THE LEXINGTON SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER TLS

January 1989

'Twas A Wonderful Season To Bring Out Our Best



Whitney Bentley and Garrett Graddy presented some interesting facts about the first Thanksgiving at the assembly program.

Beginning with the Thanksgiving assembly and ending with the holiday concert, school was especially full of experiences which enriched and enlivened our usual schedule. It was a time for making sugar cube houses and paper snowflakes; for music; for singing; for candles; for gifts of writing. It was a time to feel joyful and wonderfully blessed, and to act on those feelings on behalf of others.

The middle school assembly committee did an outstanding job of organizing, writing, and producing a program at Thanksgiving of which their forefathers would have been proud. America, the melting post, the land of the free, was their theme. Serious readings about the uniqueness and dignity of all mankind were followed by a lighthearted script about the first Thanksgiving dinner. "Let's Talk Turkey" included the revelation that the Indians probably outnumbered the Pilgrims two to one at the feast, and that the most likely fare was eel, rabbit, clams, watercress salad, and Dutch beer.



Upper schoolers rollick to Jingle Bells.

The Thanksgiving assembly ended with poems which the students wrote and recited. Everyone recessed feeling grateful and good. Kudos go to Mrs. Adams, Ms. Davis, Mrs. Apple, Mrs. Walker and the middle school assembly committee: Robert Karem, Sybil Dawahare, Emmy Gambet, Mark Willis, Ryan Conboy, Garrett Graddy, Emmy Hartley, Whitney Bentley, and Taylor Baker.

The holiday concert is a cherished tradition at The Lexington School. There was magic in the air and a special sense of warmth and togetherness as students at every grade level gathered with

continued on page 2

From The Headmaster:
by David Lowry



Alice and Lindsey Ingram's "Looking Back" article in this edition of the Newsletter recounts with warmth and pleasure the many years their children have spent at TLS. Willa Cather captures the feeling well: "There are all those early memories, one cannot get another set..."

Yet the past inevitably gives way to the future. So many current parents wonder about "life after TLS." One easy way to satisfy this curiosity is to look at the Alumni Update. This sampling of lives following TLS is reassuring and impressive. Our students leave us ready to move forward to such a variety of interesting and challenging experiences. They stand out; they follow their interests; they are successful.

The TLS experience builds skills, self-confidence, and leadership. The successes realized here clearly prepare our children to move into a broader, more complex world ready to make it theirs. Our admiration goes out to our former students whose younger days have become a part of our memories. We love hearing from you!

The Lexington School admits students of any race, religion, color, sex, national or ethnic origin.

'Twas The Season *continued from page 1*

their families in a celebration of the joys of the season. Folk songs, carols, and holiday medleys spoke to the diversity of religions, cultures, traditions, and beliefs represented at our school. The entire Lexington School community rose to sing "Ode to Joy" to close the program. One line from that song, "Let this magic bring together all who dwell upon the earth," captured the spirit of this year's concert.

Besides providing happy times for many people, the winter holidays provide opportunities to think about the needs of others. Part of the mission of the school is to impart to its students a sense of moral values and social responsibilities. To recognize and respond to the reality that some people's lives include hardship which can be eased by the generosity of others is seen as an important part of character development.

Under the direction and support of volunteers from the Parents' Committee, students were involved in holiday giving. At Thanksgiving, classrooms and advisor groups collected food for The Nest, an agency of the Lexington Child Abuse Council. In December, lower and middle schoolers participated in the Mother-to-Mother Program. Children shopped with their parents for gifts requested by families whose circumstances did not allow for any extras. Upper schoolers donated their own spending money to a pool to buy supplies for The Nest from their "wish list." Representatives from student government went to The Nest to personally deliver what had been purchased. These children came back to TLS knowing that their project was worthwhile, sharing the experience with friends, and feeling good about having been involved in community service.



Elizabeth Eidelson, Michael Leiba, and Jason Goldfarb explained some Hanukkah traditions to 2nd grade classmates.

