

50th Anniversary Grand Gala

Fifty years ago in a small house outside the gates of LSU, Dr. L.K. Runnels and his late wife, Patricia, started a preschool. Unique at the time because it offered reading as part of the curriculum, the school steadily grew. Over the years the school moved to buildings on Goodwood and Lee Drive, finally settling at Jefferson Highway and South Harrell's Ferry Road.

By 1983 the school had expanded to serve students from preschool through senior high on two beautiful campuses.

Runnels has come a long way in 50 years! To celebrate this remarkable achievement, we're rolling out the red carpet and inviting friends and family from all around to join us for this momentous occasion.

Kicking off the festivities is the 50th Anniversary Celebration Gala, Auction

and Fundraiser. The gala will be held on Saturday, October 4, at the Lod Cook Alumni Center at LSU. Sponsored by the Runnels Parents' Organization (RPO) and the 50th Anniversary Committee, the gala features a retrospective of Runnels School and its founders and longtime leaders and a silent auction. Entertainment will be provided by Party at Joe's, and a buffet will be

catered by Unique Cuisine. All proceeds will benefit the Runnels Plaza Project. The auction will include "priceless" art created by our students, themed gift baskets from each grade, jewelry, luxurious getaways, spa items, original artwork by Kelli Scott Kelley and other celebrated local artists, gift cards, and more.

(See "50th Anniversary," page 2.)



Runnels Parents' Organization (RPO) 50th Anniversary Committee members (from left) Kristy Mayes, Nicole Latio-lais, Chair Sarah Haase, Dana Schlotterer, and Gina Golda.



New kindergartners Gwen Hahn and Will Reonas enjoy looking at books together on the first day of school.

Welcome Back!

The chatter of students and ringing of bells filled the walkways of both Runnels campuses on the morning of August 11 as we convened for the start of our 50th year of school.

Founding Headmaster Dr. L.K. Runnels and Assistant Head of School and Preschool and Elementary Principal Gladys Runnels quietly retired over the summer, while Dr. Greg Brandao seamlessly transitioned into his new role of Headmaster.

"I have been extremely impressed by the beginning of the school year at both



Runnels Headmaster Dr. Greg Brandao

Runnels' campuses," said Dr. Brandao. "The students, faculty and staff are energized and have been actively engaged in teaching/ learning activities from the opening bell. I also have been excited about the wonderful support of parents, alumni and friends of

our school. I think we will have an outstanding 50th anniversary year at Runnels School!"

(See "Welcome Back," page 2.)

"GUYS AND DOLLS"

Get your tickets for the Runnels Theater community production of "Guys and Dolls." The show will run September 26-28 on our main stage. Call 225-751-2192 or visit the High School Office for advance tickets. (See "Guys and Dolls," page 3.)

Star Hockey Player to Train in Canada

Top junior hockey player Brad Sherman, a Runnels senior, is packing up his skates and textbooks and heading north, way north, to attend the Swiss International Sports Education Centre's (SISEC) Selects Hockey Academy in Calgary, Canada for the next seven months. The only American recruited for the competitive program this year, he'll train on the ice with junior hockey standouts from all over the world. In April, Brad will return home to graduate with his classmates at Runnels where he has been a student since the first grade.



At SISEC, an international hockey development program for promising student-athletes, Brad will spend three hours a day on the ice and up to five more taking online high school courses to

(See "Star Hockey Player," page 6.)
At left: Hockey forward Brad Sherman on the ice.

Welcome Back! (continued from p. 1)

Over the summer, new administrators moved into place in the elementary school. Marcia Mackay, our longtime assistant principal and guidance counselor succeeded Gladys Runnels as elementary principal. An educator for 22 years, Mrs. Mackay taught science, math, and literature and served as a guidance counselor at schools in and around New

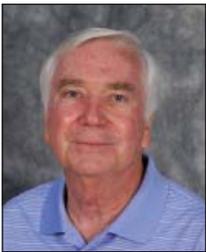


New elementary principal Marcia Mackay (right) and assistant elementary principal Beth Golden.

Orleans. She taught science to 6th graders at Runnels and plans to continue her role as guidance counselor for grades K-6.

Mrs. Mackay holds a bachelor's degree in Elementary Education from the University of New Orleans and a master's of science degree in Counseling and Guidance from Loyola University.

Mrs. Mackay said that she was honored to be chosen by Gladys Runnels to become principal of the elementary school. "I hope her imprint will always remain on the elementary school," she added.



Bill Golden

Golden has a bachelor's degree from LSU, and a teaching certificate in elementary education. She earned her master's degree in Social Work from Tulane University.

An addition to our faculty last spring

Stepping into the position of elementary assistant principal is Beth Golden. A reading teacher at Runnels for seven years, Mrs.

Golden has a bachelor's degree from LSU, and a teaching certificate in elementary education. She earned her master's degree in Social Work from Tulane University.

An addition to our faculty last spring

was Mrs. Golden's husband, Bill, who serves as the Runnels business manager.

