

## head of school



With the feeling of fall in the air, there is a renewed sense of energy and excitement at school. The beginning of the year activities, such as *Back to School Night* and *Meet the Patriots*, ensure that all patrons have the opportunity to learn more about the Prep community. There is no time, however, to share many of our accolades and activities at these events. The following are examples of how faculty and students are making a difference, not only in the school environment, but in the larger community:

Chinese language instructor Christine Parsons facilitated student opportunities for travel to China this past summer. Two students also participated in the STARTALK Intensive Mandarin program through the Croft Institute at the University of Mississippi, and one student participated in an intensive Mandarin program in Connecticut. Additionally, during the school year, the Mandarin class partners with exchange students at Mississippi College to provide Prep students the opportunity to have conversations with native speakers of Mandarin Chinese. This takes place in the classroom at Jackson Prep.

Faculty members Anna Freundt and Lou Ann McKibben facilitated the visit of twenty-one Italian students to our campus this past week. This spring, Italian instructors Rocco Minerva and Sandra Spence, along with other Italian families, will host Prep

students involved in this partnership program as they travel to Verbania, Italy. While there, these students will also visit Florence and Venice. This is a good example of Prep students and their families serving as ambassadors for the school, state and nation.

Prep has now hosted two games this year with MHSAA schools, both of which were very healthy competitions for our school. This provided the opportunity for many people who had never been to a game at Prep to come to our campus. Special thanks are extended to our coaches, faculty and staff, who went out of their way to see that all of our guests were provided with the accommodations they needed to be comfortable. I also want to extend my thanks to members of the Booster Club, who gave countless hours of service in preparation for these games.

The list is endless! I thank the board, faculty, students and parents for their dedication and commitment to ensure the success of the school. May all of us look to the future with a renewed passion for what makes Prep a very special school. Your support makes a difference!

Susan Lindsay  
Head of School

*Congratulations Susan Lindsay for being selected as one of Mississippi's Leading Business Women 2007!*

## special feature keith nord visits jp

by Kam Russell



On October 3, Jackson Prep is privileged to have former Minnesota Viking and motivational speaker Keith Nord visit Prep and speak to students, parents, and faculty.

Nord travels many miles to bring his unique programs to schools, businesses, hospitals and more. His achievement and success allow him to impart wisdom to Prep students about making wise choices.

Nord will begin the day at 9:00 a.m., speaking only to parents on "*What Will Your Child Remember?*" He will emphasize the importance of parents' roles in setting good examples as they teach their teenagers

to make wise decisions regarding a number of issues facing teens today.

Keith Nord began playing for the Minnesota Vikings in 1979. He arrived at training camp that year as a walk-on, and though less than 5% of all walk-ons ever play in the NFL, Keith made the team and went on to become a Vikings captain in 1983. Nord played for the Vikings for seven years. He became known for his confident and uncompromising play. While with the Vikings, he was the recipient of five game balls, which is known as the highest compliment a player can receive from his teammates.

Before becoming a member of the Vikings, Nord graduated with honors from St. Cloud State University School of Business in Minnesota. He played football at SCSU, where he served as Team Captain, was named Team MVP and All Conference, and received the Glen Galligan Award.

Other awards he has received include the March of Dimes Citizen Athlete of the Year, Muscular Dystrophy Association Citizen Athlete of the Year, and the 1985 Ed Block Memorial Courage Award. He was also nominated for the NFL Man of the Year.

Nord has served as keynote speaker in many different settings all over the world. Some of his speaking engagements include the FHA (Future Homemakers of America) National Leadership Conference, the International Key Club, the DECA (Distributive Education Clubs of America) National Conference, High School and College Divisions, and the Department of Public Safety National Conference.

Reservations for Nord's Parent Program, which is free for parents, should be made on the Jackson Prep website at [www.jacksonprep.net](http://www.jacksonprep.net) under "Calendar" or "Parents."

# junior high news

by Trudy Powers, Head of the Junior High

## TALENT IDENTIFICATION PROGRAM (TIP)

Eighty-four seventh graders qualified for the 2007-08 Duke University Talent Identification Program (TIP). Students who qualified have the opportunity to take either the SAT Reasoning Test or the ACT Assessment college entrance examination. Selection to the program is based on test scores at the 95th percentile or above on a grade level standardized achievement, aptitude, or mental ability test battery.

