Maurice Memories
MARLIN MCKNIGHT
"I was in Zac and Jack's room and they had bananas on the inside of the door."
Maurice: What is this?
Them: We had a food fight.
Maurice: Well y'all better have a food-clean-up-fight.
ANNA K
Anna: Maurice, why are you so dressed up?
Maurice: (singing) 'Cause I'm a Classic Man…
JUSTIN JOHNSON
"I just remember when I first got here, I couldn't get him to say two words. And now, I can't get him to stop talking."
KERMIT
Kermit: "Maurice, Baby D said we don't need to clean the hallway."
Maurice: Well, Baby M says you do.
HEMANI PATEL
Hemani: Can we go on a Walmart run?
Maurice: No, you can always go on a Walmart walk, though.
CLAIRE BERNARDO
Claire: Happy Mother's Day, Maurice!
Maurice: Do I look like a mother to you...
&
"When he tried to give me a quest violation so I told him I was Frances Davenport."
MIKAYLA DROST
"My favorite Maurice memory was around March. I was walking down the hall and he asked what I was doing on campus. I told him I went here and he looked confused."
GABBY BARRY
"I was penny boarding last year and I fell and Maurice stood there and took a picture of me."

by Anna Kulangara

GSSM students have probably heard these questions from 3rd floor Residence Life Coordinator, Maurice Williams, but this time I sat down with Maurice to ask him some questions before he leaves his Res Life position and moves to NC.

Q: Why did you decide to join the staff at GSSM (after working in journalism)?
A: I initially joined GSSM as the boys’ tennis coach in January of 2013, and a few weeks later, the 3rd floor RLC at the time decided to take another job, so I was asked to fill in temporarily until the end of the school year. I couldn’t find a job in journalism in Hartsville, because it’s such a small town. I did get offers in Charlotte, but I didn’t want to have to do a long commute.

Q: How long have you worked here?
A: I’ve been working here since January of 2013 and as an RLC since February of 2013, so I’m technically the longest member on the RLC team. When I got here, there were only two floors and there wasn’t anybody or anything on 4th floor. You could smell the paint on 4th floor. I knew all the students’ names, too.

Q: How has your experience been at GSSM?
A: It’s almost as hard as the classes are for you all. You got your good days...your bad days. It’s been interesting. It’s different because I’m used to working around adults, but now I’m working with children. It’s been fun to see the school’s diversity change.

Q: What is your favorite memory here?
A: I like the Carnival the most, and it’s not just because you all are leaving. I like it because I’ve been in charge of it, in the past years. I like it because you all aren’t worried about classes anymore and the whole school’s invited. You got faculty and their kids here, Res life here; RA’s don’t have classes anymore, dining hall staff havin’ fun. You know everybody’s celebratin’. No stress, plenty of fun, and friends, and food. I might come back for Carnival 2016, so y’all better do good...HINT, HINT.

Q: What are your plans for the future?
A: I’m going to take a little break; I think I deserve it. I might go up to see my family in Virginia for a few days. I usually go during the summer, but this year I had to get ready to leave and train my replacement, so I don’t have the chance to visit them. I’m going to start some tennis coaching and maybe get back into some freelance writing. I’m gonna be in contact with all of you. You might think you won’t ever see me again and be out at Cookout on a Saturday night and I’ll show up. I’ll pop out of nowhere and make sure your room is clean. This won’t be the last you’ll see of me. I might come back for Coker and GSSM graduations.

Q: What are some words of advice for your replacement, Tre?
A: Can’t tell you that. That’s a secret code. I gave all the Res life some little notes and tips. Just trust they know my words of advice and I know they’ve already been using them, too.

Q: What are some final words of advice for our Govies?
A: (1) Start on those college apps, don’t drag your feet on those. You got to start today, for tomorrow. So that means, when you get on the college campus, start interacting with teachers in your department. So when you become a junior or a senior in college, everybody will already know you. Start networking as soon as possible. (2) Listen to your parents; I know y’all don’t like that. (3) Go support all our sports teams, and don’t forget the tennis team because that was my first love here at the Governor’s School. (4) Call home because if not, I get calls from them. I need to go call my mom right now and I talked to her yesterday!

