



THE ALUMNI MENTOR

Volume 3

Spring 2008

Number 1

President's Message

Greetings to all members and supporters of the Manhattan High School Indians. I know, that as members, each and every one of you remembers your



Dave Fiser '57

days in high school whether it be recently or many years ago. It was my privilege as your President to attend the 70th Reunion of the MHS Class of 1938 this summer. What a great group who continue to show interest, enthusiasm, excitement, and love for their alma mater 70 years after graduating from the halls of Manhattan High School.

My friends, this is the kind of loyalty and pride I hope we will continue to have for the Manhattan Indians now and in the future for generations to come.

I know you will enjoy this issue of the Alumni Mentor. Our heartfelt thanks and admiration goes to Janet Krider Duncan, Class of 1958, who continues to edit and publish this important newsletter for MHSAA members. Janet also found time to help chair her 1958 MHS 50th Class Reunion this April.

Well a cool spring in Manhattan has now turned into the warm summer months we in Kansas are quite familiar with. The city swimming pools are full, youth sports are in full swing, and summer Band Concerts plus Arts in the Park performances are going on in City Park. Some things in good old Manhattan seem to change, but many remain the same.

Our MHSAA Alumni Association continues to flourish with many activities and functions. Our committee chairs keep busy helping many MHS Class Reunions, updating our MHSAA website, working on our MHS Wall of Fame, fixing up our

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Famous Alums Celebrated

Hollywood's Bill Murray Accepts plaque for Del Close

The January 4, 2008 Wall of Fame Ceremony drew a record crowd for the four highly qualified honorees: Professional golfer Deb Richard, MHS 1981; award winning radio journalist Bill Buzenberg MHS 1964; Internationally known genius and teacher in Improvisation and Comedy theater, Del Close, MHS 1952; and Movie and TV star, Inger Stensland, MHS 1952 (Inger Stevens).

Bill Buzenberg traveled from his home in Washington, DC to accept his award and visited with MHS members before the ceremony as well as with students and fans after the event. Accepting the award for Inger Stevens, who died in 1970, was classmate Donna Morine Fearing, who came to Manhattan from her home in Alabama for the honor. Deb Richard was also unable to attend and her plaque was accepted by Mary (McMannis) Stamey '65 of Manhattan. All drew friends and classmates to cheer and congratulate their selection to the Wall. There was no denying, however, that the crowd in the gym was there to see the Hollywood star Bill Murray, who came to honor his mentor



Photo : Ned Seaton '86, MHSAA Director end of table, talks with Kim "Howard" Johnson, along with Pat Duncan '59, MHSAA Treasurer before the Wall of Fame Ceremony presentations.

and friend Del Close '52. Also speaking and accepting the plaque for Del Close was Kim "Howard" Johnson, another student of the comedy improv classes of Close as well as his biographer. All spoke humbly and movingly

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2008 MHSAA Annual Meeting Sept 15

Please mark your calendars. You won't want to miss this MHSAA General Membership Meeting, Monday, September 15th, in the cafeteria at the MHS West Campus. The social hour, with refreshments, will be from 6pm to 7pm. The meeting will start at 7pm and the program will include special guest speaker Mike Mayo, the architect for USD 383's Facilities Master Plan. Mayo will cover the \$97.5 million school bond scheduled to go before District voters in the Fall '08 election. He will cover the details of what is included for Manhattan High School in the Plan and how it will effect its future. A representative from the USD 383 Board of Education, along

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Manhattan High School Alumni Association

"Enhancing Manhattan High School and its graduates through life-long involvement."

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Vice Pres.	Carita (Clark) Otts '55
Secretary	Sally (Baril) Lansdowne '65
Treasurer	Pat Duncan '59
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	Pete Paukstelis '89
	Tom Addair '94
	Don Slater '57
	Marlene (Glascock) Moyer '65

MHSAA Committee Chairmen

Public Relations:	Deanna (Johnson) Hall, '74
	Randy Stitt '88
Membership:	Carita (Clark) Otts '55
Wall of Fame:	Dan Hall, '70
Events:	Keith Eyestone '80
Reunions:	Dean Taylor '52
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Alumni Center:	Don Slater '57
The Alumni Mentor:	
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	Pat Dougherty '57
	Kathleen (Bryson) Pizar '58
	Barbara (MacFarlane) Howe '58
	Charley Kempthorne '55
	Jodi (Morrison) Kaus '87
	Charlie Hostetler '57
	Judy (Burnett) Goodson '58
Webmaster:	Stuart Parsons '70
MHSAA Web site:	
	www.mhsalumniassociation.org

Membership forms are available on the web site or write to our Postal Mailing Address:

MHSAA
P.O. Box 1102
Manhattan, KS 66502 -1102

Change of Information?

If you've had a change of:
Mailing Address
Phone number
Email address
Last Name

or would like to send us a donation, please send this information to the MHSAA Treasurer, Pat Duncan '59 at the above address or to PatDuncan@aol.com

From the Editor



"Is change the only constant in the world? So it would appear as the generations pass through the Manhattan schools." This was the starting place for Pat Dougherty '57 as he began his warm and thoughtful essay: "Changes Made and Not Made." Continued Pat, "While perusing through old records and photographs at the Riley County Historical Museum, members of the class of '57 happened on a wonderful picture of a couple of Manhattan characters taking in the sights on Poyntz around 1900. They thought you might enjoy it as much as they did." You will find his essay on page 7.

MHS was fortunate to escape damage from Manhattan's recent tornado, (only Lee School was harmed and not structurally.) But change may be in the air concerning the halls of MHS West—as in, will there be more of them in the near future? The Superintendent's Advisory Column deals with our November Bond issue.

Don't miss the offer below, if you are "of age." The card, available from the office at MHS West, is good for free entry into MHS athletic (not State contests), music and drama events - a nice benefit from our Alma Mater.

MHS 'Indian Council' Senior Citizen Pass

"We feel it is appropriate to honor our older citizens and to reward them for their many years of support to education, whether in Manhattan or elsewhere. For this reason, we have formed the 'Indian Council' for citizens who have reached their 62nd birthday.

"Your Indian Council Pass will allow you to attend all Manhattan High School events free of charge. Please keep your pass, as it will not change from year to year. If you should misplace it, however, we will be happy to issue a duplicate.

"Thank you for your support of Manhattan High School. We are gratified that you wish to attend our activities."

Best Wishes, Terry McCarty,
Principal, Manhattan High School

GENERAL MEETING cont. from page 1

with Mayo, will also be available to answer questions from our membership. Please join your old friends and meet new ones to learn about and discuss the very important issues facing our school and contribute to the business of your own Alumni organization.

A Portrait of... Dave Fiser

by Charlie Hostetler '56

As the Manhattan High School Alumni Association completes its fourth year of activities this fall, it would be appropriate to pause and thank the person most responsible for organizing and overseeing our new association: Dave Fiser, Class of 1957.

The Fiser family has a four generation relationship with MHS. Dave's father, L. C. "Lud" Fiser, a native of Mahaska and a K-State letterman in football, baseball and track, was the head football coach at MHS from 1942 to 1945. His 1943 team was undefeated and untied and his 1944 team lost only one game, winning the Central Kansas League championship a second straight time. Dave and his five sisters all graduated from MHS. They are Ruth Goheen Booth ('60) of Lenexa; Sara Duncan ('64), Bettendorf, IA; Martha Seaton ('66), Manhattan; Barbara Ruliffson ('68), Manhattan; Carol Cannon ('72), Plano, TX; & Karen Turner ('74), Atlanta. The Fiser legacy at MHS continued with Dave's three children graduating from MHS; Mike ('80); Doug ('82) and Elizabeth Gaume ('92). And the fourth generation is just around the corner with grandson, Chad, entering as a freshman this fall. Molly is a 6th grader; Madison a third grader and Anna is in kindergarten.

Dave has been the main force behind the MHSAA since its inception. He is the president and oversees the board of directors meetings. Through his efforts, we have an alumni center and museum with numerous memorabilia in Room 110 at the MHS East Campus (9th grade center) located at 9th & Poyntz.

The leadership in the MHSAA is typical of Dave. At MHS he lettered in football, basketball and tennis. At K-State, Dave lettered in baseball and was president of the Interfraternity Council. He then served two years of active duty in the U.S. Army and nearly three decades in the Army Reserves, retiring with the rank of full Colonel.

