

The Student Voice of Methodist College

# smallTALK

www.smalltalkmc.com

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Fayetteville, North Carolina

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## Gilbert Addresses Cafe Complaints

Ashley Genova  
Staff Writer

Everyday, the Green and Gold Café is packed full of hungry students, but are they satisfied?

Complaints about the café are a topic of conversations all over Methodist College.

"I'd rather have a Whopper," freshman Cassandra Wells said while eating a burger from the Café.

Melanie Gibson said in reference to the Café, "I try to avoid it."

Fred Gilbert, the Director of Sodexho Food



Fred Gilbert, Director of Sodexho Food Services. Photo by Lindsey Hanson

Services, wanted to provide a way for him to address students' complaints about the Café.

To have an environment in which he could speak to students about the food services, Gilbert arranged the "Eat with the GM" night on October 10 in the Alumni Dining Room. The small group of diners consisted mostly of Student Government Association members, but anyone was welcome to attend.

After an enjoyable meal, Gilbert listened attentively to complaints and



Keeping the turkey and the ham sandwich meats separated in the sandwich line was one of the suggestions made at the "Eat with the GM Night." Photo by Melanie Gibson

suggestions for the Café and the Lion's Den.

"If I don't know it, I can't fix it," he said, inviting the diners to make suggestions.

He agreed to put the ham and turkey lunchmeat in different trays on the Deli Case sandwich bar for

people who need kosher food.

He also agreed to vary the sauces at Flash in the Pan by providing alfredo sauce and marinara sauce at the same time.

Another complaint that was addressed at the "Eat with the GM" night concerned the meal plan

Currently, the meal plan all resident students are signed up on has 14 meals a week and 100 Lion's Den Dollars per semester. Students have requested that the meal plans include fewer meals and more Lion's

Den Dollars to add more opportunities to eat in the Lion's Den. Gilbert was open to this idea, and will consider discussing it with college officials.

When asked why meal plans were so expensive

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## International Club Hosts a Multicultural Jubilee

Steven Magnusen  
Managing Editor

On Tuesday, October 4 the Methodist College International Club held its African/Caribbean Night.

The festival featured booths from a variety of

countries including the Bahamas, Jamaica, Swaziland and Gambia. Students and staff tasted food, viewed images and artifacts, enjoyed dances and heard music from those countries and others.

The event took place in the upstairs of the Berns Student Center, and the various displays and dem-



Participants and visitors of the African/Caribbean Night gather for a picture. Photo by Steven Magnusen

onstrations took up most of that area.

After they had allowed the visitors to browse for a while, performers began to display their talents and culture for

the crowd. Wonder Hermand and Mil entertained their audience with African drumming and dance from Swaziland.

Askari Elson participated in the drumming and also sang for the observers. "That was incredible," said Evy Houg, Assistant Director of International Programs, as they finished their performance.

Dancers included Kaisha Ahye, Alexandra Samma, and Sana Sabri

who treated the audience to a traditional dance from the Bahamas. The crowd showed their appreciation with wild applause.

The African/Caribbean Night is the latest in a series of festivals organized by the Methodist College International Club.

The club holds one such festival each semester, and past events include Russian Night, Latin American Night, and Asian Night.

Next semester the club plans to hold "European Night."

On November 11, the club will hold their annual International Food Festival, which in past years has attracted visitors from on and off campus.

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# Five Languages of Love

Ashley Genova  
Staff Writer

Love is one of the most confusing emotions in the world, but knowing how to speak the language can help.

On October 14, the Center for Personal Development sponsored a booth dedicated to the "Five Languages of Love." The five languages are quality time, acts of service, gifts, physical touch, and words of affirmation. These are the ways that people prefer their partners to show their affection.

The brightly painted posters and free refreshments drew crowds, but curiosity of the love languages made them stay. The booth was covered in pamphlets concerning relationships, as a reminder that the Center for Personal Development is willing to help students through such problems.

Friendly peer helpers

from the department greeted people and explained the personality test and the different love languages. At the booth, students and staff took a test to deter-



Senior CJ West is pictured here with his inspired program. Photo by Ashley Genova

mine which language they best responded to.

