

# District Digest

A LOOK AT WHAT'S HAPPENING IN MADEIRA CITY SCHOOLS

[www.madeiracityschools.org](http://www.madeiracityschools.org)

A Special Issue Dedicated to the Class of 2002

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985-6070  
FAX 985-6072

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Paige Strohmaier • Marci Strotman • Jennifer Tissot  
Andrew Tohline • Richard Tolson • Stephen Tudor  
Susan Tuke • Grant Turck • Eric VanSchaik • Michael Wagner  
Katrina Waldleitner • Susan Weisbrod • Ross Wittenberg  
Patrick Wood • Joshua Yothment • Ariel Zelazny



## A Baccalaureate Message by Mary Rutledge

"I am deeply honored to have been asked to speak here tonight. I have had the unique experience of being your teacher, your sports fan, your theater patron, your chess coach, your art connoisseur and even your parent. From this vantage point, I was able to see you as no other person did. There is much I want to share with you, but my words tend to be simple, and I'm not able to express what is in my heart so I have chosen to borrow words from those who can.

Vince Lombardi said, "It is time for us all to cheer for the doer, the achiever, the one who recognizes the challenge and does something about it." The first time I spoke to you in this auditorium, it was to tell you that you had mighty big shoes to fill. The seniors who had graduated had accomplished many outstanding things in Academics, The Arts, Community Service and Athletics. You would be expected to do the same. Bishop Gore said, "Exceed expectation..." and you did. You were able to fill the shoes left to you and then some!

Bishop Gore also said, "...do ordinary things extraordinarily well." It is the ordinary things I would like to share with you - for that's what I feel makes each of you so special.

Ghandi said, "Live as if you were to die tomorrow." Pat Wood had it right, and he lived his life in just that way. He did not dwell on what could not be, but on what he wanted his life to be. His courage and dignity will always inspire me. For those of you who have kept his memory alive and have taken care of his mother, I borrow the words of Henry David Thoreau who said, "To enhance the quality of the day ... that is the highest of the arts." I am so proud of what you have done for Pat and his family.

For those of you that have struggled at some time over the years here, Emerson would tell you, "For everything you have missed, you have gained something else." One of you came to speak to our 7th graders about the struggles and mistakes they had made throughout their high school years. Your straightforwardness and your honesty were a gift to those students, and you made a difference in their lives and in mine. One of you watches as your mother battles cancer, and I marvel at your inner strength. You are wise and caring beyond your years. One of you has made every single practice, worked hard in the off season and gone the extra mile but did not get much playing time. Your perseverance and persistence will serve you well in the real world. One of you studied just as hard or harder than other students but your grade was not what you wanted it to be. Your ability to stay focused and determined despite the outcome is an important life lesson. There is a Persian Proverb that says, "Do the little things well now. In time, great things will be presented to you, waiting to be done."

I find the strength of your character astonishing. How does one stand on a free throw line with the fate of the season riding on his or her shoulders and do it with such poise and self-confidence? How does one create an interesting, understandable yet challenging portfolio problem when he or she could have gotten by with less? How does one do the right thing when there is such pressure to do the wrong thing? How does one go hungry, smelling food but not eating so that the right spots on the team are filled? How does one have the determination to practice for hours so that we can hear Chuck Mangione's "Feels So Good"? How does one set the goal of state champion and then become one? I think Moliere had it right when he said, "The greater the obstacle, the more glory in overcoming it."

Rudyard Kipling said, "What you do when you don't have to, determines what you will be when you can no longer help it."

- Loaning paper and pencil one more time to the kid next to you, they never seemed to have their own
- Celebrating someone's birthday or accomplishments with locker decorations
- Making sure that your fiends had a ride when they needed one despite the fact that they had a suspended license, a car in the repair shop or a broken leg

These are all simple acts of kindness that cost you very little but made a big difference to those who received them. Thank you for these and all other kindnesses you have shown to each other. Thank you for the kindness you have shown to me personally, for saying hello and not looking through me when we passed in the hallway or at the mall. For those of you who took the extra time to tell me how great OSU is, or that I smelled bad or to give me that over your shoulder smile - a special thanks. You always made my day.



I know that you are anxious to be done with this phase of your life and to get on to the next. Right now you are a mix of happy sentimentalist and obnoxious teenager, so listen to what Dwight D. Eisenhower had to say. "For any American who had the great and priceless privilege of being raised in a small town there always remains with him nostalgic memories. And the older he grows the more he senses what he owed to the simple honesty and neighborliness, the integrity that he saw all around him in those days." You have been raised in just such a small town, and you won't realize it until you share what has happened there with someone not from here. Your parents have sacrificed much for you in time, - countless hours on bleachers and fund raising, energy - the many Senior Treats and Senior Banquet and money - wow, a new bassoon! You have also had the opportunity to work with some of the most amazing teachers I have ever know. They have shared their love of their subjects and their love of learning with you. Take time to let both your parents and teachers know what they have meant to you.

I was here in the beginning of this Junior/Senior High School adventure and have had the pleasure of

- Watching you grow into truly incredible young adults
- Listening to your music - the choir, the band, your variety show performances, your car stereos
- Of seeing amazing talent displayed in your art work, your theater performances, your science fair projects
- Watching you triumphant in athletics

But, what I'll remember most of all, will be white board surfing in my room after school, the theme song to "Jurassic Park", a young man excited about "Queen Amy Money" and what he could buy, Louis and Whitey and a warm March afternoon on Fountain Square doing speed training.

I offer you this in closing from Green Day, "It's not a question but a lesson learned in time. It's something unpredictable, but in the end it's right ... I hope you have the time of your life."