His numerous leadership roles in Manhattan have been varied, and include eight years as a member of the Manhattan board of education where he served 2 years as president; eight years on the Manhattan city commission, where he was mayor twice; chairman of the Manhattan United Way; president of the Manhattan Country Club twice. He was selected "Citizen of the Year" by the Manhattan Chamber of Commerce in 1991. He later served as chairman of the Chamber, an organization for which his father Lud served as the chief executive officer for

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Wall of Fame 2007

by Dan Hall

Wall of Fame Trivia

1. The first MHSAA Wall of Fame ceremony included the following Honorees:

- Fred A Seaton Class of 1927
- Harold Robinson Class of 1948
- Roger Reitz Class of 1951
- Gary Spani Class of 1974
- All of the above

1. The second MHSAA Wall of Fame ceremony included the following Honorees:

- Del Close Class of 1952
- Inger Stensland Class of 1952
- Bill Buzenberg Class of 1964
- Deb Richard Class of 1981
- All of the above

4. The first MHSAA Wall of Fame ceremony was held in 2007. The second was in 2008. When will we honor the third Wall of Fame class?

- Tomorrow
- The next day
- Next week
- Whenever
- Winter of 2009

3. What career was the path for two MHSAA Wall of Fame Honorees?

- Sumo wrestling
- Arm wrestling
- Politics
- Journalism
- Entertainment

5. What well known entertainment personality represented one of the MHSAA Wall of Fame Honorees at the ceremony in January of this year?

- Pat Paulsen
- Red Skelton
- Bob Newhart
- Fred MacMurray
- Bill Murray

6. How can I nominate someone for the MHSAA Wall of Fame?

- Complete and return the form in this newsletter by August 1st
- Complete and return the form in this newsletter by August 1st
- Complete and return the form in this newsletter by August 1st
- Complete and return the form in this newsletter by August 1st
- All of the above

If you answered "e" on all of the questions, you are ready to proceed to the MHSAA Wall of Fame nomination form in this newsletter.

WALL OF FAME NOMINATIONS

To be nominated, a candidate must be an MHS graduate with distinguished



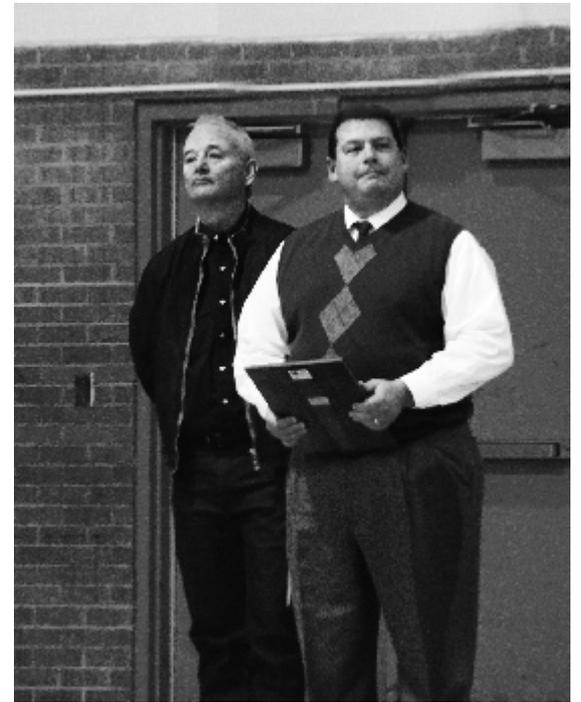
Bill Buzenberg '64 talks to MHS students in front of Wall of Fame Plaques at MHS West

service after life at Manhattan High School. When considering "distinguished service" in nominating candidates, the significant accomplishments and/or contributions to mankind shall have recognition beyond the local level (at state, national, or worldwide level). The field for distinguished service is wide open – academics, athletics, business/professional, military service, volunteer activities, personal, etc. All significant accomplishments and contributions in all areas of life are eligible for recognition. Age is not a consideration. The award can be presented posthumously.

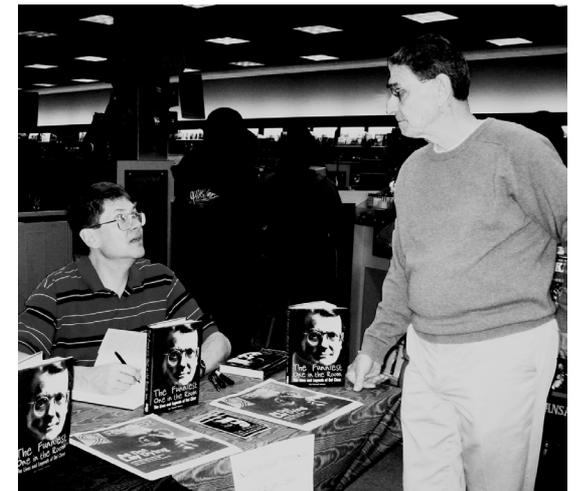
The Final Four. That's what the Wall of Fame Committee is charged with determining each year. Nomination forms will be reviewed by the MHSAA Wall of Fame Committee. Their recommendations for selection of Wall of Fame honorees will be forwarded to the MHSAA Board for approval.

Because of the increasing number of nominations, repeat nominations must be resubmitted. Those individuals not selected are filed away, and each new class of Wall of Fame Honorees is based on the current year's information. Repeat nominations are encouraged for consideration, but no individual nominations will be automatically carried forward to the next year. *Resubmittal* of the Wall of Fame Nomination Form and relevant information is *required*. So please keep a copy of the background information, articles, supporting documentation and other printed materials included with your nomination form.

The MHSAA Wall of Fame Committee appreciates your support and thanks you for remembering and recognizing your classmates. Public recognition of the Honorees will be given at a Manhattan High School basketball game.



Bill Murray awaits the honor of accepting the Wall of Fame plaque for his friend and mentor, Del Close MHS '52



Dean Taylor '52, MHSAA Reunions Co-Chair has authored Howard Johnson's biography of Del Close Photo by Dan Hall

WALL OF FAME cont. from page 1

of their personal experiences: at MHS, for Bill Buzenberg, of their relationships to their honored friends for the others. The transcript of Bill Murray's talk to the MHS students in the gym is on page 12 of this newspaper.

PRES. MESSAGE cont. from page 1

Alumni Center/Museum and constantly working on membership activities and events. Speaking of membership, we encourage you to invite members of your graduating class to join us as a member of our Manhattan Alumni Association team.

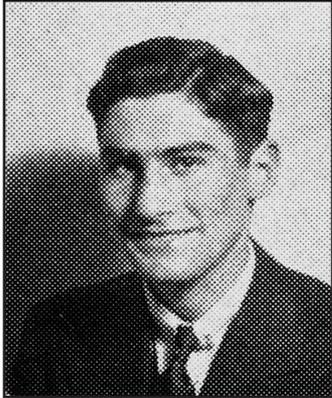
Finally please mark your calendars and plan to attend our Annual General Membership Meeting, Monday, September 15th in the Cafeteria on the Manhattan West Campus. The social hour will start at 6:00pm. with the General Meeting to follow at 7:00pm. I hope to see you then, but if not we will keep in touch with you and as always "Go Indians".

Dave Fiser '57, President MHSAA

Jack Goldstein

Gold Alum of '34

by Janet (Kriker) Duncan '58 & Joann (VanValkenburgh) Goldstein '58



Jack Goldstein, captain of his Lincoln, Nebraska High School debate team, thought he was only coming to Manhattan for the summer of 1933. His father, Samuel Goldstein, was using his last dollars to try a new plan to make some money: buying cattle hides and pelts in small towns and then selling them in Kansas City. Jack planned to go back to Lincoln in time for his Senior year, but his father needed him. They lived in the Baltimore Hotel at 2nd and Poyntz, and through sheer hard work got a business going, the Kansas Hide and Wool Company.

When he opened the office at 210 N. Third St. Samuel Goldstein told Jack, "Sit down, you're going to keep the books." Jack didn't mind. "I always was good with numbers," he said. Enrolling in Manhattan High School in the fall of '33, Jack studied with nearly perfect scholarship (at a time when he remembers, it was usually only the girls who made the perfect grades). He quickly made a name for himself on the MHS Debate team and was the school representative for Extemporaneous speech. Always with an avid interest in sports (born and raised in Lincoln, he loved football). Jack participated in Intramurals at MHS. After school, he worked. Graduating in 1934, he was disappointed to not have been in the National Honor Society, as all his sisters were.