We have 113 new students this year! Preschool Co-Directors Karen Runnels and Janice Leger report 47 new students, Admissions Director Sarah Haase said that 39 students enrolled in grades K-6, and 25 students enrolled in the junior and senior high schools. Total enrollment includes 92

preschoolers, 306 students in grades K-6, 112 students in grades 7-8, and 235 students in grades 9-12.

Over the summer break, Runnels campuses were scrubbed, painted, polished, and fully refreshed. At the Preschool, teacher Michael Bordelon built a play kitchen and picket fence on the 3-year-olds' playground. He also planted two trees and created a grassy area for the children. Mr. Bordelon rearranged classroom play and work areas and built lightweight art easels and bookshelves. "He was our jack-of-all trades around here all summer long," said Karen Runnels.

Also at the Preschool, a fallen branch was transformed into a "natural" balance beam for the Pre-K playground. It rests at ground level and has a rope strung above it so the



A workman installs the new balance beam on the pre-kindergarten playground at our Preschool. It was made from a fallen tree branch.



Trying out the newly painted benches at carpool on the first day of school are 1st graders (from left) Cameron Stevenson, Sara Dornier, and Alaina Milam.

children can "walk the beam" safely. In addition, the roof of the bike and toy storage shed was elevated and two bird houses that were built and donated by Runnels Beta Club members became part of the preschool landscape.

On the Harrell's Ferry Rd. campus, new carpool benches were built and installed near Building 1. The benches were painted in distinct pastel colors to help guide the children in grades K-3 to their areas for carpool pickup.

In Koenig Hall, some major updates were made. The floor of the hallway was stripped and new colored concrete installed. The bathrooms also received a make over. New sinks, toilets, stalls, counter tops, and ceramic tile flooring were added. Work also was done across the campus to resolve drainage issues.

50th Anniversary Gala (continued from page 1)

The gala will feature a grand raffle drawing for a \$10,000 backyard makeover! Raffle tickets are \$25 each.

You can purchase gala and grand raffle tickets online at www.runnelsrpo.org or in the Runnels Admissions and Information Building. Individual gala tickets are \$70. Table seating for 10 is \$800. Table seating includes a pre-gala wine and cheese reception and auction preview.

We sincerely thank gala sponsors, Tax Credit Resource, DEMCO and Louisiana Fire Extinguisher, and grand raffle sponsors, Duplantis Design Group, LLC, Louisiana Nursery - Homes and Garden Showplace, and Philip Moser Associates, Inc.

For more information on becoming a gala sponsor, please go to www.runnelsrpo.org or call 225-215-5706. Gala sponsorships include VIP table seating, pre-gala reception and auction preview.

In addition to the gala, we're having a second big event to celebrate our golden anniversary. Runnels Field Day will take place on Friday, October 17, during the school day on Raider Field. It will recognize the "50th Day of Our 50th Year" at Runnels.

That morning, all students and faculty and staff will gather on the baseball field for an aerial photo.

"The plan," said RPO 50th Committee

Chair Sarah Haase, "is to have everybody stand in a formation that represents the number 50." The picture will be taken from a drone controlled by Runnels dad Everett Latiolais. Later in the day, students will play school yard games popular in the 1960s.

The members of the 50th Anniversary Committee are Carol Barback, Chad Danos, Gina Golda, Sarah Haase, Molly Hightower, Wendy Holden-Parker, Neena Kelfstrom, Nicole Latiolais, Kristy Mayes, Joni Orgeron, Dana Schlotterer, and Wendy Worsham. Gladys Runnels serves in an advisory capacity. We thank them for their tireless devotion to this endeavor.

Get Your Tickets for "Guys and Dolls"



"Guys and Dolls" headliners, Jay Curry as Nathan Detroit and Ona Robbins as Miss Adelaide.

The award-winning musical comedy *Guys and Dolls* comes to our main stage this month as a Runnels Community Theater production, and features a cast and crew of Runnels faculty, staff, parents, alumni, students entering 9th-12th grades, and local actors and musicians.

Set in night clubs, restaurants and back alleys of after-hours Broadway in the 1930s, the play features a colorful crowd of hustlers, gamblers, show girls, and cops. The action follows small-time grifter Nathan Detroit as he hunts for a safe place to hold an illegal dice game. Meanwhile, big-time gambler Sky Masterson makes a

thousand-dollar bet that he can entice the next girl he sees fall in love with him. When the girl turns out to be Miss Sarah Brown, head do-gooder at the Save-a-Soul Mission, things get complicated.

Based on the works of American writer Damon Runyon, the show is jumping with dance numbers, live music, and hummable tunes, including "Luck Be a Lady," "A Bushel and a Peck," "Sit Down You're Rockin' the Boat," and "I've Never Been in Love Before."

Heading the cast are Jay Curry as Nathan Detroit, Ona Robbins as Miss Adelaide, Runnels alumna Emily Gyan as Miss Sarah Brown, and professional actor Will Thomas as Sky Masterson.

Featured players are Shawn Worsham as Nicely-Nicely, David Randall as Benny Southwest, Ben Carpenter as Rusty Charlie, Brett Beoubay as Harry the Horse, Ron Miller as Arvide Abernathy, Michelle Dearie as Agatha, Anne Woods as General Cartwright, and Jennifer Carpenter as Mimi.

