Bill Balbach ('72), Treasurer

Pan Am jumbo jet explodes over the Scottish town of Lockerbie.

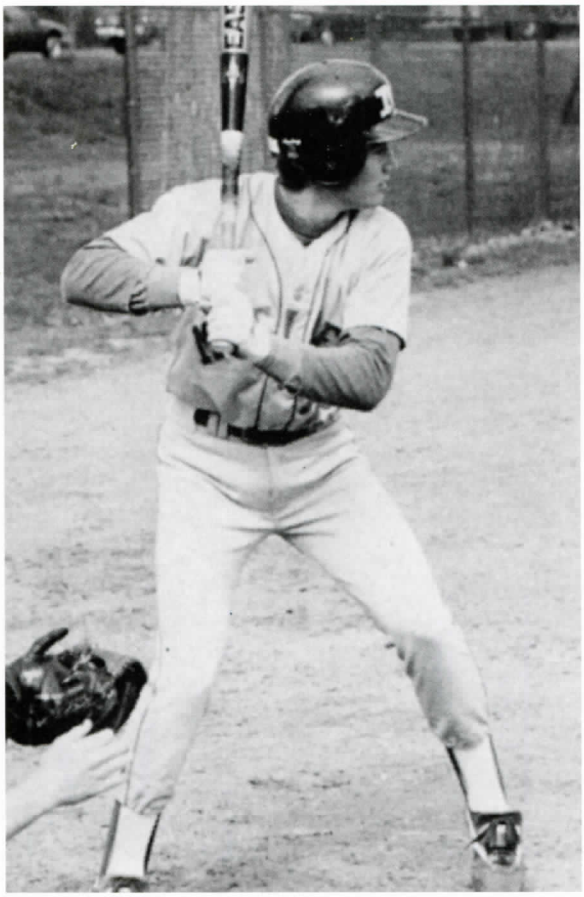
Yassir Arafat, PLO chair, renounces terrorism and recognizes Israeli rights.

Tiananmen Square

1989

Baseball State Champions!

by the Templar staff

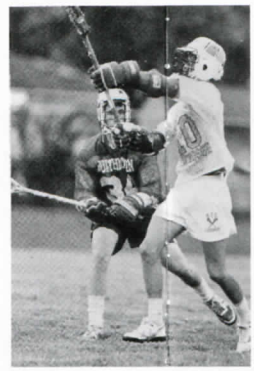


In this year of "Traditions," what could have been more fitting than for a Moeller athletic team to continue our tradition of state championships! The first state title ever won by a Crusader team was varsity baseball in 1972. This year's squad duplicated the feat, and Coach Mike Cameron was again in charge.

The season began on a dismal note, with the Crusaders losing 4 of its first 6 contests. From that point on, however, the team's leadership, talent, determination, and perseverence came through, and Moeller won 26 of the remaining 28 games. Two critical wins occurred in the Regional Tournament when we defeated Wayne and Oak Hills, both of whom had defeated us earlier in the season. In the state tournament games against Mentor and Upper Arlington, Moeller outscored its opponents 24-4.

Individually, the following accomplishments stand out: senior Mike Olexa set school records (career) for games played, games started, at bats, hits, RBIs, runs scored, and doubles. Senior Kevin Harpring, junior David Bell, and junior Adam Hyzdu established a number of season batting records. Coach Mike Cameron was named Coach of the Year in both the league and the city. ■

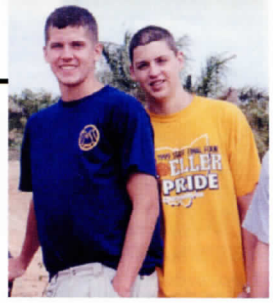
ATHLETICS: Finishing the season 9-2, the Crusader **Football** team reached the state playoffs. Senior Casey Fisher was a standout this season breaking 6 school passing records. **Cross Country** had its best year in Moeller history with 1st place wins in the St. Bernard Titan Classic and Middletown Invitational. **Soccer** earned the title Most Improved Team in Five Years, while **Golf** became GCL champs under Coach Rick Bohne with a 9-1 record. **Wrestling** had one state qualifier, senior Jon Rice, and two district qualifiers. **Hockey** completed their season 17-11-1, winning 11 of its last 16 contests. Senior Steve Busse of Moeller's **Swim Team** was the state champ in the 50-yard freestyle and earned the titles Male Swimmer of the Year (Ohio and Southwest Ohio), GCL Swimmer of the Year, and All-American. He also set school records in the 50-yard freestyle and 100-yard freestyle. In **Diving**, junior Matt Borman was also an All-American, finishing 5th in the state and setting school records: 307.65 for 6 dives and 546.55 for 11 dives. In **Track**, junior Greg Neuman was a state qualifier, while **Lacrosse** tied for 3rd place in the state after only its second year. This new crew was considered the "best second-year team ever," finishing the season 7-4. ■