Jack looked at the 1934 *Blue M* showing he'd planned to become a lawyer. He'd enrolled in Kansas State after MHS but it wasn't to be. There was not enough money and Kansas Hide and Wool still needed him. Jack never shirked work or his duty. An Eagle Scout in Lincoln, Jack had planned to become a scout leader after high school, but that, too, was not possible when 24-hour working days were all too common. The Goldstein family finally joined the men in Manhattan when his younger sisters finished high school. ("I was the meat in the sandwich," Jack said, as the middle child and only boy.) All four

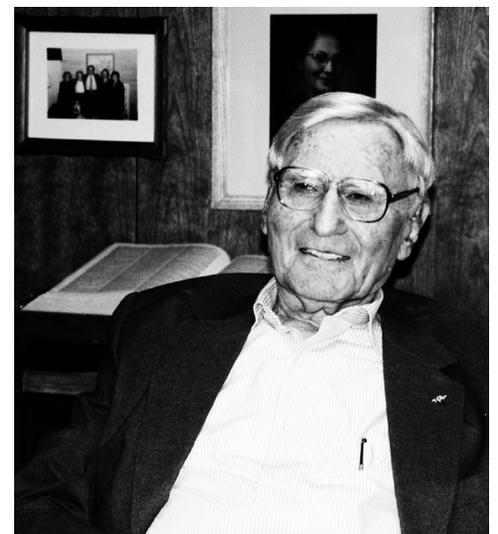
of Jack's sisters graduated from college.

World War II took Jack away from the business, and he was proud to serve his country. He remembers it clearly, listening to the radio with his draft notice in his hands when the bombing of Pearl Harbor was announced. He worked in Army air operations and ended the war trained in navigation for B-24 bombers. After the war, he resumed his position in Manhattan. A few years after that, Sam Goldstein was killed in one of the company trucks and Jack was suddenly in charge of the company. At that time they operated between five and ten trucks, "running all over", Jack said, "buying cattle hides from butcher shops." In winter, they'd buy fur pelts they'd sell in the big Kansas City markets. "It was a dirty, stinking business and it required a lot of labor," he explained. One day in the early 50s he was buying hides in Abilene when a welder asked if it was possible for him to bring back some pipe on his return trip. The spark was struck for what became Steel Pipe and Supply Company. "Steel is a nice clean business", Jack said. It was easier to find people to work and "all they needed was a pair of gloves."

Kansas Hide and Wool was eased out after Sam Goldstein died and today, Steel Pipe and Supply has many trucks under contract. They buy steel in bulk from mills, store it in their warehouses and then re-sell it in smaller quantities. Good management and efficiency are the keys Jack Goldstein recognizes for success. For many years the main warehouse remained on Third Street in Manhattan. When Steel Pipe was unable find a spot suitable to the City for a larger facility, they expanded regionally. Their warehouses are now in Houston, Tulsa, St. Louis, Omaha and Kansas City. The head offices remain in Manhattan, in the building Jack Goldstein built when the City needed investment in order to save the bonds for the Town Center Mall. Jack is an unabashed supporter of the City of Manhattan.

As the largest private company in the city, the Steel Pipe and Supply offices radiate the quiet energy of salesmen on the phone dealing in steel and rolling mills and moving products to customers. While Jack maintains control of the company stock, his employees also have a large share. Employees who work for Steel Pipe & Supply for at least ten years can take advantage of a company program which pays tuition for their children to attend Kansas State. Jack's a complete supporter of KSU, was even through the lean years of Wildcat football.

The list of Jack Goldstein's service to the City is long: on the Manhattan City Commission, President of the Manhattan Rotary Club, a founding board member for the Manhattan Retirement Foundation and President of the Manhattan Chamber of Commerce, Chairman of the Executive Board of the KSU Foundation, and a College of Business Administration Advisory Board member. He has served as President of the Association of the United States Army for Ft. Riley and has been honored as the Chamber of Commerce Outstanding Citizen of the Year. He received the KSU College of Business Administration Distinguished Service Award and was the recipient of the Meadowlark Hills Foundation's Manhattan Legacy Award. Always a strong supporter of the Military, his table full of medals mark the appreciation for his years of service in a variety of capacities. A steady supporter of the Arts, he has been a valued benefactor to the Library, is on the Board of the Beach Museum, and was one of the benefactors of the Johnny Kaw statue in City



Jack Goldstein in his office, May 2008

Park. He and his first wife Jean began to collect art in their early years, and Jack has continued this activity with Joann, whom he married after Jean's death. He and Joann have been married for 26 years. Childless himself, his charitable giving to Manhattan and Kansas State is legendary. He continues to enlarge the Jack Goldstein Manhattan Charitable Foundation which gives to groups in the city every year.

Jack Goldstein, in his 92nd year, still goes to his office every day. Picking up his stack of mail, he smoothly asked with the skill of the old MHS debater, "Are we finished with the past? I'd lots rather talk about the future."

Contributor's Corner

Nick

by Charley Kempthorne '55

I enrolled in printing class with the new printing teacher in the fall of 1951, just after the flood. The new equipment that replaced the flood-damaged stuff was barely uncrated. I remember gleaming steel "stones," the surfaces where we did the make-ready for the presses—and where we stood around and gassed and gossiped with one another. Sometimes. You can't have a printing class where everyone stands at attention and waits for someone to hand them a



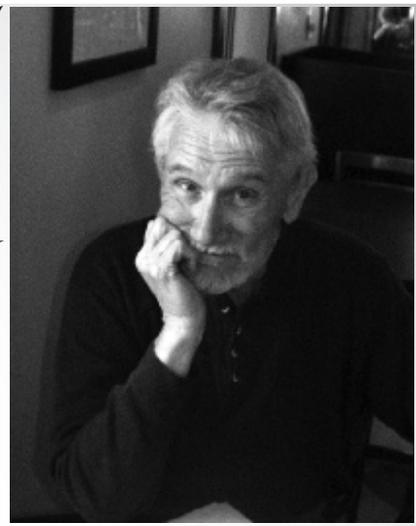
stick of type to distribute back into the cases. But Nick drew a line, and we rarely crossed it. Not that anyone wanted to, because we liked Nick. Printing wasn't a class for everybody. I don't think there were any girls who took it. Most of the guys who did take it were not big on sitting in academic

classes. There was the pie test. Girls (sorry, this was after women's suffrage but before Betty Friedan) were interested in pies, and they took home ec. Some academic boys and girls were interested in pi and they knew that it was 3.1416. Then there were the guys like me who knew that pi was a verb, as in to pi type, which was when you dropped a case or a stickful of type and made a mess of it. In printing class the instructor might chat a minute or two at the beginning but most of the time you worked. You set type, you put jobs on the press, you printed.

People think teachers know a lot and they impart this stuff they know about their subject, whatever it is, to their students. Well, yes, that happens—sometimes—but the best teachers are the kind that, whether they know a lot about their subject or not isn't really very important because what they "impart" is themselves. Such a man was Nick Talarico, who ran the printing program from 1951 on. Oh, he knew a lot about printing, his subject, he knew more than anybody in the room, no question. But what we all came to know was Nick's character and personality. Nick was real. He wasn't always polite. When he took you into his tiny office and closed the door and said, "Listen, Cowboy," you knew you were in for it. He was the first person ever to advise me to "straighten up and fly right."

Such teachers achieve a kind of

Charley
Kempthorne



'55

immortality—or at the least the reach of their lives extends beyond their time. Nicholas Talarico's time on earth was brief by today's standards: he died of a heart attack in 1969, a mere 52 years old. Born in Frontenac, Kansas in 1917, a veteran of World War II and a graduate of Pittsburg State College, he was 34 when he took over the print shop and the printing program at Manhattan Junior and Senior High School. When the Manhattan Vo-Tech School (now Manhattan Technical College) was founded in 1967, he became its first director.