Anna: Maurice, why are you so dressed up?
Maurice: (singing) ‘Cause I'm a Classic Man…
Summer Research

by Marlena Kolesinska

During the summer after junior year, GSSM seniors have the opportunity to complete six weeks of mentored research. Traditionally the six-weeks are spent at an in-state university or through a student organized connection. The program has expanded to include a few out-of-state universities. A select few students can even apply for international positions in either South Korea or Germany. In addition to the six-weeks of research during the summer, Seniors create a formal presentation and write research paper during the Fall semester.

Students completed projects in both the science and business fields. One student, Sam Sisney, conducted marketing research at a startup incubator. Sisney went from not knowing what marketing research was to greatly benefiting from the real world experience, where his eyes were opened.

Kylie Fletcher, who was selected to do cancer research in Germany, was excited to talk about her project. “At the Deutches Krebsforschungszentrum, or the German Cancer Research Center, I studied microtubules and the adherence junction protein P-0071 to determine if there was an interaction between the two. I destroyed the microtubule network by cold treating the cells on ice, and then analyzed the results by performing immunohistochemistry techniques and looking at the cells underneath a microscope to create pretty pictures. In addition, the opportunity to go to Germany provided me with a cultural immersion into a new world, where I got to work at a world-class lab and cancer research institute.”

Jacob Rabinovich, who also did his research in Germany at the German Cancer Research Center under the Heidelberg Institute for Stem Cell Technology and Experimental Medicine, performed his research on hematopoietic stem cells, or stem cells in the blood system, using mice as the test subjects. Like many students who found a well-fitting match for their research project, Rabinovich’s research experience taught a lot about what it is like to perform research in the real world, as well as allowing Rabinovich to have a good time and a very different summer than a typical high school student.

Mr. Gunnells joined GSSM last year as the Academic Coordinator. This year, in addition to that role, he is teaching an AP U.S. History course. Due to the growth of the school, Mr. Gunnells was prompted to take on an adjunct teaching position. Funding was tight, and the school had two options: either cut humanity electives or take on another history professor. After some thought, Mr. Gunnells took the job and the heavy load of creating new lesson plans and tests for his course. Previously, he taught four levels of U.S. History and tutored on the collegiate level. For Mr. Gunnells, the students make the job worth it. He believes that a person needs to be comfortable, regardless of age, in order to learn; he tries to create such an environment in his class. Although friendly, his classroom is focused—everyone knows what they need to get done. GSSM is lucky to have Mr. Gunnells!

Junior Advice

by Kylie Fletcher

Utilize your resources

There are numerous resources here at GSSM, so definitely use them. If you need help with a subject, do not be afraid to go see a teacher or one of the student tutors. Do try to figure things out on your own, but also recognize when you need help. The resources are also important for clubs and activities. One of the best things about GSSM is that each club gets funding, and the adults here will do whatever they can to see your idea succeed.

Plan and prepare

Again, this is true for both classes and extracurricular activities. Keep track of all of your important dates in a planner. Use those dates to create a timeline of your to-do list. Also, create a studying schedule so that you do not wait until the night before a test to start studying. The tests at GSSM are much more challenging and require more preparation than most students are used to.

Find ways to motivate yourself

Motivation is sometimes hard to find, especially for that one subject you may hate. Rewarding yourself for getting tasks done is a great way to fix that problem. Tell yourself, “If I get this done, then I can reward myself.” That reward may be spending time with your friends at Happy Half, going to Golden Dragon for dinner, or getting a coffee from Crema. Choose whatever works best for you.

Junior year is not too early to start preparing for college apps.