Administration
Bro. Joseph Kamis
Principal
Dan Ledford
Dean of Academics
Father Kreidler
Dean of Students
Rose Eckhoff
Director of Development
Bro. Luksic, S.M.
Director of Admissions
Bro. Flaherty, S.M.
Director of Guidance
Bill Balbach
Treasurer & Business Manager

Faculty
James Bauer
Dick Beerman
Dan Bjelac
Rick Bohne
Barry Borman
Greg Boylson
Forrest Brandt
Bill Braun
Michael Cameron
Jim Crone
Carolyn DeBoer
Barbara Dizenbuz
Tim Erdmann
Mary Fogler
Bill Frantz
Jeff Gaier
Jim Higgins
Joyce Hoover
Bob Hotze
Judy Hughes
Jim Jewell
Dave Kaple
Ken Keener
Elena Keyser
Sr. Judy Klei, R.S.M.
Stephen Klonne
Robert Kolkmeyer
Carl Kremer
Leslie Kuschner
Gary Leibold
Joseph Libis, Jr.
Jim Lippincott
Bro. Lobrey, S.M.
Bro. John Malloy, S.M.
Joseph Meale
Pegge Mirus
Dan Ragland
Britt Raymond
Tim Schira
Ken Schlotman
Chuck Sellars
Dan Shannon
Don Shields
Paul Smith
Greg Stanforth
Father Tedesco, S.M.
Dave Traxler
Bob Tull
Bro. Wanda, S.M.
Mary Ellen Williams
John Yost

INDIA: Priceless lessons from the poor



For the first time, Moeller sent a mission group to India. Under the direction of Bro. Ron Luksic, two seniors — Andy Young (above, right) and Rob Vanderheyden (above, left) — and two former students — Andy Albers ('99) and Joe Carroll ('99) — traveled for five weeks as part of Moeller's service/learning program. When they returned, Andy and Rob had much to say. They had given much, but learned more. This is their story.

Andy's story

by Andy Young ('02)

When I went to India I had many expectations. I expected it to be hot, crowded, and poverty stricken. When I arrived I realized the heat wasn't so bad, and there were more people than I thought. But the poverty was worse than I imagined.

As the students walked through the slums of Bangalore, they saw a whole new picture of poverty.

Andy Young and Rob Vanderheyden pose with children in the village of Chetpet.

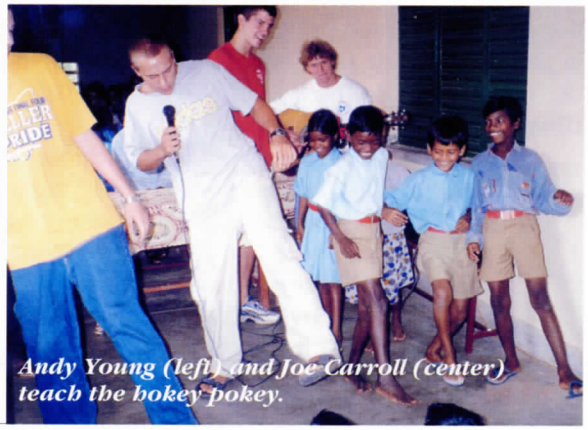
Pictured above: Moeller students work on building a house in village of Chetpet.

The overall trip was more "experiencing" than it was actual hands-on work, but the impact was just as powerful. We traveled all over India and saw many different places. However, there were two places that stand out most vividly.

One was the village of Chetpet in the southern state, Tamil Nadu. This is where we slept and ate with families in the village. While we were there, we built a house for a woman and her child.

While we were building, we had many people come up to us needing help. One of the villagers was an older man whose roof had come off. He needed us the most, so we built him a house, too, with the leftover material.