This was a season of hope and good cheer. It was a time that brought out our best. ■



Chiao-ping Pan has joined the TLS faculty as kindergarten assistant in Mrs. Smothers' classroom. She was born and educated in Bombay, India where she received her B.S. degree in microbiology. Since coming to the United States in 1977, Mrs. Pan has worked as a research analyst and as a laboratory technician. More recently her interests have been in early childhood education. She has substituted in Montessori programs both in Lexington and in Cincinnati. Mrs. Pan's husband is a psychiatrist with Comprehensive Care and they have one daughter, Shiao-pei, who is in Mrs. Barker's kindergarten.

Looking Back

By Alice and Lindsey Ingram, parents of Renie '81, Annie '83, Lindsey '85, and Hanly '89



TLS Photo Archives

Exercising in the old gym, 1960.

It is appropriate that we would be asked to write "Looking Back" as this is our 20th year as parents at The Lexington School. Our association with TLS began in 1966 when Alice called from the hospital after Renie was born to reserve a place for her in the 1969 Montessori class. Each child since then has entered at age three and has graduated from the 9th grade. Hanly attended kindergarten as well, so we have paid tuition 49 times--from $550.00 for Renie's first year to $5,360.00 for the 1988-89 school year. Surely a record!

As we recall the past 20 years, the memories come flooding back: carpools, the famous candy wreath, *Guys and Dolls,* car greeters, Pine Mountain, and custodian William Turner. We also remember laughter-filled homeroom basketball tournaments, more carpools, the old gym, pouring beans in Montessori, Mrs. Trosper's spelling bees, watching the new gym take shape, and walking on that beautiful floor for the first time. There were still more carpools, Renie's 9th grade play when we searched for costumes and props in the school attic, three Washington trips, *The Music Man,* Christmas bazaars and bake sales, Halloween carnivals, and long soccer games. How could we forget Brownie meetings and baking cookies in the school kitchen, poring over renderings of the new wing, *No, No Nanette,* family picnics, Mothers' Committee meetings, parents' nights, conferences and board meetings, or *Oliver,* Mr. Pritchett's pipe, cheerleading tryouts, the Fine Arts Festival, and *Charley's Aunt*? We smile as we recall the old library, the old music room, and the old playground compared to the new library, the new music room, and the new playground. We have attended graduation ceremonies in the old gym, the new gym, the theater, and the courtyard, and have been in the audience for 20 Christmas programs. There were countless fund drives—from the very first one in 1973 when we asked parents to donate $25.00 each in honor of Mrs. Downing, a beloved 1st grade teacher (we were thrilled to collect almost $2,500.00), to The Lexington School Campaign where a dedicated group of parents was successful in raising over $3 million for buildings and the beginning of an endowment fund. Things certainly have changed since that first fall of 1969. How exciting it has been to see the dreams of so many take shape!



Mr. Pritchett lifts one of Mrs. Downing's 1st graders to pick a treat from the candy wreath, 1971.

Regardless of the passage of time, the concept and philosophy of The Lexington School have remained the same. It is still the school we would choose. Why? Simply because we want our children to have the best educational experience possible. At TLS the process of learning is just as important as the end result. Our children have been encouraged, stimulated, and rewarded. Learning has been fun. The environment of The Lexington School is exciting yet comfortable, friendly yet competitive, nurturing yet challenging. It is a place largely uninterrupted by distorting outside influences.

We have heard people say that TLS is only for a certain type of child. We can only respond that our four childlren are quite different, with different strengths and weaknesses, different abilities and ambitions, and different attitudes. Each has been respected and treated as a unique individual,

continued on page 4

Looking Back

continued from page 3

each need has been met, each child has thrived at The Lexington School in his or her own way. All have gained immeasurable self-confidence because they were challenged, but not beyond their individual capabilities.