Ironically he is not remembered there by anyone I could find. His portrait, which used to hang in the hallway, was nowhere to be seen. So I guess the lesson is, teachers are remembered, administrators are forgotten. So be it. Nick was maybe about 90% teacher, 10% administrator, but for sure a 100% fully rounded human being.

Charley Kempthorne was in the class of 1955 and lives in Manhattan. He is the author of a novel set in Manhattan, Gary's Luck.

PORTRAIT cont. from page 2

MHSAA Museum

Don Slater '57 Committee Chair

The following MHSAA Members have generously donated books by and about MHS Alums to enlarge our library. THANK YOU!

BILL JOHNSTON '52 & CHARLIE HOSTETLER '56 : *The Funniest One in the Room*, Kim "Howard" Johnson's new biography of MHS Wall of Fame's Del Close '52; and *Guru*, by Jeff Griggs another book about Del Close;

CHARLEY KEMPTHORNE '55: his autographed novel *Gary's Luck*;

JANET & PAT DUNCAN: *Salant, BS & the Battle for Broadcast Journalism* by Bill

and Susan Buzenberg; and *For All Time*, writing family history by Charley Kempthorne.

NAN (HEINTZELMAN) WELLS '58 and the Class of '58 have donated their four large books: "Celebration" 50 Year Reunion, which Nan made for the Class of '58's Reunion (complete with slide show on CD or DVD of the "50s as we knew them.") Their *50 Year Reunion Memory Book* by Kathy Pizar was also donated.

The *Gold M* published by the Class of '57 and donated by PAT DUNCAN '59, is a treasure of Manhattan in the 50s, as well as the 50 Year reunion book of the class of '57.

The reunion books of several other classes are also in the Alumni Center. These all give an opportunity for Alums to check on friends in classes other than their own. Be sure and visit the MHSAA Museum!

many years. Dave has served as a member of the board of directors for First Savings Bank of Manhattan and of the Trust Company of Manhattan. He was the Kansas Liaison Officer for the U.S. Military Academy at West Point.

For nearly 40 years Dave was employed by the Kansas Farm Bureau retiring six years ago as vice president and sales manager. During his tenure, Farm Bureau had one of the most aggressive insurance agency forces in Kansas.

Dave and his wife Kay remain active in the community. In addition to being President of MHSAA, Dave now is serving his second term as commander of the American Legion chapter. His mother, Vivian, still resides in Manhattan.

Numerous MHS graduates have been instrumental in forming our alumni association but without the efforts of Dave Fiser, our alumni association would not exist. He has been the George Washington of the MHSAA.

The History

The Mascot

by Janet (Krider) Duncan '58



Fig. 1



Fig. 2



Fig. 3



Fig. 4



Fig. 5

Through the early years of MHS, it appears there was no unified school rallying name, no mascot. The sports teams were known either as Jr Wildcats or simply 'The Blues'. The first Pep Club, formed in 1931, called themselves the Blue Dragons. "The Commentator," a columnist in *The Manhattan Mentor* (as the school paper was then known) wrote in the Oct 6th, 1939 issue, "The Pep Club lacks pep." The writer asked for a club whose members joined for more than social reasons and whose spirit would spread to the whole student body. To further this end, the unnamed Commentator proposed that the school adopt a new name; the schools sport teams should not be taken lightly, as in "Juniors," and "Blues was just plain weak...probably just some reporter's abbreviation of the former name of Blue Dragons." (More research is needed to be clear about this former name which now seemed only to apply to the Pep Club.)

How to increase school spirit became the charge and a better name for the sports teams seemed one good remedy. In December the basketball team opened the season as the Jr Wildcats with spiffy new uniforms of deep blue with red numerals and horizontal red and white strips on the shorts. Then in January, the M Club sponsored the selection of a new name. Fifteen possibilities were contributed by the students. From suggestions like Blue Devils, Bob Cats, Falcons, Blue Eagles, Buccaneers, Pirates, Hornets, Wolverines and Indians, the lettermen chose four finalists; the entire student body voted. By March 15, 1940, the MHS teams had become the "Indians."

Line drawings of a Chief and an Indian woman (Figure 1) graced the 1940 *Blue M* title page. Indian images immediately appeared in places that will be familiar to many MHSers: on the backs of the cheerleaders' uniforms, caricatures in *The Mentor* and the *Blue M*, in the center of the bass drum. The 1941 *Blue M* had an Indian in red outlined on a royal blue cover (Fig 2). The MHS Football coach, Frank Prentup, was of Native American ancestry, and he is believed to have donated the first Indian headdress to the school. Ralph Rogers, retired teacher/Administrator at MHS, said in an interview for *The Mentor* in 1992 that the selection of the

Indian as the mascot was to honor Prentup.

By the time the MHS West Campus was built in 1957, the Indian on the front of Student Handbooks had grown in sophistication (Figure 3.) Many MHS alums of those days remember the official school colors of blue and white used without the red accent. A headdress was worn, as seen in Fig 6, when the Drum Major and twirlers for the Marching Band decided on new Indian themed uniforms for their new school, new season. The band's popular War Chant had become a fixture at athletic events.

The Indian mosaic was installed in the floor at the entrance to the gym of the new MHS building and the tradition



Fig. 6 above:
1957-'58
Drum Major
with Indian
Headdress,
Joann Van
Valkenburgh
(Goldstein)
and twirlers
for the band.



Fig 7 left:
Indian Mosaic
(as restored by
the MSHSAA)

of "Don't Tread on Me" was begun. In the scheme of things, it was not to last long.

With the political and racial tumult of the late 60s, things took on a more intense flavor even at MHS. The mosaic Indian got a cordon to protect him from unwanted touches, a metal fence with spikey stanchions to guard him from rowdies – both theirs and ours. The *Mentor* (which had by then lost the "Manhattan" part of its earlier name) reported in 1972 that "traditionally the Indian (mosaic)

has stood for a scene of initiation for the sophomores by the upper classes," where the lowly ones were pushed onto it, made to shine it. But the first day of school in '72 found 1300 kids rushing an unprotected Icon: the fence had been removed during the summer because it was deemed an impending fire hazard. (Not to mention the danger of ripping clothing and bodies of students tossed across it.)

At games, strident cries like "Scalp the Indians" from opposing fans began to sound ugly and as early as 1972, the use of the Indian as mascot was apparently questioned by some. A tongue-in-cheek editorial in *The Mentor* suggested the school be represented by the "Glyptodont," an extinct armadillo-like animal the "size and shape of a VW Bug." This wasn't taken seriously at that time, but the scuffling around the Indian mosaic in the floor was. At a basketball game in 1973, a Junction City fan tried to spit on him and then-Principal James Rezac felt forced to move the mosaic to the north gym wall. There it stayed pristinely out of reach until—apparently—the space was needed for other plaques and the mosaic was moved to crumble in a closet for years until it was found and restored by the MHS Alumni Association in 2006 and now anchors the Wall of Fame.

By the late 70s, art teacher Brent Yancey, a card-carrying member of the Pottawattamie Tribe, was asked by MHS coach J.W. Emerson to design new uniforms for the football team. Yancey was happy to oblige, but he asked one favor. The uniforms were then blue and white. With his own Indian heritage, he knew there was one color always associated with Indians: could he add a small amount of red as an accent to the school's royal blue and white? He could and he did. Red – as was used for the Chief on the 1941 *Blue M* and the basketball uniforms of 1940.

By 1985, Yancey had been asked to design a new Indian for the Student Handbook (Fig. 5). Then in 1992, the entire mascot controversy was renewed. An Indian student from Haskell asked to speak to the MHS Student Council, class officers, and other selected school representatives about the offensive practice of using the Indian as a mascot. The *Mentor* featured two editorial opinions. Advocating

continued next page

of Manhattan High

The Last Class

by Pat Dougherty '57

The class of 1957 was the last to walk across the auditorium stage of the "old" high school at 10th and Poyntz. Rev. Paul Olson gave the invocation and closing benediction. Dr. Raymond Q. Brewster from K.U. gave the featured address, massaging our already abundant vanity and reminding us of our duties to posterity. We had two valedictorians that year, Gary Martin and Joann Scritchfield. Center stage, Herb Bishop, our venerable Principal, and Mrs. Carl Wilen, Board of Education president, handed out diplomas. The Rev. Samuel S. George had given a stirring address to the class at an earlier Baccalaureate service.