Although we only stayed in Chetpet for five days, that visit had a big impact on me. I especially liked the kids. One of my favorites was Baret. He was about 12 years old, and he was the first kid who came up to me. He hung around me the most, and we played Karem board, an Indian game, together. Baret had a sore leg and walked with a limp, but it didn't seem to phase him.



Andy Young (left) and Joe Carroll (center) teach the hokey pokey.

The other place that I remember well was the city of Ranchi where we stayed at a Marianist Brothers' house. The best part about staying in Ranchi was visiting the neighboring villages and the Brothers' school. While at the school, we played barefoot soccer (or "futbol") with the older kids.

When we came into the villages, many of the people stared, for we were the first white skin that they had ever seen.

The thing that stands out most was Singpur, the village outside of Ranchi. In the village they showed us their houses. They were the poorset of the poor — no toilets, no electricity... The villagers were very gracious. They invited us into their shacks, gave us tea, and washed our hands or feet.

They always showed us the absolute highest form of hospitality. They gave us flowers, leaves, and sang us a song. The song translated into something like this: "We know you have traveled very far and that we have little or nothing to give you, but we will do our best."

I will never forget them. I will hold onto my experiences in India for the rest of my life. ■

According to Bro. Ron Luksic, the mission trip director pictured above, "Wherever we went, we were welcomed by the captivating smiles of the Indian children, and the Indian people always greeted us with flowers and traditional dancing."

I never would have thought that anyone could live like this and still be as happy as they are. It was an awesome opportunity to experience something that will change our lives forever.

Rob's story

by Rob Vanderheyden ('02)

I went to India thinking I wanted to help the needy, but I know now that I learned more from these people than I ever gave.

We spent most of our time in India visiting people who lived in the worst places anyone could imagine. Even the poorest person in Over-the-Rhine is living like a king compared to the richest man in these villages.

Joining the women in the field, the Moeller students try their hand at the back-breaking work of rice planting.

We spent two one-week periods in a couple of rural villages out in the middle of nowhere. One of the villages was totally surrounded by thousands and thousands of rice patties because that is the only source of work for these villagers. They make no income, and many of them have never seen any kind of currency before.

While we were in the villages, we met many wonderful families. We lived and tried to blend as one of them. We slept in mud huts with thatched roofs and drank and ate like one of them. While living in the village, we were able to help build a few houses. During our stay in the villages, I found these humble villagers to be some of the wisest and kindest people I have ever met. They had absolutely nothing, yet gave everything just to make their visitors comfortable.

This trip opened my eyes to how an overwhelming majority of the world really lives. I never would have thought that anyone could live like this, and still be as happy as they are. It was an awesome opportunity to experience something that will affect and change our lives forever. ■

The trip to India was one part of the Moeller summer service/learning programs. This past summer, 50 seniors went to Over-the-Rhine, Appalachia in Kentucky and West Virginia, Honduras, and Mexico. While in India, like all of the trips, we had a number of objectives. Our first objective was service — we strive to help those in need. In India we built and rehabilitated a few houses in a village. Our other objective — learning — involved many things: living in another culture, understanding the problems of how most of the world lives, learning how differently people live yet have many of the same basic goals and needs we have, breaking down stereotypes, gaining a greater appreciation for all of the things we have, and learning the difference between what we need and what we want. During the India trip, all these things were accomplished by working in the slums, visiting people in their villages, spending time with kids in a grade school, talking to people, and going to service agencies for the poor.

Bro. Ron Luksic, S.M., Assistant Principal & Pastoral Ministry Director

The students also had an opportunity to help thatch a roof that had fallen apart.

Moeller High School donated $750 to build a house for a family in India. The ribbon-cutting ceremony for the house is pictured above, left. The Moeller mission group with the Indian family for whom the house was built is pictured left.

THE O'CONNOR WRESTLING & WEIGHT TRAINING CENTER

Moeller opens world-class facility

This building is a dream for a coach. The O'Connor Center represents our past successes and the belief that our program is capable of much more.
Jeff Gaier
Head Wrestling Coach

