advise the parent of the right to a hearing.
- (6) Destruction of information:
  - (a) The Maryland School for the Deaf shall inform parents when personally identifiable information collected, maintained or used, is no longer needed to provide educational services to the child;
  - (b) The following information must be retained for five (5) years to provide information required by State and federal officials:
    - (1) All Individualized Education Programs (IEPs); and
    - (2) Individual Education Plan (IEP) Committee summary sheets and notes containing:
      - (a) identification of assessments and evaluations performed (but not the detailed assessments themselves); and
      - (b) formal decisions of the IEP Committee documenting:
        - i. the student's disability;
        - ii. the multidisciplinary nature of the Committee; and
        - iii. parental involvement.
  - (c) The following personally identifiable information collected maintained or used by the school for medical assistance purposes must be retained for six (6) years to provide information required by State and federal officials:
    - (1) all Individualized Education Programs (IEPs) documenting services which are eligible for medical assistance reimbursement;
    - (2) Individual Education Plan (IEP)

Committee summary sheets and notes containing documentation of the need for services which are eligible for medical assistance reimbursement;

- (3) all documentation of services provided (logs, etc.);
  - (4) on-going service coordination notes demonstrating eligibility for medical assistance reimbursements; and
  - (5) all applications for medical assistance reimbursement.
- (d) The information must be destroyed at the written request of the parents. However, a permanent record of the student's name, address, and phone number, his/her grades, attendance record, classes attended, grade level completed may be maintained without time limitation.

For all other people, data in files will only be released upon receipt of a signed release from the parents and/or eligible student (18 years old and older).

As permitted by law, the School may release 'directory information' about students without prior consent. 'Directory Information' includes:

- name
- address
- name of parent(s) or guardian(s)
- telephone number
- date and place of birth
- local school system
- the most recent previous school system or educational institution attended by the student
- dates of attendance at MSD
- major fields of study
- participation in officially recognized activities and sports
- height and weight of members of athletic teams
- honors and awards received, and
- grade level

Any parent or eligible student who does not want the school to release directory information without their prior written consent must notify the Principal by September 30 and identify the category or categories of information which the school should not disclose. If the student enrolls after the beginning of the school year, the parent(s) or eligible student must submit this notification within 30 days of enrollment. This notification must be submitted annually.

Personally identifiable information may also be disclosed to another school system, school or postsecondary institution without parental consent. **HOWEVER, AS A MATTER OF SCHOOL POLICY, NO INFORMATION**



**WILL BE RELEASED WITHOUT PRIOR WRITTEN CONSENT FROM THE PARENT OR ELIGIBLE STUDENT.**

In addition, Maryland School for the Deaf cooperates with the Maryland State Department of Education by transmitting to them personally identifiable information, as required by law, to meet state and federal requirements.

Questions or requests regarding student records should be directed to the appropriate Campus Principal of the Columbia Campus or the Frederick Campus:

Mr. Stanley C. Baker  
Frederick Campus

or

Dr. Richard C. Steffan, Jr.  
Columbia Campus

Copies of this and other policies complying with State and federal laws are kept in the Office of the Director of Pupil Personnel Services. **MB**

## Federal Funds Benefit MSD Students

In past years the Maryland School for the Deaf on both the Frederick and Columbia Campuses has been able to provide additional services and materials through the use of Federal Funds. These funds are made available to the school through the cooperation of the Maryland State Department of Education.

For the 2000-2001 school year, funds in the amount of \$2,469 are available to the Maryland School for the Deaf for Library Media Improvement through Title VI of the Improving America's Schools Act (IASA). From these funds the Frederick and Columbia Campus Libraries will each be able to add one additional Pentium CD-ROM computer system, including printers, as well as purchase additional CD-Rom programs for use in each campus Library. This will broaden the effectiveness and usefulness of the Library computers purchased with Title VI money in past years.

Additional money is awarded to the school under the Individuals with Disabilities Act (IDEA), Part B. In 2000-2001, funds estimated in the amount of \$301,604 will be used primarily to assist in the support of the Family Education/Early Intervention Program. This program provides education to very young deaf children and their families

in order to help these families with early management and guidance of their children, and to help the children get an educational head start. Services are provided for these individuals both in their homes throughout the state through visiting teachers and classes held on the two campuses of the school. Family workshops and parent meetings involving extended family are also an important component of this program.

The Family Education/Early Intervention Department also received grant money in the amount of \$28,000 for the 2000-2001 school year from the Maryland Infants and Toddlers Program. This grant provides funds from Part C of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act for children ages birth to 36 months. The grant has allowed the department to replace and upgrade teaching materials and equipment, and to establish a lending library of videotapes and informational material for parents on such topics as American Sign Language (ASL), deaf culture, language development, behavior management, child development, parenting, assistive technology and IDEA. In addition, the grant funds summer services, regional workshops for families, consultants, and additional training for staff. Interpreters (ASL and foreign language interpreters) are provided at parent meetings on campus as well as regional parent meetings around the state of Maryland. Four part time contractual aides provide additional support for the classrooms on a weekly basis.

In addition, MSD received a grant for \$15,000 through IDEA, Part B, State Grant Supplemental Passthrough monies. This money is to be used for interpreters in state meetings (\$5,000) and in support of PARTNERS FOR SUCCESS: A Resource Center for Parents (\$10,000), established two years ago with Part B discretionary funding. PARTNERS FOR SUCCESS Resource Centers statewide aim to serve families of all children with disabilities, birth to twenty-one, professionals, and service agencies within each jurisdiction, by providing skills, knowledge, networking and support to enable parents and

professionals to function as equal partners in the decision making process and to assist parents in accessing services for their children. MSD's PARTNERS FOR SUCCESS serves the State as a Resource Center for families and schools specializing in children who are deaf and hard of hearing.

Over the years federal funding has had an important impact on the program that the Maryland School for the Deaf has been able to offer, and some services which are now a regular part of the MSD program came into being through initial use of these funds.

Copies of the application for all of the above grants are on file in the Office of the Director of Pupil Personnel Services on the Frederick Campus of the Maryland School for the Deaf. These are available for review to anyone who might be interested in them.

MSD anticipates that funding will also be available for the 2001-2002 school year and the school welcomes written suggestions for the use of future funding which might become available. Parents, guardians, staff, and other interested parties should submit these suggestions in writing to Dr. Richard C. Steffan, Jr., Deputy Superintendent/Principal at the Columbia Campus or Mr. Stanley C. Baker, Assistant Superintendent/Principal at the Frederick Campus. **MB**

## Free, Appropriate Public Education

The Maryland School for the Deaf ("MSD") is committed to providing free, appropriate, educational programs and related services for Deaf and Hard of Hearing children residing in the State of Maryland, from birth to twenty-one years of age. Admission to MSD is governed by the procedures specified in the school's Parent/Student Handbook. The Maryland School for the Deaf does not discriminate on the basis of national origin, race, sex, linguistic, religious, or cultural background when placing students into its educational programs or services. **MB**



# MSD Athletics . . .

**James E. Tucker, Superintendent**

Although athletics is rarely discussed at special education conferences or mentioned in special education literature, it is a critical educational component at center schools for Deaf and Hard of Hearing students in the United States. At MSD, over 70% of high students participate in varsity teams (football, volleyball, football and basketball cheerleading, girls' and boys' basketball, wrestling, and girls' and boys' track and field) either as a student-athlete, student-manager, or student-statistician.

Participation in athletics sometimes provides educational opportunities not found in academic classrooms. As any student-athlete will attest, there is always emphasis on teamwork and self-discipline. These traits are what employers seek in prospective employees. Students being a team player learn to sacrifice individual statistics in order to contribute to their team performance. Showing up for practices every day on time and attending all home and away games and at the same time maintaining good academic grades require self-discipline and time management.

Athletics of course provides opportunities for physical fitness. It also provides opportunities for cognitive growth when student-athletes master the rules, fundamentals, techniques, and strategies of a sport. For example, MSD football players and their coaches study game films of their opponents and then develop a game plan utilizing their strengths and exposing their opponents' weaknesses. MSD student-athletes and their coaches also scout other teams by watching their games.

Athletic competition often provides great theater. The score at the beginning of each game or match is 0-0. Anyone can win. Anyone can score. Once in a while, games are won at "buzzer shots", in overtime periods, or in the last play. MSD student-athletes learn to play and perform under pressure. Over the years at MSD, I have watched so many fine student-athletes who have developed their poise and have thrived under tough competition. I have seen great comebacks and clutch plays. Courage and perseverance are also traits that future employers look for.

Student-athletes who are captains of athletic teams gain experience as a leader. They set an example for the rest of the team by respecting coaches, demonstrating good sportsmanship, practicing hard, and being mentally and physically prepared for games. They also maintain good academic grades and follow school rules. If a player is playing poorly or falling behind in schoolwork, a captain often helps out by talking with or counseling the teammate.

MSD student-athletes' enthusiasm for extra-curricular activities is not limited to athletics. They are often leaders in other student organizations such as the Student Body Government, Junior Black Deaf Advocates, Junior National Association of the Deaf, and Cornerstone Yearbook. Lead roles in school drama productions are often given to student-athletes.

MSD student-athletes are seen as MSD ambassadors. They travel to local schools as well as center schools for Deaf and Hard of Hearing students thousand miles away from Frederick. MSD teams in the past few years have traveled to center schools as far north as Connecticut, as far west as Indiana, and as far south as Florida. MSD teams have also played in national tournaments that featured teams from California, Arizona, Kansas, and Texas. In the *Frederick News Post*, MSD budget news is reported once or twice a year, but MSD sport scores are reported over 100 times a year.

MSD student-athletes traveling on away games learn so much from their trips. For example, students riding on a bus trip to Florida learn about the geography and history of Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida. They also delight in learning about tropical plants and trees. They then compete in "unknown" confines such as hot and humid weather. At social gatherings after athletic games, MSD students interact and make new friends from other schools. Students after returning to MSD often keep in touch with their new friends via email, pagers, and instant messaging.