## SEVENTH GRADE ELECTIONS

An informational meeting regarding seventh grade elections will be held in the auditorium on October 23 during activity period. Speeches and elections for class president will be held on November 6. To run for class president, students must have an 85 average in academic courses based on first term grades. Class representatives must have a 75 average. Elections for representative will be held in homerooms on November 12.

## BOOK STORE

Chi Alpha Mu, the junior high math honorary society, opened the junior high bookstore for students on September 19. The store is open every morning from 7:50-8:10 a.m. in the junior high foyer. Items sold in the store include pencils, mechanical pencils, pens, highlighters, notebook paper, graph paper, and index cards.

## 8TH AND 9TH GRADE HOMECOMING DANCE

There will be a "Ateless" dance for all eighth and ninth grade Prep students only in the Manning Center on October 19 from 9:00 until 11:00 p.m. The cost is \$5.00 per person. Attire is "dressy casual." Girls should have no bare shoulders or midriffs, no shorts or skirts shorter than three inches above the back of the knee, and no revealing necklines. Boys should wear khaki pants or shorts and a collared shirt. Parents are asked to pick up their students promptly at 11:00 p.m. at the Manning Center.

## FRESHMEN RECEIVE COLLEGE FOLDERS

On Monday, November 5, the Class of 2011 will be addressed for the first time by Prep's college admissions counselor Jeanne Marie Peet. The freshman class will be reminded that the process of accumulating graduation credits and a grade point average begins in the 9th grade. A college admissions information folder will be given to each student containing "Thinking Ahead to College: Tips for High School Freshmen," a chart for tracking graduation requirements, a sample resume and information about the state's MPACT and MACS programs. The folder contains pockets that can be used to store documents necessary for the college admissions process such as final report cards and achievement test results. Parents are encouraged to ask for these folders on that day to insure that they are not lost.

# high school news

by Luke Nealey, Head of the Senior High

Since starting my duties as Head of the Senior High, I have fielded a number of questions about this position and the inner workings of the senior high. For many parents, interactions within and with the school may seem like the story of the blind men and the elephant – a knowledge of some part of what goes on but not a good sense of how everything fits together. My charge is to manage the students and teachers of the senior high. It is a simple idea: teachers teach and students learn. However, as with any system of 400 or so people, it is a complex and changing environment. Thankfully, there are a cadre of motivated, experienced, bright and caring folks whose responsibilities include all aspects of what we do at Jackson Prep.

I would like to give an overview of this system here and in upcoming issues will talk in more detail about each part of it. On the teacher side, each academic discipline is lead by a department head who insures that the curriculum progresses through the junior and senior high, and who mentors and evaluates teachers. The whole school's curriculum is overseen by Carolyn Sisk, the Director of Academics. Her duties include training new teachers and administering the AP program. On the student academic and personal side, the counseling office and college counseling office interface directly with students for all academic issues during their time at Prep and as they apply for college and scholarships. They continue to work for the students after they are gone, sending transcripts and providing other information as they continue their educations. Finally, Nell Bradford, Amy Parkes and I, in the office, try to keep the whole thing running smoothly on a daily basis. All of us have one goal – to prepare the students for college and life after Prep. If you want to know more about what we do, check the website and click on "Faculty".

## DAR GOOD CITIZEN

Congratulations Laura Cate May for being selected as Prep's DAR (Fort Rosalie Chapter) Good Citizen.

## PRINCIPAL'S LEADERSHIP AWARD

Congratulations Sumner Abraham for being nominated to compete in the national Principal's Leadership Award scholarship program sponsored by the National Association of Secondary School Principals.

## NATIONAL MERIT SEMIFINALISTS

Congratulations Laura Chancellor, Betel Ezaz, Patterson Fenelon, Emily Hildebrandt, Drew Lewis, Kaitlin O'Donnell, Mark Pinkerton, Chris Russell, Bryant Salmon, Martin Shepherd, Laura Sorey, Garrett Taylor, Marita Walton, Chambliss Williams, Haleh Wilson, John Harrison York, and Alix Zachow.

## language

HOLA! BONJOUR! SALVE!  
CHAIRETE! and 你好

Greetings from the language department in Spanish, French, Latin, Greek and Mandarin Chinese! We are excited about the achievements of the language department.

Prep Spanish students excelled on the 2007 National Spanish Exam. Prep can boast seven of the top eight Spanish I and II students in Mississippi. Troy Carnes, Laura Flint, Elizabeth Franklin and Luis Campos teach Spanish.