There would not be a Lexington School as we know it without our wonderful teachers. We are convinced that no school can boast of a more competent, more loving, more dedicated faculty. We have never requested a specific teacher for any of our children at any level-- not because we didn't care, but because each teacher had something special to offer. Teachers have called us at night to help identify problems our children were having or to report special achievements. We have seen all of the faculty and administrative staff work long hours, certainly not for money, but because they care so much.

Our children weren't taught simply to memorize historical facts and dates, but to understand how and why our world has evolved. They studied the French language, and they came to know the French people and their culture. Science classes were accompanied by lab work where even younger students were given the responsibility of learning through experimentation. Math classes were fun and computers readily accessible. The teachers seemed to experience a joy in teaching that was infectious; consequently, our children developed a joy in learning.

Our children have been extremely well prepared for the future in the academic sense, but more importantly, their teachers have given them examples of integrity, dedication, hard work, love, and determination. If children learn by example, ours have had some of the best to emulate. They have been loved and respected, and they have learned to love and respect others.

What more could we want? The 49 tuitions, the fund drives, the money and time spent seem somehow insignificant as we write this. There is simply no way to repay each special person who has touched our lives at TLS—from Bobby, to the members of the administrative staff, to the members of the faculty. As we look back our hearts are full of love and gratitude for the past 20 years. We look back, and we say "thank you."



A scene from Guys and Dolls, *1978.*

P.S. by Renie '81

My younger brother Hanly '89 calls me "lame" when I tell him how lucky he is to attend The Lexington School, but I'm sure that he will grow to appreciate the wonderful opportunity he's been given as much as I do. There is a special feeling at TLS that just can't be described; I still love to drop by and peek at my old (very small) Montessori room and walk the lower school halls.

TLS is a fabulous place, and I wouldn't trade my education there for anything. Children do not simply attend our school, their families become an integral part of the system and its workings. As grateful as Annie, Lindsey, Hanly, and I are for our teachers and headmasters, we are even more grateful for all the work our mom and dad have put into TLS. Family involvement is just one of the things that makes The Lexington School so very special. All parents who listen to six-year-olds read aloud, who go over and over the multiplication tables, who drive carpools, who pay tuitions, and who help in every way with their children's learning experiences are appreciated far more than they know. ■



Renie, Lindsey, Annie, and Hanly Ingram

What's Going On Around Here?

Congratulations to Pre-K assistant Molly Wilson for winning Best of Show in the Lexington Art League's Art for Gift-Giving exhibit. Ms. Wilson's entry was a pastel entitled "The Backstage Cafe."

• • •

Don Noderer was instrumental in putting the TLS Jazz Band on the road again this December for guest performances at three independent schools in Louisville. Twenty-eight students and their four musical chaperones (Mr. Parlanti, Mr. Combs, and Mr. and Mrs. Noderer) received a warm welcome at The Walden School, Louisville Collegiate, and St. Francis in Goshen.

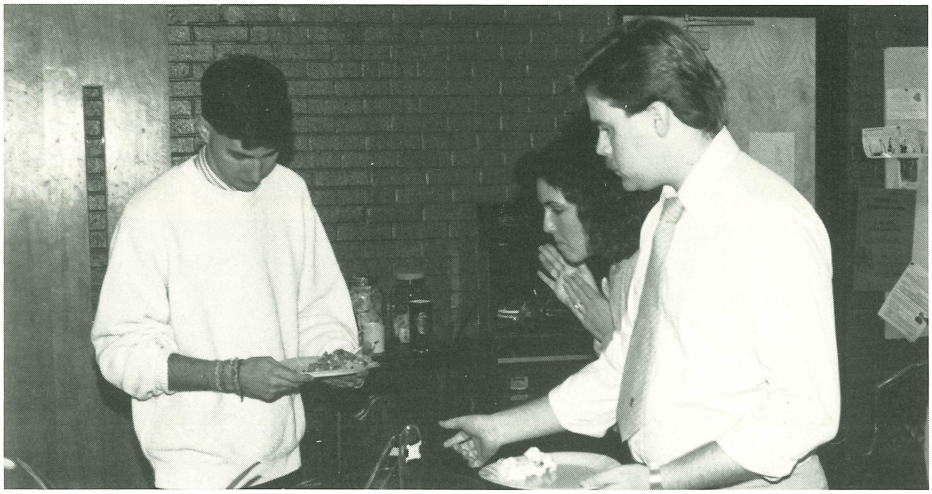
• • •

While many people were scurrying about town for last minute gifts for the holidays, smart shoppers were picking up an order they had placed with ninth grader Amanda Freeman for a custom-