The "athletic" highlight of the school year is often the Eastern Schools for the Deaf Athletic Association (ESDAA) tournaments at

MSD. This year, MSD will have hosted three athletic tournaments. Last October, we hosted ESDAA Division I and Division II Girls' Volleyball Tournament. This January, it will be ESDAA Invitational Wrestling Tournament with teams from the Mid-Atlantic region, Ohio, Texas, and Florida. This February, MSD for the first time will host Middle School Girls' and Boys' Basketball Tournament involving eight girls' teams and eight boys' teams. Wonderful camaraderie is seen between student-athletes from different schools and also between old opponents/friends who may have played each other 10 or 50 years ago. ESDAA tournaments are also a major social event in the Maryland Deaf Community.

Another highlight is the annual MSD Homecoming Weekend. Hundreds of fans gather to watch Friday night's Pep Rally and Girls' Volleyball game. The Homecoming King and Queen and their court are announced and crowned during the pep rally. A traditional bonfire concludes Friday's festivities. On Saturday, a thousand or more fans attend the football game. Parents, school alumni and their families, and members of the Deaf Community come together on this day.

The grand "athletic" finale of each school year is the Athletic Banquet. A guest speaker, a famous Deaf athlete or a noted Deaf sports official, comes to speak. Words of wisdom and inspiration are shared with all. Athletic awards are then given to deserving student-athletes. Speeches are given by coaches and students reminiscing their struggles and glories on the field, court, mat, or track. Plaques are etched with student-athletes' names for the next generation of student-athletes to marvel at and to emulate.

While "MSD Sports" is a very visible entity in the Maryland Deaf Community and the local sports scene, it remains somewhat "under the radar" in the field of special education. It is with much hope that special educators will continue to learn and appreciate the value of athletics and other extra-curricular activities in each Deaf and Hard of Hearing student's academic life. Athletics is indeed educational!

**ME**

# Around MSD

## The Haunted House Event

Once again, the Maryland School for the Deaf in Columbia hosted its annual Haunted House event. With the help of the PTCA and volunteers primarily from the middle school, the auditorium and many of its adjoining rooms were transformed into halls of fright and delight. Some of the “gags” included a large papier-mâché rat—made in our art department, an auditorium turned into a graveyard—complete with real dirt, a mummy room, a bat room that featured “bops” on the head, and a shadow skit at the end of the tour. In all, it required 25 staff and volunteers to stage the event. All who dared enter said it was the best haunted house they had ever been in.

Besides the haunted house, there were several other activities to keep the little ghouls and goblins busy. There was a pumpkin smash of our gym balcony. Pictures of staff were conveniently blown up and placed under a clear tarp for target practice. Of course there was a parade for young and old and various stops within the school for trick or treating. Food, craft activities, picture posing, and good old socializing rounded out the evening. All staff and PTCA officers helped to staff the various activities to ensure that parents and their children were free to enjoy the evening.

Most of the evening activities were free or sold at cost. There was a \$1.00 donation requested at the door that was contributed to the Maureen Brother’s Student Assistance Fund. Over \$200 worth of donations were received from visitors. Besides our own families, staff and students, some of the visitors came from the local community, Kendall, and MSD Frederick. Who knows how many more ghosts, clowns, monsters, and princesses may dare to enter our hallways next year?

—John Snavlin, Assistant Principal-CC



Front row: Teacher Ms. Adrienne Sands, Allyson Bortoletto, James Doolittle, Jake Grindstaff, Corey Rosko, Melissa Shrik, and Teacher-aide Nicole Sizemore-Smith. Middle row: Jehanne McCullough, Joey Hoffman, Sadie Griffith, and Alexa Paulay-Simmons. Third row: Jane DeLap (J.C. McCullough’s godmother), Lance Brewer, Teacher-aide Joanna Rispaud, and Teacher Janice Zisler-Daze.

## Trip to Deaf Dentist’s Office

In October 2000, Pre-Kindergarten students went to a Deaf dentist’s office in Germantown. Dr. Steven Rattner explained to the classes about using equipment for teeth. Dr. Rattner gave them a surprise bag (toothbrush, Crest toothpaste, Dental floss, and pencil). Then they went to McDonald’s for lunch. They had a great time.

—Ms. Janice Zisler-Daze and Ms. Adrienne Sands, Elementary Teachers-FC

## German Officials Visit MSD And The Hessian Barracks

The city of Frederick recently had the unique opportunity of hosting government officials from Frederick’s sister-city, Shifferstadt, Germany. Mayor Jim Grimes of Frederick invited Shifferstadt Burgermeister Edwin Mayer, eight

elected members of the Shifferstadt City Council, and two Shifferstadt newspaper reporters to Frederick for nine days this past October. The purpose of their visit was to learn about local government, to tour public facilities, local businesses, and schools, and to learn about the historical significance of this particular area of the United States. In order to provide the Shifferstadt visitors with an historical insight into this region of the country, the group visited Emmittsburg, Gettysburg, and Lancaster, Pennsylvania; Harpers Ferry, West Virginia; Washington D.C.; and local historical and cultural sites in Frederick County including the Hessian Barracks on the campus of the Maryland School for the Deaf.

The Hessian Barracks, which was built in 1777, originally housed both Hessian soldiers and British troops captured during the Revolutionary War. Hessians were German soldiers hired by the British to fight on the side of the British Army during the war. Most of the German soldiers hired were from the



Photo Credit by Martin O'Brien

Visitors from Shifferstadt, Germany tour the Hessian Barracks at Frederick Campus.

state of Hessen-Hanau, Germany therefore becoming known as Hessian soldiers. With the end of the Revolutionary War in 1782, the imprisoned Hessian soldiers were released, most opting to remain in the Frederick area, resulting in an increase in population of German inhabitants in Frederick County. The interrelation of the history of the Hessian Barracks with German history made touring the Hessian Barracks of particular interest to our guests from Shifferstadt.

As our German guests visited the Hessian Barracks, Mr. Martin O'Brien, Middle School Social Studies Instructor, provided the group with some historical background information of both

the Hessian Barracks and of the Maryland School for the Deaf. Not only was the Hessian Barracks originally used as a prison during the Revolutionary War for German and British soldiers, but explorers Lewis and Clark, after being commissioned by President Thomas Jefferson in 1803 to explore the west, stopped at the Hessian Barracks for supplies and equipment prior to venturing into unexplored territory. The Hessian Barracks were also used as a hospital for both Union and Confederate soldiers during the Civil War, and, in 1868, the Hessian Barracks became the first school for the deaf in the state of Maryland, opening in September of that year with a total of 34 students.

Inside the Hessian Barracks is a reproduction of a kitchen used during the Revolutionary War era, a reproduction of the typical living arrangement for the Hessian soldiers, and a reproduction of a classroom as it may have looked when the school for the deaf first opened in 1868. Mr. Ron Sisk, former Assistant Superintendent for Administration, conducted a tour of the inside of the Hessian Barracks, providing the group with a narrative depicting the life of a Hessian soldier living as a prisoner in the Barracks at the time of the Revolutionary War. Mr. Sisk also provided the group with some background informa-



Photo Credit by Martin O'Brien

Shifferstadt City Councilors Hans Swind and Ulli Schwind, and Deputy Bergermeister Anne-Rosa Schneider look on as Mr. Martin O'Brien and Mr. Ron Sisk explain the history of the Hessian Barracks.

tion regarding the history of deaf education, touring the period classroom and pointing out various artifacts of particular historical significance

After visiting the Hessian Barracks, our Shifferstadt guests were afforded an opportunity to visit the gym. Assistant Athletic Director Gentry Shortes conducted an impromptu tour of the facilities to the group showing them the weight room, basketball court, bowling alley, and the swimming pool area. While in the gym, our visitors from Shifferstadt watched the girls practice volleyball, and met both middle school and high school students. They were very impressed with our facilities and with our "very polite and well-mannered" students stating that this was the first time they ever saw people "talk with their hands".

Visiting the Frederick Campus of the Maryland School for the Deaf afforded these government officials from Frederick's sister-city of Shifferstadt, Germany not only with information related to the historical interrelationship between Frederick County and Germany, but also provided them with some insight into the history of deaf education and with exposure to deaf culture in America.

—Martin O'Brien, Social Studies Teacher, Middle School Department-FC

## MSD and WMC "Scientists" Learn Together



WMC Graduate Student, Mr. Chang discusses a topic with MSD students.

What do viscosity, pollution, and volcanoes all have in common? These



were all topics that Frederick Campus fourth graders learned about on one recent Friday in November. Students of Ms. Bartell, Ms. Odinetz, and Mr. Porter participated in an afternoon of science experiments presented by Western Maryland College graduate students. Each graduate student set up an area where they presented a science concept with an activity. It was exciting to see older and younger students writing, reading, and discussing thirteen different science topics. The partnership between MSD and WMC continues and we all look forward to further collaboration between our students and future teachers.

—Ms. Sara Odinetz, Teacher, Elementary Department-FC and Ms. Marcia Virts, WMC Professor

## WMC's Piloted Tutorial Program

The Maryland School for the Deaf and Western Maryland College combined forces this past fall to offer a piloted tutorial program to nine full-time residential students. As part of a grant from the U.S. Department of Education, "Bilingual Pathways for Deaf, Minority, and Deaf-Minority Teachers in Deaf Education", graduate students from the Western Maryland College Deaf Education program tutored elementary students in our library two to three times a week beginning late



(l to r) WMC Tutor Mr. Don Miller, William McFeeley, and MSD Teacher Mr. Francis Porter at the November 27th celebration.



Teachers Mr. Francis Porter, Ms. Leah Bartell, Ms. Sherry Bradley, Ms. Jenny Sue Bourne, and Ms. Nancy Barish look on as their students are congratulated and honored during the celebration.



Rachael Richart and Ms. Wei-Mui Wong will remember all of the fun and good times they shared in the library together.

September and ending November 21<sup>th</sup> of 2000. Ms. Mary Lynn Lally and Ms. Tina Tingler were in charge of the program. To recognize the dedication of tutors and their students, a celebration was held in their honor on November 27<sup>th</sup>. The tutorial program will be offered in the spring and will be extended to both residential and day students. For more information about this program, please contact Ms. Mary Lynn Lally in the Frederick Campus Elementary Department.

