TSB Hosts N.C.A.S.B. Swimming and Forensics Conference

Resembling the buzz and excitement of an Olympic competition, the TSB Swim Team and athletic staff scurried around the Gallatin Civic Center swim facility Friday afternoon April 26th. Final preparations were under way for the NCASB’s 2013 Swimming and Forensics Conference Championship. A total of nine school representing over two-hundred students participated in the twenty three races displaying both individual and team competition.

The Women’s Tiger Swim Team; comprised of Elizabeth Harden, Corgan Waters, Taylor Grenier and Alisha Whitehead, swept the woman’s relay races finishing first in the 200 and 400 yard Freestyle, and the 200 yard Medley. Individual honors also went to Taylor for finishing second in the Women’s 500 yard Freestyle and third in the Women’s 100 yard Butterfly. Corgan also finished second in the Women’s 100 yard Breaststroke. The TSB girl’s team placed third overall in the swimming competition.

The Men’s Tiger Swim Team did well with the relay races as well as taking first in the Men’s 400 yard Freestyle and first in the Men’s 200 yard Medley. Alex Kitts, Michael Ward and Nick Heggie were on both of these relay teams with Nathen Hurst swimming in the 400 yard Freestyle and Derrick Manning swimming the 200 yard Medley. Individually, the men had a number of honors. Michael Ward took first in the Men’s 50 yard Freestyle and 100 yard Butterfly, and second in the 200 Yard IM. Alex Kitts swam for second in the Men’s 100 yard Backstroke and 100 yard Butterfly, and third in the Men’s 100 yard Freestyle. Nick Heggie placed third in the Men’s 50 yard Freestyle and the 200 yard IM. Nathen Hurst finished second in the Men’s 200 yard Freestyle. The Men’s team finished second overall. Combining the Women’s and men’s team totals, TSB finished in second place out of the nine teams represented. Leading up to the conference competition the Tiger swimmers had the following success at the Ohio School for (cont. on pg.7)
New Kids on Campus

Nehemiah Rembert comes to TSB from Clarksville, TN. He is nine years of age and in the 3rd grade. Nehemiah likes physical activities such as rope jumping and playing with a hula hoop. He enjoys cooking and making Ramen noodles! Nehemiah also enjoys playing video games and is especially entertained by a game called Call of Duty.

Niala Gatson is originally from Louisiana and came to TSB this semester. She is a member of Mrs. Karen Stiteley’s class. Before coming to TSB Niala attended LaVergne Primary in Rutherford County. Her favorite food is green beans, and her least favorite food is tomatoes. In Niala’s free time she loves to play in the water, swim and also play on the playground.

Wendelldrick Gatson is the brother of Niala and is also new at TSB this semester. He too, is in Karen Stiteley’s class and said he prefers to be called ”Delldrick.” His food likes and dislikes are exactly opposite of his sister’s. His favorite food is tomatoes, and his least favorite food is green beans… imagine that! He enjoys playing outdoors.

Egg Hunting Easier Thanks to Those Beepin’ Eggs

Visual impairment doesn’t keep the kids of TSB from experiencing the thrill and excitement that sighted kids enjoy when hunting for Easter eggs. This comes, thanks in part, because of Mr. Michael P. Knight, Special Agent/Certified Explosive Specialist ATF, Nashville Intelligence Group from Brentwood, TN. Michael and his friends from the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives have made “beeping eggs” for TSB to use in their egg hunts. The chirping of the eggs helps direct the kids with visual impairments to find the hidden treasures. At the beginning of this year’s hunt Michael spoke and told the kids how the eggs were designed and made. This year Michael introduced a new size “mama jama” egg, four times larger than the regular eggs that they are designing. He hopes to provide the “mama jama” eggs to TSB by next year’s egg hunt.
A number of TSB students were able to participate in cycling camps sponsored by The Harpeth Bike Club on April 6 & 7, 2013. The camps consisted of learning techniques and methods used when on road rides and when cycling on hills and inclines. TSB cyclists Caleb Freeman, Elizabeth Harden, Brooks Gardner, George Guerrero, Tim Jones, Jacob Mitchell, Alisha Whitehead and Stephanie Wilson rode with captains assigned to them each day. On Saturday, April 6 three courses were offered for travel that varied in length from twenty-three miles to thirty-four miles, and fifty miles. Experienced cyclist Tim Jones decided to ride the adventurous fifty mile course. Brooks Gardner, George Guerrero, Jacob Mitchell and Elizabeth Harden all set their sights on the thirty-four mile ride. Caleb Freeman, Stephanie Wilson and Alisha Whitehead were content to complete the twenty-three mile journey. On Sunday, April 7, all of the students participated in learning the techniques of riding uphill and downhill. They each did this with assistance and instruction from the same captains they had ridden with on Saturday. The experience gained at these camps for road and hill training has been in preparation for the upcoming Harpeth River Ride. These TSB students are all planning on participating in this 17th annual event held on June 1, 2013. Additional information is available on page eight and also by searching the internet at www.harpethriverrun.com.
Nineteen years ago in 1994, Markeithian Moss or “Markie” as he is affectionately called, came to TSB from Covington, TN in Tipton County. Living in the residential cottages through the years, Markie has made many friends with the students and staff. He has also enjoyed singing and hearing the music played by Judy Denning. Markie will be returning to Covington and may be attending a day program.

