



### Training Begins for TEAM+S

#### Junior Varsity Selected

TEAM+S is a competition run by the Junior Engineering Technical Society (JETS) which is headquartered in Alexandria, Virginia. It is a test of engineering aptitude, mathematics, and science where teams have to solve real-life engineering problems exhibiting their knowledge of computer science, environmental engineering, physics, robotics, and design. Traditionally, OSSM teams have been tremendously successful in the TEAM+S competition. In 1997 and again in 2001, both our junior and senior varsity teams won the national titles.

Dr. Fazlur Rahman and Dr. Jay Rudra will share the TEAM+S coaching responsibility this school year. Last year's junior team, now our senior varsity, ranked number one in the nation last year. Members are Haofei Wei (Broken Arrow), Joshua Choi (Tulsa), Philip Danser (Edmond), Steven Zhang (Edmond), Arib Rahman (Norman), Sarah Howell (Oklahoma City), Axel Saenz (Tulsa), and Joe Meyer (Edmond). Judy Wang (Ponca City), Brook Luo (Oklahoma City), Maggie Qi (Tulsa), and Gabriella Geletzke (Edmond) are alternates for the varsity team.

This week our OSSM TEAM+S coaches announced the names of the juniors who will train for the competition. The team was selected based on teacher recommendations, grades, and as a result of their written exam. Congratulations to: Hanzi Zhang (Norman), Weijia Zhou (Norman), Michael Yang (Edmond), Zhaoyang Xu (Norman), Tiffany Varughese (Oklahoma City), Saifu Li (Norman), Yang Jiang (Stillwater), and Tony Feng (Oklahoma City). Alternates on the junior varsity team are Matt Deng (Edmond), Lauren Mathias (Midwest City), Jennifer Melot (Oklahoma City), and Crystal Lampety (Oklahoma City).

The coaches and team members will be training and working toward a repeat performance by the varsity team, and to make it possible for the junior varsity to step up to bring home another national championship for OSSM and the State of Oklahoma.

### Congratulations to the Students of the Month

#### Winners for the month of October, 2006, are:

- First Floor Boys: Zachary Grimmert (Okmulgee, '08)
- Second Floor Boys: Destry Elms (Boise City, '08)
- Third Floor Boys: Matt McDonald (Holdenville, '07)
- First Floor Girls: Amanda Cook (Broken Arrow, '07)
- Second Floor Girls: Alesia Hallmark (Chandler, '07)
- Third Floor Girls: Hanzi Zhang (Norman, '08)

#### PAOSSM

([www.paossm.org](http://www.paossm.org))

Dear Parents:

A huge "thank you" to Mary Henderson and her family, and to Ruth Roy for supplying every single cookie that our students enjoyed on Report Card Day. They did a tremendous job and the kids appeared to really enjoy! Do you hire out for the holidays?

Speaking of the holidays, quite soon we will be adding OSSM coffee mugs to the memorabilia lineup. They'll be offered at the very reasonable price of \$5.00, so keep them in mind when you're searching for those hard-to-find stocking stuffers

*Chris & Mack Harris*

The students, faculty, and staff also thank Chris and Mack Harris and Kim Hoang for planning, setting up, serving, and cleaning up for Cookie Day. The cookies were delicious and we all enjoyed the chance to get everyone together to take a break in the middle of a school and work day. Students especially enjoyed the butcher paper covered tables and the crayons the HARRISES provided. There was a lot of artwork created, and many word games being played while they were munching cookies and sipping milk. Great entertainment idea!

#### Reminder

The dormitory will close at 7:00 p.m. on Friday, November 17, for Thanksgiving Week. The dorm will reopen on Sunday, November 26, at 3:00 p.m. Students should return before study time on the 26th - at which time there will be 18 days remaining until final exams!

#### You're Invited

The OSSM Community Orchestra will perform during *Awesome Wednesday* (weekly assembly) on Wednesday, November 15, beginning at 12:40 p.m. Parents are welcomed.

#### *Happy Birthday to:*

Amar Chakraborty	November 15
Richard Rhodes	November 16



## Students Appreciate Night Out

Here are a couple of comments from students about the experience of attending *I Can't Stop Loving You: The Genius of Ray Charles* at the Oklahoma City Civic Center Music Hall on Wednesday evening:

"I thought it was really good. There were really good singers and dancers that performed in it. I think we should do things like that more often, and I can't wait until we get to go to another one."