—Ms. Tina Tingler, Teacher, Elementary Department-FC

## MSD Retirees (1999-2000)

Ella F. Mumaw, Dietary, 19 years of service (MSD-FC)

Frances V. Reed, Dietary, 20 years of service (MSD-FC)

Bertha L. Moore, Housekeeping, 22 years of service (MSD-FC)

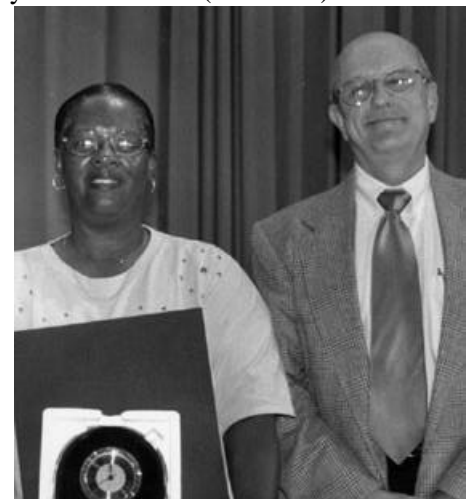
Doris M. Geppert, Elementary, 22 years of service (MSD-CC)

Lorraine D. Gough, Dietary, 21 years of service (MSD-CC)

Mary F. Black, Elementary, 27 years of service (MSD-FC)

Virginia C. Borggaard, High School, 29 years of service (MSD-FC)

Elizabeth W. Marsh, Student Life, 13 years of service (MSD-FC)



Ms. Gough proudly displays her retirement gifts. Standing beside her is Dr. Richard C. Steffan, Jr., Deputy Superintendent.

# State of Maryland Service Awards



**5 year Recognition Awards**—Front row (l to r): Lisa Hollywood, Sheryl Berrigan, Nancy Angell, and Jenny Perry. Back row (l to r): Kevin Strachan, Albert Couthen, and Kathleen Setzer.



**10 year Recognition Awards**—Front row (l to r): Kathleen Milne, Cynthia Gilmore, Michelle Ailstock, Jenny Sue Bourne, and Mamie Bryant. Back row (l to r): Kathy Zentz, Ann Miller, Suzanne Gamble, and John Pereschuk.



**15 year Recognition Awards**—(l to r) Alvin Amberg, James McKenen, Janice Daze, Lori Britt, Pierre Daze, Susan MaGinnis, Nancy Downey, Lisa Gastelle, Barbara Herschman, Donna Vogeler, and Carolyn Lopez.



**20 year Recognition Awards**—(l to r) Terrance Morris, Nancy Benton, Robert Dorrell, Harold Gamble, Anne Drechsler, JoAnn Kaulfuss, and Sandra Resch.



**25 year Recognition Awards**—Front row (l to r): Benda Yates, Paula Ammons, Elizabeth Wheeler, and Mary Sue Boxer. Second row (l to r): Paulette Stalling, Dwight Newbold, Stanley C. Baker, Evelyn Hill-Johnson, Robert Padden, Melinda Padden, and Richard Schoenberg. Third row (l to r): Martin O'Brien, Christopher Duck, William Hatfield, Daniel Rinas, and Mary Masser.



**30 year Recognition Award**—Jeanne Lowry. Standing beside her is James E. Tucker, Superintendent.

# The Junior Bulletin

Contributed by MSD Students

## Our Zimbabwe Project



Photo by Nancy Swaiko

Mr. David Ennis spoke to Middle School Students about his experiences in Zimbabwe. He is pictured here with his son, Zachary.

Sixth grader Zachary Ennis's father went to Zimbabwe last summer. Zachary is in our language arts class. Our language arts teacher is Ms. Swaiko. We all were interested about Zachary's father's trip to Zimbabwe last summer. Mr. Ennis gave a special presentation to the Middle School students. He made us realize that deaf kids in Zimbabwe face many challenges.

We all felt bad for the deaf kids in Zimbabwe because they do not have the wonderful things we have in America. I am telling you, we are very lucky!! My classmates and I could not get over this thought so we decided that we would like to help the deaf students in Zimbabwe. We set up a project, asking Middle School kids to donate some school supplies, that we could send to Zimbabwe.

A lot of students and some teachers did donate. We felt so wonderful about the success of our project.

We packed all of the best brand new things in one box. In the box we sent to Zimbabwe, we included a letter to the principal and the students. We asked them to write to us to let us know when the supplies arrive in Zimbabwe. We found out from the post office that our box could be flown to Zimbabwe in one week. However, the postage would be approximately \$180. Shipping our box by boat would be less, but it would take 6-8 weeks for our box to arrive in Zimbabwe. Even the shipping cost by boat was expensive.

We wrote a letter to Mr. Chad Baker, our principal, explaining our project. We asked Mr. Baker if he would be able to find MSD funds to help us. We were so appreciative that Mr. Baker was able to find funds for the shipping cost.

The remaining supplies we collected



Photo Credit by Nancy Swaiko

(Sitting) Phyllis Steele, Rachel Benedict, Zachary Ennis, and (Kneeling) Meira Kirschbaum are all smiles as they pack supplies for the Zimbabwe project.

were given to Zachary's father's group who will go to Zimbabwe again sometime this year. They will give the remaining supplies to the students in Zimbabwe.

I sure did enjoy this project. I want to say thank you to all the people who donated supplies for this special project. I also want to give Mr. Baker a special thanks for being willing to donate some school funds for the shipping! This project made me and my classmates feel good to be helping other deaf students.

—Rachel Benedict, 6th Grade

## YLC: An Experience

Last summer, a few students from Maryland School for the Deaf had an opportunity to attend Youth Leadership Camp, along with 64 other campers from around the country. YLC is located in Camp Taoali in Stayton, Oregon. Dr. Frank Turk and Gary Olsen established the camp in 1969 in Pennsylvania, to serve as a melting pot and meeting ground for the deaf youth of America. It has since moved to different sites such as Swan Lake in Minnesota, and Camp Taoali in Oregon.

One week after school broke for summer vacation, five students from MSD—Fallon Brizendine, Corey Hobson, Tabitha Markel, Joshua Walker, and Jason Yeh—all arrived at Oregon in one piece. We saw some old friends and made some new ones as we were assigned to groups for the month. The typical YLC day was getting up for exercises, then breakfast. After breakfast was the morning workshops during which YLC invited guest speakers to come and talk about leadership and various topics (such as Gender in Leadership, What is Leadership, and so on). Then the camp bowl, an academic bowl-like competition, which carried on throughout the

month. Lunch came next. The afternoons were for classes (Outdoor Living Skills, a class in which we learned about how to live in the outdoors. Discovery Class, a class which consisted of team-building activities where groups had to learn to trust each other. Deaf Studies/Drama, a class which we either focused on deaf issues or prepared to give performances.) Then we had our recreation hour, which we did things, which we wanted to do before dinner. After dinner was the fireside where one group would build a fire and guest speakers or camp counselors would come and talk about their traveling experience. Then after that there was an evening program where there were usually games for kids to play. After the evening program, there were camp council meetings where we learned about the parliamentary process and how to serve in different roles.

All the students expressed that it was worthwhile for us to go to YLC; we all found out things about ourselves—some bad, some good. It was an experience in which all of us experienced personal growth.

—Joshua Walker, 12th Grade

## JrNAD Conference in Rochester, New York

I was chosen to go to the JrNAD Conference, which was hosted by the St. Mary's School for the Deaf and the Rochester School for the Deaf, with the support of NAD. The delegates, from different charters in different states, assembled at the Holiday Inn near the International Airport in Rochester in New York.

I went there as an observer, learning about what the conference would offer. It was a very enjoyable, educational and luxurious five days in my life. Allow me to explain why.

The delegates from MSD are Jullisa Cordero, Jesus Marquez, Tiffany Reeder, and I. The sponsors from MSD are Cathy Schwan and Francis Cooney. We drove from MSD to Holiday Inn; the

trip was about eight hours long. We mostly spent the time discussing, sleeping, eating, and watching the scenes passing outside the window of the van. When we arrived at the Holiday Inn, we were full of curiosity and eager to meet new people.

To help overcome the new people's shyness, a Halloween Party was held to allow the delegates to greet each other and learn where they are from and who are they. That night, I met friends of Jesus Marquez, a MSD delegate, who are from California School for the Deaf at Riverside. Their names are Jacqueline and Jennifer. I quickly befriended them and socialized with them a lot over the next five days. The Halloween Party did an excellent job making delegates get to know each other.

I shared the hotel room with three young men, from North Carolina, Washington State, and The Learning Center in Massachusetts. Roommates of mine and I had no difficulties or conflicts, and we got along well.

The second day opened with a lecture given by Mr. Matthew Moore. The

lecture was about 'Great Deaf Americans'. I was very impressed by his lecturing and I must say that I learned a great deal of information from him. He taught the delegates how to succeed and how to know which people to trust and not to trust. He explained the problem of deaf society, the Crab Theory, which it takes a long time to explain. He summarized it as: a successful deaf person will be betrayed by deaf society.

There were several different lectures given at the conference during the week: Diversity and Culture, Fundraising, Leadership, Parliamentary Procedures, Self-Esteem, Student Activity, and Red Barn Activity. I was placed in a group that was a melting pot of the delegates. I quickly became a leader because of my knowledge in how to be a leader.

In some lectures, I questioned the lecturers when I perceived contradictions. I gave mini-lectures of my point of views in several lecture classes. I learned a lot of information and I believe the lecturers did learn from my mini-lectures. The activities they planned for us to do were fun. I visited the RIT campus to watch a



MSD delegates and sponsors pose for a picture at Niagara Falls during the JrNAD conference week. Kneeling: Tiffany Reeder and Jullisa Cordero. Standing (l to r): Jesus Marquez, Charles Sterling, Ms. Cathy Schwan (sponsor), and Mr. Francis Cooney (sponsor).



murder crime play that was performed by NTID students. I lost track of the plot because I was not able to follow the suspects' statements. I just watched the play unfolding and enjoyed the views.

I met and befriended several delegates, with whom I continued to have contacts through emails and instant messengers. JrNAD brought together many delegates and I enjoyed their companionship. I learn a lot of information from them as I gave much information to them.

On the last day, delegates and sponsors went to Niagara Falls, which borders Ontario, Canada and New York boundary lines. I have to inform this from my eyes; they are no different from Americans except for their money, government and vocal accents. Niagara Falls marveled my eyes when I saw it, water falling from the cliff and crashing down the river. At the bottom there is a spray of cloudy water mist that touched my face. What a scene! Near the falls, friends of MD delegates and I huddled up and posed for a picture. I will never forget us smiling at the lens. The picture represents the development of friendship and the result of five days of JrNAD conference.