**Mary Rutledge teaches Math to students in Seventh Grade and is an advisor for the chess team.**

## **To the Class of 2002 by Tim Viox**

"What have you done? Where are you going? Choices you have made, and are going to make. You decide your destiny, create an atmosphere of optimism. You have to live with the choices you have made and will have to live with the choices you will make. You must earn and deserve opportunity - what have you done and what are you going to do to create opportunities to reach goals. You have to release yourself of old habits. Let the things that have happened go - but learn from them. Do something better today than you did yesterday, the last hour, the last minute. What do you want, what are you willing to sacrifice to get it. Learn what is important. Avoid distractions, high school is a great learning environment but don't look back on it as what went wrong or where you did not fit in. But you had a great opportunity to not only learn what to do, but what not to do. Be patient, never give up, stay focused, like a river.

Success is not final, failure is not fatal - it is the courage to continue that counts. Your life is like a book - every day a page, every month or year a chapter. The clock must not tick fast for you, and you should not race it. Every second should be precious. Enjoy life! Educate yourselves, reduce prejudice. Take risks, but take calculated risks. Education is important but when I say education, I don't only mean book knowledge, but reflective and practical knowledge.

Do the right thing. If you have not in the past, you can't do a thing about what was done, but you can use that knowledge to become a better person. There are many challenges along the way - dream, go ahead, but set goals. Write them down and look at them every day - on the visor of your car, on the refrigerator, or by your bed. Before you fall asleep at night, ask yourself one question - whatever I did today - did it help me to reach my goals? If not, how can I change? Look at it in a positive way - find something that you did more toward your goal. Don't go to sleep with a negative, it does not do any good.

Have faith - it will happen. You have to believe. Faith is just belief without evidence. In the past you might not have really believed, but just dreamed - I want this or want to be that. Maintain hope in your dreams. It becomes a foundation, a quality for change. Your life is like a pyramid or a step ladder. Your goals are at the top and your choices continue to narrow as you get older. Sometimes you get stuck on a step and sometimes you fall down a rung or two, or

maybe the ladder even falls over. Just remember, **"Failure is an event, not a person"** (Zig Ziegler). There are no failures!!!

You have the power to make it in whatever you choose. You have your experience you have learned from. Groucho Marx said, "Each morning I open my eyes I say to myself, I have the power to make myself happy or unhappy today. I can choose which it shall be. Yesterday is dead, tomorrow has not arrived yet. I have just one day, today, and I'm going to be happy in it." You can't really reach the stars, but if you follow them while reaching, they become your guides and you will reach your destiny!!! Be positive, maintain character. If there were three people waiting for a bus; an old woman who was dying, an old friend who saved your life, and the love of your life, and you can only take one - which one would you choose? The answer? Give your keys to your best friend, who drives the old woman, and you wait with the love of your life for the bus.

We must constantly adjust our goals to fit our lives, but continue calculated risks to succeed, no matter what.

Keep reaching for the stars. And .... I hope you dance!"

**Tim Viox teaches physical education and health at the Junior/Senior High School. He is also the head football coach.**

## **A Baccalaureate Message from Susan Wood**

"When I was first approached to speak at baccalaureate, I was unsure of what I had to say that would interest Patrick's classmates and their parents. Then I realized what an honor and privilege I was being given to speak about the person that I not only loved the most but who I knew the best and have loved talking about for the past eighteen years. I was asked to talk about what Patrick would say if he were standing here tonight, but first I want to share with you more about Patrick and his life.

Patrick was born on Thanksgiving Day in 1983. According to the doctor who delivered him, Patrick had the dubious honor of being written up in the medical journals as the first child to be diagnosed with Cystic Fibrosis before birth. This was because he had a problem related to this disease that caused calcification and oxygen deprivation to a portion of his intestine. This required immediate medical attention and so on the Friday after Thanksgiving Day, Patrick had major surgery to remove a portion of his bowel. Additionally, he exhibited signs that he was having difficulty breathing which turned out to be his first pneumonia and a partially collapsed lung.

I was only able to see him for a few minutes after he was born before he was transferred to the intensive care unit at Children's Hospital, but he was already making his mark in my life and the lives of many others. When I was released from Christ Hospital where he was born and went to see him for the first time at Children's Hospital, I knew that he would be teaching me many things in life, about life and what is important in life when I saw at the foot of his crib were the words: Boy, Christ, Wood.

Patrick's life from the very beginning was a struggle to survive. He was unable to come home from the hospital until he was almost 2 months old. During that time, we spent many hours together at the hospital, and he did begin to teach me about things like, what's important in life, compassion, unconditional love, and advocacy. We formed a bond in which I promised him that if he would come home with me, I would do everything in my power to nurture, support and help him live his life to the fullest and longest extent possible. He did come home although each day was a struggle, filled with breathing treatments, and medications. Over the course of his lifetime, he was told on at least three occasions that the end was near, and he should accept this fate. Patrick proved them wrong each time by showing how tenacious his hold on life was and by repeatedly exceeding their expectations with courage, a sense of humor and pure determination.

When Patrick was just four years old, a doctor made it necessary for Patrick and me to discuss the concept of death. Pat was told if he did not take his medicines and do what the doctors told him, he would die. So we spoke about life and death and came to the conclusion that Pat should live his life believing that he was going to live, and he should not live his life preparing to die. This meant that we focused on the positive things in life and worked to develop his already funny sense of humor. It was obvious that this strategy was working by the time he was five. When his older cousin told him there was no Easter bunny, I asked him if he was upset. He replied that it was okay because he knew who the Easter bunny really was. It was Santa in a bunny suit. He was an eternal optimist and wise beyond his years.

We also started looking at life, emphasizing the positive and seeing that his life would be what he made of it. We often spoke of how awful Cystic Fibrosis was. But we acknowledged one of the best things to come out of the disease was the fact that it brought wonderful, caring people into our lives: doctors, nurses, respiratory therapists, and tutors among many who we would not otherwise have met. Patrick was also able to elicit compassion and caring from so many others: teachers, neighbors and classmates.