Ensemble members are: Hot Box Girls -- Griffin Gowdy and Nicole Gardana, McKenzie Mayeaux, Jessica Martell, Suzi Brown, Claire Gowdy, Pamela Gyan, Monique Muller, Neely Martin Whitaker, Julie Martin, and Jenny Petty; Mission Band members -- Laura Hernandez, Kyle Alexander, and Amber Ellwood; and Crap Shooters -- Max Morgan, Jarrett LaBonne, Caleb Manning and Everett Hibner, and John Wiese.

Directing the show is Runnels K-12 Theater Program Chair Neena Kelfstrom, with vocal direction by Johnice Thoms. Jill Swetman is the musical director. Runnels alumna Madeline Arboneaux is the stage manager and Allie Nicholson will perform the duties of assistant stage manager.

Band members are Alex Acosta, violin, Garrett Miller, clarinet, Ashley Stansbury, alto sax, Brandon Kelfstrom, alto and Bari sax, Michael Martinez, Ross Stephens, and Austin Stansbury, trumpet, Sam Day and Emma Shupe, trombone, Luc Kharey, cello, Andrew Mitchell, percussion, Alex Stansbury, French horn, Connor Matthews, oboe, John Baird, bass, Bob Cameron, tuba, and Gwen Thompson, piano.

Show times are Friday, Sept. 26, at 7 pm, Saturday, Sept. 27 at 7 pm, and Sunday, Sept. 28, at 2 pm. Tickets purchased in advance are \$12 for adults and \$10 for students. At the door, all tickets are \$12. Purchase advance tickets in the Runnels High School office or by calling 225-751-2192.

Sophomore Dances Lead in "The Firebird"



Eva Kruger as "The Firebird."

Eva Kruger danced the title role in Igor Stravinsky's "The Firebird" as a member of the Baton Rouge Ballet Theatre's (BRBT) Youth Ballet this summer. In the ballet, which was double cast, she performed for audiences of all ages at local libraries, community centers, and camps. A student of ballet for 12 years at both Runnels and The Dancer's Workshop, Eva said she plans to audition for BRBT's *The Nutcracker* soon. Also in the touring company of "The Firebird" were Runnels students Catherine Asevedo and Catherine Bonaventure.



Library Used Book Sale

The Annual Fall Used Book Sale will be held in the Elementary and Junior and Senior High libraries from Monday, September 8, through Friday, September 12. Both libraries have a vast selection of quality used books for all ages.

Children's paperbacks and hard cover books are a quarter. Movies, DVDs, CDs, cookbooks, and adult hard cover books are \$1.00. Proceeds from the sale will be used to purchase new library books for our students.

Bring a can of cat or dog food to the Elementary Library's Used Book Sale and receive a free book. The pet food will be donated to the Companion Animal Alliance (CCA).

Hours for the Annual Fall Used Book Sale at both libraries are 8 am to 3:30 pm Monday through Thursday and 8 am to 12:30 pm on Friday.

Thank you for supporting our library programs!

Students Take Office

Election results are starting to pour in from many clubs, classes and organizations. Congratulations to the following newly elected officers:

Sr. Beta Club - Alex Stansbury, president, Kim Lam, vice president, and Irene Lewis, secretary.

Chess Club - Jordan Morris, president, Clay Harned, vice president, Marisa Russo, secretary, Sam Matthews, recorder-historian, and Connor Matthews and Preston Poirier, event organizers.

Sophomore Class - Regan

Dean, president, Micah Danos, vice president, Blair LeBleu, secretary, and Emily Britt, treasurer.

Junior Class - Kim Lam, president, Grace LeBlanc, vice president, Morgan Hughes, secretary, and Olivia Arcemont, treasurer.

Senior Class - Olivia Arboneaux, president, Taz Shah, vice president, Kara Peneguy, secretary, and Katie Pousson, treasurer.



Chess Club president Jordan Morris (right) and vice president Clay Harned (left) recruit new members.

RPO Parent Forums Coming Up This Month

The Runnels Parents' Organization (RPO) will sponsor a series of Parent Forums in mid-September. Hear first-hand about upcoming opportunities with the RPO and meet our new headmaster, Dr. Greg Brandao. Please mark your calendar and plan to attend one of the following sessions.



The sessions are for the parents or guardians of current Runnels students.

September 15-18, 6:30 - 8:00 pm, Drama Room, Harrell's Ferry Rd. Campus:

Monday, September 15 - Grades 9-12

Tuesday, September 16 - Grades 7-8

Wednesday, September 17 - Grades 4-6

Thursday, September 18 - Grades K-3

September 22 and 25 from 5:00 - 6:00 pm, Activity Room at the Preschool, Jefferson Hwy. Campus:

Monday, September 22 - Preschool 2s and 3s

Thursday, September 25 - Preschool 4s

If you have a conflict on the dates assigned to the grade level of your child(ren) and/or if you have children in multiple groupings, you may attend the session most convenient for you. We look forward to seeing you there.

Alumni Powerlifter Wins National Meet

Runnels alumnus and powerlifter Christopher Alexander ('12) won first place in his weight class at the United States of America Powerlifting (USAPL) Raw National Championship meet held recently in Aurora, Colorado.