It was pity that five days passed by quickly. I wished the conference lasted a week more but it cannot. I must depart to return to Maryland. I will never, I swear, forget the conference that I attended from October 31st to November 5th of the year Two Thousand. I learned what I need for the future and to lead people to a brave new world. Here is a quote from Shakespeare, *The Tempest*: 'O' wonder how many good creatures are there here? O' beauteous mankind is! O' brave new world that has such people in't!'

—Charles Sterling, 12th Grade

## The NBDA National Conference in Houston, Texas

I was glad to be given the privilege to go on a trip to Texas for the National

Black Deaf Advocate Conference. The MSD Staff and my sponsor for JrBDA selected me. The reason why I was selected to go to the National Black Deaf Advocate (NBDA) conference is because I was president for the Little NBDA. My cousin, Trey, joined me for the trip to Texas. We left Baltimore-Washington International Airport on Sunday July 30th at 8:00 A.M. We arrived Houston, Texas. It was around 90 degrees out there. We took a cab to the comfortable Dury Inn.

The conference was fun all week. We had speeches and rap sessions about our culture. We also went on field trips to the Houston Space Center, AstroWorld, the Mayor's Office, the University of Texas, and a fancy mall named Galleria. It was beautiful. I attended the NBDA Pageant. It was a national contest with contestants from different states. The pageant included dances, poems, and storytelling. I enjoyed the evening activities on Saturday. We had a dance to conclude our activities.

The trip was amazing! My cousin and I enjoyed the trip. The conference really had an impact on me. I learned as the speakers described their experiences. The next Conference is in 2002 in Detroit, Michigan. I hope a student from



James Etheridge is all smiles at the NBDA National Conference in Houston, Texas.

MSD will get the privilege to go to the conference and experience a different and new world like I did.

—Jimmy Etheridge, 11th Grade

## My Life Experience

The people, seniors and especially I will always remember the Saturday night football game on November 4, 2000. The Maryland School for the Deaf was playing against the Eastern North Carolina School for the Deaf on a beautiful night. ENCSD was very heavily favored to win the football game. When the game began, our offense started the game in the air, which they could not handle. In addition, our defense was struggling with mental mistakes by letting big plays into the end zone. When the halftime came up, the score was 20-14. We felt that we could have done a lot better than trailing by 6 points.

We entered the field at the beginning of third quarter, and ENCSD did not really know what hit them. We fought with our hearts and fought for every inch on the football field. We scored, we hit them so hard, and we cried with pain. We celebrated, as there was no "I" there was only "WE". The time was ticking down and when the game was over, the score was MSD 32 - ENCSD 20. We ran to each other and celebrated our victory. Our coaches were soaked with cold water.

The big orange and white letter M proudly stood in the middle of the football field representing the Maryland School for the Deaf. The football players and fans left the football field to celebrate their victory. Some of us will never play the game of high school football again. Some of us will return. For all of us, the memories will be always in our hearts. The lights shone brightly on the field. Small beautiful stars twinkled in the sky. When the lights turned off, everything went dark. The beautiful silent field stood there in the darkness waiting for the next victory.

—Jason Coleman, 11th Grade

# Sportscope

## Youth Pan Am Track and Field Games

Last summer of 2000, USADTF (USA Deaf Track and Field) selected young athletes from across the country to represent the USA's Youth Deaf Track and Field Teams. The teams attended the first Youth Pan Am Track and Field Games in Aguascalientes, Mexico on August 8-13. Three selected athletes from Maryland School for the Deaf were Derrick Williams, age 13, Krystle Berrigan, 14 and Shana Lehmann, 13 along with other athletes from California, Dontae Ramirez, 11 and Indiana, Micaela Paulone, 12. The Cubans, Guatemelans, Mexicans, Canadians, and Americans gathered at the Inauguration Ceremony. Hundreds of cameras were clicking. We watched a nice performance of colored cultured dance and skits.

The Games at the Race Track of the Sports City were filled with two days of competition. The weather was cool, wet with wind and hot at different times. The air was so dry and this made the athletes drink a lot of water.

### Individuals Results (age categories):

Shana Lehmann

1st place: 400 meter dash, 1:04.23

1st place: Long Jump, 4.52 m

2nd place: 80 meter dash

2nd place: 100 meter dash

Krystle Berrigan

1st place: Long Jump, 4.31m

2nd place: 200 meter dash

2nd place: 400 meter dash

3rd place: 100 meter dash

Derrick Williams

4th place: 100 meter hurdles

4th place: 100 meter dash

6th place: 200 meter dash

9th place: Long Jump

The U.S. team had the fewest members, but the girls' team proudly placed second in team points and the boys' team placed in fifth place. They brought home a total of ten medals. Both boys' and girls' teams from Mexico were the champions.

After two days of competitions, the USA team had a day tour to see the historical towns and sample the culture of Mexico. In the evening, all teams were invited to a Mexican Governor's backyard for a "Mexican Night" celebration dinner.

The teams enjoyed an evening full of cultural dancing and talking. Traditionally, all teams traded pins, caps, and flags.

Comments from three young athletes came with good memories:

**Derrick:** "It's a great experience for me. Competing and making friends is a big challenge! The Youth Pan Am gives us good exposure to us for future Pan Am Games or Deaf Olympics. The competition is very good as I ran against the best youth track athletes from other Pan Am countries. Besides the competition, making friends and socializing with other foreigners is a challenge, too. We felt like famous people. I am very grateful to be an American. The whole program of the Youth Pan Am track was perfectly organized! I would like to compete again two years from now in Venezuela."

**Shana:** "The competition out there was fantastic since there are many talented athletes running. Competing against them was a big difference than the regular track meets during the track season. After winning four medals, I had pride in myself because I know that I did a good job competing against the talented athletes. I'm glad the Youth Pan Am Games for track officially started for the first time this year. I really hope that it'll continue and get better every two years ... it'll be a good experience for anyone my age."

**Krystle:** "I realized how lucky I am to live in America. The Youth Pan Am Games competition was awesome as there were a lot of talented young athletes from other countries. It was actually fun and challenging to communicate with Pan Am athletes. It was great to watch athletes my age from other countries run. Our hotel was just average but the hotel where Cuba, Mexico and Guatemala stayed were horrid! I loved trading my American flags for something such as pins, foreign flags, dolls, key chains, etc. I'm really grateful that I got the chance to experience this!"

Accompanying the athletes were Tiffany Granfors who served as a USA Team coordinator, Michelle Edenton as the USA



Front row (l to r): Dontae Ramirez, Shana Lehmann, Krystle Berrigan, Micaela Paulone, Michelle Edenton, Derrick Williams, and Coach Nancy Benton. Back row: Mexican Pan Am Games representatives.



**400 meter dash winners: First Place—American (Shana Lehmann), Second Place—Cuba, and Third Place—Mexico.**

Medical Trainer, and MSD Track coach, Nancy Benton as the USA Coach for the teams. All three athletes represented themselves well as young USADTF members. Overall, it was a precious experience for everyone.

The Deaf Youth Pan Am Games will be held every two years. The second annual Pan Am Games will be hosted by Venezuela in 2002 and then in Canada in 2004. USADTF hopes to bring a larger U.S. boys' and girls' teams at the next Games.

—Coach Nancy Benton

## MSD Girls Attend USADTF Trials

Three MSD Girls' Track and Field members, Laura Lohmeyer, Krystle Berrigan and Shana Lehmann spent hours of training in track and field after the 2000 spring track season with Coach Nancy Benton. The athletes trained in their individual events for a possible chance to qualify for the USA - Deaf World Games team. On the 25th - 27th of June, they went to Gallaudet University for the United States Deaf Track and Field

(USADTF) Trials.

At the Trials, ninety-six girls competed the best they could. MSD athletes achieved good results in their events. Krystle finished second in her favorite event, triple jump, with a best jump of 32' 2 3/4". She also placed second in the long jump with 15" 1 3/4". Both her jumps were her personal records. Krystle ran the 100-meter dash in 14.3 seconds for third place and 200-meter dash in 29.6 for sixth place. Shana ran gracefully in the 400-meter dash and captured the gold medal with the second place runner being only one second behind. Shana was surprised to see her 400-meter time of 1:02.6. She also qualified in the 200-meter dash semi-finals and then was clocked 28.8 in the finals for fourth place. She won two other medals, third place in both the long jump (14'8") and triple jump (31' 5 1/2"). All Shana's times and measurements were her personal records. Laura placed second in pole vault, 6' 6", which was her best ever. Laura also tried the high jump later in the afternoon. She jumped 4' 6" and placed fourth.

The MSD athletes gained great experience at the USADTF competition. They en-

joyed meeting former DWG athletes, coaches, and also made new friends from across the country at the USADTF Banquet. Overall, the three athletes said they felt good about themselves in the competition and would go for more. Coach Benton was pleased with their performances at the Trials.

—Coach Nancy Benton

## MSD Track Girls Qualify for DWG

Maryland School for the Deaf Girls' Track members, Krystle Berrigan and Shana Lehmann were selected by the United States Deaf Sports Federation (USADSF) to be on the USA Team for the 2001 Deaf World Games (DWG) in Rome, Italy. Shana and Krystle will participate in track and field competition. The USA team will arrive at Gallaudet July 7th for the training camp before they depart for Rome.



**USA DWG Qualifiers (l to r): Krystle Berrigan, Coach Nancy Benton, and Shana Lehmann.**

With Shana's and Krystle's experiences in the Trials last June and Youth Pan Am Games in Mexico last August, they have learned how they need to be consistent in their practices. These girls are preparing themselves for world's best at the Deaf World Games.

Coach Nancy Benton was also selected to the USA Team as a track coach.

Krystle and Shana (as well as other USA athletes) need to raise \$3,700 each in order to be able to go to the Deaf World Games. Any amount of donation would be very much appreciated. Please make your check payable to: MSD Deaf Olympian Fund, c/o Charles Day, treasurer and coordinator, Maryland School for the Deaf, PO Box 250, Frederick, Maryland, 21705. Donations are tax deductible.

—Coach Nancy Benton

# Varsity Football

## MSD 6 - St James 12

MSD played well in the first half, but numerous offsides against its offense and delay of game penalties killed us. The offense needed time to gel and thus MSD couldn't generate much the entire game. Jason Coleman connected with Joshua Walker for a touchdown and a 6-0 lead. The game was then suspended for more than an hour due to thunder with 8:33 left in the second quarter. The game resumed and St James tied it 6-6 while MSD bogged down and neither team could move the ball well. In the fourth quarter, St James scored the game winner on a long run down the middle.

