



Good News

- Sarah Kassis (Oklahoma City) has been selected as a winner of a corporate-sponsored Merit Scholarship by the National Merit Scholarship Corporation. Her scholarship is sponsored by The Waste Management Charitable Foundation;
- See page two for Mrs. Hurte's good news about students who have been accepted to attend summer academies.

High-Scorers Named

By virtue of their performance on the 2004 PSAT/NMSQT, 19 OSSM juniors have been named "high scorers" and have met the requirements to enter the 2006 National Merit Scholarship Program. The students each had a Selection Index score of 202 or above and are among the 50,000 highest-scoring participants from over one million entrants. Congratulations to Brandon Barnes (Lawton), Morgan Boes (Owasso), Michael Chambers (Rush Springs), Nancy Chen (Tulsa), Nathan Crain (Helena), Mike Ding (Edmond), Daniel Graham (Oklahoma City), Amber Loftis (Bartlesville), Brent Luke (Shawnee), Carolyn Maher (Moore), Raquel Phillips (Wagoner), Bob Pillow (Idabel), Nozlee Samadzadeh (Stillwater), Shelbi Tapper (Hydro), Brett Taylor (Tishomingo), Jared Vanderford (Burns Flat), David Walker (Duncan), Rachel Weng (Edmond), and Jordan Yozzo (Tulsa).

Next fall the National Merit Scholarship Program will name approximately 16,000 Semifinalists from this group. Semifinalists will have the opportunity to continue in the competition for over 8,000 Merit Scholarships to be offered in 2006. Approximately 34,000 other high scorers will be commended for their performance but will not continue in the competition.

Good luck to all of our OSSM contenders.

Wednesday Assembly Features

Russian Artists

This past week, at *OSSM Wednesday*, we were well entertained by the Moscow String Quartet. The four women who make up the quartet are all graduates of the Moscow Conservatory and Gnessin Musical Institute, and have gained international acclaim, winning numerous international competitions and playing in the major concert halls of Europe. Students and faculty greatly enjoyed the hour-long concert.

Parents are welcomed to join us on Monday evening, April 25, 6:45 p.m., in the Kirkpatrick Auditorium in Lincoln School, for a performance by the OSSM Choir and the Jazz Dance Class.

Counselor's Corner

A representative from the University of Arkansas will be in the Great Hall on Thursday, April 28, from 11:15 a.m. until 12:30 p.m. to meet with interested students.

PAOSSM

(www.paossm.org)

At the last PAOSSM meeting, officers for the next school year were elected. We are very appreciative of the parents who are willing to serve in these capacities:

President: Bina and Gopal Ranebenur
Vice-President/Pledge Accountant: Grace and Albert Chen
Secretary: Suzann and Pat VerSteege
Treasurer: Deborah and David Graham
Memorabilia Coordinators: Lois and Max Hoskins; Ada and Jim Vanderford; Linda and Douglas Lomheim
Past-President Advisor: Ruth Ann and Ed Eckenstein

Senior Parents:

A few students have not turned in baby/"growing up" pictures for the senior slideshow. If you haven't turned in pictures and you wish to have your student's pictures in the slideshow, please get them to me as soon as possible. You can send up to three pictures and can e-mail them to me (barthel@charter.net) or bring them to the front desk at the dorm where I will pick them up, scan them, and return them to you. Prom pictures will also be appreciated. The final deadline for all pictures is May 5th.

Thank you, Nanci Barthel

Thank you to . . .

. . . the students who were shadowed this past week by prospective students: Katie Southard (Ponca City, '06), Daniel Graham (Oklahoma City, '06), and Zoheb Hajiyani (Anadarko, '06);

. . . and to the six seniors who ushered at a dinner honoring one of our school's greatest supporters, the Presbyterian Health Foundation. The dinner was sponsored by the Oklahoma Center for Nonprofits. Patrick Deakins (Wynnewood), Sarah Kassis (Oklahoma City), Aniq Rahman (Norman), Sarah Radke (Edmond), Katharine Stroukoff (Stillwater), and Fozoh Saliki (Stillwater) greeted guests (over 400 corporate and community leaders) as they arrived and ushered them from the reception to the dining room. Fozoh went the extra mile and played three piano pieces while guests enjoyed the first course of the dinner. We appreciate these young people giving up their evening "free-time" to represent OSSM.