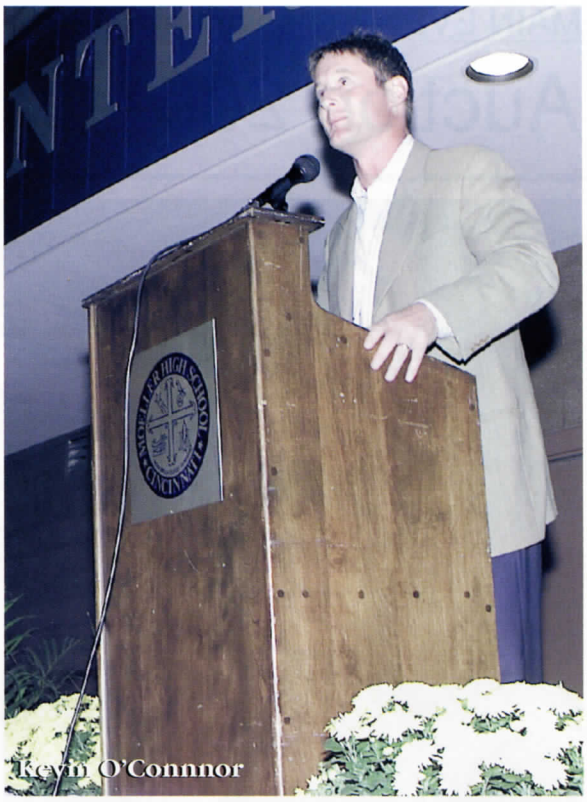
On October 22, Moeller High School held a ribbon-cutting ceremony for the opening of the O'Connor Wrestling Center, the only high school facility of its kind in the nation.

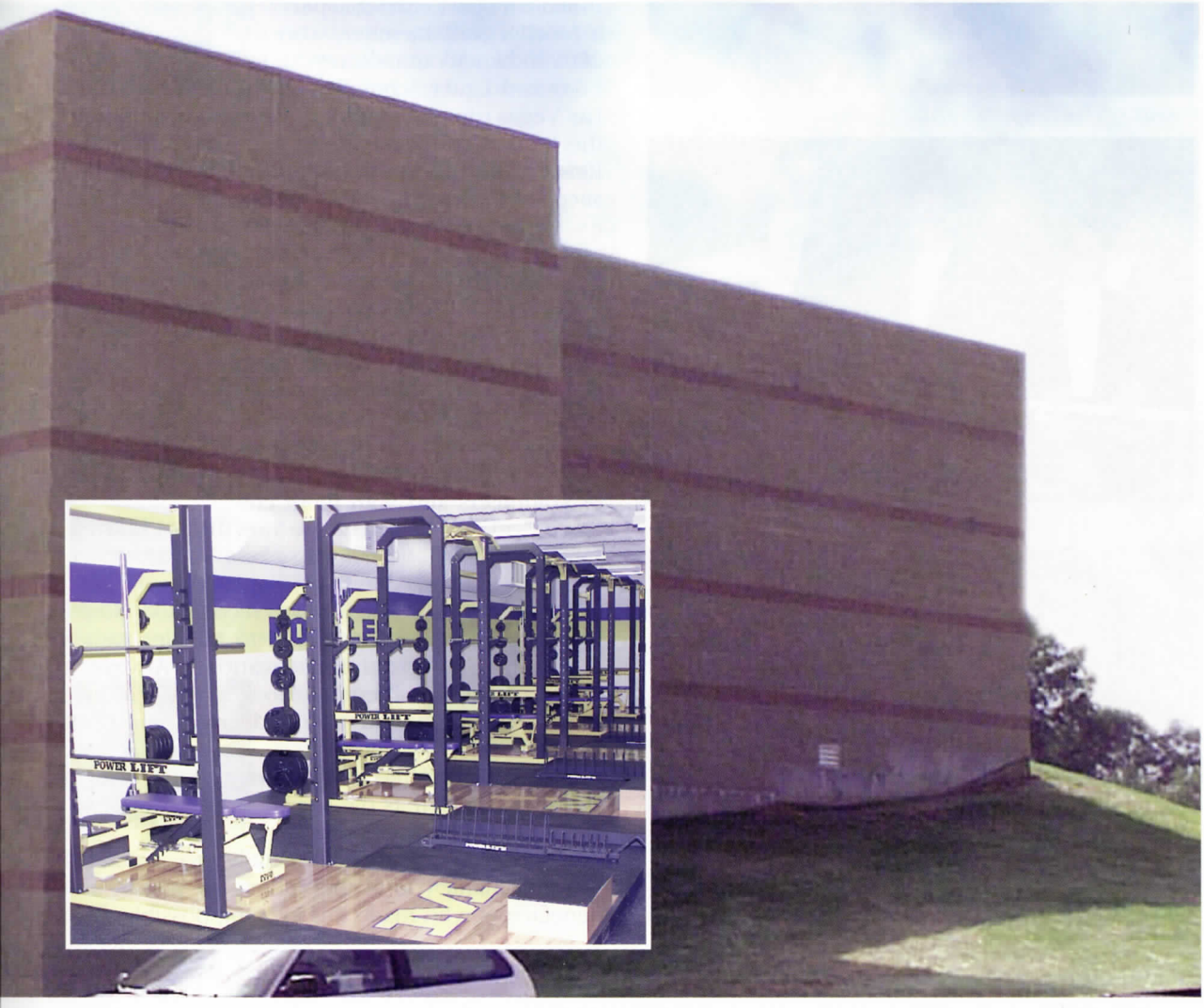
According to Moeller Principal Dan Ledford, "This world-class building will provide our wrestlers with a year-round work-out facility so we can continue being one of the best in the state. Its state-of-the-art weight training center will also serve *all* sports and allow us to begin other campus improvements as we tear down the old facility." The building's wrestling room contains 7,000 square feet, while the weight training center is 4,200 square feet.