It was the largest raw powerlifting meet in the country. "Since this was a raw meet," Chris explained, "we were not able to use any type of equipment that may help performance, besides a lifting belt. I competed



Christopher Alexander competes in the USAPL Raw National Powerlifting Championships in Colorado in July.

in the 59kg weight class and the junior division (20-23 years-old age group), in which I placed first with a total of 367.5kg."

Chris, a student at Southeastern University, attended the meet with six other lifters from Louisiana. "We formed a team and called ourselves the Louisiana Legends." (Named for former LSU powerlifter Garrett Bottesy Bailey's group.) "Together as a team," Chris added, "we placed second in the men's combined division. It was a really awesome experience, and I'm proud of my team for what we accomplished for the state."

Chris, an assistant cross country coach at Runnels, said he thanks Runnels powerlifting coach Lonnie Leger for introducing him to the sport in high school.

Junior Honored at Washington University

Elle S. Pickrell, a junior at Runnels, was inducted into the National Society of High School Scholars at George Washington University in Washington, D.C., this summer.



Elle Pickrell with Claes Nobel, founder of the NSHSS and senior member of the family that established the Nobel Prizes.

Following the induction ceremony, Elle attended a workshop on student opportunities and careers in the Central Intelligence Agency, and later, a college fair.

Expanding Technology

Technology on the Harrell's Ferry Rd. campus was upgraded this summer. Intercoms were installed in all classrooms, to be used as bell systems. The intercoms also will be employed for communications should emergency situations arise.

More than 100 computers were replaced, and all school computers received Windows 7 operating systems and Microsoft Office 13. Adobe Creative Suite 6 was also installed on many computers across the campus.

The secure wireless network was expanded, and internet access was made available through WiFi to guests on campus using their own devices.



The entire fleet of computers in Novak Hall's first floor computer lab was replaced this summer. Above, Mrs. Middlebrook and her fourth period Webmastering students enjoy using the new equipment in Room 51.

More Math and Reading Resources for Parents

Parents now have home access to two websites designed to help them track their children's progress in reading and math: Accelerated Reader Home Connect and Think Central.

With Accelerated Reader Home Connect, parents can stay informed about quizzes taken, points earned, and the readability level of books. Also on the website is the "Bookshelf," which shows Accelerated Reader titles the student has read. Although parents can access their child's Accelerated Reader account at home, tests still must be taken at school. Parents may contact their child's reading teacher for more information about this program.

Also available to many elementary school families is Think Central, a website available through the *Math in Focus* textbook series used in grades K-6. The website gives

parents access to the textbook and other digital resources for learning math, including videos explaining the concepts behind



Meredith Wartelle, right, demonstrates how she follows daughter Lilah's reading progress on Accelerated Reader Home Connect. The program can now be accessed from home.

each chapter and virtual manipulatives, like fraction bars and number lines.

Students in 4th and 5th grades have already received passwords to the website for home use.

Contact elementary math teachers Christine Pousson or Renee' Miller for more information.

Cheer Squads Ramp Up Skills at Camps

The varsity and junior high cheerleaders stayed busy over the summer gaining skills and winning accolades at Universal Cheerleaders Association (UCA) camps.

The junior high squad, composed of 6th and 7th graders, attended camp at St. Aloysius for three days in June. The girls earned Superior ratings in all of their evaluations and took third place in Xtreme routine, which involved performing a dance with stunts. They also earned fifth place with their cheer, and won Most Improved Overall.

At camp, the squad participated in skill-building exercises and gained new pep rally skills to share with our Raiders this year!

Attending the camp were Sophie Grace Sanders, Taylor Koontz, Paris Vercher, Kissa Nicholas-Whitt, Grace Scott, Aeryn Miller, Sophie Arceneaux, Sophie Edwards, Rachel Middlebrook, and Emma Schlotterer. Minna Ismail is also on the squad but was unable to attend camp.

Many thanks to last year's cheer coach and sponsor, Holly Wilder, cheerleader moms Andrea Arceneaux and Kacy Edwards, and varsity cheerleader Irene



Displaying awards they won at UCA summer camp are members of the junior high cheerleading squad.

Lewis for assisting with the camp.

The varsity cheer squad's UCA camp was held at Southeastern Louisiana University in July. The Runnels team competed in the small varsity division and earned superior ratings in Cheer and Xtreme routine. The varsity cheerleaders also brought home first place awards in the small varsity division for both Cheer and Dance.

At the camp, McKenna Tregre and Irene Lewis were selected as UCA All-Americans. McKenna was invited to perform in the Houston Thanksgiving



Varsity cheerleaders attend UCA camp at Southeastern Louisiana University in Hammond.

Day Parade, and Irene was given the option of marching in the New Year's Day parade in London this January.

In addition to McKenna and Irene, the squad includes Jourdan Milton, Kaitlyn Roy, Catherine Henning, Eva Kruger, Blair LeBleu, and Karli Blair.

This year, both squads will be sponsored and coached by Dana Schlotterer. The assistant cheer coach will be Sherry Wilks.