Happy Birthday to:

Mrs. Monique Baxter	April 25
Nadia Sebastian	April 29
Preseta Paul	April 29
Mrs. Peggy Anderson	May 1
Zadora Hightower	May 1

Class of 2006 Acceptances to Summer Programs

Congratulations to **Rachel Cannon** (Braman), **Lucy Liu** (Edmond), **Lasya Ranebenur** (Edmond), and **Kadi Walker** (Duncan) who have been selected to participate in the **Girls In Engineering, Math and Science (GEMS) Summer Program** in Worcester, Massachusetts. The Program is offered by Worcester Polytechnic Institute through a grant from Intel. This program is one week and is designed to encourage students in the areas of math and science and to expose them to the world of engineering through “hands-on” activities. This year’s project will focus on aspects of how engineering helps people. It includes room, board, and transportation.

Morgan Boes (Owasso) has been selected to participate this summer in the **2005 National Aeronautic and Space Administration (NASA) Summer High School Apprenticeship Research Program (SHARP)**. NASA received over a thousand applications from students from the US and its territories. Students are selected on the basis of having shown an aptitude for and interest in science and engineering careers. NASA offers approximately 400 high school students the opportunity to participate at universities and NASA Field Installations. SHARP participants will receive a stipend for eight weeks of research and study. Morgan has been assigned to study at the University of New Mexico-Albuquerque.

Lucy Liu has attained finalist status in the competition to become a **Sir Alexander Fleming Scholar** this summer at the Oklahoma Medical Research Foundation (OMRF). Every year the Foundation receives over 100 applications for this scholarship. Lucy is among fourteen students who will participate. The Program was founded in 1956 as a way to give Oklahoma high school and college students “hands-on” experience in basic biomedical research. The Program is named for Sir Alexander Fleming, the famed British scientist who discovered penicillin. In 1949 he came to Oklahoma City to formally dedicate the Oklahoma Medical Research Foundation’s first building. Participants in the Program will receive a \$2500 stipend. Lucy has been assigned to Dr. Rheel Towner for the Free Radical Biology and Aging Research Program project.

Nancy Chen (Tulsa) has been informed of her admission to the **Freeman Asia Cultural Experience in Sewanee (FACES)** at the University of the South, located in Sewanee, Tennessee. As one of the twelve selected students, Nancy will participate in the two-week pre-collegiate summer program introducing Asian studies. The program offers an introductory experience for high school students who are interested in Asia, its people, societies and cultures. During the session, students will participate daily in two Asian Studies courses taught by the university faculty. They will be taught in a seminar format with lots of discussion, offering a typical Sewanee classroom experience. All participants will receive a scholarship which consists of activity fees, room and board. FACES solicits applicants who are highly motivated for college-level academic challenges.

Quest Scholars Program has selected **Morgan Boes**, **Stefany Acosta-Torres** (Ardmore), **Nusaybah Khan** (Edmond), and **Anh Tran** (Oklahoma City) as semi finalists for the QuestLeadership Summer Programs. The QuestLeadership application pool is extremely competitive. They have been invited to attend the 2005 QuestLeadership Conference sessions and interview with other west coast applicants. The interview and workshop will focus on participants creating a community outreach project, affording college, funding their college future and interviewing skills. They will leave with a new understanding of the opportunities and resources available to assist them in achieving their academic and public service aspirations. The second component of their session will be a more traditional interview session where they will gain experience from formal interviews to build skills for future jobs and college interviews. The West Coast QuestLeadership Summer Program Conference will be in Stanford, California. Their interviews will be held on the Stanford University Campus at the Graduate School of Business. Each student will attend one full day of interviews.

Anh Tran has been offered a position in the **Summer Science Program entitled “Minds, Matter and Medicine in the 21st Century”** at Clark University, Worcester, Massachusetts. The three week academic experience offers participants a series of lectures and afternoon workshops on some of the most engaging topics in science today. Anh will receive college credit which is transferable to most colleges and universities. Tuition, room and board for this experience is provided.

Geraint Harris (Burns Flat) and **Patrick VerSteeg** (Cheyenne) have been accepted to **Southwestern Oklahoma State University Summer Science and Math Academy**. A significant portion of the four week Academy will be devoted to motivational activities including hands-on job work, field trips, and discussion of career opportunities. Thirty-four participants will study topics in chemistry, computer science, mathematics and physics. Students will experience the close relationship between science and technology by participating in interdisciplinary problem-solving units directed by SWOSU faculty.

Michael Chambers (Chickasha) has been selected from a number of highly competitive applicants to participate in the **United States Naval Academy Summer Seminar (NASS)**. It is one of the most challenging and rewarding opportunities offered to any student. It is a superb way to increase science, engineering and math skills, and to experience first hand the Academy’s top-notch facilities.

Michael was also selected from 1700 students world-wide to attend the **United States Air Force Academy 2005 Summer Seminar Program**. Selection is extremely competitive with only top students being offered a slot in this prestigious program. The Academy is located near Colorado Springs, Colorado and was established in 1959.