## MSD 6 - Maret 26

MSD offense continued to struggle and MSD gained only 64 yards total while Maret rolled up 237 yards. MSD was completely flat. MSD's only score came from Jason Coleman, who intercepted a pass and returned it 97 yards.

## MSD 33 - Indiana Deaf 16

Finally MSD cracked the win column! MSD was good on both sides of the line and Indiana could not stop Gabriel Drummond, who racked up 116 yards rushing and Jason Yeh, who rushed for 49 yards. They each had two touchdowns! Jason Coleman added another touchdown. MSD defense, led by Coach Jeff White, did an outstanding job adjusting at half-time after Robert Haney ran all over MSD for 198 yards in the first half. Haney gained only 20 yards in the second half. He scored two touchdowns in the first half on two runs of 74 and 75 yards. The defense shut him out the second half.

## MSD 6 - MSSD 7

A real heart-breaker. MSD missed the extra point kick after a

touchdown. Again, outstanding work by MSD's defense kept them in the game. The game see-sawed throughout and with 2 minutes left MSD was in their red zone (20 yard line) and threatening to score. MSD lined up for a game winning field goal only to have it blocked. The boys played their hearts out.

## MSD 14 - Hancock 28

MSD's toughest opponent and MSD earned their RESPECT! MSD scored 14 points against them and led at halftime 14-13. Jason Yeh caught a pass from Jason Coleman and ran for a 36 yard touchdown. Jason Sunderland rushed for a touchdown. The second half injury bug hit MSD and while MSD fought the good fight, it was denied in its bid for an upset.

## MSD 36 - Tennessee Deaf 8

MSD's Homecoming game! MSD's air attack was working all day as well as the rushing game. Jason Coleman passed for 216 yards, connecting with Emil Cornish for a touchdown as well as his brother Vina, who scored on a 46 yard touchdown. Coleman rushed for two touchdowns on runs of 29 and 75 yards. Jason Yeh added a touchdown run of 3 yards. The defense shut Tennessee down all day.

## MSD 18 - Fairfield 33

This was a winnable game that got away from MSD because of penalties. Seems a full moon or something hit us this day. Although it got 216 yards from its passing game from Jason Coleman, who connected

with Robin Shannon 6 times for 109 yards, MSD's lack of discipline was costly. Robin had touchdowns of 19 and 20 yards.

## MSD 7 - Florida Deaf 22

MSD's longest road trip of the season was to St. Augustine, Florida. Game time's 90 degree temperature drained MSD players of their energy and they were not the same. The game plan drifted away from them and their only touchdown came from Jason Coleman who ran it in from ten yards out.

## MSD 32 - Eastern North Carolina Deaf 20

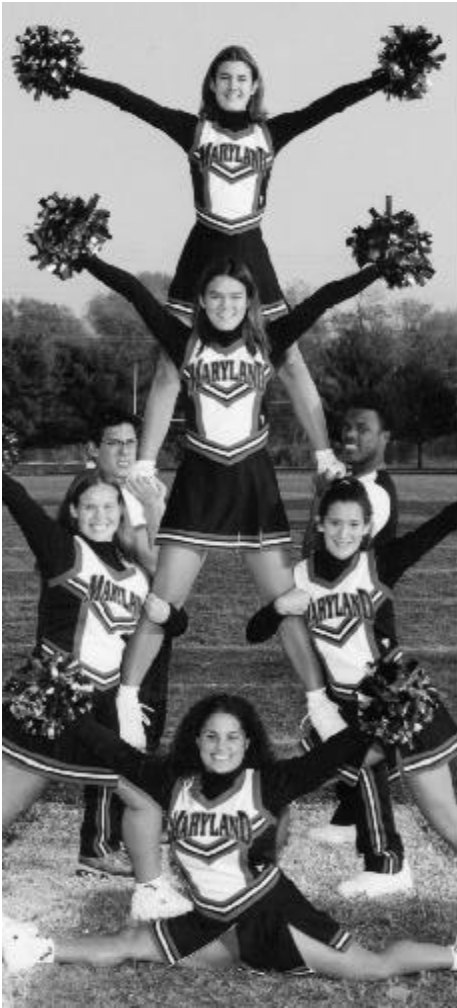
The final chapter in MSD's season ended happily against heavily favored ENCSD. MSD played its hearts out. ENCSD demolished MSSD and Florida. MSD was the underdog against them, but the boys were not to be denied. Playing under the lights in front of a big crowd ignited the team and they responded accordingly. MSD's defense again did the job the whole game by bending but refusing to break! MSD's offense outsmarted them as Jason Yeh rushed for 121 yards and a touchdown. Jason Coleman connected to Robin Shannon for 4 touchdowns!! Robin caught 5 passes for 78 yards and 2 of them were bombs! It was a game to remember as Head Coach Al Reins and his staff of Jeff White, Brian Thorn and Saul Gevarter, along with Ray Shannon enjoyed their finest hour. The team finished 3-6 for the season.

—Coach Al Reins



Front row (starting from left): Jason McAnnally, Joshua Walker, Keith Nolan, Jason Yeh, Jason Sunderland, Robin Shannon, Emil Cornish, Jermaine Brown, and Antonio Jimenez. Second row: Andre Cassell, Adam Baker, Gabriel Drummond, Paul Tyler, Michael Gardner, Jason Coleman, Jimmy Etheridge, Vina Cornish, Anthony Meadows, and Clint Zarembka. Third row: Defensive Coordinator Jeff White, Head Manager Ray Shannon, Manager Chris Robbins, Manager Yuri Randall, Manager Michael Burke, Chris Corrigan, Derrick Williams, and James Markel, Asst. Coach Brian Thorn, and Head Coach Al Reins. Absent: Asst. Coach Saul Gevarter.





**Bottom:** Jessica Baldi. **Second row:** Hayley Thayer and Tara Gill. **Third row:** Charles Sterling, Gisella Tomita, and Phillip Coleman. **Top:** Kimberly Clapp. **Absent:** Jullisa Cordero and Rosetta Stevenson.

## MSD Varsity Cheerleaders

As always, the MSD Varsity Cheerleaders showed their spirit throughout the season. This Fall was filled with many great experiences, but none more memorable than accompanying the football team to Florida via charter bus to face the Florida School for the Deaf and Blind. The hot weather with temperatures in the 90's melted not only the players, but the cheerleaders as well! Thanks to all the fans that cheer along with MSD during the games!

—Coach Michelle Fetterman

## Varsity Volleyball Team

MSD Volleyball Team celebrated its 10th Anniversary by hosting a record 11 teams

at the Annual ESDAA Division 1 and 2 Volleyball Tournament! The Lady Orioles defended their title and won the championship for the second year in a row. They beat Western Pennsylvania School for the Deaf (WPSD) in the finals, 15-2 and 15-9. Prior to that, the opening round games on Friday evening, November 3, 2000 were held in the Sportsplex with 4 courts used simultaneously. MSD defeated all opponents, American School for the Deaf, Lexington School for the Deaf, New York School for the Deaf, and WPSD. The Lady Orioles breezed through the competition and placed Fallon Brizendine, Laura Lohmeyer, and Jessica vonGarrel on the ESDAA Division 1 All Star Team.

The highlights of the season, (other than winning the ESDAA Tournament), were the Maryland/DC Private School Tournament, and the match against Middletown High School.

MSD went 5-1 in the MD/DC Private School Tournament. They beat Holy Cross, Edmund Burke, St. Maria Goretti, and Spalding. In the quarterfinals, we beat Edmund Burke. In the semifinals, they lost to Holy Cross, 13-15, 15-5, and 10-15. Holy Cross then went on to win the championship over St. Mary's Ryken.

For the first time in MSD's history since the varsity volleyball program was established in 1990, MSD beat Middletown High School. This was a thrilling nail biter that had fans on the edge of their seats. MSD gym was rocking with the fans' screams of encouragement and the Lady Orioles were not to be denied. After opening with a 15-13 win, Middletown roared back to take the second game, 13-15. MSD girls refused to give in and took the third game 15-12. They seemed on the verge of an easy victory in the fourth game and led at one point 14-1. The match point was seemingly theirs when one of the Middletown players made a desperate lunge for the ball and somehow hit it back over the net while MSD girls were celebrating, thinking the game was over! At that point, the roof caved in and Middletown scored the next 7 points as MSD gym became very quiet. Coach Kitsemel and her assistants gave their words of encouragement and soon the victory was theirs, sending shock waves through the gym as the hometown fans ran onto the court to embrace the victors!

The Lady Orioles' final record of 31 wins and 10 losses deserves a serious round of waving hands.

The 2000 Varsity team members are: Se-



**Front row:** Ashley Gill, Jessica vonGarrel, Jennifer Wood, and Manager Eden Vrieze. **Second row:** Jenica vonGarrel, Larissa Clapp, Fallon Brizendine, Tabitha Markel, and Laura Lohmeyer. **Third row:** Asst. Coach Ray Lehmann, Kami Padden, Priscilla Biskupiak, Asst. Coach Wayne Monroe, Krystle Berrigan, Shana Lehmann, and Head Coach Vicki Kitsemel.



**Front row: Megan Erasmus, Lisa Monroe, Kami Padden, Sheena Lyles, Jenica vonGarrel, Larissa Clapp, Diana Berrigan, Sigridur Jonsson, and Jessica Frank. Back row: Head Coach Ray Lehmann, Asst. Coach Wayne Monroe, Asst. Coach Vicki Kitsemel, and Manager Eden Vrieze.**

niors: Jessica vonGarrel, Ashley Gill, Jennifer Wood. Juniors: Fallon Brizendine, Laura Lohmeyer, Tabitha Markel. Freshmen: Krystal Berrigan, Priscilla Biskupiak. Sophomore Jenica vonGarrel, Freshman Kami Padden, and 8th Graders Shana Lehmann and Larissa Clapp also split time on the varsity while helping lead the Junior Varsity team. Team manager is Eden Vrieze.

—Head Coach Vicki Kitsemel and Athletic Director Scott Morrison

talented, and energetic JV Lady Orioles. The only loss was to Mercersberg. The highlight of its season was the match against Virginia School for the Deaf Varsity. The homecoming match seesawed back and forth and in the fifth game we rallied and won the match 15-13!