Teachers Celebrate Milestones at Runnels

During the All-School Faculty Meeting on August 6 in the Runnels Theater, three members of our faculty were recognized for completing 20 years of service to Runnels School. Congratulations to John Baird, Tookie Johnson and Joni Orgeron for this accomplishment.

Mr. Baird serves as the elementary science department head, 5th grade science teacher, Junior Beta Club sponsor, and theater technical coordinator. Tookie Johnson is the High School Athletic Director and head baseball coach, and Joni Orgeron is the elementary librarian.

Each received lifetime passes (two free tickets) to all productions in our main stage theater and in the Drama Room.

Milli Johnson, a member of the preschool faculty for 21 years, was assigned a permanent parking space at the Preschool. "We wanted to commend her for her devoted service," said Preschool Co-Director Karen Runnels. "She's often the first to arrive and the last to leave."

Library Donuts

Donuts are for sale during first period on Fridays in the Junior and Senior High School Library for \$1.00 each. Proceeds will be used to purchase books for the Junior and Senior High Library.

Junior Attends HOBY Leadership Conference

Junior Kelsey Mayes represented Runnels High School at the Hugh O'Brien Youth (HOBY) Leadership workshop at the West Baton Rouge Conference Center this summer. The workshop is designed to help high school sophomores recognize their leadership potential.

At the workshop, attended by more than 127 students, Kelsey heard talks by motivational leaders from around the state, including former governor Buddy Roemer. She also participated in a service project at a nursing home and was involved in group exercises to develop leadership skills.



Kelsey Mayes

Kelsey said that attending the workshop was "truly a life-changing experience. I learned that leadership in not a solo skill, but is achieved through teamwork."

Kelsey also had the distinction of being chosen as one of only eight participants at the workshop to be interviewed for a scholarship to attend HOBY's national convention in Asheville, North Carolina. Kelsey said that she left the conference with great insight and renewed energy.

She was nominated for the honor by Runnels High School Assistant Principal for Student Services Dana Schlotterer. Kelsey is the daughter of Mitch and Kristy Mayes,

Keep Those Labels Coming

Please remember to clip and bring in your General Mills Box Tops for Education Coupons, Community Coffee UPCs, and Campbell's UPCs.

Labels may be dropped off in the Elementary Library. The autumn submission date for General Mills Box Tops for Education is Monday, November 3.



Notable Events

Teachers Present Paper at Educators' Conference ...

High school teachers Steve Hunt and Michelle Richardson were presenters at the Associated Professional Educators of Louisiana (A+PEL) Conference held at the Baton Rouge Marriott in July.

The paper, which they co-wrote, offered information about a unique collaborative project they organized in their AP (Advanced Placement) classes at Runnels last year.

Mr. Hunt's AP U.S. Government class and Ms. Richardson's AP World Geography class teamed up to work on a White Paper exploring the politics, economics, government, history, culture, and geography of Egypt.

"It was a unique, cooperative project across academic disciplines," said Mr. Hunt. "While doing the project, the seniors in my class and the freshmen in Ms. Richardson's class learned teamwork, management skills, and how to set goals." They also learned about the art of compromise and methods of analyzing, organizing, and presenting complex information.

The seniors in the group assumed leadership over the various research categories for the project, Mr. Hunt explained. Since the classes met at different hours of the day, some of the work was done via email. The students also met to conduct research at the Jones Creek Library.

The students presented their White Paper to an audience of guests and students in 9th through 12th grades the last spring in the Runnels Theater. Adult panelists from school and from the Greater Baton Rouge community evaluated the presentation based on a rubric from the teachers.

Mr. Hunt said that the paper he and Ms. Richardson presented on the White Paper project was very well received at the conference, which was attended by teachers from around the state.

Mr. Hunt's current AP U.S. Government class is preparing a White Paper on U.S. relations with Central America to be presented in the Runnels Theater on October 10.



Michelle Richardson and Steve Hunt co-present a paper at the A+PEL conference.



Neena Woodward presents the flag of China, the country where she was born, to Gladys Runnels for installation in the Runnels Peace Garden as part of a Girls on the Run community service project.

During the ceremony, Lauren presented the flag of India to Mrs. Runnels for placement in the garden, Farzeen carried the flag of Pakistan, and Neena, presented the flag of China.

Flags from 17 nations (Australia, Belize, Canada, Chile, China, France, Germany, India, Israel, Italy, Libya, Pakistan, Russia, Sweden, Trinidad and Tobago, the United Kingdom and the United States) now fly in our Peace Garden. When the Runnels Peace Garden was originally established in 2004, it was the only one in the state of Louisiana.

We sincerely thank the Girls on the Run spring team, head coach Sherry Roper' and assistant coaches Tammy Bhat, Raven McNabb, and Amanda Sutton for donating the new flags and arranging the ceremony. The Peace Garden at Runnels was originally dedicated to the school by 2nd grade Brownie Girl Scout Troop 912. Many of the girls in that troop graduated from Runnels in May.

"Star Hockey Player," continued from page 1

complete his graduation requirements at Runnels. He'll live with a host family in Calgary and train at Winsport Arena in Olympic Park, the same place Hockey Canada uses for its National Team program. Brad and his team will follow a grueling 75-game schedule, playing tournaments throughout Canada as well as in Los Angeles and Phoenix.