"This building is a dream for a coach," says Head Coach Jeff Gaier. " It's hard to put into words. The O'Connor Center represents our past successes and the belief that our program is capable of much more." Under Coach Gaier's direction, Moeller's wrestling program has produced five state champions. In addition, the team has won two state runner-ups, two district titles, six sectional titles, and nine GCL championships. The program has been nationally ranked for the past two years. *Amateur Wrestling News* ranked them 6th in the nation during the 2000 season. Mr. Gaier has been Moeller's head wrestling coach since 1985.

The million-dollar facility was made possible by a lead gift from Kevin O'Connor, a former Moeller wrestling coach (1987-1992) and now founder, chair, and former CEO of DoubleClick. "Being part of the Moeller wrestling program taught me to listen, motivate, and manage," says Mr. O'Connor. "I always say, if you can get a 17-year-old to do anything, then running a company is easy."

Speakers at this dedication included Kevin O'Connor, Moeller's Guest of Honor; Jeff Gaier, Head Wrestling Coach; Bro. Ron Luksic, S.M., Assistant Principal; Fr. Terry Weik, S.M., Chaplain; Dave Angelo, Weight Training Coach; and Bro. Wanda, S.M., Art Department Chair. ■


Kevin O'Connnor



MAIN EVENT: Midnight at the Oasis

by Chris Anne Gaier and Kim Navaro

Auction 2001 *dazzles* patrons

2001 Honorary Chair, Rose Eckhoff, and her family.

Guests of Moeller High School's 16th annual Main Event Charity Auction were transported to a "sheik" evening at the Oasis on April 21, 2001. Our heartfelt thanks go to Mike and Lisa Sylvester along with Norm and Debi Cass who piloted the carpet ride through this magical night where all had a wonderful time.

Crossing the entry way into the Oasis, the charms of the Middle East welcomed all Main Event patrons. The combination of belly dancers, exotic plants, palm trees, and sparkling water fountain put everyone in the mood for a fun and exciting evening. Paddles flew as the bidding became wild and furious over the NASCAR extravaganza, the signed Pokey Reese jersey, the fabulous vacation to Scottsdale, AZ, and the little black Lab puppy.

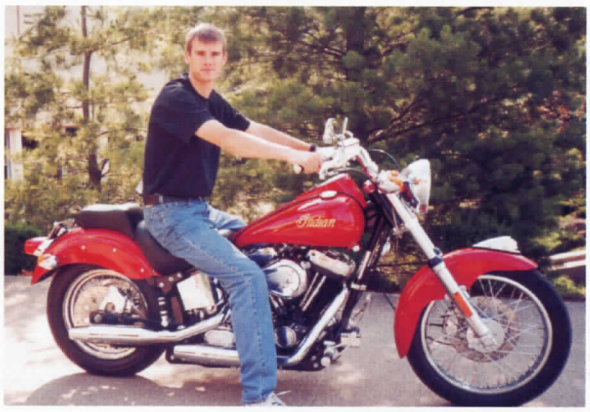
Later in the evening, Mike Sylvester conjured up the raffle genie and pulled these lucky winners from the sultan's jar: Keith Schaeper ('93), a Moeller staff member, won the 2001 Indian Scout motorcycle; Jeff ('84) and Linda Schnedl won the Las Vegas trip; the Randolph Radomski family won the Royal Caribbean Cruise; and Tom and Nancy Reisert won the Moeller tuition raffle. The auction successfully raised $75,000 to benefit Moeller and the tuition assistance program for students.