Emily Pace came to TSB as a residential student in 2011 from Cookville, TN, located in Putnam County. In addition to the academics, she has been involved in bowling, dancing and learning to cook with Ms. Ann. Emily will long remember the events of her senior trip to Aspen and also the work she has done with Ms. Washington and Ms. Ann. Her plans this summer include attending T.R.C. and finding employment.

Living in Mount Juliet, TN, Amber Picknell has commuted to TSB since 1994. Additional activities of Amber’s through the years have included art and cooking projects. She has enjoyed time swinging in the swings, both inside and outside the classroom, and listening to music. Desserts are always a favorite part of her meal time. Amber’s plans after graduation involve enjoying time with her family.

Hooper Figures into TSB Math Equation

Joining the TSB staff this semester is Jonathan Hooper. After graduating from UT Martin with a undergraduate degree in elementary education, Jonathan taught middle school Reading and Math for two years in Jackson, TN before going to Vanderbilt for a master’s in Visual Impairments. While at Vanderbilt, he became involved in research experience and teaching with students at TSB. In January, Jonathan joined the TSB staff to teach 7th grade and 8th grade Math, Math Foundations, Applied Math, and Braille. Mr. Hooper took over these responsibilities after the departure of JoAnne Weatherall who retired in February. Although Jonathan “loves the students, faculty, and atmosphere at TSB,” his future plans are to relocate to NYC over the summer.”
Coming from **Cookville TN in Putnam County**, Mat came to TSB in 2010. He has been active in goal ball, wrestling, TSB Band and the TSB Jazz Combo. His memories are immeasurable and range from guitar solos and conference sports trips to just hanging with his friends. **Mathew** plans on attending **Tennessee Tech** in the fall. He will also continue in his love of making music with the guitar and in goal ball.

**Shaquenta Rucker** came to TSB in 2008 as a resident of Davidson County. Being from Nashville, TN she has lived close enough to the school for an easy daily commute. Easily recognized by her smile, **Shaquenta** has sung with the TSB Chorus. She has enjoyed the many field trips with the school, especially these involving a stop for lunch at Steak-n-Shake. **Shaquenta** will live at home and go to **Prospect, Inc.**

Beginning in 2002, **Dakota** became a residential student living in the cottages at TSB. He comes to school each week from Huntingdon, TN in Carroll County. During his time here, **Dakota** has been involved with the **Boy Scouts**. His favorite memories include dunking Mr. Oldham in the dunking booth during the Fall carnival and seeing the police horses. His favorite teacher has been **Ms. Gale.**

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**Dandy Addition to TSB Staff**

Dr. Tonja Denise Dandy graduated from Howard University with a B.S. in microbiology and minor in chemistry. She later earned an A.A.S. in opticianry from Roane State Community College. Dr. Dandy also earned graduate degrees in biology, visual impairments, and leadership and professional practice from Tennessee State University and Trevecca Nazarene University. She has conducted research on the genomics and genetics of *Drosophila melanogaster* (fruit flies) and bacterial pathogens on fomites. Currently, Dr. Dandy is the Director of STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math). Before arriving at TSB, she taught high school science classes, including International Baccalaureate (IB) and Advanced Placement (AP) courses in MNPS. She has also served as a Science department chairperson, career academy leader, and a Science teacher coach. Additionally, she spent two years (continued on page 6) serv-
Spirit Week

Leading up to TSB hosting the NCASB Swim and Forensics Conference Spirit Week was held April 15th – 19th. This final Tiger Pride point event of the year began with Monday designated as Beach Day, Tuesday – Wacky Tacky Day, Wednesday – Hat Day, Thursday – Multicultural Day, Friday – Spirit Week pep rally and semi-formal dance held during the 3rd and 4th periods. The spirit activities brought a lot of excitement to the week.

