



Blue Mountain Academy COMMUNIQUE

MAY 2009

Leaving a Legacy

Have you ever wondered why Jesus charged Christians with sharing the gospel with all nations, making disciples, and baptizing people in His name? Is it because He needs our help? Are we better at some forms of communication or ministry than He is? God needing our help—that’s a perplexing thought, isn’t it?

The extent of a leader’s success is often measured by the longevity of the organization, business, or group after he or she is gone. By these standards, Jesus would be classified as a tremendous leader. He took ordinary people and transformed them into extraordinary gospel workers by combining instruction with experiential learning.

Have we followed His model? Are we seeking the potential leadership in others in order to leave our church and world in a better condition for eternity? For most of their lives, our young people have heard a lot about the great commission. Isn’t it time for them to experience it? If the Creator knows that the best way to reach a fallen world is by employing fallen ministers, then who are we to tell our young people they are too young to minister. Someone who is old enough to drive, vote, and join the military is old enough to minister. Here at Blue Mountain Academy (BMA), we give our students the tools to go out and be fearless witnesses for Christ.



Rob Gettys
Principal

NEWS

Students Pledge to Lead

During BMA’s leadership weekend, 48 students gathered at Laurel Lake Camp in Rossiter, Pa., for a spiritual retreat and were challenged to positively influence their classmates. At the end of the weekend, each student, including senior Tauana Santos (right), signed a commitment to rise above mediocrity and pursue excellence and Christ-like leadership.



Students Help With Annual Fund Drive

Cory Burnette (’12) was one of 19 students who volunteered his Sunday to call alumni and friends for support of BMA’s Annual Fund. As always, alumni showed their support by contributing to the \$60,000 goal.



Aerial Aires Bring Energy to Basketball



Under the direction of coach Carlyle Ingersoll, the Aerial Aires gymnastics team brought energy and support to a recent basketball game.

School Broadcasts Events Over Internet

BMA has added live streaming videos to its website for parents and friends who are unable to attend school events. Recent broadcasts include the *Canticle of Christmas* and the La Sonnette Ensemble and Concert Band programs. To view these programs and more, visit bma.us and click on the BMA TV link. The site is updated regularly!



Ricky Morgan (’09) and Julius Daniels (right), computer technology instructor, facilitate the streaming audio.

Students Take Mission Trip to York Springs Church

Senior Abby Hartwell's dream of going on a BMA-sponsored mission trip in Pennsylvania recently came true when she was among 16 students who volunteered at the York Springs church. Under the leadership of BMA chaplain David Ferguson, volunteers painted the kitchen/fellowship hall, and cleaned the sanctuary, classrooms, and bathrooms. In just two days, they provided more than 192 volunteer hours.

On Sabbath the students led the worship service at York Springs church through preaching, singing, and telling the children's story. The group also sang at a local nursing home.

It is not uncommon for BMA students to find opportunities to develop their passion for helping others. Many groups serve the community on scheduled service days, as well as on out-of-country mission trips. To suggest a local project for consideration, contact Ferguson at davidf@bma.us.



Abby Hartwell ('09) fulfills a dream of being a missionary in Pennsylvania as she paints the York Springs church.

Physics Students Experiment With Balloons and Cameras

Senior physics and photography students recently embarked on a mission to discover what physics and photography have in common. The plan was to photograph a bursting balloon using a couple of cameras, a high-speed flash, a sound-activated relay, masking tape, duct tape, a bunch of balloons, projectile launchers, four physics students, and five photography students.

Nothing happens instantly, but it doesn't take long for a balloon to burst (left) when it is hit with a fast-moving projectile. Balloons were taped to a board to hold them in place. Physics professor Cary Corbin lined up the projectile launcher to hit the spot on the target balloon. Esther Peter killed the room lights, Jake Benson activated the sound relay, the camera shutters were opened (in the dark), and the projectile was launched. The sound of the launcher tripped the relay, the flash fired, and (most of the time) students were able to get a picture! The short

duration of the flash "froze" the action, and they could see events that happened in milliseconds.

Chuck Castle and Dan Wagner provided the digital cameras. Castle hooked up his camera to a laptop computer, so all could see the results immediately, and adjust the position of the flash trigger for the next shot.

Masking tape was used to control how the balloons burst. Jessica Cardenas even put tape *inside* one

balloon, preventing the back of the balloon from bursting.

Jaron Senecal and Ioana Danci placed tape in a spiral and captured the balloon tearing along the path of the tape. Students also placed tape completely around a balloon and fired to one side of the tape. This provided a picture of half a balloon exploding while the other half maintained its inflated shape.

Visit bma.us to see more physics projects.

—Cary Corbin



PHOTO BY CHUCK CASTLE

Want to get BMA News Fast?

We can email the *Communique* to you as soon as it is printed. Send your name and email address to Kathleen Sutton at kathys@bma.us. Also check our website for up-to-the-minute information, news, and happenings at bma.us.

Coming EVENTS

May

3-4 Academy Days

22-24 Graduation Weekend

For a more detailed schedule, see the online calendar at bma.us.

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