



MSA Weekly News

December 14, 2007

Volume 1, Number 10

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Web Links of Interest

- Flagler College
- Auburn University
- University of West Georgia
- Reinhardt College
- Gainesville College
See what these colleges have to offer YOUR student
- Atlanta Community Food Bank
It's a barrel of fun! We are still waiting for the final count
- Play IT Safe Seminar
If you missed the seminars on campus here are off-campus offerings
- Georgia ETA
See all their family workshops
- MSA Home Page
Find everything you need to find about MSA is here
- MSA PVA Web Site
Learn what is going on with your PVA
- MSA Winter Sports

This Week @ MSA...

The holiday cards were lovingly stuffed, labeled, licked and stamped (well OK, we didn't actually lick them, the postage meter did – but it's the thought that counts right?) over the course of two days with five or six people to help. But that is not important, what I want to share with you is that the artwork on the front of the card came from a student! Make sure you **read the article below**.

The students in PreUpper, CommArts and Upper have begun final exams. **HERE** is the schedule for that. Don't forget that parents can stay for **coffee and relaxation** in the PreUpper Great Room if you choose to wait for your student to complete the days' exam. The **exam calendar** is also posted on the website.

Also don't forget that M/PU/CA/U schools will all have their report cards posted electronically, you will not receive a paper copy at home (I'm hugging that tree we are saving as we speak). **HERE** is information about the paperless report cards. Thank you for handling this change gracefully, if you have any questions you can contact **Paul Barkley**.

Here We Come!



Wonderful news has arrived in mailboxes this past week as we have had several students receive acceptances from colleges this week. Please join me in congratulating the following students as they prepare for their move into college. Look out college, here they come!

Chris Nelson – Flagler College, FL

Dan Prothero – Auburn University AND University of West Georgia

Sam Smith – Reinhardt College

Jake Vance – Gainesville College

Congratulations everyone!

Classroom Art turned Holiday Card

Schedule

At-a-Glance sports calendar

MSA December Calendar
School Calendar on the MSA website

Contact Us

<http://www.millsprings.org>

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Mill Springs Academy

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It is always exciting to see student artwork being used in unusual and varied ways. This year, our MSA holiday greeting card artwork comes from **Spencer Murphy**, a PreUpper student who is no stranger to art. His mother is an artist and art teacher. His artwork, a color study painting, turned into a wonderful stained glass looking piece that seemed destined to be more than simply a classroom project. This is another terrific example of the outstanding gifts, talents and skills of our students. Congratulations Spencer and thank you for sharing your artwork with us to brighten our holidays. (from Brian Buxton)

5—4—3—2—1 Blast Off – MSA³



Mad Scientist Association of Mill Springs Academy Math and Science Activities = MSA³ - Rockets took flight Wednesday afternoon amid cheers and applause. Eight students built Estes Alpha rockets in one of the newest PM program offerings at MSA. The first project was to learn about rocketry. The Mad Scientists, **Alex Strand, Alex Silver, Alexis Herrington, Duncan Curran, Austin Palmore, Sam Wolff** and **Peyton Thiele**, learned about rocket construction, basic altimetry, and launch safety. All rockets were successfully launched and returned to earth with parachutes and nosecones intact. All of the students received official first launch certificates and an invitation to return to MSA on Saturday to launch them again with **SoAR, Southern Area Rocketry**. The launch was a high flying success!! Pictured are **Dax Lyle** and **Jorge Blanco** (from Cindy Thorne)

RoboMustangs take Third



This fall **Michael Palmer** (PU), **Spencer Murphy** (PU), and **Alex Jarrell** (CA) have been preparing for the **First Lego League Robotics Contest** as part of the ACE (Academic Competition Enrichment) class. The FLL Robotics contest involved researching alternative sources of energy, building pieces of a model city and robot out of Lego's, and then programming that robot to complete certain tasks. The students spent time in class and at each other's homes working on the robot, also attending weekend FLL seminars. They performed an energy audit of the old PU building by comparing it to the new building and then put together a PowerPoint to show their

findings. At the contest on December 1st held at Conyers Middle School, the RoboMustangs, ended with a total of 190 points. The contest has three components: completing the most tasks in a time limit, the energy audit, and an interview regarding the robots design. Pictured are Michael Palmer and Spencer Murphy. (from Martha Muir)

Wrestlers Take on Saturday!

Saturday's meet was an outstanding opportunity to witness really good high school wrestling! Five GISA schools from across Georgia all came to MSA for a series of dual meets. At the end of the day, the Mustang wrestlers were 4-1 for the day, including a loss to Westfield, last year's GISA State Runner-up. **Luke Cunningham** and **Scot Perkins** led the team at 5-0. Veterans **David Toler** and **James Stell** were 4-1. The rest of the Varsity team, **James Edwards**, **Brent Shephard**, **Alex Mail** and **Doug Seaman** were all in the positive with 3 wins each. The JV Wrestlers represented themselves well also.



Special thanks to the wrestling parents who pitched in to handle a myriad of tasks, from running the concession stand to videotaping matches. There are too many to list, so just a huge THANK YOU to all of them.

We could not have held this event if we did not have a second mat (which has the Mustang logo in the center) that was generously donated by an MSA family. Enormous gratitude goes to that family. Thank you ever SO MUCH!! Thanks also go to Robert and other faculty members who stopped to see what is going on in the gym! Pictured is Scot Perkins (from Chet Burnes)

Calendaring Items




Final Exams continue from December 17-21.

Winter Holiday's will begin with **early dismissal** on **December 21st**, check your directory/calendar for times. Students will **return** to classes on **January 7th**.

Winter Learning begins January 7th for PU/CA/U.

Martin Luther King, Jr. holiday is Monday, **January 21st**, MSA will be closed that day – **NO SCHOOL**.



Click [HERE](#) to see the entire school calendar.