Class officers, Jim Howe, president; Dick Cunningham, VP; Judy Kuykendall, treasurer; and Christy Fitzgerald, secretary; successfully led the class of 172 individuals through the tranquil and happy waters of the 1956-57 school year. Everybody graduated.

The "new" high school was then in the process of completion way up at the western summit of Poyntz, right next to the south wall of Sunset Cemetery. The new school... a low one story air-conditioned building looking somewhat like an insurance office or perhaps a new and improved Manhattan Saving and Loan.... None of that last class much envied those future graduates who would miss the "ancient" tradition of marching, sweaty hands outstretched, to finally grasp their diploma center stage in our grand and cavernous auditorium. The Auditorium, connecting the old Jr. and Sr. High, let the massive three story limestone institution occupy the whole block from 9th to 10th streets, between Poyntz and Houston. That will forever be, for such as we, the "real" high school.

When fully opened, the Auditorium stage expanded to contain a full basketball court. For years it was the scene of regular junior and senior high basketball contests played before spectators that filled the same seats that provided the audience for innumerable school plays, assemblies and graduations. Gigantic windows ran from ceiling to floor along both sides of the lower level to provide lighting during the day, and a heavy smell combining the aroma of gym class, nervous students, and painted stage backdrops, furnished the permanent atmosphere. It was a smell as unique to that place as the smell of a train station or an old smokehouse is to those places. It could easily hold an audience of nearly 1000 attentive students or screaming fans on the main floor and spacious balcony. And, though there was not a bad seat in the house, the senior class, by tradition always got the center section, main floor, as their designated seats during assemblies. We

were the last class to hold that exalted and holy ground.

Born in the midst of the 20th century, a century consumed in the most destructive and deadliest wars known to mankind, this class slipped silently through the cracks, too late for the First or Second World Wars, or The Great Depression; we were born too soon, with a few exceptions, for the Korean war, and the endless line of limited wars that followed in tow. We served, for the most part, as civilians and peacetime soldiers, enjoying the glory and productiveness of our forebears in a time of the greatest freedom and prosperity ever known. This class was just lucky, very lucky. A fact unknown at the time and only fully appreciated much later when the scope of the century could finally be seen. Though not consciously, this class, probably as a result of just good fortune, was singularly unburdened with the heavy weight of envy. Undoubtedly petty jealousies were indulged when called for, but evidence of hard-core envy was strangely and happily absent. The absence of that bitter plague on human nature was probably the distinguishing mark of that class and to a large extent that generation. We would as a result be dubbed the "silent" generation by the succeeding, but less fortunate, "boomer" generation. It marks the class to this day.

Tradition back then dictated that the class take a "senior sneak," paint "57" on the water tower at Sunset Zoo and the "K" on Mount Prospect, now called, "K Hill," and hang colorful banners from the roof of the high school announcing the stunning fact of our graduation. Tom Dunn and sophomore Billy La Shell took care of the water tower and Ed Wimmer and friends painted a large blue "57" on the white "K," of "K Hill."

On the day of the sneak, large banners mysteriously appeared draped from the roof of the school, and the class divided up into smaller groups of close friends to skip classes. Some traveled as far as Kansas City for their sneak, while others stayed closer to home or ventured to near-by Lake Wabaunsee for an overnight of beer drinking and highjinks in the abandoned German P.O.W. barracks still in existence on the north side of the lake.

The heavy gray caps and gowns were returned to the rental company less the blue tassel removed from the cap. Those hung from the interior rear-view mirror of our cars all summer long, announcing, so we thought, that the driver had just graduated, a member of the Manhattan High School Class of 1957.



Fig. 8 The Warrior Indian
Blue M Photo 1983

MASCOT cont. from page 6

change of the mascot, Rob Lewis stated that White America had put the stereotypical Indian Warrior on the level of animals or inanimate objects and that times had changed and cultures didn't "melt" together anymore as they had in Coach Prentup's day. The case against changing was written by Aaron Otto, who argued the tradition of respect shown at MHS, which had already abandoned the use of a "live mascot" as they no longer used a person in a headdress or the war-like tomahawk chop (Fig 8). Eighty percent of the students voted to keep the Indian. (The Mentor's "Question of the Week" asked "What Mascot would you give MHS?" Among the answers were Hummingbirds, M&Ms, Bricks, Textbooks, Bulldogs, and Blue Dragons,

we might have come full circle to 1938 with that last one.)

Again in 1999, MHS was asked to change the Indian mascot after the Native American Student Body at Kansas State University invited a multicultural expert to talk on the negative stereotypical use of the American Indian. In 2001, after a lengthy community-wide discussion, the Board of Education voted to retain the Indian as a symbol of respect and as an opportunity to learn more about Native American culture.

Brent Yancey was again asked to design a new MHS Indian chief (Fig 6). To represent wisdom and experience, to be the opposite of what one letter writer in The Mentor during the '92 controversy had characterized as a "tomahawk-wielding, scalp-carrying savage in full war regalia," this is the MHS Indian Chief of today. He's come a long way. He is now a Tribal Elder with 68 years of history behind him.

MHSAA Events

Keith Eyestone '80, Committee Chair

The Spring Dance



Left: The oldest man and youngest woman MHSAA members attending the dance - John Kramer '38 and Julie (Benjamin) Klaas '81

Below: Events committee from left back

Doug Fiser '82, Jerry (Thrash) Ince '59, Gail Eyestone '74, Carita (Clark) Otts '55; front Keith Eyestone '80, Pat (Prockish) Petty '55



MHSAA members enjoy the dance

MHSAA Picnic in Keats Park June 27

As we go to press, the Events Committee are readying for MHSAA's Family Summer Picnic in the city park in Keats. Hot dogs, hamburgers, buns and drinks are furnished and it's potluck for the rest of what has traditionally been a delicious and abundant spread. We hope we saw you there!

MHSAA Membership

by Carita (Clark) Otts '55

Dues to increase

The Membership Committee recommended and the Board of Directors has approved an increase in MHSAA membership fees for 2009. Annual memberships will increase from \$10.00 per year to \$15.00. This change will become effective on September 1, 2008. Anyone joining from Sept. 1 through Dec. 31, will receive the balance of 2008 as well as the full year of 2009.

Lifetime membership fees will also increase. If you have been considering changing your annual membership to a lifetime membership, NOW would be the time to do that before the fee increases go into effect. Fees for a lifetime membership are going from the current fee of \$100.00 to \$150.00 for those under the age of 55, and increasing from \$50.00 to \$75.00 for those age 55 and older. Golden Alum lifetime memberships will remain at \$10.00.

Membership Directory

Enclosed in this issue of The Alumni Mentor is a Directory of all MHSAA members as of June 1, 2008. Please be sure to check your listing for errors and send any corrections or questions to: PatDuncan@aol.com OR

MHSAA
P.O. Box 1102
Manhattan, KS 66505-1102

Included in your directory is a Members-by-MHS-class listing for your convenience.

If each of our current members were to ask one classmate to join, we could easily double our membership. We need your help to get the word out about MHSAA.

In a joint meeting with representatives from the reunion committee held on March 22 many ideas were discussed pertaining to reaching more MHS alumni and increasing the membership of the MHS Alumni Association. The reunion committee will give information about the alumni association to all classes that are planning reunions this summer and fall. We would like to have a representative from membership visit with these classes either at their registration table or during one of their reunion gatherings.

Other ideas included placing our brochures in the Manhattan Public Library, Senior Center, City Parks & Recreation Office and the Historical Center. Another suggestion was to develop posters with our logo and place them in prominent locations to advertise upcoming alumni events.

New Golden Alums

The MHSAA Board of Directors has changed the qualifications to become a Gold Alum. MHS graduates are now eligible for Golden Alum Memberships when their graduating classes reach their 70th reunion year. We are pleased to welcome nine new Golden Alums from the Class of 1938.

Reunion Committee

Reunion Planning Time

by Dean Taylor '52

Considering the custom of holding a get-together of school classmates every five years, it's time for the Classes of whose years end in 4 and 9 to set a reunion date to let the Classmates put it on their calendar. Time for the Reunion committee to start planning where to go, to gather what to do, who is going to do it. Your MHSAA Reunion committee is here to assist you in any way necessary. The Manhattan Chamber of Commerce Convention and Visitors Bureau has a long list of things to do and see while in Manhattan (visit their site manhattancvb.org.)