The players on the JV Lady Orioles look forward to next season with more experience and their winning ways!

—Head Coach Ray Lehmann

## MSD Middle School Girls Volleyball Team

The Maryland School for the Deaf Middle School Volleyball Team ended their season with a record of 5 wins and 4 losses. The team had only three returning players from last year, Brittany Williams, Kathryn Tau, and Tabitha King. MSD Volleyball Team was in a rebuilding mode throughout the season as the team consisted of 8 new players learning to play together while learning the game as well. The girls displayed motivation and determination with each practice and took that desire to their matches where they left their full dedication on the court.

The following is a result of the matches:

New Life .....	1-2
Covenant Life .....	2-0
New Life .....	0-2
Covenant Life .....	0-2
KDES .....	2-1
St. Andrews .....	2-1
Georgetown Day .....	2-0
KDES .....	0-2
Georgetown Day .....	2-0

The team improved with each match and the coaches would like to thank the parents for their full support and participation in cheering their girls on throughout the season!

The girls look forward to another winning season next fall! Please join MSD in saluting MSD girls with a round of “waving hands” to the girls for their hard work, endurance, determination, and motivation to succeed in another winning team for MSD!

## Junior Varsity Volleyball Team

For the second time in 10 years since Volleyball was established in 1990, MSD fielded a JV team consisting of mostly 8th graders and a few 9/10th graders. The JV team members are:

Diana Berrigan  
Larissa Clapp  
Amy Dwyer  
Megan Erasmus  
Jessica Frank  
Sigga Johnson  
Shenna Lyles  
Lisa Monroe  
Kami Padden  
Jencia vonGarrel

The team finished the season with a record of 13 wins and 1 loss. The season was an enriching experience for the young,



**Front row: Nikki Nowalski, Phyllis Steele, Amanda Biskupiak, Rachel Benedict, and Malibu Barron. Back row: Asst. Coach Noreen Williams, Rachel Steingieser, Frances Sorrentino, Misella Tomita, Brittany Williams, Tabatha King, and Head Coach Dawn Seremeth.**

## MSD Middle School Girl's Volleyball Team

Brittany Williams  
Phyllis Steele  
Rachel Benedict  
Misella Tomita  
Malibu Barron  
Amanda Biskupiak  
Kathryn Tau  
Nikki Nowalski  
Frances Sorrentino  
Rachel Steingieser  
Tabitha King

—Head Coach Dawn Seremeth and  
Asst. Coach Noreen Williams

## Middle School Football Team

MSD's 2000 Youth Football team was consisted of a very skilled group of players. Its overall record was 5 wins and 1 loss.

MSD's offense was very dominant and led the team to its wins. With better depth it probably would have been undefeated, but the coaches were very proud of the players that gave their best throughout the season.

On offense, Derrick Williams had 27 rushes for 159 yards and passed 17 out of 21 for 215 yards. Derrick improved each game at quarterback and played safety and linebacker on defense

Ryan Shepard had 83 rushes for 381 yards and caught 4 passes for 71 yards. Ryan also played middle linebacker on defense. Scott Lehmann had 44 rushes for 258 yards and caught 8 passes for 83 yards. Scott also played right linebacker. James Cornish had 10 rushes for 47 yards while playing cornerback on defense.

Other players that stood out include

Francis Steele at guard for both offense and defense, Dan Grossinger at center nose guard, and Jerad Kingsford at guard.

Coaches Joe Frankowiak, Delmas Woodall, and Wally Witczak would like to thank the parents for their support and give the boys a "high five" for their outstanding year. Coach Frankowiak looks forward to seeing the boys play on the varsity next year and knows they will have a great year.

—Coach Joe Frankowiak

## The Silent News' All-Americans



Volleyball—(l to r) Fallon Brizendine, Jessica vonGarrel, and Laura Lohmeyer.



Football—(l to r) Jason Coleman, Jason Yeh, and Robin Shannon.



Front row: Daniel Fava, Jake Rutledge, Francis Steele, Daniel Grossinger, Jared Kingsford, Brian Grossinger, Cody Reidy, and Justin Witczak. Second row: Ashley Witczak, Brittany Williams, James Cornish, Derrick Williams, Scott Lehmann, and Hillary Frankowiak. Third row: Coaches Wally Witczak and Joe Frankowiak. Absent: Ryan Shepard and Ronnie King.

## Sportmanship Trophy Named For Vicki White

At the Fall Meeting of the ESDAA Athletic Director's meeting the athletic directors voted to name the ESDAA Girl's Basketball Sportsmanship Award in honor of Vicki White.

Who is Vicki White? She was instrumental in starting the Girl's ESDAA Basketball Tournament. For more on Ms. White, please read the accompanying short biography.

Congratulations Vicki!

## Vicki White

Vicki White started working at the Maryland School for the Deaf in the fall of 1974 as a Physical Education Teacher. She was instrumental in convincing Athletic Director Paul Barr to establish a separate basketball Tournament for the girls. Mr. Barr was willing and agreed to host the First Annual ESDAA Girls Basketball Tournament.

Ms. White also established the girls track, indoor track and cross country programs here at Maryland School for the Deaf. Due to her drive and determination, several athletes moved on to world level competition and competed in the World Games for the Deaf. She gave her time and energy to help female athletes be the best they could be.

Ms. White often set standards and challenged the female athletes to meet or exceed her standards. Many of the girls accepted her challenge and indeed surpassed her standards. Her level of compassion and concern for the people she coached was noticed and appreciated by her athletes. Her love of athletics became contagious not only with the athletic program, but spread throughout the entire school.

In addition to coaching girls basketball, girls track, indoor track, and cross country, she also served as assistant varsity football coach for two years. One of those teams was ranked first in the nation in offensive statistics and the team was ranked second overall in the nation.

Ms. White is truly an outstanding individual with a wealth of talent and a gentle heart that has touched many students during her years on the coaching staff here at the Maryland School for the Deaf. She returned to her native Southwest in 1981, after completing seven years of working to improve athletic opportunities at MSD and the ESDAA.

# Youth Soccer-Fall Season



(5-6 yr. old) Front row: Noelle Robinson, Dalton Kramer, DanJohn Kerchner, Paige Brewer, and Reid Rheinsmith. Second row: Kyle Tharpe, Alex McKee, Taran Taylor, Austin Cerasoli, and Raquel Grindstaff. Third row: Coaches Tim Taylor and Natalie Grindstaff.



(5-6 yr. old) Front row: Ethan Sonnenstrahl, Betsy Horowitz, Zack Barron, and Heather Mansfield-Hom. Second row: Liv Polzin, Cody Paulay-Simmons, Tarja Lewis, Asher Kirschbaum, Andrew Biskupiak, and Timothy Artinian. Third row: Coaches Jeff Lewis, Sam Sonnenstrahl, Alex Simmons, and Danny Biskupiak.



(7-8 yr. old) Front row: Heather Artinian, Chelsea Morris, and Racquel Roult. Back row: Coach Jim Morris, Derek Cerasoli, Dan Mabashov, Grace McAllister, Carl Sorrentino, and Coach Gerard Sorrentino.



(7-8 yr. old) Front row: Claire Tucker, Kyle Blakely, Bethany Weiner, and Shane Brewer. Back row: Michelle Mansfield-Hom, Jonathan Clapp, Trista Taylor, Jack Green, and Coach Tim Taylor.



# Alumni & Community News

Mary Sue Boxer, Editor

Please send news of marriages, births, deaths, anniversaries, awards, and special occasions to Mary Sue Boxer, Editor of Alumni and Community News, Maryland School for the Deaf, 101 Clarke Place, P. O. Box 250, Frederick, Maryland 21705.

**Edna Hall Cramer '34** died of a stroke on October 31, 2000 at the age of 85. Mrs. Cramer was the beloved wife of the late F. Marion Cramer, Sr.; devoted mother of Frank M. Cramer, Jr. and wife, JoAnn, and Judy A. Cramer and husband, Yates Dowell; loving grandmother of Brice Cramer, Lauren Cramer, and Lisa Levy; dear sister of Elsie Davis, Ethel Seibly, and Jessie Eure. Mrs. Cramer's funeral service was held at the Duda-Ruck Funeral Home in Dundalk, Maryland on November 4, 2000. She was buried in the Gardens of Faith Cemetery. Memorial contributions may be made in Mrs. Cramer's memory to the Maryland School for the Deaf Foundation; P. O. Box 636, Frederick, Maryland 21705.

**Claire Rosa Fink '63**, 56, of Westminster, died Monday, August 14, 2000 at Carroll County Hospital. Born Feb. 29, 1944, in Hanover, PA, she was the daughter of the late Charles and Eva Palmer Fink. She was a maintenance worker at the Westminster City Police Department. She had previously worked as a kitchen aide at Westminster High School and also served as a crossing guard. She was a graduate of the Maryland School for the Deaf and was a member of St. Johns Catholic Church. Surviving are sister Mary Ann Crumie of Reistertown; three nieces; and two nephews. A Mass of Christian Burial was held at St. Johns Catholic Church. Interment was in the church cemetery. Contributions may be made in Ms. Fink's memory to the Maryland School for the Deaf Foundation; P.O. Box 636, Frederick, MD 21705.

**James A. Angell '69** was honored at a surprise 50th birthday party on September 9, 2000 in Jefferson, Maryland. There were about 75 people in attendance. **Mary Sue Hodges Boxer '68** had the great honor of cutting off James' ponytail through a raffle drawing. Hosting the party by the committee members were **Patricia Young Alford '69**; **Paula Jean Ammons '68**; **Julie Angell**; **Donald Boone '72**; **Van Brewer '71**; **Michael Childs '66**; **Ruth Ann Nalley Frohn '69**; **William Frohn '68**; **Harriet Herman '66**; **James House '68**; **Nancy Murray House '69**;

Linda Lewis; **Jane Angell Miers ex '53**; **Norma Bishop Moreland '67**; **Robert Padden '68**; **Andrew Parker '70**; Linda Parker; Toni Turner; Julius Vold; **Nancy DeHaven Whiggum '73**; and **Troy Woods '89**. Everyone had a great time.

**Martin Caha '85** and his wife, Jill, welcomed their second son, Norman John, who was born at 12:28 a.m. on October 28, 2000 in Harrisburg, PA. He weighed 7 lbs. 3/4 oz. and measured 20 inches long. Five-year-old Raymond was thrilled to have a new brother.