Brad said that hockey has been a big part of his life for a long time. "Ever since I laced up a pair of skates when I was five years old, I knew hockey was the sport for me. It was a perfect fit." His goal is to play hockey in college where he plans to major in sports broadcast journalism.

A right wing and center on the ice, Brad was recruited for SISEC after playing in a hockey showcase in Las Vegas this summer. He had offers to try out for Junior A hockey but didn't accept because school is important to him and he plans to go on to college right after high school. That isn't always the expectation for junior hockey players, explained Brad's mother, Gail Sherman. "Hockey doesn't work like other high school sports." College is sometimes postponed for a year or two so players can get more experience playing Junior A hockey. At SISEC, she said, academics are emphasized and kids go right on to college. They also have a "better chance of being picked up by a college team."

Brad began playing hockey when his family lived in Massachusetts. Continuing in the sport when the family moved to Louisiana presented a few challenges. At first, Brad played with the Kingfish, Mrs. Sherman said, "but they didn't have a travel team, so we switched to the Cajun Catahoulas (later the IceGators) out of Lafayette." He also played in the North Texas League, and most recently with the Houston Hounds. "We were in Houston or Dallas every weekend last year," she added.

An honor roll student and member of the tennis team at Runnels, Brad said he's excited about the upcoming opportunities. He's especially looking forward to meeting people from all over the world. "My new roommate," he said, "is from Finland."

Brad is the son of Gene and Gail Sherman.

If you have school news, please send it to news@runnels.org.

Notable Events

Sculpting Knowledge ...

A new course in 3D Art and Sculpture has been added to the high school curriculum this year.

Students enrolled in the class are getting to know the fundamentals of sculpture under the guidance of new faculty member Cetin Ates. A native of Turkey, Mr. Ates said he's already at home at Runnels: "It's not easy to feel somewhere new is your family, your place, but the first week at Runnels, I felt it."

Mr. Ates said his students are doing "great." They have been working on creating unique geometric forms with clay. Later, they'll tackle high and low relief projects and animal figures and portraits. "I want them to feel the clay and understand they can change the form," he explained.

In Turkey, Mr. Ates taught high school art and was a member of the Fine Arts faculty at Antioch University. A resident of Baton Rouge since 2005, he also has taught classes in sculpture, tapestry, and woodworking for the Arts Council and another area school.

A professional artist, Mr. Ates said he works in contemporary, conceptual, minimalist, and recycled art. His work has been on exhibit at the Anderson Howard Gallery in Baton Rouge and the Douglas Michael Gallery in New Orleans.



Sculpture teacher Cetin Ates works with Sadie Kraft (left) and Ross Stephens on forming clay into geometric shapes.

Fitness and Fun ... Runnels kindergartners are getting a leg up on fitness this year with a 30-minutes-a-day physical education class taught by veteran teacher and



Mrs. Winnett gives instructions on how to manipulate the parachute in Kindergarten Fitness.

marathon runner, Mary Winnett.

"The class has a meaningful, structured approach to fitness that's developmentally appropriate," she explained. "The kids are having fun while using muscles that help build a strong core."

Each session follows a consistent pattern: warm-ups, stretches, instruction, activities, cool downs, and a trip to the drinking fountain, Mrs. Winnett said. The activities are often games related to the kindergarten theme of the week. Students

also do fitness stations two days a week to develop their locomotor skills. Some recent activities have been relay races while clutching pool noodles and beach gear, an alligator crawl, a parachute game, and walking on tin can stilts that Mrs. Winnett made. "The kids are engaged and they're enjoying it," she said. "I love it!"

Friends of the Animals ... Kristen Haller and Regan Dean raised \$500 this summer for a cause close to their hearts, Project PURR. The money came from garage sales. The girls collected enough household items from family members and friends to hold two sales for the charity. When they delivered their donation to Project PURR volunteers at the Mall of Louisiana, the girls were invited to pet the cats on display in the booth. They also received Project PURR t-shirts.

Kristen Haller, left, and Regan Dean at Project PURR.



We Sincerely Thank

... *Phil Page*, father of Andrew, Hannah, Madison and Caitlin, for donating an abundance of athletic training and physical education equipment to Runnels, including an athletic training field kit, Theraband products, and an assortment of stretch straps.

Mr. Page, who is fighting aplastic anemia, has a website at www.bonemarinara.com to explain the importance of blood and bone marrow donation. He said that he sincerely thanks members of our school community who donated blood in his name this summer, and students in his son's 2nd Grade class last year who presented him with "Beads of Courage" and 47 handwritten get-well notes.

The 90-Day Donor Challenge is being held through November 1 to increase the number of registered bone marrow donors in our area. Visit <http://www.marybird.org/olol/donorchallenge> for information about where to sign up to become a donor.

This year's *Runnels Fall Blood Drive* will be held in Mr. Page's name. It is scheduled for Thursday, October 30, from 8 am to 2:30 pm on the Harrell's Ferry Rd. campus. You must be 17 years of age to donate. For more information, go to the nurses' micro-site on www.runnels.org.