French students also excelled on the National French Exam this past spring. Ten French students in various levels ranked in the top ten in the state while several

students also placed nationally on the exam. Martha Brown teaches French.

Greek and Latin students also took National exams. Latin students, taught by David Hogue, received many summa, magna and cum laude awards for their exam. Two Greek students received nearly perfect scores on the National Greek exam. We are thrilled about the revitalization of the Classical Heritage Diploma curriculum under the guidance of Dr. Paul Smith

Mandarin Chinese I and II, taught by Christine Parsons, have been added to our curriculum to ensure that our students have a distinct advantage, especially in the arenas of politics and business. Seniors Charlie Culpepper and Nathan Wofford spent the summer in China with Chinese host families while continuing their study of Chinese

language and culture. "Spending time in China forced me to use the language in everyday situations, so I was able to learn a lot about the culture," said Wofford.

Our language students and their teachers have distinguished themselves many times over, proving that Prep has an advanced and dedicated language department that is establishing a necessary foundation of international awareness for each student.

Prep language clubs are preparing for our annual "World Languages Week" to be held in January. Each day highlights a different language taught at Prep and the culture it represents with fun activities such as photos with Caesar and mariachi bands at lunch time. The theme for the week reflects what Prep's language department truly believes: *Discover Languages—Discover the World!*

## board of trustees

by Duane Dewey, Chairman, Board of Trustees

Don't you love the feeling you get when you know you've made a good investment? There is a strong sense of pride and accomplishment associated with seeing the outcome, whether tangible or intangible, of a wise decision. As we kick off the Annual Fund for 2007-2008, I encourage you to consider your investment in Jackson Prep. Your tuition dollar covers roughly 90% of the true cost to educate a single student. The Annual Fund investment you make enables us to enhance the opportunities we can provide to our students. Last year, our seniors were offered over \$6.5 million dollars in scholarships, with approximately \$2 million being accepted. We reclaimed the All Sports Award, housing this trophy for 12 out of the 13 years this honor has been recognized. This year, Jackson Prep boasts 17 National Merit Finalists. Prep's students can choose from a variety of extra- and co-curricular activities to compliment their academic experience at Prep, preparing them to be successful adults who will contribute in many areas of service to their community. The preparation our students receive in all areas of their Prep experience prepares them for making wise investments themselves. Our philanthropy is a model for our students and supports Prep's philosophy and mission – that education is not an end in itself, but a means to the individual's fulfillment as a contributing member of the world community.

An investment in Jackson Prep is one that will show you significant return, both now and for the future. Be a wise investor – choose Jackson Prep's 2007-2008 Annual Fund.

## admissions news

by Lesley Morton, Director of Admissions

Just as soon as we get one school year started we start thinking about the next! I have already mailed our *Calendar of Events for Prospective Families*, which lists all the visiting and admission testing dates for the year to parents of fourth, fifth and sixth graders who are on our mailing list. The Calendar of Events for Prospective Families is also available on our website.

Our first event will be a daytime **Prep Preview** on Tuesday, October 9. These daytime visits are best for people who need a more in-depth look at the school.

For those who prefer a more upbeat event, we offer our **Prep Preview Evening Open House** on Friday night, November 2, in conjunction with the Prep vs. MRA varsity football game. We want our home stand FULL of Prep fans by 7:00 p.m. sharp. If you can help us with this, it would make a great first impression on all of our visitors. Please contact Amy McGowan at amyjo9497@earthlink.net or Melissa Neyland at (601) 981-2931 if you would like to help at this event. We will also serve our guests a tailgate supper that night, so help us talk up the event! WE NEED LOTS OF PARENT HELP THAT DAY AND NIGHT!

Please help us out by submitting names of your local relatives, neighbors, church friends or business associates whose children attend public school and may not be receiving information about Prep. Send those names to Admissions Assistant Beth Brooks at bbrooks@jacksonprep.net.

## football game behavior

Please remind your students to stay inside the gated area during home football games. Students are asked to always exhibit appropriate behavior at home and away games.