Transition Fair Provides Ideas for the Future

TSB held it’s annual Transition Fair on April,10th with the theme of “Focusing on the Future.” The fair created an emphasis on gathering information on the possibilities and options available to students at schools and in the workforce after graduation. This year’s fair brought in representatives from twenty-four community agencies, schools, training programs and adult service providers. Students were give the option to attend two of six sessions offered on an array of topics. The sessions were followed with the opportunity to meet and visit speakers and representatives at various booths and displays that had been set up in the gymnasium. Later the student’s participation was solicited at a forum including a panel discussion involving a college student and an adult in the workforce as they discussed the challenges and experiences of post graduation life. Approximately ninety of TSB students from age fourteen and older participated in the events, as well as forty one TSB staff and fifty-seven members of the community. Post-evaluations indicate that everyone enjoyed the event while gaining wonderful information from a good selection of representatives. Debra Ponder, who spearheaded the organizational structure, was pleased with the great effort given throughout the event as displayed by the positive impact and reaction of the students. In looking toward to next year’s event, she desires additional parent involvement.
the Blind on April 13th. 

Girls: 1st - 200 Medley Relay (Corgan Waters, Taylor Grenier, Elizabeth Harden, Alisha Whitehead) 2nd - 400 Freestyle Relay (Corgan Waters, Taylor Grenier, Elizabeth Harden, Alisha Whitehead) 1st - 100 yard Butterfly Taylor Grenier, 2nd - 500 yard Freestyle Taylor Grenier, 2nd place-100 yard backstroke Taylor Grenier, 1st - 100 yard Breaststroke Corgan Waters; Boys: 1st - 400 Freestyle Relay (Michael Ward, Alex Kitts, Tim Jones, Nick Heggie), 2nd - 200 Medley Relay (Michael Ward, Alex Kitts, Tim Jones, Nick Heggie), 3rd - 200 Freestyle Relay (Nathen Hurst, Derrick Manning, Brandt Shipley, Carlos Medrano), 1st - 200 yard I.M. Michael Ward, 1st - 50 Freestyle Michael Ward, 1st - 100 Butterfly Michael Ward, 2nd - 100 butterfly Alex Kitts, 2nd-100 Freestyle Alex Kitts, 2nd - 100 Backstroke Alex Kitts, 3rd - 200 yard Freestyle Nathen Hurst, 3rd - 100 Freestyle Nathen Hurst, 1st - 100 yard Breaststroke Tim Jones, 3rd - 500 yard Freestyle Tim Jones

On Saturday morning the Forensics competition kicked off using the TSB campus as the venue. Lecterns and seating were put into place and the stage set in a dozen different locations for the many orators. Although the size of the TSB team may have been small, individual efforts produced a number of medals. Michael Ward medaled in fourth place for Impromptu. Alisha Whitehead also received a fourth place medal for Serious Interpretation. James Yelsong received a third place medal in Great Speeches with his rendition of “I Have A Dream.” Elizabeth Harden finish second in Humorous Interpretation. TSB’s highest honors of the day were earned by Alisha Whitehead and Elizabeth Harden as they took first place in Duet Acting. Overall the TSB Tigers Forensics Team placed sixth in team competition.
TSB’s Tim Jones Sets Pace

Tim Jones, a sophomore at TSB and his cycling pilot Greg Miller, have been chosen as this year’s Honorary Ride Leaders for the 17th Annual Harpeth River Ride on June 1st. Tim recently completed his first hundred mile ride with Greg early this spring. While climbing over 7,000’, the duo averaged a speed of nearly 18 mph! He is one of the youngest stokers ever invited to attend a USABA “Learn to Race” cycling camp according to the website. Tim along with a group of TSB students are “regulars” on Tuesday nights at the Nashville Speedway as they ride with the Harpeth Bicycle Club. Tim hopes one day to race for the US Paralympic Team. He is currently featured on the Harpeth Bicycle Club’s website http://www.harpethriverride.com/2013-honorary-ride-leader/

All-State Again for Brittany

Senior Brittany McGrew recently participated in the 2013 TN All-State Women’s Choir at the Tivoli Theater in Chattanooga, TN. Brittany passed through a difficult audition process in October competing against hundreds of her sighted peers in schools across the mid state. She placed 3rd chair in her voice part (Alto 1) and was then invited, together with the best in East and West, TN to sing in All-State. This was Brittany’s 2nd time to be selected for All-State. The TSB staff is proud of her accomplishments. Brittany possesses enormous talent both vocally and in playing the piano. She has performed in a variety of styles for numerous audiences and brings many to tears with her beautiful gift. Brittany will be having her very own senior recital on May 7th at 12:30 pm, featuring both vocal and piano selections she has mastered under the instruction of Judy Denning and Georgette Seay. The recital is free and open to the public.