When he was still in preschool and was hospitalized for a two to three week period, a number of his preschool



friends came to visit him. As a teacher told me during a parent teacher conference, she was amazed at Patrick's impact upon his fellow classmates. His class was the most compassionate, caring class she had in all of her years of teaching. She told me about a field trip to the Cincinnati Zoo that the class had taken while Pat had been in the hospital. On the way to the zoo, a few of Patrick's friends recognized the hospital and immediately started talking about Pat. They then made up a song about Patrick, the hospital, how much they missed him and ended the song with, "Patrick, we love you". The teacher said it brought tears to all of the adults to see the impact that Patrick made on his classmates.

Patrick never felt sorry for himself and would often tell me that he couldn't understand it when people would express sorrow or pity toward him because as he often stated, he had a wonderful life. When he was ill, he quite often ran temperatures that exceeded 104 degrees. The fevers would drain every ounce of his strength. It would take well over an hour before Motrin would break his fever. As soon as his fever broke, however, he was amazing. He would spring back into action, go on adventures or out with his friends, only to return home or to the hotel hours later with another fever. He pushed himself. He took pleasure in life wherever and whenever he could find it.

Patrick was an adventurer who loved to travel and do as much as possible. This past March, I took a vacation with my sister and her family, the first vacation without Patrick in eighteen years. I realized that this was also the first trip that I had taken in a long time where I wasn't challenged to do something that terrified me.

Patrick lived his life with enthusiasm and excitement. He loved adventures and traveling. He went Whitewater rafting, and swimming with stingrays, (which is where I discovered that I could scream through a snorkel). He went swimming with dolphins and sharks, and he could Jet Ski like a fiend. He fan boated through the Everglades and parasailed over Key West. He took trams to the tops of mountains, helicopter rides to walk on glaciers in Alaska and rode in the Budweiser blimp over downtown Cincinnati. He went to the top of the CN tower in Toronto and to the top of the Space Needle in Seattle...no small feats when you consider his fear of heights and fear of falling. When he bungee jumped last July before the transplant, he said that he was going to live the rest of his life facing his fears in order to conquer them. This summer, his plan was to begin skydiving just to face that fear. My hope was that he didn't expect me to conquer my fear and jump with him!

He didn't allow his disease to define him, limit him nor to control his life. He discovered that living life with difficulties was easier with a positive attitude, a sense of humor, sheer determination and as part of a team. He inspired me and gave me so much more than I gave him. I only loved, encouraged, nurtured and supported him. When he was down, his friends and I helped to lift his spirits, and he did the same for us. I encourage you all to surround yourselves with people who support you and encourage you to be the best you can be, people with positive attitudes and energy-People who will lift you up and give you strength and courage to face difficulties in life-People who help you achieve your goals and reach for your dreams.

If Patrick were here and speaking to you this evening, I believe these would be the things he would say to you:

1. Life is a series of challenges and how you face them shows your strength of character. People will remember not how many years you live, but how you live the years.
2. Take responsibility for your actions...life is a series of choices; if you make good decisions, you reap the rewards for those decisions. If you make bad decisions, unfortunately, you pay the consequences.
3. Be aware of and grateful for what you have and focus on the good things in your life. It was easy for Patrick to look around and find people who he felt were in worse situations than he.
4. Trust that there is a master plan, and the right people will be in your life at the right time. This was always true for Patrick. One example of this is when last summer, Ronit Cohen gave Patrick one of the happiest memories of his life when she made it possible for Pat to go backstage at a Blink concert and meet the band members. This was one of Pat's dreams, and this gave him many hours of happiness.
5. Surround yourself with compassionate, caring, nurturing people who love life. Good loyal friends will be there for you when you need them...to inspire you to be the best you can be and to support you in your times of need, and people who can also turn to you for inspiration and support in their times of need.
6. If you have an opportunity to do something, take it. Live life as if there may be no tomorrow, and
7. Face your fears...don't let your fears control your life...conquer them.

In April of 2000, Patrick came to talk to me with a serious look on his face. His question at age sixteen was, if anything should happen to him, would anyone even notice? Would people miss him or even realize that he was not here? He was always very intuitive and within three months he was again in the intensive care unit at Children's Hospital fighting for his life. The doctors made us decide at that time, if he coded, whether he should be resuscitated or not. Friends, including hospital support staff, teachers and family rallied to his side. This situation unfortunately kept him in the hospital for over nine weeks and left him needing supplemental oxygen and a double lung transplant as well as many months to recuperate...but he survived and continued to love life.

His comment to me was that maybe he needed to go through this experience in order to find out how much people really cared. And, by the time he passed away in 2002, he knew how much all of you and a small town called Madeira really cared.

Thank you for the friendships you offered my son and the emails that kept him going...even those that started..."I am only sending you this email because Mr. Hanson let us out of class to come to the media center only if we would write to you". I would like to thank Mark Barrett, Chase Champlin, and Brian Howland, who were always there for Patrick and especially there for me when I needed to return to North Carolina after Patrick passed. They helped me to remember that I had so many more happy memories than sad ones of time spent with Patrick in Chapel Hill. Thank you also to Matt Feist who spoke with me on-line the Sunday morning after Patrick passed. He said such wonderful, sensitive things that every mother would want to hear about her child...things which gave me strength and courage when I thought none could be had. And thank you also to the faculty, staff and administration that provided an environment which allowed Pat to thrive and reach his goal of graduating with his class.

When it was Patrick's time to go, he faced that challenge the way he lived his life... with a sense of humor, dignity, love and a sense of adventure rather than fear.

Thank you for letting me speak about Patrick, and I hope that you will think of him during your lifetime when you need inspiration. He was and continues to be my inspiration.

I wish you all much success, happiness and many wonderful friends and adventures in your future.

And Pat, I know you're here this evening and not to embarrass you but, I love you and I am very proud of you."

**Susan Wood is the mother of Patrick Wood (1983-2002), a member of the Class of 2002**

## **A Graduation Message by Dr. Michele Hummel**

"On behalf of the Madeira Board of Education President Pat Gentile, Vice President John Gilster, Members Skip Pressler, Jay Groenke and Kathy Hurst it is my pleasure to welcome you to the Commencement Ceremony for the Class of 2002.