## pat news

by Lisa Lamb, PAT President

Greetings, Prep parents. School is now well under way and I suspect that everyone is in a routine with practices, activities and homework supervision. The PAT has been busy behind the scenes and out front. Our Hospitality Committee started the year off with a fabulous Back to School luncheon for our dedicated teachers and staff. They also nourished our college representatives during the College Fair on September 11. Our thanks go to Lori Newcomb and Gina Adams and their committee. Saundra Dewey and her team spear-headed the Uniform Resale on August 13 which raised \$484.50. That money will go to parent education and our guest speaker, Keith Nord, on October 3. Way to go, Saundra! The Prep Directory was proofed and distributed by Debbie Rayner and her detailed helpers, and Diann Zachary and the Care Committee put on an inviting and informative luncheon for new Prep parents of eighth through twelfth grade students. The Class Coordinators have hosted Brown Bag luncheons and the Moms In Touch prayer group has met for the first time under the new leadership of Mary Ellison and Rae Anne Randolph.

It was great to see so many faces at our first PAT meeting on September 6. Keep in mind that everyone is a member of the PAT and all Prep parents are welcome. There's a place for everyone. There's a place for you! Bring your lunch and join us on October 4 at 12:00 p.m. in the HMC for our next meeting. See you there!

## annual giving news

by Jane Roper, Director of Annual Giving

As another school year begins, please remember the businesses in our community that provide ongoing support to Jackson Prep through their special programs. Be sure to share them with your families and friends.

- **OFFICE DEPOT: 5% Back to Schools Program** – Schools can get credits all year long! Every time you buy school supplies, request that your purchase be credited to Prep's ID# 70058849. Shop at any retail store, call 1-800-GO-DEPOT (1-800-463-3768), or shop online at [www.officedepot.com](http://www.officedepot.com).
- **TARGET: Take Charge of Education Program** – Again, schools can get credits all year long. Designate Jackson Prep's ID# 9505, and Target will donate up to 1% of purchases made using the REDcard (Target VISA or Target Card) to Prep. It doesn't cost cardholders anything to sign up for the program, and you can designate "Jackson Prep" online at [target.com/tcoe](http://target.com/tcoe), the kiosk at a Target store, or by calling 1-800-316-6142.
- **ONLINE SHOPPING** – Various mall sites contribute a percentage of the purchases made to philanthropy through non-profit organizations.

## directory updates

**Jamie Finch, grade 7**  
Mr. and Mrs. Robbie Finch  
911 Foxwood Court  
Brandon, MS 39047  
601-668-8791

**Jake Williams, grade 7**  
Mr. and Mrs. Kelley Williams  
New phone: 601-982-4141

## after school pickups

If you pick up your child after the 3:35 p.m. bell, he or she will be in Room 221 in the junior high. If you come after 4:00 p.m. to pick up your child, you must knock on the front door for someone to open it.

# save the date upcoming events

## **JACKSON PREP WELCOMES KEITH NORD**

Former Minnesota Viking and motivational speaker Keith Nord will visit Prep on Wednesday, October 3. Nord will begin the day speaking to parents at 9:00 a.m. Reserve your spot at Nord's Parent Program (free for parents) at [www.jacksonprep.net](http://www.jacksonprep.net) under "Calendar" or "Parents."

## **ALUMNI REUNION/HOMECOMING WEEKEND**

All alumni are invited! Join us on October 19 and 20 at the Alumni Reunion/Homecoming Weekend! There will be tents for the 1970's, 1980's, 1990's and 2000's. A pre-game dinner will begin at 5:30 p.m. All events on Friday night are free of charge to all alumni. For more information and to R.S.V. P., contact Lucia Jones at [ljones@jacksonprep.net](mailto:ljones@jacksonprep.net).

## **PREP PREVIEW EVENING OPEN HOUSE**

Prep Preview for PROSPECTIVE families will be held Friday night, November 2, in conjunction with the Prep vs. MRA varsity football game which begins at 7:00 p.m.

## **ACT/SAT WORKSHOP**

The next session of the ACT/SAT Workshop will begin on January 10 (six weeknights) and January 12 (three Saturdays). The workshop, which includes 12 hours of instruction, familiarizes students with test format and test-taking strategies for both ACT and SAT tests. Registration forms are available on the website and in the high school counseling office. Deadline is December 14. Fee: \$150

## **PSAT**

The PSAT will be administered to all sophomores and juniors on Wednesday, October 17. Students need to be in assigned classrooms by 8:15 a.m. so that testing can begin on time. Regular classes will resume by fourth period. Seniors do not have to report to school until 11:50 a.m. that day.

find what you are seeking at [www.jacksonprep.net](http://www.jacksonprep.net)

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