On the MHSAA website the Class Contacts are listed for each class year. These are the folks the Reunion Committee will be contacting to offer assistance and get

information. Check it out. If there are errors or someone else to be contacted please let us know. Once you have the date set and other info for your reunion, put it on the MHSAA website for everyone to see (send it to MHSAAweb@aol.com.)

If you want to talk Reunions, need local information or need a local representative, or want to talk to those who have had really successful Reunions contact DEAN TAYLOR, Chairman, MHSAA Reunion Committee at tay7765@aol.com or CAM FELTNER, Co-Chairman at cfeltner@msn.com

Can the CVB assist you?

Good question! The Manhattan Convention & Visitors Bureau offers a wide range of services to reunion planners. The best part?

continued on page 11

Essayist Pat Dougherty '57

Changes Made & Not Made

At the turn of the last century young people had their heroes, though assuredly not a character acted out in Hollywood or managed skillfully in a televised "Town Meeting." They were closer to home. Perchance only a few feet away on the covered sidewalk on Poyntz, certainly no further away than the Pottawatomie County home of the Flush Picnic and world champion heavyweight pugilist, Jess Willard, "The Pottawatomie Giant." One look at the picture at right tells the story.

Life, work, family, heroes, everything for these two fellows, was close at hand, and more importantly, personally known to them. The pride and manliness shown in their expressions and bold crossed-arms stances express what the older can do, while the boy's expression and stance displays adoring imitation derived from great feats witnessed first hand. Their clothes look somewhat ragged and worn, worked in because they were, and maybe slept in, too. Moderns spend good money to buy brand-new clothes right off the hanger which feature the same grubby appearance, the fashion dictates of faraway and impersonal icons, certainly not necessity.

Time was, almost everyone in this part of the universe was a farmer. A few worked on the railroad and still fewer were shopkeepers or clerks. Generally, girls grew up and got married, took care of the home, gave the kids baths once a week, cooked on coal-fired stoves and dried the clothes outside on a clothes line, or they became ol' maids or taught school, or both. They all lived the lives and made the choices they had. To be sure, some with an ample supply of pluck did go on to be bankers, publishers, doctors, lawyers, and founders, in other universes, of great enterprises.

Kansas was born in the shadow of the Civil War and right on the cusp of the industrial millennium. It was rural and remained so until the time of the Second World War. Then the little airplane shops down in Wichita took in great sups of federal steroids and became the giant suns of that universe. Closer to home, Manhattan briefly tried to join the crowd with farm equipment at Viking Manufacturing, and little neighbor Wamego actually succeeded in joining the times with Balderson Manufacturing, making bulldozers for Caterpillar. Still, well into the 1940's and early 50's most in this universe were either first or second generation off-the-farm, and boasted standards, habits and memories of the yeomen freeholders so hoped for by Thomas Jefferson a hundred fifty years before.

When this picture was taken, some one-third to one-half of Manhattan youth did not attend school beyond the primary years. For most, their school days were over by age 14 or 15, the 9th grade. That's not to say they didn't get a good education in the basics; it was outstanding in many respects. Anyone reviewing handwritten letters or records this vintage can instantly recognize their composition and penmanship by its beauty and clarity.

What would the boy and the man in the picture have to say of the changing generations from their point of view, about one hundred years ago?

First off, they'd probably be somewhat perplexed with the whole idea of changing generations. "We're not horse flies," they'd say, "all born and dying every year." But, they'd probably agree that times change and with them, people, to some extent anyway. They'd tell us that their world seemed just a big as ours. When they were born everything except steam trains moved no faster than a horse could walk, but with pride they'd tell us that nearly everybody then could read and write and word got around pretty good. They learned by memorizing nearly everything, and with a combination of the McGuffey's Readers and constant recitation, they all did pretty well. By the sixth grade many in those days were ready to take on the world. At least they thought so, and indeed they did.

From Civil War times, tariffs had protected American



*Bakery & Restaurant on Poyntz Ave. in Manhattan, 1903
Photo courtesy: Riley County Historical Society.*

manufacturers and the man and boy would experience one miracle invention after another. Electricity lit up the night. We made our own, you know, up on the Blue at Rocky Ford. Steam heat from radiators warmed the whole thing up, day or night, fired by coal stored in the basement of the house. Trains roared daily up and down the Blue and Kaw valleys. Indoor plumbing changed life as much as anything. No more trips to the outhouse in the dead of winter. The town, everything, including people got a whole lot cleaner, and smelled much better. Highways were built and the Manhattan streets got paved with beautiful red bricks for the new Fords to run on, though not without a few problems. A prominent physician getting up in years, was going up the Stagg Hill highway and needed to get down into first gear for the pull at the top. He hit the wrong pedal on his new Ford, the middle one. They had three pedals on the floor back then; a brake, the clutch, and one the reverse gear. He got the reverse gear and shot off the road backwards to his death. Still, everybody wanted an automobile just like his.

Just imagine the amazement of our pictured fellows when during their lifetimes these new marvels expanded into homes with labor saving devices of all types, filled highways with sleek, fast new cars, gave wings to man, produced things called "cash crop farming," "penicillin," "two week summer vacations," and a century of world wars of unbelievable death and destruction dominated by movies and electronic news media.

These two would no doubt agree that these changing times effected changes in the men and women, too. The man and boy shown in the photograph are cocksure of better times to come. Their contemporaries were the legacy of an ever growing and improving 18th and 19th century country. They were a proud, self-reliant, ambitious, people. Little boys and girls dreamed of becoming manly men and feminine women. But, they, their sons and grandsons had yet to fight the great foreign wars made so supremely deadly by the same inventions they marveled and wondered at.

This man and boy would probably reject as ridiculous a contemporary photograph of a man in short pants, short sleeved knit shirt, wearing a baseball cap askew and white tennis shoes, thinking it a picture of a pudgy boy grown unfortunately fat and too old. Look closely at this old photograph. Do you think that for one moment these two gents would believe that all men, not to mention all men and women, were actually as a matter of fact equal? Would they ever accept for themselves a status of grandized and permanent childhood? Not on your life.

But, after living long lives and seeing for themselves the effects of loss of contact with the land, terrible wars, and the overwhelming power of a mass media, they might well understand the changes made and be forgiving of these superficial changes. They would probably acknowledge us to be much like themselves when it comes to instincts: The need to be liked and admired; the desire to be free and independent; and at the very same time an inclination to be easily frightened; and to live off of the sweat of another man's brow if at all possible.

Superintendent's Advisory Committee

by Janet Duncan, MHSAA Liaison

\$97.5 million Bond issue

Most of this semester's Committee discussions concerned USD 383's Facilities Master Plan for a District Bond issue in November although "teacher attraction and retention" was discussed during one session.

After much detailed work, the Board of Education reduced the total cost of their first comprehensive plan from approximately \$129 million to \$97.5 million. The plan, which covers all District schools, will go to the voters in the November elections.

The two driving issues for this Plan are the need to "fix things up" at MHS West and to provide for Manhattan's growing elementary age population.

The two campuses of MHS will receive half of the money under this Bond proposal. At the West campus, many building components are 50 years old and need to be replaced. A very partial list includes windows with inefficient single glazing; heating and plumbing systems in need of replacements (current MHS students tell visitors which bathrooms NOT to use as they are "the nasty ones"): leaking roofs; partial friable asbestos removal; and improvements to the cafeteria, the security system, lighting, fire alarms, and the technology infrastructure. Classroom space for 300 more students would be added to the south side of the existing gym. Bishop Stadium would get new toilet rooms and showers. At MHS East, the 9th Grade Center, building security, and repairs and replacements for efficiency are a few examples of work needed.

Population projections for Manhattan show the largest increases will be for younger children. While no single new school is planned, the District's existing elementary schools would be enlarged where physical growth is logical. Rather than the relatively equal-in-size schools Manhattan has had, there would then be five large schools with a 472 student capacity (Marlatt, Northview, Lee, Bergman, and Amanda Arnold) and four small ones with a 242 student capacity (Bluemont, Woodrow Wilson, Theodore Roosevelt, and Ogden.) Eugene Field is now the Head Start Center. The facilities within the large and small schools would be kept equal. All mobile units that the District has used for so long and that carry inherent security risks would be retired as classrooms but used for other purposes.