This ceremony is both a beginning and an ending. It is a sunrise and a sunset. Commencement is a bridge between the warm, wonderful memories of childhood and the bright, exciting adventures of the future.

To cross this bridge, I've selected a book from your past to use for my reflections. The book is *Wilfrid Gordon McDonald Partridge* by Mem Fox. To refresh your memory of the story, let me summarize it for you. Wilfrid is a small boy who lives next door to a nursing home. He overhears that his best friend at the home, Miss Nancy, is losing her memory. Wilfrid was so young that he asked, "What's a memory?" His father said, "It is something you remember." But that definition didn't satisfy Wilfrid, so he asked his friends at the nursing home on his next visit.

"What's a memory?" Wilfrid asked.

"Something warm, my child, something warm," said Mrs. Jordan.

"Something from long ago, me lad, something from long ago," said Mr. Hosking.

Mr. Tippet said, "Something that makes you cry, my boy, something that makes you cry."

Miss Mitchell responded, "Something that makes you laugh, my darling, something that makes you laugh."

Mr. Drysdale who had a voice like a giant said, "Something as precious as gold, young man, something as precious as gold."

To help you with your memories, I am going to follow Mrs. Rutledge in that I will borrow words from others. I turned to our kindergarteners through sixth graders and asked them to write about memories that are warm, or from long ago, or ones that make you laugh and cry. But all the memories are as precious as gold.

Jenn Schneider did a wonderful job at Baccalaureate in helping you remember the memories from long ago. The Dumont students joined in with memories of riding the bus, visiting the farm, birthday parties, performing in musicals, the art fair, learning cursive, and meeting your new best friend.

You have memories that make you cry—September 11, the space left in your heart by Pat Wood, and the thought of separating from your friends.

I hope there are many more memories that make you laugh—the Variety Show, your spring break vacations, and Max Tohline's list of quotes. For Sellman student Rebecca Wallace it is having tickle fights with her friends, and for Lauren



Dehan it is when a teacher takes a note you have written and reads it to the class! One of the things I will miss most about your class is your sense of humor!

A warm memory for 4th grader Justin Griffin "is when I run and hug my dad." Or for Sarah Ryan it's when your grandparents tell you stories, or when your great grandmother knitted you a blanket (Mackenzi Jansen).

Warm memories are often those you create for others. The younger students tell wonderful stories about their Teen Counselors and One-On-One "buddies". You meant a great deal to them. The students talk about you as role models. Sixth grader Eileen Crowe writes to Amanda Haerr, "I will miss you so much after you graduate. If I could use one adjective for you, I would use AWESOME! I want to be just like you when I get into high school." You have clearly left your mark on the community.

And memories that are as precious as gold—state titles, final four tournaments, and prom night. But most importantly are the memories of caring teachers, a loving family, and being surrounded and supported by friends. 5th Grader, Sarah Privatt said it so well, "A memory is something you can feel and hold onto forever, not in the palm of your hand, but in the depth of your heart."

5th Grader Frank Evans writes, "Memories can make you laugh and they can make you cry. But they make you who you are." These memories are the foundation of who you are. Your past will help you create your future.

But you need a VISION to create a future. Of course, setting a vision is a very mature process. It takes complex thinking; a synthesis and integration of the different ways to view the world. With your senses of humor, I knew you would want to think about what lenses you would use to frame your future. How will your future look? To help with this process, I want you to reach under your chair for something that will help you to focus your vision.

*(Sunglasses with 2002 were taped under each graduate's chair)*

These glasses will help you clearly see the things that are most important in life and to ask the critical questions of WHO? WHAT? WHERE? WHEN? WHY? and HOW?

WHO? Take time to discover who you are. Strive to maintain your family, community and school values. Live respectfully, honestly, and joyfully. But always remember you have family, friends, teachers, and others who love and care about you.

WHAT? Discover your passions and then nurture them. The joy it brings you will keep you going through life's ups and downs.

WHEN? Keep in mind there is a season for everything. Take time to rest and enjoy the miracle of each new day. With practice, you will learn the pleasure of doing some things now, and the unique delight of waiting and planning for others.

WHERE? You will always have this answer if you keep your home in your heart and put your heart into wherever you call home. Be an active part of your community and soon you will discover the special charm that will endear it to you. Remember that the simplest act of kindness can make an enormous difference, and that you can change the world. And with the right heart, that can be done anywhere.

WHY? Never stop asking this question. It's the one that will keep you growing. Let it challenge you when you become too complacent. Let it shout at you when you are making decisions. Let it whisper to you when you lose sight of your goals.

HOW? This is the one you will have to answer for yourself in your own special way. I don't have all the answers for you. Even the glasses may fail to work for some of you!

Just know that you have touched my heart. Your parents join me when I say that we'll miss you, we love you, we care about you, and we're always here for you!!  
Congratulations!"

**Mikie Hummel is the Superintendent of Madeira City Schools. She also teaches a class at Xavier University on Board/Superintendent Relations.**

## Senior Class Awards

The following is a sampling of awards received by Seniors on Awards Day, May 30, 2002.

**Principal's Office Aides** - presented to the seniors who have been the greatest help to the office staff: *Dustin Case, Chase Champlin, Ronit Cohen, Adam Dooley, Chris Hlavaty, Susan Tuke*

**The JoAnn Grevas Memorial Service Award** - given to the student who has served the community with extensive volunteer hours: *Elizabeth Cook*

**The following seniors are recognized for their outstanding contribution to the *Mustang Echoes*:**  
*Kyle Fields, Hongyi Hu, Sarah Murphy-Section Editors and Max Tohline, Crossword Wizard*

**Mrs. Diane Nichols**, Yearbook Advisor, and her editorial staff have worked diligently to produce an outstanding high school yearbook. Recognition is given to the following seniors: *Co-Editors-Elana Friedman, Stacy Glasgow, Ella Reckers Staff Members-Lindsey Barnhart, Paige Strohmaier, Susan Tuke*