Pictured right: Students assist in the Main Event Oral Auction.

Principal Dan Ledford ('66) acknowledged the creative spirit that is distinctive to the 2001 Honorary Chair, Rose Eckhoff, Moeller's former Main Event Director. "Rose took the original auction idea and built it into a spectacular event that was uniquely Moeller's. She involved hundreds of volunteers and with them created an auction that is known as Cincinnati's best."

The crowd recognized Rose's contribution to Moeller with a standing ovation. "Always a friend to Moeller, ready to give and give and give," said Chris Anne, "Rose and her husband, Bill, stayed until the early morning to help with clean-up. Old habits die hard."

Pictured right: Keith Schaeper ('93), a Moeller staff member, wins the Indian Scout motorcycle.



On behalf of the Moeller Family, we extend a heartfelt thank you to the volunteers, guests, and benefactors who made this evening possible. ■

Kim Navaro, pictured left, joined the Main Event Office as Administrative Assistant. She has been an active volunteer at Moeller for years. Her son, Tim, is a 2001 grad.

MAIN EVENT 2002 celebrates 'Life in the Fast Lane'

Mark your calendars now for Main Event 2002 and prepare for an exciting night celebrating "Life in the Fast Lane." The date is Saturday, April 20, 2002, and the Oasis Golf and Conference Center will be our raceway for the evening.

The "pit crew" Chairs for this year are Bill & Mikki Lukens and Tim & Paula Murray. The Lukens and Murrays bring energy to the event that is sure to rev up our engines for a fun night.

Likewise, we are proud to recognize Bob Schmitt ('77) as Honorary Chair. A behind-the-scenes pillar of the Main Event for years, Bob brings a passion for NASCAR to our "Life in the Fast Lane" celebration. In addition, he is an active supporter of charitable causes, such as the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation and the Free Store Food Bank.

Main Event Chairs for 2002 are Bill & Mikki Lukens (left) and Paula & Tim Murray (right).

The raffles for this year include the tuition raffle, a full Moeller tuition for the 2002-'03 school year (or $5,000) and the Grand Trip Raffle, two romantic get-a-way vacations.

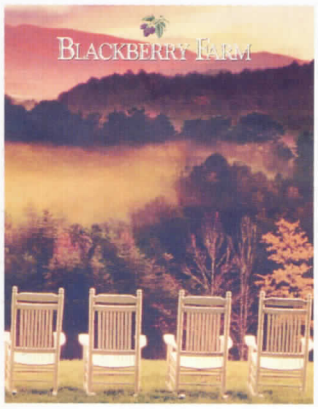
Tickets to the Main Event are $250 per couple, and the proceeds benefit Moeller and its students. Call (513) 791-1680, ext.156, to receive a brochure or to make your reservation. We hope you'll join us and help contribute to a great tradition. ■

The Tuition Raffle is a full Moeller tuition for the 2002-'03 school year or ($5,000). Chances are $25 each, or 3 for $60, or 5 for $100. The drawing will take place the night of the Main Event, and the winner need not be present to win.

Please note: Students must meet all necessary admission requirements, and additional school fees are not included in the value of this gift.

More information is available online at www.moeller.org.