Start studying for and taking your SAT’s, ACT’s, and subject tests. Do not wait to cram them all into your senior year; you will have college applications, research, and classwork to worry about. Also, start keeping track of your activities and accomplishments. It is easier than trying to remember everything that you have done as you are working on your college apps senior year.
Whether you’re looking for a cream soda or bug spray, Gardner’s is the place for you. The rustic red building across the street from the Toxic Pond functions as a feed store, gardening store, and snack shop. Though its outside appearance is akin to that of a horse barn, on the inside it has a charming retro vibe, complete with vintage sodas and saltwater taffy by the ounce. Best of all, GSSM students get a 10% discount. I’d suggest the Blenheim’s ginger ale!

In previous summers, our “blockbusters” have not lived up to cinematic tradition, but this summer one of the greatest action films found boxoffice success and critical acclaim. Mad Max: Fury Road is an apocalyptic action film that follows Max Rockatansky as he assists women in sex slavery. Behind this morally charged plot, the film is loaded with incredible, liveaction car chases and vivid scenes of destroyed landscape. Fury Road also has a great cast, which features Tom Hardy, Charlize Theron, Nicholas Hoult, and Rosie Huntington-Whiteley. The popular critic websites, Rotten Tomatos and Metacritic, gave the film a ninetyseven percent and eightynine percent approval, respectively. The film is currently available on both iTunes and Amazon Prime.

Homegoing week is a great way for students to show school spirit, get involved, and have fun before leaving for the long weekend. Club fair kicked off the week’s festivities, as over forty student organizations participated in the event. Club leaders and posters from the school’s clubs and societies lined the windowsills from South Lobby to North Lobby were full of organizations attempting to recruit new members. Students walked the halls signing up for clubs that piqued their interests. SAB encouraged students to dress up during the week.

Students eagerly participated each of the four days: Multiple Monday, Express Yourself Tuesday, Eagle Day Wednesday, and Alter Ego Thursday. The week ended with Convocation, an event honoring seniors for their academic success.
Fall Sports Update

With an increase of the junior class size came an increase in athletic interest. Under the direction of a new coach, Hilary Pratt, the longstanding volleyball program has grown to a team size of twenty-three players. In the first week of school, the team faced their toughest opponent, AAAA region Hartsville High. They lost the scrimmage, but played well considering they had only practiced three times. The following week the Lady Eagles played Hartsville again, this time on their own court, but even with the support of the home cheering section it wasn’t enough to earn the W. Following the losses to Hartsville High, the team beat East Clarendon in two sets, 25-18 and 25 (insert scores and opponents from games on Sept 15th and 17th). The team is expected to win their region for the second year in a row. The girls’ tennis team gained a new coach, Coker College senior, Zach Grooms. Zach is taking over for RLC Maurice Williams, who moved to North Carolina mid-September. Juniors have filled in numbers two through five, in the respective order, Grace Berrigan, Emily Zhu, Emily Pope, and Nancy Ou, and Senior Rebecca Wang retains the number one position. On September 9th, the team beat the region champions of last year, Indianland.

StartUp GSSM

The Senior Experience:
To kick off their second year at GSSM, the seniors went on a journey off campus to Charleston, Columbia, or Greenville. There, they visited businesses that specialized in different areas. One particular senior that visited Charleston was excited by what she discovered there. “I learned that there’s a lot more careers in business other than just coming up with an idea on your own and finding the funds to make it happen. There are a lot of infrastructure positions and other positions where you not only manage people and help grow the business, but you can actually do good things and help people.” During their trip, this senior recalls her favorite event bring their visit to Boeing, “We got to see engineers in action and careers we could one day— not just college majors.”

The Junior Experience:
The new class of juniors stayed at their new home for StartUp GSSM, where they participated in an exercise to improve their teamwork skills. This group activity allowed them to brainstorm and build upon those ideas until they were able to create a tangible prototype to present to the group as a whole. “I built a prototype for a seat cover which caught crumbs from between your seat and console and served as a floorboard cover. I liked the tactile element of that,” junior Morganne May explained, “I think that being able to take ideas and change them into a concrete item is going to be helpful in the future.”