**Mrs. Jana Schwein**, Yearbook Financial Advisor, gives recognition to the following senior for his work on the Yearbook Business Staff: *Chris Hlavaty*

**Mr. Chris Mate**, Student Council Advisor, recognizes the following students for their outstanding contribution to Madeira High School as Class Officers: *Mark Barrett, President; Lindsay Chastain, Vice President; Susan Weisbrod, Secretary; Jake Kallgren, Treasurer*

**Mr. Kyle Crowley**, National Honor Society Advisor, recognizes the following students who served as this year's officers: *Steve Tudor and Parker Cohen, Co-Presidents, Brad Fittes, Vice President, Susan Weisbrod, Secretary, Kristine Bishop, Treasurer, Amanda McKenzie, Service Chair, Jenn Schneider, Trip Chair, Elizabeth Cook, Fundraising Chair*

**Teen Counselors** are important people to many students in the junior high and at Sellman School. These counselors work with the younger students on problems they are having, academic or personal, and are especially instrumental in the drug education program. **Seniors:** *Shannon Alter, Mark Barrett, Katie Bauer, Bryan Bird, Lindsay Chastain Parker Cohen, Elizabeth Cook, Matt Feist, Dennis Gilligan, Joe Hellebusch, Keeley Hendrix, Robb Hern, Brian Howland, Jake Kallgren, Stephanie Kehoe, Ashley Lack, Amanda McKenzie, Ella Reckers, Kyle Reyes, Alex Shernoff, Linda Staubach, Melissa Steckhahn, Paige Strohmaier, Marci Strotman, Steve Tudor, Susan Weisbrod*

**Students at Sellman Middle School, Dumont Elementary School and Madeira Junior High School** have greatly benefited this year from the tutoring program in which high school students give up their study hall time to work with the younger children. **Mr. Roger Slagle**, Principal at Sellman School, **Mrs. Catherine Swami**, Principal at Dumont Elementary School, and **Ms. Kim Homer**, Program Coordinator, thank the following students: *Lindsey Barnhart, Katie Bauer, Sarah Bear, Kristine Bishop, Dustin Case, Lindsay Chastain, Dave Colina, Amanda Davis, Matthew Feist, Brad Fittes, Kelly Foster, Dennis Gilligan, Stacy Glasgow, Katie Gratsch, Lindsay Groll, Amanda*

*Haerr, Robb Hern, Hongyi Hu, Annie Kiener, Amber Kershaw, Dan Luther, Travis Maier, Amanda McKenzie, Ella Reckers, Andy Reuter, Steve Schmidts, Jennifer Schneider, Alex Shernoff, Linda Staubach, Paige Strohmaier, Steve Tudor, Susie Tuke, Michael Wagner, Katrina Waldleitner, Susan Weisbrod, Ross Wittenberg*  
**Peer Mediators** were trained to help students who have a dispute reach a mutually agreed upon solution. Our thanks and appreciation to those mediators who were trained this year and worked hard to help their fellow students. The seniors recognized are: *Katie Bauer, Kristine Bishop, Jake Kallgren, Kyle Reyes*

**Madeira Youth Week - Elected students this year were:**

**Board of Education:** *Steve Tudor, President; Kyle Hunt, Vice President, Branson Fields, Jesus Ibarra, Katrina Waldleitner, School Board; Jake Kallgren, Superintendent; Parker Cohen, Principal MJSHS; Shawn Burroughs, Principal Sellman; Travis Maier, Principal Dumont*  
**Madeira City Offices:** *Chris Hlavaty, Mayor; Corey Rutledge, Vice Mayor; Lindsey Barnhart, Dennis Gilligan, Lindsay Groll, Andy Reuter, Matt Roach, City Council; Katie Gratsch, City Manager; Nate Littlejohn, Police Chief*

**The Metropolitan Youth Roundtable** is a project sponsored by the National Conference of Christians and Jews, Inc., and is a human relations leadership program which includes students from the Greater Cincinnati area. Senior class representatives are: *Ronit Cohen, Amber Kershaw, Zach Orjuela, Jennifer Schneider*

**The Raymond G. Seifert Award** recognizes students who are enrolled in a college preparatory course of study and who earn a straight "A" average in all subjects during the school year. Students are awarded a medal. Based on the first three-quarters of academic work, the following seniors are recipients of this award: *Elizabeth Cook, Brad Fittes, Hongyi Hu, Amber Kershaw, Amanda McKenzie, Luke Norman, Stephanie Novakov, Zachary Orjuela, Jennifer Schneider, Katrina Schrode, Linda Staubach, Andrew Tohline*

These students were recognized as Finalist in the National Merit Scholarship Program based on their 2000 P.S.A.T./N.M.S.Q.T. performances: *Hongyi Hu, Zachary Orjuela, Katrina Schrode, Andrew Max Tohline*

**Students who were recognized as Commended Scholars P.S.A.T./N.M.S.Q.T. performance are:**

*Elizabeth Cook, Richard Harwood, Amanda McKenzie*  
**Senior English Department Awards:** *Stacy Phelan, (English 12); Dave Colina, Amy Mackris, Stephanie Novakov, Paige Strohmaier, Susie Tuke, Ross Wittenberg (CP English); Jennifer Schneider (AP English)*

**American Cultures:** *Brad Fittes, Joe Hellebusch, Brennan Kamp, Amber Kershaw*

**Psychology:** *Annie Kiener*

**Outstanding Four-Year English Award:** *Hongyi Hu*

**P.T.A. Cultural Arts Reflections Contest:** *Max Tohline, 2<sup>nd</sup> Place; Annie Kiener, Honorable Mention*

**Miami University Scholastic Award Contest:**

8. *Zachary Orjuela, Melissa Steckhahn, Susan Weisbrod*



**Southeastern Ecumenical Ministry (SEM)**

**Poetry Award:** *Katrina Schrode*

**Government Awards:** *Dan Miller, Stephanie Novakov, Jennifer Schneider (CP); Brad Fittes, Hongyi Hu, Luke Norman, Linda Staubach (AP)*

