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PRESS RELEASES FOR 7/00

DATE	TITLE	SENT TO MEDIA IN HOU	SE	TOTAL
7/24/00 Lafayette Exhibi	t	43	4	47
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Campus Distribution: vDr. Hendrick	cs/_t	or. DeLapa/_Gene Clayto	on/_ Jay Dowd /_Boy	d Parsons/√S	witchboard				
Date July 24,2000		Methodist College Office of Public Relations							
Topic Lafayette exhibit		630-7043			4+				
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DAVIS LIBRARY AT METHODIST COLLEGE PRESENTS EXHIBIT COMMEMORATING LAFAYETTE'S VISIT TO FAYETTEVILLE

FAYETTEVILLE, NC— Davis Memorial Library at Methodist College recently opened a new exhibit commemorating the Marquis de Lafayette's visit to Fayetteville 175 years ago. Fayetteville was the first American city (1783) to be named for the French general and statesmen who helped Americans defeat the British in the Revolutionary War.

The current exhibit documents Lafayette's triumphal tour of America in 1824-25 and his March 4-5, 1825 visit to Fayetteville. Lafayette was escorted into the city by the Fayetteville Independent Light Infantry and greeted at the State House by the governor and other officials. Americans greeted Lafayette as a hero and spent months preparing for his visit.

In 1967, Methodist College purchased a private collection of Lafayette letters and other artifacts. With help from a local group, The Friends of Lafayette (later renamed The Lafayette Society), the College acquired other materials for the collection; in 1973 a "Lafayette Room" was established in Davis Library.

"The Lafayette Collection consists of: 18 letters written by Lafayette, 175 books, 185 newspaper and magazine articles, 80 pictures, illustrations, and maps," said Susan Pulsipher, Director of Library Services. "Other pieces in the exhibit include commemorative medals, postage stamps, plates, portraits, busts, and period furniture pieces."

The current exhibit includes commemorative medals, stamps, and programs produced for Lafayette's tour and newspaper and magazine articles describing the great adulation he received from the American public. In April 1983, Lafayette's great, great, great grandson

LAFAYETTE EXHIBIT AT METHODIST COLLEGE

journeyed to Fayetteville for the dedication of an eight-foot bronze statue of Lafayette in Cross Creek Park.

The Lafayette Exhibit is open to the public by appointment. To arrange a tour, please call 630-7123. For more information on the Lafayette Collection, visit our Web site at www.methodist.edu/library/about/sp/lafayet.htm.

-30-

NOTE TO EDITORS: If you would like two orthree photos of this exhibit to run with the article, please phone us.