**Paula Smith '85** was recognized as one of the eighteen outstanding employees with disabilities by the Department of Defense at the award ceremony on October 11, 2000 at the Pentagon. She received an award from Secretary of Defense Cohen. She is currently employed as a computer assistant for the Defense Commissary Agency at Fort Lee, Virginia. She came to the Information Technology Business Unit in 1994 as a GS-4 computer clerk. Now serving as a computer assistant, she handles some of the most sophisticated and complex information systems in the Agency. With remarkable speed, she mastered highly specialized computer applications in support of the Agency's mission. An industrious employee, she monitors, analyzes, and manages a large number of multi-processing applications. Responsible for the installation of the NXi Text Services server application and the NexTalk client application, she is currently the administrator of a system that allows hearing employees to carry on text conversations with employees who are deaf. The most reliable employee in the facility, she never has unscheduled absences and customers notice her excellent support. Her exemplary handling of demanding and difficult assignments attests to her professionalism, willingness to accept additional responsibilities, attention to detail, and ability to adapt. Always accurate, she has received performance awards in 1998 and 1999. In her spare time, she teaches sign language to children in a local school. The mother of a four-year-old son, Ms. Smith enjoys cooking, shopping, and gardening.

Condensed from the National Disability Employment Awareness Month's "Ability You Can Bank On"

**Sandra Blazejak vonGarrel '85** and **Christopher vonGarrel '84**; announce the birth of their first child, a daughter, Caitlin Ann, who was born on August 19, 2000 at 10:45 a.m. She weighed 7 lbs., 10.5 oz. and measured 21 inches long.

**Gary Resch '89** announces his marriage to Sandra E. Resch on August 12, 1999. They were

married at the Court House in Ellicott City, Maryland. They became the proud parents of their first child and son, Luke Thomas Resch. He was born on February 25, 2000 at 5:18 p.m. at the Howard County Hospital in Columbia, Maryland. Luke weighed 7 lbs., 3/8 oz. They reside in Elkridge, Maryland.

**Mrs. Mary Louise Bratt Cramer**, 67, of 103 Mount Olivet Blvd., Frederick, MD, died Sunday, July 9, 2000 at Jefferson Memorial Hospital, Ranson, West Virginia. She was the wife of Kirk D. Cramer, her husband of 44 years. Born November 4, 1932, in Brunswick, MD, she was a daughter of the late C. Arthur and Willie V. McGaha Bratt. She attended Brunswick schools and graduated from St. Mary's Seminary Junior College in St. Mary's City, MD, and in 1953 was a graduate of the Frederick Memorial Hospital School of Nursing. She was employed as a registered nurse at Frederick Memorial Hospital, and later by Dr. J. S. Fifer, M.D. and retired from nursing after 31 years of service at the Maryland School for the Deaf. She was a member of Evangelical Reformed United Church of Christ and the Frederick Memorial Hospital Nurses Alumni Association, for which she had served as president. In addition to her husband, she is survived by a daughter, Laurie A. Allen and husband Jason D. of Charlestown, West Virginia; and two granddaughters, Skye E. and Sydney R. Allen both of Charlestown. She was preceded in death by a daughter, Dani E. Cramer in 1968. The family suggests memorials to a charity or organization of choice.

## MSD Alumni Celebrates Quadrennial Reunion 2000

During the weekend of June 23-25, 2000 over 400 alumni and friends returned to MSD for the 27th quadrennial reunion. The reunion committee was led by **Mary Sue Hodges Boxer '68** and **David A. Martin '85**. Visiting alumni and friends were in for a treat. The reunion theme was "Yesterday, Today, Tomorrow!" This reunion was different in many ways. Instead of having all the reunion events on MSD-Frederick campus, our headquarters was at the Hampton Inn in Frederick.

MSDAA opened MSD Alumni Association's

“Yesterday” part of the theme with a trivia presentation by **Sam Sonnenstrahl ’75**. Sam was seen at the Bjorlee Library looking up special information months before his trivia presentation. Sam set up the trivia night using the format from a popular TV game show “Who Wants to be a Millionaire.” There were a lot of trivia that MSDAA members learned from Sam. After the trivia game MSDAA members attended DINGO that was hosted by the Interstate Association of the Deaf (IAD). There were close to 200 people in attendance for the DINGO games in the Grand Ballroom of the Hampton Inn. They had plenty of food and drinks.

On Saturday morning, MSDAA members focused on the “today” component of the theme. They had three different activities to choose from: 1) Play golf at Glade Valley Golf Course in nearby Walkersville, 2) take a chartered bus from Hampton Inn to visit the Eisenhower farm in Gettysburg, PA, or 3) attend the second quadrennial reunion bowling tournament at Terrance Lanes in Frederick.

MSDAA’s traditional banquet was held at the Grand Ballroom at the Hampton Inn. Mistress and Master of ceremonies were **Joy Maisel ’96**, Miss Deaf Maryland and Sean Markel. After dessert, MSDAA members sat at the front of the platform. Superintendent Tucker welcomed us all. Mary Sue Boxer and David Martin had few words to say before the entertainment started. The entertainment was a one-woman show performed by Vickie Waltrip. Vickie is a Deaf comedian and she teaches theater arts all over the United States. One of the most popular part of her show is “Men are like Dogs.” Vikee tried to compare some of the men in the audience with a kind of dog. The audience all had a good laugh.

On Sunday, MSDAA activities were focused on the future part of the theme. All MSDAA Sunday events were moved to the Frederick campus. MSDAA started the morning with Interfaith/Memorial service. **Debbie Anderson Myers ’85** gathered the names of the deceased alumni friends that have passed away the past four years. MSDAA church service was led by Chris Hughes ’85. He gave a moving sermon in the elementary gym.

MSDAA then had our business meeting. The following new officers were elected: **Mary Sue Hodges Boxer ’68**, President; **Brian Brizendine ’69**, Vice President; **Debbie Anderson Myers ’85**, Secretary; and **Conrad von Garrel ’82**, Treasurer. The new board members are **John Mason ’74**, **Donna Vogeler ’75** and **Arkley Wright ’67**. For lunch, MSDAA members went to the cafeteria for a family style luncheon. They had their silent auction during lunch. Afterwards, everyone went to the area behind the old Hessian Barracks for the traditional panoramic group photo.

After the group photo, the members had a time capsule ceremony. Shortly before this ceremony,

MSDAA officers honored **Mr. George Singer ’39**. The MSDAA board decided to rename the quadrennial reunion committee to the George Singer Quadrennial Reunion committee. They released over 50 butterflies. The alumni had gathered some letters, information, and small stuff to put in their time capsule. Some other alumni put pictures, business cards and even a driver’s license in a capsule that they will bury and reopen in the year 2050. They released five white doves. Each white dove represented the following: past alumni, current alumni, future alumni, Superintendent Tucker and George Veditz.

The Hessian Barracks and the Bjorlee library were open for walking tours. MSDAA want to recognize our friends who were the major sponsors of the Reunion 2000. Shockley Honda, Frederick News-Post, GS Communications, Great Southern Manufacturing, Maryland Relay Services, and Mr. and Mrs. Sherwood Boxer.

## PTCA News- MSD-Columbia Campus

The Parent Teacher Counselor Association (PTCA) of the Maryland School for the Deaf, Columbia Campus has been designated as the Traveling PTCA. Because families live in such a vast area, the Columbia Campus PTCA has decided to take the show on the road and go to parents. In October, the PTCA sponsored a Reading Workshop that was held at the Enoch Pratt Library in Downtown Baltimore. Stella Antonio-Conley conducted this workshop and provided parents with tips and ideas on how to read to their deaf children. Barnes and Noble of Columbia, MD, donated books that were presented to all parents that attended the workshop. Children were also invited to attend this workshop and were treated to a Story Time that was presented by Susie Behun. The Columbia Campus PTCA is looking forward to its next road trip.

This year, The Maryland School for the Deaf, Columbia Campus, once again sponsored an exciting Halloween Event. With over 220 people in attendance from all over the community, this event has become something that people look forward to each year. The Haunted House provided entertainment for all ages. From young to old, the spooky Haunted House was able to provide everyone with enjoyment. With a special thanks to Assistant Principal John Snavlin and the Middle School Staff, this event was enjoyed by everyone. This year there was a \$1.00 admission fee that was donated to the Maureen Brothers’ Student Assistance Fund. However, the

Haunted House was not the only entertainment. There was a parade of costumes, trick-or-treating, pumpkin smashing, face painting, crafts, photos, and plenty of food to eat.

The Columbia Campus Parent Teacher Counselor Association (PTCA) has renamed its Student Assistance Fund in the memory of Ms. Maureen Brothers. The Maureen Brothers Student Assistance Fund has been established to help families in need. This fund provides Thanksgiving Baskets to needy families each year, so that all families will have a happy Thanksgiving. This fund also helps children who may need clothing, food, or other items. The PTCA has received many donations to keep this fund going and they have provided as much as possible to the families. The PTCA also sponsored a Penny Drive that raised over \$200 for this fund. If you would like more information about this fund or would like to make a donation, please contact Ms. Cheri Dowling at (410) 795-0388, [CAD800@aol.com](mailto:CAD800@aol.com) or Ms. Judy Pannier at (410) 480-4572, [pannieju@msd.edu](mailto:pannieju@msd.edu).

—Cheri Dowling, President of PTCA-CC

## MSD-CC PTCA Dedicates Fund to Maureen Brothers

As a tribute to Maureen Brothers and her work at MSD, the MSD-CC PTCA renamed their Student Assistance Fund as the Maureen Brothers Student Assistance Fund on October 16, 2000. The Fund was established by the PTCA in 1982. Originally the monies collected were used for students who needed hearing aids. Over the years, the scope of the Fund has expanded. The PTCA now sees the Fund as a financial resource to students and their families and, over the years, has purchased food, clothing, and other necessities for several of the Columbia Campus students.

Ms. Cheri Dowling, parent and PTCA President, presented the resolution from the PTCA renaming the Fund to Maureen’s family during a memorial for Maureen held at the Columbia Campus on October 16, 2000. A copy of the Resolution will remain on display at the Columbia Campus.