**Mock Trial:** *Heidi Lewallen, Lindsay Chastain, Luke Norman, Jennifer Schneider, Hongyi Hu, Amber Kershaw*

**Outstanding Four-Year Social Studies Award:** *Hongyi Hu*

**Spanish V:** *Amy Mackris*

**Spanish Club Scholarship:** *Amber Kershaw*

**French V:** *Hongyi Hu*

**Four Years of French:** *Katie Gratsch*

**Five Years of French:** *Lindsay Chastain, Hongyi Hu, Katrina Schrode, Max Tohline*

**AP Latin:** *Cum Laude: Linda Staubach; Magna Cum Laude:*

*Jennifer Schneider; Maxima Cum Laude (Silver Medal):*

*Susan Weisbrod; Summa Cum Laude (Gold Medal):*

*Elizabeth Cook*

**Latin IV:** *Claire Hanson, Sarah Luthman, Sara Neumann, Michael Stentz*

**AP Latin:** *Jennifer Schneider*

**Five Years of Latin:** *Elizabeth Cook, Jennifer Schneider, Linda Staubach, Susan Weisbrod*

**Math Awards:** *Rick Tolson (Transitions); Drew Derenthal, Brad Fittes, Stacy Glasgow, Alex Shernoff (Pre-Cal); Hongyi Hu (AP Calculus)*

**Outstanding Four-Year Math Award:** *Hongyi Hu, Max Tohline*

**The American High School Math Exam (AHSME):** *Max Tohline*

**Physics:** *Rick Tolson (Conceptual); Stacy Glasgow (CP); Philip Gettinger (H); Hongyi Hu, Linda Staubach, Max Tohline (AP)*

**Outstanding Four-Year Science Award:** *Hongyi Hu, Linda Staubach, Max Tohline*

**Home Economics Department Award:** *Travis Maier*

**Rob Portman's Congressional Art Award:** *Paige Strohmaier*

**International Academy of Hair Design Scholarship:** *Stacy Phelan*

**The Proctor & Gamble Fund Program Scholarship:** *Kristine Bishop*

**Kenwood Woman's Club Scholarship:** *Hongyi Hu*

**Madeira Woman's Club Scholarship:** *Amber Kershaw, Dan Miller*

**John D. Rahe Scholarship:**

*Katie Bauer, Hongyi Hu, Dan Miller, Linda Staubach*

**National Merit Scholarship:** *Hongyi Hu*

**Sharon Stewart Scholarship:** *Heidi Lewallen*

**Robert C. Byrd Scholarship:** *Brad Fittes*

**Ohio Regents Scholarship:** *Elizabeth Cook*

**The Ohio Board of Regents Ohio Scholarship Program:**

*Kristine Bishop, Amy Mackris, Jennifer Schneider, Linda Staubach*

**Northside Kiwanis Award:** *Amanda McKenzie*

**Cincinnatus Scholarship Competition:**

*Ryan Bird, Amanda McKenzie*

**The Roger Anderson, Jr. Outstanding Senior Boy Award:** *Brad Fittes*

**Greg Chase Tenacity Award:** *Kyle Fields*

**Madden Award:** *Amanda Davis, Steve Tudor*

**Nadine Wilson Scholarship:** *Amy Mackris*

**OHSAA/Archie Griffin Sportsmanship Award:**

*Kristine Bishop, Bryan Cummings*

**OHSAA Scholar Athlete Award:** *Linda Staubach, Dan Miller*

**Academic All-Ohio:** *Robb Hern*

**Awards of Merit:** Students who complete the criteria for the college prep curriculum as well as earning the equivalent of an overall G.P.A. of 3.25 for grades nine through twelve or a 3.5 for grades eleven and twelve receive an Award of Merit from the Ohio Department of Education. Seniors who met

these criteria are: *Mark Barrett, Kathleen Bauer, Ryan Bird, Kristine Bishop, Lindsay Chastain, Parker Cohen, Elizabeth Cook, Amanda Davis, Kyle Fields, Brad Fittes, Stacy Glasgow, Kathryn Gratsch, Lindsay Groll, Ryan Gruner, Richard Harwood, Joe Hellebusch, Robb Hern, Brian Howland, Hongyi Hu, Kyle Hunt, Stephanie Kehoe, Amber Kershaw, Annie Kiener, Heidi Lewallen, Dan Luther, Amy Mackris, Amanda McKenzie, Caitlin McNeal, Dan Miller, Joey Misleh, Jacob Mueller, Sarah Murphy, Luke Norman, Stephanie Novakov, Zachary Orjuela, Ella Reckers, Jennifer Schneider, Katrina Schrode, Alex Shernoff, Linda Staubach, Melissa Steckhahn, Michael Steier, Paige Strohmaier, Marci Strotman, Andrew Max Tohline, Stephen Tudor, Susan Tuke, Susan Weisbrod, Ross Wittenberg*

**Presidential Academic Fitness Awards:**

This is a program to recognize students who have attained a high level of academic achievement while pursuing a solid core of academic courses. Madeira High School seniors with a 3.5 or above GPA are:

*Kathleen Bauer, Ryan Bird, Kristine Bishop, Lindsay Chastain, Parker Cohen, Elizabeth Cook, Andrew Derenthal, Brad Fittes, Stacy Glasgow, Lindsay Groll, Joseph Hellebusch, Robb Hern, Brian Howland, Hongyi Hu, Stephanie Kehoe, Amber Kershaw, Annie Kiener, Heidi Lewallen, Daniel Luther, Amy Mackris, Amanda McKenzie, Dan Miller, Joey Misleh, Jacob Mueller, Luke Norman, Zachary Orjuela, Ella Reckers, Jennifer Schneider, Katrina Schrode, Alex Shernoff, Linda Staubach, Melissa Steckhahn, Paige Strohmaier, Andrew Max Tohline, Steve Tudor, Susan Tuke, Susan Weisbrod, Ross Wittenberg*