A CELEBRATION sweatshirt designed by Amanda Freeman

designed sweatshirt. Amanda began decorating sweatshirts with buttons and bows when she was in sixth grade. Now her creations include painting. Some are abstract designs, but she's had a lot of fun with special orders to design a shirt around a theme. "Cute Tees by Amanda" is a label to watch.



Senor Jer-Don, Mrs. Adams, and Mr. Combs are enjoying Teacher Appreciation Day.

• • •

A glance at any faculty member's calendar would show Teacher Appreciation Days written in red, in capital letters, underlined, and starred. The Parents' Committee is behind it all, and they do a fabulous job of making each occasion memorable. This fall, upper school parents provided the faculty with a sumptuous array of mid-morning treats as well as a hearty soup and salad luncheon.

• • •

A very unusual field trip to the Okefenokee Swamp in South Georgia was part of the 4th grade's study of fresh water ecosystems . Guides Ford and Brenzel dressed their students in swamp boots and loaded them into canoes for an encounter with alligators, carnivorous plants, snakes, frogs, and other denizens of the dark. With the classroom lights down low, a *National Geographic* video, an Audubon record of sounds of a Southern swamp, and a child's imagination, this guided fantasy was the next best thing to being there.

The middle school's gifts of writing are traditionally warm and wonderful. This year was no exception. To show their appreciation for one another, the 4th grade classes exchanged thoughtful notes. Ms. Davis' 5th graders compiled their best writings into a magazine. Each child received several copies to be given as gifts to family or friends. Her 6th graders wrote, illustrated, and bound four children's books which were presented as gifts to the lower school classrooms. Ms. Stith's 6th grade students wrote special things they wanted to do for the special people in their lives, and then they did them. Ms. Haynes' 6th graders wrote and performed a skit.

ADMISSIONS UPDATE

It is admissions time again! Evaluation of candidates for our Montessori, Prekindergarten and Kindergarten programs has begun and will continue through March.

Testing for Grade 1 is scheduled for Saturday, March 11. If you know of anyone who is interested in The Lexington School, please have them contact Connie Freeman at 278-0501.

It Was A Grand Time

Turnabout is fair play. So ... over the river and through the woods to The Lexington School they came! Grandparents or special adult friends of pre-schoolers were treated to a shower of love and affection from the younger generation at Grandparent's Appreciation Day on November 21. The invitation to this special event was a picture postcard. Each one was different, an original work signed by the artist in full color.



Mrs. Barker served a hearty corn cake breakfast to kindergarteners before the performance for their grandparents.

Grandparent's Appreciation Day began with a song fest in the library. Since it was the Monday before Thanksgiving, the children came costumed as Pilgrims or Indians. Songs included traditional favorites like "This Land is your Land," as well as what lower school music teacher Martha Anderson called "silly songs." Most of those were about worried turkeys.

Classrooms were open for visitation after the program. Many grandparents stooped to the occasion by joining their hosts at the pint-sized tables and chairs to color or help work a puzzle. Several grandparents were seen polishing their domestic skills in the practical life area of the Montessori classroom.



Will Dorton is making a picture for his special friend.

Grandparent's Appreciation Day was a huge success. It's impossible to say who enjoyed their morning at school that day more. ■

Alumni Update

Many thanks to all alumni who contributed to this update. We'd love to hear more from you in the future. We'd also love to hear from our other old friends. Don't be shy. Send information to The Lexington School, Newsletter Office, 1050 Lane Allen Road, Lexington, Ky. 40504.