The resolution reads:

*“Whereas, Maureen Brothers was an active member of the Maryland School for the Deaf, Columbia Campus Parent Teacher Counselor Association;*

*Whereas, Maureen Brothers dedicated herself to serve the families at the Maryland School for the Deaf, Columbia Campus;*

*Whereas, Maureen Brothers took a very special interest in caring for the neediest of those families;*

*Therefore, The Student Assistance fund of*

*the Parent Teacher Counselor Association Maryland School for the Deaf, Columbia Campus*

*Shall Henceforth be known as: The Maureen Brothers Student Assistance Fund*

The resolution was signed by Ms. Cheri Dowling and by Dr. Richard C. Steffan, Jr. Deputy Superintendent/Principal.

Ms. Dowling mentioned that some of the PTCA's fundraising activities would be designated for the Fund. She also noted that anyone wishing to contribute to the Fund may do so by sending checks/money orders to: MSD CC PTCA. Individuals are asked to note that they wish the money to be included in the Maureen Brothers Student Assistance Fund. Also, any questions or requests may be directed to Ms. Dowling or the Family Services Specialists at the MSD Columbia Campus.



**Maureen Brothers**

## **MSD-CC Pays Tribute to Maureen Brothers**

The MSD Community was saddened this summer by the untimely death of Ms. Maureen Brothers. Maureen joined MSD in August 1992 as one of two Family Services Specialists at the Columbia Campus. The Family Services Specialist, which is unique to the Columbia Campus, serves as a "link" between the families and the school from a child's admission to the program until his/her promotion to Middle or High School. Regular contact with families and pe-

riodic home visits keep the school abreast of a family's needs and concerns and provide invaluable information which assists in preparation and coordination of the student's Individualized Educational Program (IEP).

In his letter to the Community on August 16, Dr. Richard C. Steffan, Jr., Deputy Superintendent/Principal, wrote:

*"During her tenure here, Maureen not only served the families and students admirably, but she also became a much loved and respected member of our staff. Her beautiful smile coupled with her calm and nurturing disposition uplifted everyone who met her and who worked with her - parents, staff, and students.*

*Self-improvement was one of the most important things to Maureen. She arrived here as a registered psychiatric nurse. In January, 1995 she graduated Summa Cum Laude with a bachelor's degree from Towson State University in psychology. In October, 1996, she passed the Psychiatric and Mental Health Certification examination and received recognition for professional achievement in the area of psychiatric nursing. In 1999, Maureen received her masters' degree in counselor education from Western Maryland College. She did all this while working full time at MSD and caring for her husband, her two sons, and a large extended family of her mother and brothers and sisters. While employed at MSD, she received annual outstanding evaluation from her supervisor.*

*Maureen leaves a void that can never be filled at Columbia Campus. We will be honoring her with a memorial during the fall. When plans are finalized, I will let you know."*

The memorial for Maureen was held on October 16. MSD students, families, and staff were in attendance. Also, several of Maureen's family and friends, including her husband, Terry, her sons, Kevin and Christopher, and her mother, Mary Fiore, were able to participate. A tour of the campus was conducted, prior to the assembly, for the family. Family and friends enjoyed visiting classes and meeting students and Maureen's co-workers. A highlight of the tour was the presentation of roses from one of the Columbia Campus families to Ms. Fiore.

The assembly started with opening remarks by Dr. Steffan. Superintendent James E. Tucker, PTCA President Cheri Dowling, and Assistant Principal/Dean of Students, Albert Couthen, shared personal experiences and remembrances of Maureen and her work at MSD. To honor Maureen's memory and her dedication to the students at MSD, the PTCA renamed the "Student Assistance Fund" as the "Maureen Brothers

Student Assistance Fund". Ms. Dowling explained that monies collected for this fund would be used to provide food, clothing, and other necessities to Columbia Campus students and their families. The school also started a scrapbook of memories—photos, letters, drawings, and notes to and about Maureen. Three students, representing the student body, shared memories of Maureen with the audience and placed their drawings and written contributions in the scrapbook. Mr. Couthen explained that students, staff, and families could continue to contribute to the scrapbook for the remainder of the year. The memory scrapbook will be on display in the Library until the end of the school year, at which time it will be sent to Maureen's family.

Mr. Mike Fiore, Maureen's brother, responded for the family, thanking students, parents, and staff for their expressions of sympathy and caring. He was especially appreciative that the Maureen Brothers Student Assistance Fund was established as a fitting memorial for his sister and was hopeful that monies collected would be used to further her mission to serve needy children.

After closing remarks from Dr. Steffan, Maureen's family, school staff, and friends enjoyed a brief reception. All in attendance had an opportunity to reflect on Maureen's life, including her dedication to her family, her career, and to MSD.

In a note to the school, Ms. Fiore wrote:

*"What a perfect Memorial Day tribute to Maureen! I felt her presence ever there. I dearly loved the three little children signing a special and heartfelt farewell speech to Maureen. I am sure there wasn't a dry eye among us. Please would you convey a thank you to the lady that had her daughter present me with a dozen beautiful pink roses. I enjoyed them all week long."*

The Columbia Campus and the MSD Community continue to grieve the loss of a dedicated staff member and friend. Maureen's contributions to the school and to the lives of many children and their families are immeasurable. As Dr. Steffan wrote to the Community in his letter:

*"Life and Death intermingle in a continuous weave. For every door that closes, another one opens. There is hope in death. We miss the physical presence of the person when death occurs, but the spirit lives on. Maureen's spirit is present at the Columbia Campus. I feel her now as I type this letter to you. I rejoice that I knew Maureen. She enriched my life and the lives of everyone she touched. What a wonderful legacy she leaves us with!"*

CE

## MSD Alumni Profile:

# Roger Carl Kraft

by Mary Sue Boxer, Alumni and Community Editor

Roger Carl Kraft, a member of the MSD Class of 1985, was born in Fairfax, Virginia on October 4, 1967 to Carl and Mary Ann Kraft. He was born deaf. He has a younger brother, Thomas, who is also hard of hearing. A few years ago, his family found out that Brian Mullinix, a 1979 MSD alumnus, is related by blood to his mother's side of the family. Brian's sister, Ms. Charlene Anderson, teaches health at MSD-Frederick. Roger's mother is a secretary for Mr. Robert Padden, Assistant Principal of Applied Academics Department. His father works at World-Com. His brother, Tom, works as a teacher at New Market Middle School in Frederick County, Maryland.

As a young boy during the 1971 - 1972 school year, Roger attended the Georgian Forest and Forest Grove Elementary Schools in Montgomery County, Maryland. He was then transferred to the Maryland School for the Deaf in Frederick in the fall of 1972.

At MSD, Roger played football and basketball. He attended football camps every summer during his high school years. He was very much involved with the Pee Wee NAD and Jr. NAD, the Boy Scouts, the Class of 1985 and served on The Cornerstone 1985 yearbook staff. He fondly remembered his field trips to Williamsburg, VA and Philadelphia, PA during his middle school years and his senior trip to Myrtle Beach, SC with his classmates.

Roger's special memories of MSD were his participation in the 1981 ESDAA Basketball Tournament when his team won the championship game and special activities in the elementary dormitory under the direction of John Keeshan.

After his graduation in 1985, Roger attended Gallaudet University and received his Bachelor of Science degree in Business Administration in the area of Entrepreneurial Studies in 1990. He graduated again from Gallaudet University with the



Roger, Calvin, Christine, and Natalie at Falls Park in Sioux Falls, South Dakota.


Master of Science degree in Administration and Supervision in 1994.

Roger's work experience lists Customer Service Manager for the Wisconsin Relay from 1992 to 1996. He was recruited to work at the Communication Service for the Deaf located in Sioux Falls, South Dakota at the 1996 NAD Convention in Portland, Oregon. From 1996 to 1999, he was the relay center manager for CSD. He moved up to the position of the director of visual communications from 1999 to 2000. Currently, he is a Research and Development Officer developing new services for CSD and finding funds for these new services and existing services for CSD. He has been working full time for four years at CSD.

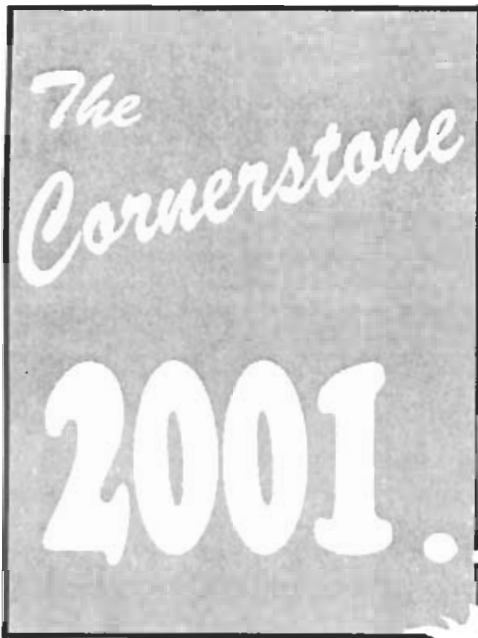
Roger resides with his wife, Christine (Multra), and their two children, Calvin and Natalie, in Sioux Falls, South Dakota. Christine, an associate professor in the Deaf Education Department at Augustana College hails from Chicago, Illinois where she attended Hinsdale South High School,

one of three Chicago public school high schools with programs for deaf students. Roger met Christine at Gallaudet University and they were married in 1993. Calvin, their son, was born in September, 1995 and is named after Calvin Ripken, Jr. who plays for the Baltimore Orioles and broke the record for consecutive games played the day before Calvin was born. Their daughter, Natalie, was born on Thanksgiving Day 1997.

During his leisure time, Roger enjoys jogging, skiing, racquetball, golf, reading, and working outside at his home. He also loves traveling especially to the beach and takes side trips when traveling on business. He also values his time with his family.

Roger Kraft offers his advice for MSD students - make sure you can say that you did your best in the classroom and in extracurricular activities! Consider carefully the advice from teachers, student life counselors, friends, and family! Make up your mind and do not look back! 





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Left to right: Seniors Kimberly Clapp (Senior Princess), Jason Yeh (Senior Prince), Jessica vonGarrel (Homecoming Queen), and Robin Shannon (Homecoming King) pose for pictures moments before the Homecoming football game between MSD and the Tennessee School for the Deaf. Front row: Pre-Kindergarten students Jake Grindstaff and Sadie Griffith assist in carrying the queen's crown and flowers.