**Honors Diploma:**

*Ryan Bird, Kristine Bishop, Lindsay Chastain, Parker Cohen, Elizabeth Cook, Brad Fittes, Stacy Glasgow, Lindsay Groll, Richard Harwood, Joseph Hellebusch, Robb Hern, Brian Howland, Hongyi Hu, Kyle Hunt, Stephanie Kehoe, Amber Kershaw, Annie Kiener, Heidi Lewallen, Dan Luther, Amy Mackris, Amanda McKenzie, Dan Miller, Joey Misleh, Jacob Mueller, Sarah Murphy, Luke Norman, Stephanie Novakov, Zachary Orjuela, Ella Reckers, Jennifer Schneider, Katrina Schrode, Alex Shernoff, Linda Staubach, Melissa Steckhahn, Paige Strohmaier, Andrew Max Tohline, Stephen Tudor, Susan Tuke, Susan Weisbrod, Ross Wittenberg*

**TOP SENIORS (4.0+ GPA):**

*Parker Cohen, Elizabeth Cook, Brad Fittes, Hongyi Hu, Amber Kershaw, Amanda McKenzie, Dan Miller, Stephanie Novakov, Zachary Orjuela, Jennifer Schneider, Katrina Schrode, Linda Staubach, Andrew Max Tohline, Susan Weisbrod*

**2001 SALUTATORIAN:**

*Andrew Max Tohline*

**2001 VALEDICTORIAN:**

*Hongyi Hu*

**Shannon Alter** plans to attend Ohio University  
**Lindsey Barnhart** plans to attend Colorado State University  
**Mark Barrett** plans to attend Middle Tennessee State University  
**Kathleen Bauer** plans to attend University of Dayton  
**Sarah Bear** plans to enter the United States Army  
**Ryan Bird** plans to attend University of Cincinnati  
**Kristine Bishop** plans to attend Miami University  
**Shawn Burroughs** plans to attend University of Cincinnati  
**Dustin Case** plans to attend University of Cincinnati

**Chase Champlin** plans to attend University of Cincinnati  
**Lindsay Chastain** plans to attend The Ohio State University  
**Andrew Cloran** plans to attend University of Cincinnati  
**Parker Cohen** plans to attend Macalester College  
**Ronit Cohen** plans to attend The Ohio State University  
**David Colina** plans to attend The Ohio State University  
**Christopher Collins** plans to attend Lake Erie College  
**Elizabeth Cook** plans to attend The Ohio State University  
**Bryan Cummings** plans to attend University at Buffalo  
**Amanda Davis** plans to attend University of Toledo  
**Andrew Derenthal** plans to attend Brigham Young University  
**Adam Dooley** plans to attend Bowling Green State University  
**Matthew Feist** plans to attend Xavier University  
**Branson Fields** plans to attend University of Cincinnati  
**Kyle Fields** plans to attend College of Charleston  
**Bradford Fittes** plans to attend University of Tennessee  
**Stefanie Forste** plans to enter the work force  
**Kelly Foster** plans to attend University of Cincinnati  
**Elana Friedman** plans to attend University of Tennessee  
**Robert Gill, Jr.** plans to attend Johnson & Wales University  
**Dennis Gilligan** plans to attend University of Kentucky  
**Stacy Glasgow** plans to attend Ohio University  
**Kathryn Gratsch** plans to attend Ohio University  
**John Greene** plans to enter the work force  
**Lindsay Groll** plans to attend The Ohio State University  
**Ryan Gruner** plans to attend The Ohio State University  
**Amanda Haerr** plans to attend University of Cincinnati  
**Richard Harwood** plans to attend University of Colorado  
**Joseph Hellebusch** plans to attend University of Colorado  
**Keeley Hendrix** plans to attend Cincinnati State  
**Robert Hern** plans to attend Ohio University  
**Christopher Hlavaty** plans to attend school in New Jersey  
**Ryan Holland** plans to attend University of Tennessee  
**Brian Howland** plans to attend Miami University  
**Hongyi Hu** plans to attend Massachusetts Institute of Technology  
**Kyle Hunt** plans to attend Middle Tennessee State University  
**Jesus Ibarra** plans to travel  
**Benjamin Kallgren** plans to attend University of Cincinnati  
**Jacob Kallgren** plans to attend Wittenberg University  
**Brennan Kamp** plans to attend University of Cincinnati  
**Stephanie Kehoe** plans to attend Miami University  
**Andrew Kennedy** plans to attend University of Cincinnati  
**Amber Kershaw** plans to attend Mount Holyoke  
**Anna Kiener** plans to attend The Ohio State University

The total Scholarships and  
 Financial Aid/Grants awarded to  
 this year's seniors totals  
**\$2,635,485.00.**

Colleges and universities are listed  
 only as where student's final  
 transcripts are being sent.

Members of the Class of 2002 were  
 also accepted into:

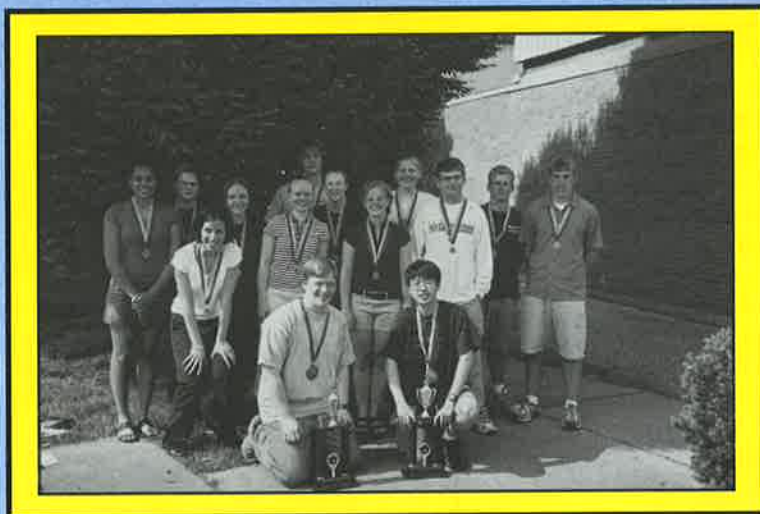
Arizona State University  
 Auburn University  
 Baylor University  
 Bellarmine College  
 Boston College  
 Butler University  
 Case Western University  
 Centre College  
 Clemson University  
 College of Mount St. Joseph  
 College of Wooster  
 Cumberland College  
 Davidson  
 Depaul University  
 Duke University  
 East Carolina University  
 Eastern Kentucky University  
 Eastern Michigan University  
 Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University  
 Flagler College  
 Franklin College  
 Furman University  
 Grove City College  
 Hampton University  
 Hanover College  
 Illinois Wesleyan University  
 Iowa State University of Science & Technology  
 John Carroll University  
 Johns Hopkins University  
 Kent State University  
 Kentucky Wesleyan College  
 Kenyon College  
 Louisiana State University  
 Loyola University