Before taking the test, they had to guess which language they were, and if they were correct, they would receive a prize. Prizes included candy, picture frames, and mini backpacks.

After discovering the language of love a person responds best to, the per-

son was given a sheet of paper better explaining how to communicate using one of the love languages. These sheets were for a couple to use to improve their relationship.

Rodney West discovered that he best responded to quality time. He agreed with his test results and said, "If you really love someone you'll take that little extra time to spend with them."

Senior CJ West was the one who proposed the idea of the booth to Darlene Hopkins, the Director of Counseling and Psychological Services here at Methodist. After reading "The Five Languages of Love" by Gary Chapman, CJ was inspired to share the information he learned with others. He thought that the love languages booth was good way to get the information out to students and show them that the Center for Personal Development is a place to go for help with relationship problems.

# Baker Busy in Development

Sarah Davenport  
Staff Writer

Walking into the previously all female Development Office at Methodist, you will encounter a pleasing new addition to the crew: a male.

Ray Baker started as the Director of Grants Research/Scholarship Coordinator during the first week of October.

Ray will be a busy man in his new position as the women in Development have him covering a lot of ground.

He will be coordinating the scholarship luncheon and working with financial aid to ensure that all scholarships go smoothly, communicating with responsible parties for the Endowed Scholarships, researching individuals who might be linked to the college and searching for institutions that might be awarding grants and see if they work for what the college needs.

"Hopefully it will be seasonal and I won't be doing it all at once," stated Baker.

Baker is from the area. He graduated from Methodist in 1971 with a Bachelor of Science in Mathematics.

Since then he has



Ray Baker, Director of Grants Research/Scholarship Coordinator. Photo courtesy of Ray Baker.

been working in finance.

He has been employed by Merrill Lynch, a brokerage firm, and currently owns his own income tax business.

Baker is also an enrolled agent with the IRS.

"It means that you have studied on your own, taken their exam and passed it," he said. "It's a big deal."

His wife, Charlotte, is a registered nurse at High-Smith Rainey. His son is an appraiser in Wilmington. His daughter just graduated from nursing school and is now working at Duke.

As for working with all women, he has it under control.

"They are fun, very knowledgeable, and very patient."

CAFE cont. from page 1

sive, Gilbert made clear that the cost of the plan included much more than the cost of the food.

The money paid for a meal plan pays for the upkeep of the building, water, and electricity. A great amount of power is necessary for the Café to cook and keep refrigerators and freezers working.

Gilbert also explained that the building is old, and needs constant upkeep.

A large complaint against the Café was the

lack of a posted menu. Students often walk into the Café and find that they do not want any of the food that is being served and would rather have eaten in the Lion's Den that day. Students who eat in the Lion's Den are sometimes disappointed to learn that they have missed a favorite dish in the café.

Upon the suggestion to have either a posted menu outside the café or an online menu, Gilbert said, "I will make that a

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smallTalk welcomes Letters to the Editor. All letters should be delivered to the Student Media office on the first floor of Berns Student Center or sent via email to [smalltalkstories@hotmail.com](mailto:smalltalkstories@hotmail.com).

### CORRECTION BOX:

\* We would like to apologize for misrepresenting Mrs. Vonnegut as the Student Court Adviser, Mr. William Walker is the adviser for Student Court.

\* We would also like to apologize to Elizabeth Vargas for not giving her proper credit for her Design of the McDonaldization logo.

# “Breaking New Ground” 2005 Homecoming Schedule

## Friday, October 21

- PowderPuff  
8:30 p.m. ...practice field beside Monarch Stadium
- Bonfire  
9:30 p.m. ...gravel parking lot behind Riddle Center
- \*Get in the spirit with the Monarchs!
- \*Performances by Methodist Cheer and Dance Teams

PowderPuff and Bonfire are sponsored by the Residence Hall Association.

## Saturday, October 22

- Methodist Monarchs vs Christopher Newport Captains  
1pm... Monarch Stadium
- Homecoming Dance  
9pm –1am...Holiday Inn Bordeaux
- \*Crowning the Queen and King
- \*Dance the Night Away
- \*Great Food and Drink

For more information, contact  
Student Activities@ 7022



SAC members Greg Blake, Sara Packard and Rebekah Kelly man the Homecoming King and Queen voting booth. Photo by Melanie Gibson



Graphic by a contributing artist.