The Board considers all items in this plan to be "can't wait" security and maintenance improvements.

The community discussions have been lively, with several areas of disagreement with the division of resources chosen by the Board. (The following order of questions and answers does not reflect any relative importance or agreement or disagreement.)

Q: How much would it take to just build a new high school?

A: A new high school building, on a site with at least 80 acres of land, which wouldn't include new athletic fields, would require an estimated \$80 million (a detailed plan is available).

Q: Why are we spending over \$40 million to fix the long-neglected MHS West building, that sits on only 23 acres, when for just twice that we'd have a completely new high school?

A: The \$80 million only includes the cost of the new, but does not cover dealing with the current MHS West campus – either razing it or mothballing it, both of which are expensive. The structure of MHS West is still good and safe. It's here, it's paid for, it has a good location. The Board does not believe Manhattan is ready yet to become a two-high-school town. There is administrative economy in one larger school vs two smaller ones and there is more opportunity for a wider curriculum. The city's population growth now is driven largely by Ft. Riley and this is manifested in the elementary school years. The Board can begin to save today for land for the future when secondary student growth will support two high schools. Even then, whether sooner or later, the Board sees the MHS West Campus as a part of that situation, and it will be imperative that this MHS West Campus be one Manhattan students will as proud to go to as a new facility.

Q: Why has no maintenance been done in so many areas of MHS West for 50 years?

A.: During the years of declining enrollment (after the loss of the First Division at Ft. Riley) the subsequent contraction of State Aid meant nothing was done. State law regulates how much can be spent for Capital Outlay, which includes not only the large-ticket items like roof and window replacements but also buses, furniture, all equipment and computers. In short, at \$59 per pupil C.I.P., and the restrictions by the State of the local levy to 5 ½ mils, there was not enough money to buy computers and to fix plumbing, replace roofs, inefficient boilers, and single glazed windows. It has been 17 years since Manhattan has asked for a school bond (for the two middle schools and the MHS East Campus). This plan will make maximum use of current buildings and increase the capacity of MHS West to 1540 students from its current 1240 (which is already 100 over its rated capacity). When a second high school is built, MHS will need to be an equal to it, a school that all will be proud to send their children to.

Q: How would we maintain the integrity of the educational experience during construction?

Several teachers spoke to this topic,

feeling uncomfortable with what to expect and remembering the East Campus renovations when some classes were held in other buildings, and previous West Campus work when unexpected things were found such as mold and asbestos.

A: We have experience. Wamego High School, also a renovation-enlargement, was recently completed by the same architectural firm using "phased construction," where only one area at a time is remodeled so the other areas are still usable and kept enticing.

After the many questions and expressions of concern in this area, the Board scheduled a meeting with the Faculty and Staff at MHS West to discuss plans for proceeding under construction.

Q: Why has the once-planned cafeteria expansion at MHS West been cut in this plan? It is intolerable now that MHS operates an open lunch hour where 80% of the students leave every day and try to get back to class in 40 minutes. It's not safe. It's a health and maintenance disaster because the kids eat – and spill – everywhere.

A: The Board admitted that this was a difficult cut and later reinstated some of the original proposal for the Cafeteria improvement.

MHS Reunions

The classes of 1938, 1943, 1948, 1958 and 1998 held their reunions before press time.

July 25-26 = Class of 1968 40th-year reunion. Contact Barbara (Fiser) Ruliffson (mruliffson@fhrd.net) or Shirly (Lesline) Kleiner (skleiner@jccc.edu) for information.

August 2-3 = Class of 1978 reunion. The headquarters will be the Holiday Inn at 17th & Anderson. Please contact: Vickie (Stamper) Riniker 785-537-9467 (rhino@kansas.net)

Sept. 12-13 = Class of 1988 reunion. Visit www.mhsclassof1988.com for information and schedule. Contact Jason Smith (jason@lcyard.kscoxmail.com) or Gretchen (Ekart) Dall (gretchenevieve@hotmail.com).

October 10-12 = Class of 1953 reunion. Contact J. C. Currie or Barb Hartley

Class of 1993 is discussing a possible 15 year reunion in the summer 2008. Contact Aaron Otto (ottomatic@hotmail.com) or check class website: www2.kumc.edu/graphics/mhs1993

Class of 1963 may be planning a reunion in Colorado. Contact Jackie (Downie) Lundberg at 785-537-1654 or e-mail lundberg@ksu.edu

Class of 1983 is planning a reunion for the Fall of 2008. The Class representative is Greg Hoyt (gregh@manhattan.k12.KS.us).

Class of 1970 is planning to get together every year. See website for details: www.mhs70.org

The USD 383 Foundation

The USD 383 Foundation is working on an exciting new program to encourage student art in the District: a showcase for youth art to be held February 4-7, 2009 at the Beach Museum. Although not all the details are completed, the planning stages include a local guest artist-in-residence and possibly a donated piece for sale to support the fund raising effort. The program could include special teaching in the schools by the artist, together with discussions of art as a career.

Around 100 pieces of art will be accepted for showing through a juried process, with up to 50 pieces from the elementary schools and the balance from the middle school and high school level. Only the high school artists will be allowed to submit three dimensional works. There will be cash prizes for the winner in each group and a larger prize for best of show. Every artist will receive a participation gift.

Public viewing will be Feb. 4th through the 7th, with a special reception for the student creators and their parents planned for Friday, Feb. 6. A Gala evening on Saturday Feb. 7th will be the primary fund raising effort, through ticket sales as well as the sale of the art as a silent auction. A minimum of \$10 will be set for bids for elementary school art, with all proceeds to go the Foundation to secure the program for the next year. The minimum bid on secondary art will be \$50, with the first \$50 of the final price going to the student artist and the balance to the Foundation.

Approximately half the amount raised will go to active art programs in the schools with the balance remaining in the Foundation for its continuing purposes.

REUNION COMM. cont from Page 8

Everything is complimentary! The Convention and Visitors Bureau provides printed name tags, welcome packets and a variety of other promotional materials for your reunion. The CVB can arrange a guided tour of Manhattan, set up special tours of local attractions as well as coordinate transportation for off-site events for the attendees. (There is a slight fee to cover the cost of transportation.) The CVB will make arrangements for a city official or local dignitary to officially welcome your group to Manhattan, coordinate an official posting of the colors or provide for entertainment.

The CVB is delighted to assist with your class reunion planning. Call us for plans, meeting options, tour ideas.

If you are a member of the reunion committee that is planning to meet in Manhattan and you would like to discuss the CVB Services that are available, please call the Convention and Visitors Bureau at 785-776-8829.

Visit us at www.manhattancvb.org.

GO INDIANS

MHS Today

by Barbara (MacFarlane) Howe '58

Compiled from
the mentor
spring issues 2008

THESPIANS TO STATE CONFERENCE

The MHS Thespians of Troupe 941 attended the Thespian State Conference in Wichita. The Thespian Conference is where every thespian troupe in the state meets to take classes, compete in events and watch a main stage show every night.

SIX JOURNALISM STUDENTS TO STATE

The Mentor and *Blue M* yearbook staff had the chance to compete in Emporia at the Kansas Scholastic Press Association regional journalism competition. Six students went to State in Lawrence the first weekend in May. This year, seniors Matt Mays (Newspaper Sports Writing), Sam El-Hamoudeh (Editorial Cartoon), and Corrie Jo Lundberg (Yearbook Copy Writing) earned 2nd place and two honorable mentions, respectively.

MR. MHS

An annual event at Manhattan High School where junior and senior boys show off their talents as well as school pride, the contestants compete in several areas including evening wear, talent, and swimsuits. This year's panel of judges consisted of local scout masters. Hazen Short won the title of Mr. MHS 2008.

FORENSICS WINS STATE

The forensics season may only be nine weeks long, but the MHS forensics team makes the best of it. Forensics is divided into two main categories: drama and speaking. In the speaking division, there are International Extemporaneous Speaking and Domestic Speaking, where the competitor is given a topic and information and then gives a speech. In drama, there are Humorous or Dramatic Monologues, which are performed alone; Duos, which are performed in pairs; and Oral Interpretation of Literature, aka OIL, where the competitor must read a story, called prose, or poetry. Thirteen people went to State and the team won the state title, beating Washburn Rural by 35 points. Nationals are June 16-23 in Las Vegas.