*Heather Bornheim (Krebs, '08)*

"I can't say enough about how much I enjoyed the musical. The stage backdrops, vocalists, dancers, and band were all amazing. The performance had everyone up and clapping, some even dancing along. It was a great opportunity and I want to thank everyone who had a hand in giving us that much needed break."

*Alyssa Sappenfield (Shidler, '08)*

## Thank you to . . .

. . . Michael Henderson (Dale, '07), Melissa Koshy (Broken Arrow, '07), Phil Harris (Oklahoma City, '07), Seth Storie (Claremore, '07), Matt McDonald (Holdenville, '07), Scotty Warner (Bernice, '08), and Cassie Pinion (Ardmore, '07) for giving tours of the campus this past week;

. . . Connie Liu (Edmond, '08), Zoe Lee (Enid, '08), and Yang Jiang (Stillwater, '08) for allowing prospective students to shadow them.



## Meet the OSSM Library Staff

### Sharon Jorski, OSSM Librarian

Ms. Jorski received her Masters in Library Science and B.A. in History with a minor in Education from the University of Oklahoma. Ms. Jorski has over 20 years of experience in medical, aviation and engineering libraries. During her career as a medical librarian she served in elected offices and chaired numerous committees and boards of local, regional and national library associations. As a medical librarian she authored several columns in the *National Network* as well as planning numerous local, regional and national educational programs.

Ms. Jorski enjoys reading, coffee with friends at book stores, most kinds of music, watching college sports and hiking. She is the Assistant Scoutmaster of a local Boy Scout Troop, works with several Cub Scout Packs in underserved areas of South Oklahoma City and serves as a district officer of the local Boy Scout Council.

Ms. Jorski and her husband Don have one son. Jason (21) is a senior at the University of Tulsa where he is majoring in arts management and photography. Jason's favorite medium is black and white photography and his mother proudly displays his photography in her office.

## Monique Baxter

### OSSM Library Technician

Monique James Baxter is the library technician at OSSM. With nearly 10 years of experience in the library field, Ms. Baxter has worked in both academic and public library settings. Her library work began as a work-study in her sophomore year of college and has continued in various capacities throughout her academic career.

Currently, she is pursuing her PhD in History from Oklahoma State University in Stillwater. She holds an MA in History and a BA in Communications from the University of Texas-Pan American. As a graduate student at UTPA and OSU, Ms. Baxter acquired several years of teaching, lecturing, research, and writing experience. She has participated in numerous conferences, presenting papers with such titles as *Gregorio Cortez: Murderer or Martyr?*, *Conquering the Country: The Evolution & Rise of Country Music's Female Artists*, and *A 'Giant' in Tejano Screen Depictions*. Ms. Baxter's most recent literary endeavor was as a contributing author for the book *Hollywood's West: The American Frontier in Film, Television, & History*, published by the University Press of Kentucky. She is a member of Phi Alpha Theta, Tau Omicron, and Phi Kappa Phi national honor societies. In May 2004, she was recognized as the top graduate of the College of Arts & Humanities at the University of Texas-Pan American, completing her Master's degree with a 4.0 g.p.a. Her research interests include film, music, women's, pop culture, and borderlands history.

Ms. Baxter's dissertation work focuses on the changing images and themes expressed by female country music artists throughout the 20th century and their relation to changes within society. Her interest in country music began in high school and early college when Ms. Baxter paired with her younger sister to form the vocal duo *The James Sisters*. The sisters performed country music throughout the state of Texas and the Nashville, Tennessee area, eventually recording their own album in Tennessee. Additionally, Ms. Baxter spent a year at Middle Tennessee State University studying the recording industry. While there, she attended songwriter's nights at *The Bluebird Cafe* and spent time at *Sony Records* learning the "behind the scenes" administrative aspects of the industry. While Ms. Baxter has set performing aside to pursue an academic/literary career and raise a family, her interest in music continues and has found a place in her research.

Born and raised in McAllen, Texas, Ms. Baxter now makes her home in Moore with her husband Dean and their 3-year-old daughter Kyleigh. As a family they enjoy weekend road trips, listening/playing music, and working out at the YMCA. Dean, a draftsman for Traffic Engineering Consultants of Oklahoma City, also enjoys playing on his pool table and competing in pool tournaments. Kyleigh loves animals (especially dogs), going to the zoo, books, the outdoors, and her Saturday morning swimming lessons.