**Kristopher Kuykendall** plans to attend University of Cincinnati  
**Ashley Lack** plans to attend Georgetown College  
**Heidi Lewallen** plans to attend The Ohio State University  
**Nathan Littlejohn** plans to attend University of Cincinnati  
**Brandon Lockhart** plans to attend University of Cincinnati  
**Daniel Luther** plans to attend The Ohio State University  
**Amy Mackris** plans to attend Bowling Green State University  
**Travis Maier** plans to attend Miami University  
**Amanda McKenzie** plans to attend University of Cincinnati  
**Caitlin McNeal** plans to attend University of Dayton  
**Nick McQueary** plans to travel  
**Christopher Meeks** plans to attend University of Cincinnati  
**Daniel Miller** plans to attend Purdue University  
**Tara Miracle** plans to attend Cincinnati Art Institute  
**Joseph Misleh** plans to attend Miami University  
**Matthew Mittermiller** plans to attend Raymond Walters College  
**Jacob Mueller** plans to attend University of Tampa  
**Sarah Murphy** plans to attend Texas Christian University  
**Luke Norman** plans to attend Wheaton College  
**Stephanie Novakov** plans to attend Lawrence University  
**Zachary Orjuela** plans to attend Williams College  
**Joseph Perazzo** plans to enter the work force  
**Stacy Phelan** plans to attend International Academy of Hair Design  
**Ella Reckers** plans to attend Indiana University  
**Paul Reuscher** plans to attend Miami University  
**Andrew Reuter** plans to attend University of Cincinnati  
**Kyle Reyes** plans to attend University of Cincinnati  
**Matthew Roach** plans to attend Ohio University  
**Corey Rutledge** plans to attend Elon University  
**Steven Schmits** plans to attend The Ohio State University  
**Jennifer Schneider** plans to attend Ball State University  
**Anthony Schneller** plans to attend Raymond Walters College  
**Katrina Schrode** plans to attend Boston University  
**Christine Schweppe** plans to attend University of Cincinnati  
**Alex Shernoff** plans to attend The Ohio State University  
**Justin Smith** plans to attend a culinary arts school  
**Linda Staubach** plans to attend Denison University  
**Melissa Steckhahn** plans to attend Miami University  
**Michael Steier** plans to attend Ohio University  
**Paige Strohmaier** plans to attend University of Cincinnati  
**Marci Strotman** plans to attend Georgetown College

**Jennifer Tissot** plans to attend University of Cincinnati  
**Andrew Tohline** plans to attend University of Missouri-Rolla  
**Richard Tolson** plans to attend Raymond Walters College  
**Stephen Tudor** plans to attend Denison University  
**Susan Tuke** plans to attend Miami University  
**Grant Turck** plans to attend Pepperdine University  
**Eric VanSchaik** plans to attend University of Central Florida  
**Michael Wagner** plans to attend The Ohio State University  
**Katrina Waldeleitner** plans to attend Cincinnati State  
**Susan Weisbrod** plans to attend Emory University  
**Ross Wittenberg** plans to attend Depauw University  
**Joshua Yothment** plans to attend Morehead State University  
**Ariel Zelazny** plans to continue his  
 education at Scarlet Oaks

(continued from page 10)  
 Marietta College  
 Marquette University  
 Maryville College  
 Michigan State University  
 New York University  
 Northern Arizona University  
 Northern Kentucky University  
 Northwood University  
 Ohio Northern University  
 Pennsylvania State University  
 Radford University  
 Rollins College  
 Rose Hulman Institute  
 Seton Hall University  
 St. Louis University  
 Syracuse University  
 The College of William & Mary  
 Thomas Moore College  
 Tulane University  
 University of North Carolina  
 University of Akron  
 University of Arizona  
 University of Florida  
 University of Georgia  
 University of Iowa  
 University of Louisville  
 University of Maryland  
 University of Michigan  
 University of Nebraska  
 University of Nevada, Las Vegas  
 University of North Carolina Greensboro  
 University of Pennsylvania  
 University of South Carolina  
 University of Vermont  
 University of Virginia  
 University of Virginia Tech  
 University of Wisconsin  
 Vanderbilt University  
 Virginia Military  
 Wabash College  
 Wake Forest University  
 Washington & Jefferson College  
 Washington & Lee University  
 Wingate University  
 Winthrop University  
 Wright State University



## Top Seniors of the Class of 2002

*Congratulations*

(Front Row L to R):

Max Tohline (Salutatorian)

Hongyi Hu (Valedictorian)

(Second Row L to R):

Amanda McKenzie

Susan Weisbrod

Jennifer Schneider

Parker Cohen

(Third Row L to R):

Amber Kershaw

Stephanie Novakov

Katrina Schrode

Zachary Orjuela

Elizabeth Cook

Linda Staubach

Dan Miller

Brad Fittes

### What's Inside...

*A special  
issue of the  
District  
Digest  
dedicated to  
the Madeira  
High School  
Class of  
2002*



**Madeira City Schools**

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