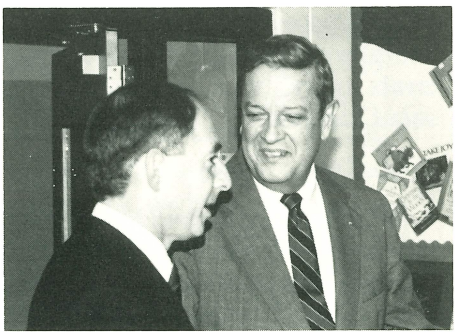
The 60's

Mary-Henderson (Hendy) Davis Seelbach '63 came to this year's alumni reunion. Her three children are now 12,8, and 2.

W.L. Wilson '65 is practicing law here in Lexington. He and his wife Jane have a five-year-old daughter, Leslie, who is in Pre-K here at TLS. Sister Jenny Frazee Wilson is almost two.

Lillian Waller '68 reports that classmate **Susan Griffin Phillips** and her husband Bo have two babies and that they live in Ramona, Caifornia.

Sandy Macfarlane '69 lives in San Francisco with his wife and son. Their second baby is due in June. He is an attorney whose speciality in international tax law is put to work for the Chevron Corporation.



Former Headmaster Norton Pritchett with Rod Bussey at the Alumni Reunion.

1972

Lindsay Macfarlane earned an M.B.A. at Tufts. She lives in Boston and works for Digital Equipment.

1974

Lockhart Simpson is a unit administrator and supply officer for the US Army Reserve in Fon du Lac, Wisconsin.

Daniel McQuillen and his wife Michele are expecting their first baby in February. Daniel is an Infectious Disease fellow at Boston University School of Medicine.

After spending two years in Europe working for Orient Express, **Gregory Pettit** is now in New York City in financial management.

William Scott has just had his third book published on architectural history in Kentucky. This book is entitled *Kentucky Courthouses.*

1975

Lucy Graves is in the second year of a master's program in nursing at the Massachusetts General Hospital in Boston.

Gay Kenney Young is expecting her first child in May. She is still working as a senior account supervisor for *Travel and Leisure Magazine* and has had a lot of traveling to do herself in that capacity.

Duncan Macfarlane lives in Lexington with his wife and two sons. He is a builder.

1976

After two and one-half years with the Peace Corps in the Philippines, **Harrison Pettit** is now working for that same agency in Washington, D.C.

Becky Lange Mustian had her first child, a son, William Martin Mustian, on February 18, 1988.

1977

Thomas McQuillen finished his graduate work in architecture at the Harvard School of Design in December. He has joined a firm in Boston.

Doug Geddes owns Custom Cleaning Company here in Lexington.

Kirt Lastinger is an architect with RTKL Associates, Inc. in Fort Lauderdale. He remains an avid golfer.

1978

Sandy Pastrick Mozingo will complete her third year of law school at the University of Texas, Austin in May 1989. Following graduation, she is moving to Fairfax, Virginia to join a Richmond-based law firm as an associate on the banking and capital finance team. Sandy has served as an associate editor for the *Texas Law Review.*

Roger Cazden received his Master of Science in Audiology from the University of Louisville School of Medicine in May 1988. He is practicing in Louisville.

Julie Ireland has moved to Charlotte, North Carolina where she is teaching fifth grade and attending UNC, Charlotte part-time.

Stuart Macfarlane Gesen lives in Concord, New Hampshire where she is a Head Start co-ordinator. She and her husband are expecting their first baby in March.

1979

Sheila Owen is engaged to **Bobby Stephens** '80. Sheila is working for the Fayette County Public Schools and Bobby is a U.S. probation officer. They are planning a June wedding.

Todd Geddes graduated from UK with a degree in business and finance in 1987. He is working as a claims adjuster for the Kentucky Farm Bureau here in Lexington.