... *Elizabeth Pena* and *Juan Martinez*, parents of Matthieu Martinez, for donating *Science Discover* items to his class.

... *Caroline* and *Kelly Messenger*, parents of Kelly and Sam, for donating books to the Preschool.

... *Nicole Latiolais* and *Everett Latiolais*, parents of Eli and Cole, for donating a playhouse to the Preschool.

... *Kimberly* and *James Brian Calcote*, parents of Michael, for donating educational toys and DVDs to the Preschool.

... *Michael Bordelon*, father of Ila and Lyle Bordelon-Walker, for donating his time this summer to help make improvements to classrooms and playgrounds at the Preschool.

... *Everyone who contributed Coca-Cola Reward points to the Junior and Senior High School Library.* *Jacqueline Lurker*, mother of Jacob and William, reports that we have accumulated 26,000 points, enough to order a new 32 inch television for the library. She asks that we continue to donate caps and fridge-pack ends to work toward our next goal.

Notable Events

Teaching Teachers ... Several Runnels teachers took advantage of the summer break to sharpen their instructional skills at conferences and workshops. Upon returning to Runnels, many shared their new knowledge with colleagues. Elementary Principal Marcia Mackay and Assistant Elementary Principal Beth Golden attended a workshop in Lafayette in July on Breakthrough Learning Interventions for the Visual-Spatial Learners presented by education specialist Lori Benson. The session focused on ways to enhance learning for visual-spatial learners and for all children in a classroom.

Mrs. Mackay and Mrs. Golden hosted two sessions on campus to provide Runnels teachers with information from the workshop. Mrs. Mackay said that 24 elementary teachers attended the sessions.

Also, Mrs. Mackay and Mrs. Golden joined more than 1,800 school leaders from across the nation in Nashville July 10-12 at the National Association of Elementary School Principals' 2014 Conference. Guest speakers included Robert Fulghum, author of *All I Really Need to Know I Learned in Kindergarten*, retired Supreme Court Justice Sandra Day O'Connor, an advocate of teaching elementary school children to be good citizens, and former Peter, Paul and Mary star, Paul Yarrow, who has launched an anti-bullying initiative called "Operation Respect." ("Yes, he sang 'Puff the Magic Dragon,'" said Mrs. Mackay.)

They also attended a session about introverts and how they are often overlooked in class that was presented by Susan Cain, author of *Quiet: The Power of Introverts in a World That Can't Stop Talking*.

Math Games ... New K-6 math department head and 5th grade math teacher Renee' Miller picked up a pocketful of creative ideas and materials for teaching elementary math at a one-day Creative Mathematics workshop in New Orleans in June.

"We learned ways to incorporate more hands-on learning in the classroom," said Mrs. Miller. The workshop emphasized the value of using "group activities where students are engaged with each other and doing cooperative learning," she explained.

Mrs. Miller said that many new and creative tools for teaching math were introduced at the workshop. A color coordinated number line that she particularly liked is already



Renee' Miller teaches 5th graders (clockwise from far left) Bailey Ourso, Ryan Roper, Andee Alexander, and Avery Matens a math game she learned at a Creative Mathematics workshop in New Orleans this summer. The students are racing to see how many card combinations equal to 10 they can come up with before the end of a song.

Mrs. Miller said that she likes the idea of using music as a timing device while children work on math problems. "Instead of saying, 'You have 10 minutes to do these problems,' we say, 'Work until the music goes off.' It's less stressful and it helps children develop confidence."

In July, Mrs. Miller presented a training session at Runnels to share the wealth of knowledge she acquired at the Creative Mathematics workshop with her fellow elementary math teachers.

Autographed Photo...

Below: Runnels D.A.R.E. officer Capt. Randy Aguillard presents Junior Beta Club officer Anna Claire Pousson and Junior Beta sponsor John Baird with a signed photograph from East Baton Rouge

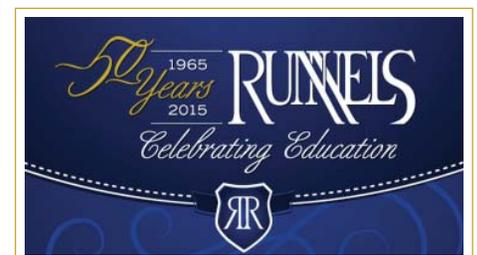


Sheriff Sid Gautreaux, thanking the club for participating in the Cookies for Heroes program last year. Along with boxes of cookies, the club members sent the sheriff letters thanking him for "protecting them from the bad guys." The photo of Capt. Aguillard and the sheriff hangs in the Admissions and Information Office.



Reed Stewart displays some of the posters he and his classmates created to review algebra concepts.

Doing Algebra... To help refresh math concepts they covered in last year's pre-algebra class, students in Missy Day's Algebra I course recently completed a colorful and creative project. Each student made a mini-poster to explain and illustrate a topic in algebra. The posters included an explanation of the concept, an example problem, and topic-appropriate graphics or illustrations. "The results were exciting," said Mrs. Day. "The posters were well thought out, interesting and attractive." They add up to a bright and informative display on the classroom bulletin board.



Notable Events

Some Notable Dates

For complete calendar information, go to the Runnels Master Calendar at www.runnels.org.