Main Event 2002 All-American Grand Trip Raffle

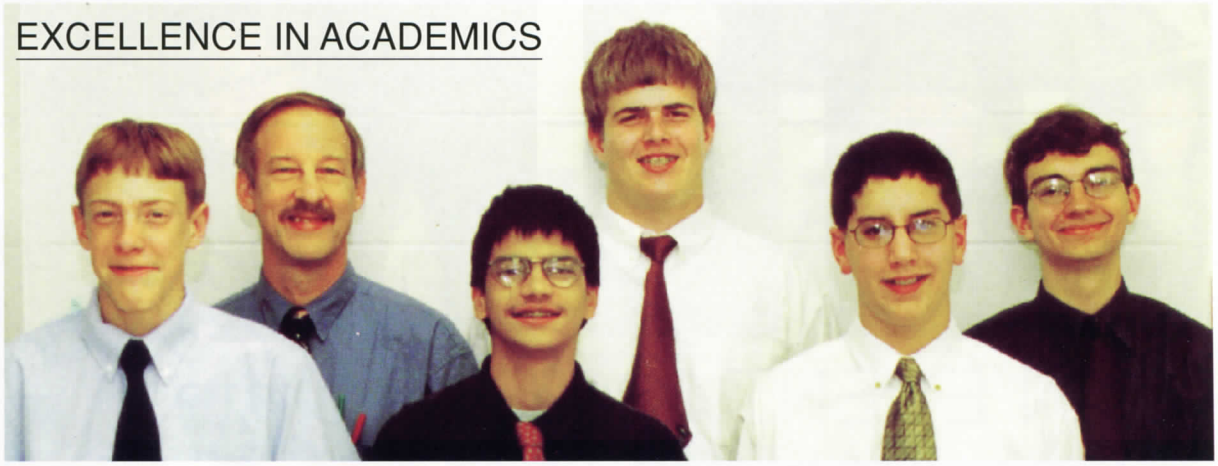


The Grand Trip Raffle offers two romantic get-a-way vacations for two. The first name drawn will be escaping the day-to-day routines to relax at the renowned Blackberry Farm, voted one of America's five top country inns by Travel and Leisure *magazine.*

The second name drawn wins a weekend for two at the Grand Hotel on Makinac Island in Michigan, a true refuge from the hustle and bustle of "Life in the Fast Lane." Chances for these opportunities to refresh your spirit are $50 each.

EXCELLENCE IN ACADEMICS

Bro. John Habjan, Dean of Academics



Ninth Grade English Team wins State Championship!

by Ken Keener, English Department Chair

The Ninth Grade English Team, pictured above, right: front row, from left: Chris Babcock, Agustya Mehta, and David King; back row, from left: Mr. Ken Keener, Zach Smith, and Dan Schwallie.

Moeller sent five teams to compete in the statewide Ohio Tests of Academic Achievement. The Ninth Grade English team won the state championship among all Ohio Division I schools. This marks Moeller's second state championship in Ninth Grade English.

The team's 1st place finish was propelled by **Dan Schwallie**, who posted the top score in Ohio in all divisions. **David King** was 2nd in the state, **Zachary Smith** scored 5th in the state, **Chris Babcock** was 15th in the state, and **Gus Mehta** posted the 17th best score in Ohio, all in Division I.

The Algebra team won 4th place among all Division I schools. **Thomas LaPille** led the team with the second highest score in Ohio. **Kevin Buckingham** was 4th in the state, while **Mark Alexander, Douglas Becraft**, and **James Tull** all were named honorable mention in Ohio's Division I.

Other top individual performances included **R.J. Nemeth**, who finished second in Ohio in Division I in First-Year Chemistry, and **Ian Abbott**, who received District honorable mention in First-Year Spanish. ■

Ohio Stock Market Game Winner: Jim Alverson ('02).

College Board names 17 Moeller students AP Scholars

by Paul Smith, Guidance Department, Testing Services Coordinator

In recognition of their exceptional achievement on the college-level Advanced Placement (AP) Exams, the College Board has named 17 Moeller students AP Scholars. Only 13 percent of more than 840,000 students who took AP exams in May 2001 performed at a level high enough to merit such recognition.

Matthew DePetro ('01), Daniel Doel ('01), Mark Magner ('01), Bradley Moore ('01), and **Denmark Schulze ('01)** qualified for the AP Scholar with Distinction Award by earning an average grade of 3.5 or higher on all AP exams taken.

Nicholas Lukens ('01) qualified for the AP Scholar with Honor Award by earning an average grade of 3.25 on all AP exams taken.

Eleven students qualified for the AP Scholar Award by completing three or more AP exams with grades of 3.0 or higher: **Luke Brunck ('01), David Candy ('02), Rafael Courtemanche ('01), Darius Ehteshami ('01), Mark Hardin ('01), Jeffery Heimann ('01), Patrick Hildebrandt ('01), Abhijit Mehta (02), Michael O'Leary ('01), Brian Schaeper ('01),** and **Eric Wellinghoff ('01).**

The College Board is a national nonprofit membership association dedicated to preparing, inspiring, and connecting students to college and opportunity. ■

Two students were chosen as National Merit Semi-Finalists: ***Abhijit Mehta ('02)*** *and* ***David Tull ('02).***

Brandon Harris ('02) *was chosen as a National Achievement Scholarship Semi-Finalist.*