Patrick McQuillen is a third year medical student at the University of California, San Diego. He is going to Nepal this January for two months of public health service in a program connected with the Johns Hopkins University.

Margaret Graves is in her first year of law school at the University of Kentucky.

After spending six years in the restaurant business in Atlanta, **Hale Pettit** is back in Lexington. He will be working at the chic new Cafe' Max which is to open soon in downtown Lexington.

Peter Hawley graduated from Northwestern in 1986 with a major in film. He is now deputy program director at the Museum of Broadcasting in Chicago. He is freelancing making television commercials, and writing a script for a movie which he will also produce and direct.

1980

Sarah Henderson teaches art classes at the Living Arts and Science Center. An additional part-time job to start soon will be working with Hale Pettit at Cafe' Max.



Sarah Henderson catches up with Mrs. Ireland.

Julie Geddes spent the last year working as a staff assistant in the office of Maureen Reagan, co-chairman of the Republican National Committee. One of the highlights of her experiences there was an invitation to the official welcome for Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher at the White House. Julie lives in Old Town, Alexandria and sees classmate **Elizabeth Marshall** whenever they can arrange a visit. Elizabeth has recently moved to Charlottesville, Virginia.

Jennifer Brandenburgh married Carlos Navarro on November 26. After a honeymoon to Florida the couple moved to a house on Ashland Avenue.

Chris Nelli is a junior at the United States Naval Academy in Annapolis.

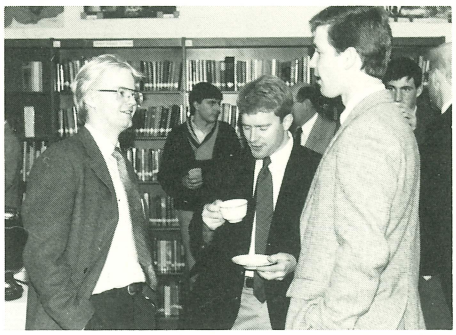
1981

Renie Ingram graduated from S.M.U. last May and is employed by Invitations, Unlimited, Inc., a printing company in Dallas.

Elizabeth Blaydes graduated from Salem College this June with a major in environmental design. She works in Washington, D.C. for Conrans, a British furniture manufacturing company.

Anne Margaret Lucas was inducted into the Golden Key National Honor Society at the University of Kentucky in December.

Tim Edwards graduated from Brown in May with a B.S. in applied mathematics. He is working at IBM in production control and pursuing his master's degree part-time.



Tim Edwards '81, Don Schaeffer '81, and David Scott '78.

1982

Olin Gentry and **Lucy Backer** make another set of alums who have decided to tie the knot.

Don Jacobs spent a semester in Brazil as part of his undergraduate program at Denison. Don is slated for graduation this May.

Van Meter Pettit is a senior at Princeton.

Lisa Morgan has been accepted for early decision at the UK Medical School for the fall of 1989. She graduates from DePauw this spring. Lisa was a teacher's assistant in the chemistry department, a disc jockey, and the program chairman for the student radio station. She spent a semester at Queen Mary College in London. She is a member of Alpha Phi sorority.

Caroline Turnbull married Todd Hagenstaad and they live in Albuquerque, New Mexico.

Bruce Belin graduates from Dartmouth this spring and will be attending medical school in the fall.

1983

Katherine Blaydes is a junior at Duke majoring in political science and English. This summer Katherine landed an internship with the George Bush campaign.

Annie Ingram is a junior at Vanderbilt majoring in early childhood education. She is a member of Kappa Kappa Gamma sorority.

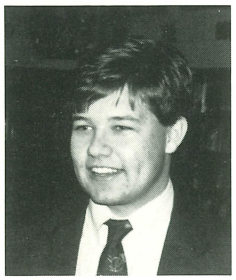
Joe Shepherd is a student at Emerson College in Boston majoring in mass communications. He works at a radio station. Joe writes that every now and then he puts on a jacket and tie on Fridays as a reminder of dress-up days at TLS.