**CAFE cont. from page 2**  
priority to do something with the menu and a webpage.”

Gilbert has worked at Methodist since February, but he has many ideas to improve the dining experience at Methodist College.

He is trying to have a pumpkin carving contest for Halloween, and holiday treats on the menu.

Although the Café was closed for Fall Break this year, he will be working to keep it open during next year’s break.

For the Lion’s Den, Gilbert would like to add more items to the menu, such as mozzarella sticks and onion rings.

In order to add these items, the Lion’s den needs

more fryers, but there may not be enough space for them. He is still looking into this possibility.

Upon the suggestion of a student, he is also considering a hot chocolate machine for students that do not drink coffee.

Gilbert was pleased with the input form students he received on “Eat with the GM” night, and plans on having these dinners about once a month.

He hopes to receive more ideas from the students to continue to improve the food services on campus.

In regard to his job, he said, “This is your dining service; I just run it for you.”

# New Male “Specimen” in Biology Department



Dr. James McCandless, new member of Methodist College’s Biology Department. Photo by Amber Smith.

*Amber Smith*  
Staff Writer

Dr. James McCandless, the only male member of the biology department, has decided to make his home at Methodist College.

McCandless originally hails from Clarksville, Indiana. He graduated

from the University of Louisville, with a Bachelors, Masters, and PhD in biology.

After graduating, he worked as an environmental consultant for two and a half years. He also worked for the state of Indiana as an environmental scientist, but eventually went to teaching.

His teaching careers spans almost eight years. He has taught at the University of Louisville, Indiana University South East Indiana University, and finally at Methodist College.

McCandless comments about the college, “I’m really impressed with Methodist.”

He feels that both the students and faculty are held to high academic standards, which foster learning and educational growth.

He also feels that the teachers really want to teach here at Methodist, and he likes the way the college is run.

His plan is to stay at Methodist for at least the next ten years to help students in their pursuit of a higher education.

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# Celebrating National Physician Assistant Week

*Julia Parker*  
Staff Writer

October 6th through the 12th was National Physician Assistant Week.

This week is to commemorate the first graduating class from the Physicians Assistants Program at Duke University in 1967 ([www.apa.org](http://www.apa.org)).

Methodist College has joined in the event this



Methodist hung the banner pictured above by the Welcome Center to show its support for National Physician Assistant Week. Photo by Julia Parker

year by placing a sign next to the welcome center.

Ron Foster the director of the Physicians Assistant program said that the acade

load of the students did not leave much room for celebration; however Thursday night, the faculty and the students took an evening off and enjoyed dinner with President Hendricks.

Many thanks are in order for the men and women of the medical field. They go through many years of school so that they can one day serve the health needs of people all around the world.

## Bowling For Dollars



Bowling For Dollars is a much anticipated MC Late Night here at Methodist. It is an opportunity to bowl for free and possibly win some money. Different bowling techniques (pictured left) and free food (pictured right) are enjoyed throughout the evening. Photos by Whitney Slaughter



## “The Brilliant and Bizarre Brontes”

*Amber Smith*  
Staff Writer

Dr. Elliot Engel gave a humorous and informative lecture on Charlotte and Emily Bronte on October 4 at the Headquarters Library in downtown Fayetteville.

Dr. Engel is a professor at North Carolina State University, but he has taught at the University of North Carolina Chapel Hill and Duke University as well.

He gives 260 lectures a year all over the world, and this was his 27th visit to Fayetteville to speak.

The name of the lecture was “The Brilliant and Bizarre Brontes.” Charlotte and Emily both wrote

some of the greatest novels in the history of literature.

Charlotte, the older of the two sisters, wrote “Jane Eyre,” the classic coming of age story about a strong and intelligent heroine.

Emily is credited with the creation of “Wuthering Heights,” a truly inventive gothic novel.

As Dr. Engel stated about the Bronte children, “These kids were extraordinary.”

Many people attended the lecture, including students and the elderly.

One Fayetteville senior citizen, Harry Meinhardt, described the session as, “Interesting, humorous, educational.”

It was an enlightening and witty night about the Bronte sisters.

