



Blue Mountain Academy

COMMUNIQUE

MAY 2010

Serving God in the Workplace

For the past 20 years, Pastor Duane Ferguson, Blue Mountain Academy's (BMA) guidance counselor, has organized a special career day where students have the opportunity to dialogue with professionals (pictured) from 12-15 careers. Each year students choose four career sessions allowing them to learn about 16 different careers over a four-year period. Presenters include community members, parents, BMA alumni and representatives from Seventh-day Adventist colleges and universities.



The general assembly keynote speaker, David Ferguson, undergraduate leadership development director at Andrews University (Mich.), stressed that Christian leadership empowers individuals to better serve God in any career.

I couldn't agree more. While the Seventh-day Adventist Church will always need traditional workers, such as pastors and evangelists, our church also needs Christian young men and women to serve God in the workplace. As Christian educators, it is our hope that someday, while using some of the educational and spiritual preparation gained here at BMA, our students may lead others to a personal walk with God.



Craig Ziesmer
Principal

Ping-Pong Experiment Encourages Scientific Curiosity

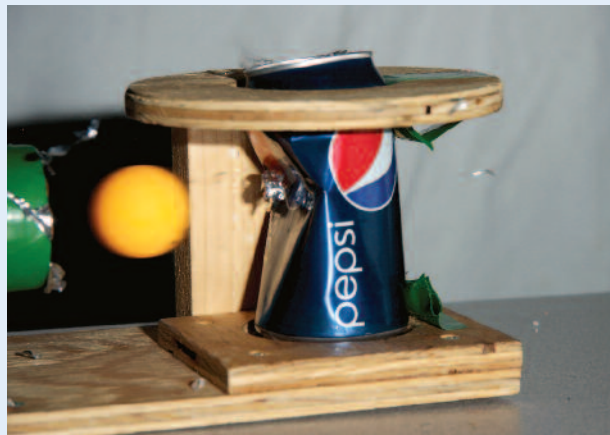
In keeping with BMA's commitment to excellence in science education, the school recently hosted a demonstration to prove the power of shock waves. The demonstration took place during the Pennsylvania Conference Youth Ministries youth rally. Presenters included Ben Roy of Science Zone and his sidekick, Tim Carterman.

Science and math teachers Cary Corbin and Solomon Lazar, along with Lazar's daughter, Elga, and vice principal Charles Castle, were only too willing to capture this feat using a digital camera, computer and secondary strobe flash.

Audience members watched closely as Roy and Carterman assembled a Ping-Pong cannon using a 10-foot section of PVC pipe. Roy inserted the Ping-Pong ball into the pipe and sealed the ends with a thin polymer membrane. He then evacuated the pipe with a strong vacuum pump. He carefully aimed the pipe at a doomed soda can three inches away, then poked the membrane on the "trigger" end with scissors. The inrush of air launched the Ping-Pong ball at high velocity into the can, causing a loud bang.

"We proved the theory that the can would be crushed by the shock wave of high speed air before the

ball strikes it," Corbin reports. "As you can see in the picture, the ball is nowhere near the can, but the can has begun to buckle."



Notice that the can is bent even though the ball has not come close. Evidence of the high-speed shock wave is given by the pieces of silver polymer membrane flying by the can. It is this shock wave that sounds like an explosion and triggers the flash.

NEWS

Alumnus Appointed to Key White House Post

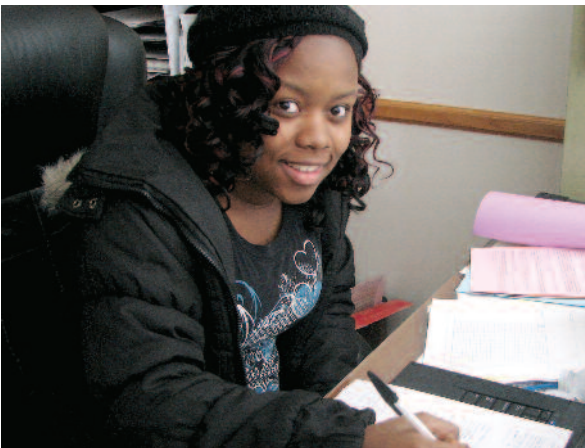
The United States Senate recently confirmed presidential appointee Orlan Johnson—a member of Allegheny East Conference’s



Capitol Hill church in Washington, D.C.—to a key White House post. Johnson, a BMA ('80) and Andrews University (Mich.) graduate, will chair the Board of Securities Investor Protection Corporation. —*Taashi Rowe*

Students Volunteer for Phonathon

JoAnna Fils-Aime ('11) was one of several students who volunteered more than 100 hours during BMA’s annual phonathon. Their efforts raised funds to support the school’s \$60,000 Annual Fund goal. Fils-Aime manned the phones for more than five hours.



Juniors Honored

BMA’s annual junior presentation weekend honored the Class of 2011. Paige Burnett and JoAnna Fils-Aime wrote and directed a play featuring classmates Kelsey Laue and Brittany Doyle (below) who took the role of Disney characters Fawn and Tiger Lily. After the play, the class presented their colors: black and platinum; aim: “One God, One Aim, One Destiny”; and motto: “Separate Paths, Same Destination.”



Girls Start Book Club

Several girls at Blue Mountain Academy recently started a Christian book club. Diana Cordero ('11) leads the group and Kathleen Sutton, director of

Book club members (left to right) Jevoni McAllister, Brenda Nyakanga, Brittany Ellis, Kaila Behrle, Diana Spencer, Paige Burnett, Diana Cordero and Kelsey Laue enjoy reading Christian books. Not pictured are Emily Schmidt and Olivia Murray.

Advancement, sponsors them. The students meet monthly to not only discuss the chosen book, but to learn about each other, God and themselves.

“It’s inspiring,” says club member Brenda Nyakanga ('11). “I get to look at myself as a different person, a *better* person.”

They are currently reading *Captivating: Unveiling the Mystery of a Woman’s Soul*, by Stasi and John Eldredge. They are also planning to start additional groups next school year.—*Paige Burnett ('11)*

Want to get BMA News Fast?

For a detailed schedule and up-to-the-minute information on news and happenings, check out the BMA calendar online at bma.us.

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