1984

Kate Davenport is attending Haverford College and is planning to declare biology as her major. She got a good taste of what a science major will be like this summer by doing research at the UK department of endocrinology. Her studies were on nicotine and opioid receptors in the brain. She was a freshman representative to the honor council and keeps fit with regular swimming. *continued on page 8*

continued from page 7

Speaking of swimming, **Anthony DeMaria** is on the team at the University of California, Davis. He has "been to battle" with Matt Biondi and Pablo Morales, and has trained under Iron Man triathlete Dave Scott. The Davis swim team was 7th in the NCAA last year.



David Jones will graduate from UK in 1989 and enter the UK College of Law in the fall.

Margaret Blaydes is a sophomore at Duke majoring in public policy.

Tal Lewis is in his junior year at Brown. Tal spent this past summer in Ecuador with a group of students from different schools who joined a professor from Berkeley for an economic development study. The results of their research were presented to the new president of Ecuador.

1985

During his first year at Vanderbilt, **Scott Morgan** has been elected president of his freshman dorm and is a member of the interhall council. He is a newscaster at the student radio station and hosts the Sunday night call-in show. Scott is also on the staff of Vandy's literary magazine and has had a poem selected for publication. He is a premed major.

Lindsey Ingram and **Anna Hughes** are classmates at Vanderbilt, too.

1986

Leila Salisbury spent five weeks studying cultural anthropology this summer at Centre College as a Governor's Scholar. She is editor of the Henry Clay yearbook and won a National Council of Teachers of English achievement award in writing in 1988.

Classmate **David Kaplan** was also a recipient of a National Council of Teachers of English achievement award in writing. David is a member of the Henry Clay debate team which has been competing on the national debate circuit. Tournaments at Wake Forest, Emory, and Harvard have been on their schedule. **Forrest Frazier, Taylor Davenport** '87, and **Fred Karem** '87 are also Henry Clay debaters.

Last summer **Nathalie Charron** had a scholarship to study creative writing at the Kentucky Governor's School for the Arts. Nathalie is editor of Tates Creek High School's newspaper, vice-president of the National Honor Society, and president of the international club.

1987

Laura Ruth spent one month last summer with a family in Deauville, France as part of a student exchange program. Her host's daughter spent a month in Lexington with Laura. Bobby Gee and his family also participated in the program.

Will Bishop, Laura Ruth, and **Will Kenton** '86 had roles in Eugene Ionesco's comedy of the absurd, *The Bald Soprano,* which was staged by the Henry Clay drama department. Their play won every major award at the regional drama festival at Eastern Kentucky University this fall.

Greg White went backpacking in the Sangre de Cristo Mountains for 12 days this summer. The Philmont National Boy Scout Ranch in Cimarron, New Mexico provided him with the experience. Brother Mark '89 went also.

Megan Foster is in Youth Orchestra in Lexington. Her summer included study at the Eastman School in Rochester, New York.

Gayle Baynham is in anchor club at Henry Clay and she is on the executive board for SADD (Students Against Drunk Driving). Gayle went to Colorado this summer with her church youth group for a national congress.

Richard Peden is a junior at St. Paul's School. He worked this summer as a sports assistant at the Lexington Herald-Leader.

Brian Weinberg was on Tates Creek High School's state championship soccer team.

David Dayton and **Joe Aldy** are debaters at Tates Creek High School. They took third place in a tournament at Emory University in July. The competition consisted of 60 teams from all over the southeast.

Joe Aldy has lettered in tennis at Tates Creek and has won photography awards from the National Junior Horticulture Association. He is vice-president of the Key Club.

1988

Mike Aldy was a guard on Tates Creek's district championship football team. He was third runner-up in a national 4-H photography contest, winning a six-day trip to Chicago sponsored by Kodak.

THE LEXINGTON SCHOOL
1050 Lane Allen Road
Lexington, Kentucky 40504

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Lexington, KY
Permit No. 350