SEPTEMBER

- "Accalia and the Swamp Monster: Works by Kelli Scott Kelley," LSU Museum of Art. Exhibit runs through January 25.
- 8-12 Library Used Book Sale
- 9 Open House, Preschool 2s
- 10 Open House, Preschool 3s
- 11 Open House, Preschool 4s
- 12 Open House, Kindergarten
- 13 Junior High Fall Dance
- 15 RPO Parent Forum, Grades 9-12
- 16 RPO Parent Forum, Grades 7-8
- 17 RPO Parent Forum, Grades 4-6
- 18 RPO Parent Forum, Grades K-3
- 22 RPO Parent Forum, 2s and 3s
- 23 Picture Retakes, Grades K-11
- 25 RPO Parent Forum, 4s
- 26 *Guys and Dolls*, Runnels Theater
- 27 *Guys and Dolls*, Runnels Theater
- 28 *Guys and Dolls*, Runnels Theater

OCTOBER

- 3-10 Preschool Book Fair
- 4 50th Anniversary Gala & Auction
- 17 50th Anniversary Field Day
- 24 Elementary Play: *Aladdin, Jr.*
- 26 Elementary Play: *Aladdin, Jr.*
- 30 Runnels Fall Blood Drive

NOVEMBER

- 1 RPO Pictures in the Plaza
- 6 Raider Rally
- 14-15 High School Play: *A Midsummer Night's Dream*
- 12-21 Fall Scholastic Book Fairs

DECEMBER

- 5-7 Runnels Visual and Performing Arts Showcase at Barnes and Noble

LRCE Update... Junior and Senior High Librarian Charlotte Lockhart reports that the Runnels LRCE membership has been renewed. She invites teachers to stop by the library to check out what LRCE has to offer. Browse their resources by logging on to LRCE.org. Go to "resource library," "welcome to the library," and finally, "sign up to use the library" (setting up a password and user name are optional). Materials ordered may be delivered to your home or to Runnels School. The LRCE has great resources in all subject areas. Please contact Mrs. Lockhart in the library for additional information or if you encounter problems at log in.

NJCL Convention Days ... In July, five members of the Runnels Junior Classical League (JCL) attended the National JCL Convention at Emory University, in Atlanta, where they met fellow JCLers from across the country and competed in academic, artistic, and athletic events. Runnels senior Max Morgan was there and provides a first-hand account of the proceedings:

"If ever there was a high point in all my days as a high schooler, it would be my fantastic week at Emory University at the 61st annual NJCL Convention. We went by bus with 30 other delegates from Louisiana, many of whom we hadn't met before, making stops at Orange Beach, the Atlanta Zoo, and Six Flags over Georgia.

When someone asks me what I did at the convention, I am sorely tempted to say "everything." The number of ways we celebrated and learned the ways of Ancient Greece and Rome is so mind-boggling that I can barely scratch the surface with this memoir. We had many academic and athletic competitions, pitting JCLer against JCLer as all attempted to win glory for their state by running their fastest in the marathon, studying the Latin language their hardest, and writing their longest list of reasons why Sisyphus is a very bad man. When we had free time, we learned more of Greece and Rome by touring Emory's museum of classical art or attending one of the many academic sessions, where I personally made a writing tablet (the Roman way) and learned how *Harry Potter* borrowed from Greek Mythology. A lucky few of us got to examine and try on the armor and weapons of the Ancient Romans!

Each morning, all of the state delegations would gather in the Emory gymnasium, wearing their best Sunday togas and sunglasses to compete in some of the loudest cheering contests of the century. We all screamed, bounced around, and waved our hands fervently as each state tried to outdo the other in an attempt to win dazzling prizes. I honestly can't even begin to define how much excitement I felt as I walked into the gym each morning and heard the roar of hundreds of nerds, a force so powerful it made the very the halls of the building shake.

We also had time to make new friends. There was karaoke where everyone sang their hearts out to Disney songs, and movie nights where everyone was reminded that you're never too old for Pixar films.

I met a lot of great people at the convention: people I spent time furiously writing with during those academic competitions, all those people who I cheered my hardest for as they ran marathons and played volleyball, and all those people who I got together with in togas and started shouting with loudly in a gymnasium about why Louisiana is so awesome. Those friends I made will always be the reason why I will remember the NJCL Convention in Atlanta as one of the best times of my life as a high schooler."

Also at the convention were Runnels graduate Matt Mitchell ('14), the outgoing Louisiana JCL President and five-time NJCL convention delegate; Connor Matthews; Louisiana JCL secretary Anna Morgan; and Andrew Mitchell. Runnels Latin teacher

Ann Ostrom and her husband, Kenny Ostrom, accompanied the students.



National Junior Classical League (JCL) convention-goers from Runnels are, from left: Connor Matthews, Max Morgan, Anna Morgan, Matt Mitchell, Latin teacher Ann Ostrom, Kenny Ostrom, and Andrew Mitchell.



Connor Matthews suits up in gladiatorial gear at the 61st annual NJCL convention at Emory University in July.

RUNNELS

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Happy 50th Anniversary, Runnels!