FRENCH SINGER AT MHS

French Singer Claudia Hommel came to MHS in late March to perform and coach masters classes for many different students.

MHS NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY

Manhattan High School inducted two new members in a ceremony in April: junior Jonathan Hoozenboom and sophomore Hera Wu.

WINTER SPORTS

Wrestling – Placed 3rd at the Newton Tournament. The teams biggest strength was their senior leadership.

Girls' Bowling – The most exciting

moment was getting the highest team score of 1,806. The team had great enthusiasm and a positive attitude.

Boys' Bowling – Best team score of 2,292. The team has youth and depth to take to their next season.

Girls' Basketball – One of the most exciting moments was beating Shawnee Heights because they were a ranked team. The biggest strength is quickness.

Boys' Basketball – Won two tournaments and were the only team to beat Topeka and Hayden. The team has great chemistry.

Boy's Swimming & Diving – The team was swimming well at the end of the season. Sprint and distance freestylers are the biggest strengths.

SPRING SPORTS

Boys' Track – Winning league for the first time in 31 years was our biggest accomplishment this season.

Girls' Track – Placed 3rd in league and 4th at the Seaman Relays.

Boys' Golf – Won the second Hutchinson Invitational.

Girls' Swimming – Won the Centennial League Championship

Girls' Soccer – The win-loss record this year is 9-7.

Baseball – The biggest accomplishment this year was sweeping Washburn Rural.

Boys' Tennis – Gabe Nagy placed 6th at State and the team took 10th overall. Also placed 3rd at league and second at regionals.

Softball – Competed well against very good strong teams such as Great Bend, Seaman, and Shawnee Heights.

Thank You!

TO: Art Hobson '52, Pat Dougherty '57, Morrie Johnson '38, and Sallie Wilson for individual monetary contributions to MHSAA. Sallie Wilson's was in memory of Margaret Vanderlip '39.

TO: The USD 383 Foundation which has again donated to MHSAA to help defray printing costs of The Alumni Mentor. It is greatly appreciated.

TO: Louise Boles (Mrs. Bob Boles,) JoAnn (Harjung) Edwards '41, Patty (Keck) Schrader '49, & Glenda (Moore) Yocom '58 for their donations of Blue Ms from the 20s, 30s, 40s, 50s and 60s, as well as photos and other memorabilia.

TO: Jan (Carlson) Journey and the Class of '57 for a '50s Reunion Decoration Kit, which may be checked out for Class Reunions

Bill Murray at MHS for Del Close, MHS '52

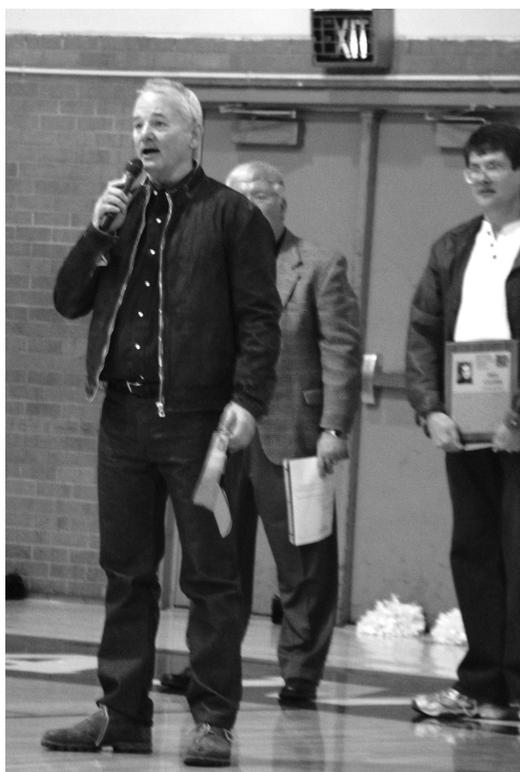
Text of Murray's speech to students & fans
January 4, 2008



“I just think it’s better, better to be out from underneath the basket - where I can score. Ahh, I’ve thought a lot about what I’m going to say this evening, and why I’m here in the first place. I realized that while listening to the (bios) there’s a pretty celebrated group of people who went onto this wall tonight. The Booz Hound over there [pointing to Bill Buzenberg,] Inger Stevens among them. I thought about it. I came to Manhattan, I got myself a new brand new pair of Wranglers today; I bought myself a shirt with Manhattan High School colors. Tonight I’m going to get into a hot bath and let these clothes shrink so they will fit my body.

“I thought about what it meant to come to a high school and, uh, like Booz said, four years is really too long. [Looking at Bill Buzenberg] I think that’s what you said isn’t it? And it’s really too long.

“I think the first thing I want to say is, ah, what Del Close did was, he worked with groups. He made a group better than it was. He made people that were individuals, work with groups. And high school is weird, it’s queer, because there’s all kinds of funny little groups. They don’t really necessarily work together. They’re sort of on their own. They’re separated; they’re intimidated, they’re wary of each other. But when you get together as a group, and you can work together, you can accomplish anything. Things you don’t even believe you can accomplish. Like for example: this score right here (points to score board). Now that Hayden team is good. They’ve got a very high [cheers from Hayden] They’ve got a very high.... That’s more like it. [cheers] They’ve got a very high, they have a high IQ, basketball IQ, they’re a very good team. But there is no reason why all of you (to MHS crowd) could have not have scared the heck out of them and won this game for your team tonight. [cheers] OK. I fully, I expect you to do that in the second game tonight. You scare the heck out of them. [more cheers]



Bill Murray & Howard Johnson (with Del Close plaque). Dave Fiser stands behind.

“But more about high school and life things: one thing I’ve learned is that, there’re certain people that, that peak in high school. There’re people that peak in high school, and the people who are these honorees tonight are not the people that peaked in high school. They’re people that peaked later on in life. Now how does that happen? How can someone who wasn’t the coolest guy in the school, like I am sure Del Close wasn’t – I am sure he wasn’t the coolest guy in the school – how could he have gone on to be an internationally famous director of theater? Coming out of this, this room right here.

“It didn’t happen here. It happened – somehow, what he leaned here, he took and he planted and it grew. He made it more – right? Now, one thing about, about how that happened – I think that I believe – and I am not speaking

for myself, I’m speaking as if Del is asking me to do something for him. You’ve heard his history and can sort of find out – and Howard’s written books about him (so) you can find out who Del Close was. But I know that one thing he taught me was, there’s a way to treat people, and as I’ve grown older, and become aware, a little bit more aware, I realize it’s, it’s called being Cool. And when I was in high school, being cool was a comparative thing: it was like, he’s cool, she’s not as cool, or he’s cooler than she is, or she’s cooler than he is. But it’s not that at all. It’s not who’s the president; it’s not whose the star player. It’s who treats people well. Who treats people with respect no matter what their status is. [clapping and cheering]

“You’re going to find as you leave here, you’re gonna find in five years – you’re all gonna find in five years – that the people that you’re friendly with in high school aren’t the ones necessarily that you rolled with in high school. They’re gonna be people that always were cool, never like, left themselves. Never were not aware of who they were, but people that were present all the time and looked you in the eye, and spoke directly to you. And they’re going to be that way as they grow. They’re going to be that way.

“They called that being a gentleman when I was a boy. I didn’t understand what it was. Robert E. Lee wrote a very interesting definition of a gentleman. It’s about this long. [spreads hands] It’s one of the reasons Robert E. Lee’s famous today, because he knew how to treat people. But my mother gave me a definition that was much shorter and just as good as General Lee’s. She said a gentleman’s someone who never makes someone feel uncomfortable. And that goes for a lady as well: a lady is someone who never makes someone feel uncomfortable.

“If you can keep that inside of you, in your life, that’s Cool. That’s not how you dress, that’s not the music you listen to, that’s not where you live or what you drive: that’s who you are. That’s how you treat people. That’s what Del Close was. That’s why I am here tonight.

“The reason I am here tonight, is, that; and that Del Close was very proud to say, always very proud to say, that he was from Manhattan, KS. (Wild cheering and clapping) GO TRIBE! GO TRIBE! GO TRIBE!”

Transcribed by Judy (Burnett) Goodson '58



Murray signs autographs for fans