## ROTC Training is Just Part of the Fun



ROTC cadet Jason Green crawls on the ground during a weekly lab class. Methodist College is host to 42 cadets. Photo and story by Will Montoya.

Lately students may have noticed a wealth of camouflage at Methodist College. The camouflage that students are seeing is Army ROTC cadets. This year Methodist is host to 42 cadets who are training to be officers in the U.S. Army. Many of these cadets have fought in Iraq and Afghanistan, so be sure to thank these men and women as Veterans’ Day draws near.

## CRIMP Goes Sky Diving



Methodist students went with CRIMP on an outrageous sky diving adventure. Contributed photo from CRIMP.

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# OPINIONS

*The Students Voice*

smallTALK

## War on Drugs or War on Education?

By Tom Angell

*Campaigns Director of Students for Sensible Drug Policy.*

As college students around the country prepare for this semester's midterms, thousands of their would-be classmates don't have anything to study for because of a federal law that strips financial aid from people with drug convictions.

The policy is currently being reconsidered as Congress renews the Higher Education Act (HEA) for the first time in seven years. While the HEA was originally enacted in 1965 to make higher education more accessible and affordable for all Americans, the Drug Provision – added during the 1998 HEA reauthorization – is an unjustifiable roadblock in the path to college. Over the past seven years, more than 175,000 students have lost their financial aid because of the HEA Drug Provision.

Every student affected by this law has already gone through the courts. Taking away their financial aid punishes them twice for the same crime. Drug crimes are the only infractions that students lose aid for – murderers and rapists are still eligible. And because of racial profiling and the discriminatory enforcement of drug laws, the policy disproportionately keeps people of color out of college.

Last month Congress's own researchers at the Government Accountability Office were unable to find any evidence the

provision actually reduces drug abuse. In fact, other federal studies show that high school graduates not attending college are far more likely to use drugs than those in college.

Besides worsening our nation's drug problems and victimizing students who are trying to turn their lives around with a college education, this law hurts America's

economic productivity and makes our streets more dangerous.

According to the U.S. Census Bureau, college graduates earn 62% more each year and \$1 million more over lifetimes than people with only high school diplomas. College graduates pay twice as much federal income tax than high school graduates. The revenue-slashing aid ban is unacceptable in a time of budget shortfalls.

And the law does more than hurt revenue; it drives up public spending. Educated people are less

likely to rely on costly social programs like welfare, food stamps, and public housing. Budget hawks should be outraged that this provision prevents people from pulling themselves up by their bootstraps to become pro-

ductive taxpaying citizens.

College graduates are also less likely to break the law and become costly drains on the criminal justice system. People with only high school diplomas are twelve times more likely to be incarcerated than college graduates. Jailing one prisoner costs \$26,000 per year.

We should encourage people who have been in trouble with drugs to move

beyond their past mistakes, but the HEA Drug Provision prevents them from getting their lives back on track. Graduating more college students means greater economic productivity and increased tax revenue, while locking up more inmates means taxpayers must pay for skyrocketing prison costs. Keeping this policy on the books is fiscally

irresponsible.

One pending proposal to scale back the law would help some students get back into school but would leave thousands behind.

The minor change would stop the provision from affecting people with convictions in the past, but students busted while in school would continue to lose their aid, leaving the fundamental problems with the law unaddressed.

Since there are already minimum grade requirements for receiving aid, the partially reformed Drug Provision would still

only affect students doing well in classes. Good students would continue to be removed from school for minor convictions, many never returning to finish their degrees. The Department of Education reports that more than a third of students leaving college before beginning their second year don't return within five years.

Partially reforming this fundamentally flawed law is like slapping a band-aid on a gaping wound. Lawmakers should fully repeal the Drug Provision and reinstate aid to all qualified individuals who want to earn a college education.

Students who realize this policy is counterproductive and discriminatory should contact Students for Sensible Drug Policy and get involved in efforts to take Drug War politics out of education. Visit [www.DAREgeneration.com](http://www.DAREgeneration.com) or call (202) 293-4414 for more information. More than 120 student governments have passed resolutions calling on Congress to repeal the Drug Provision.

What will you do to help overturn this law?

It could be another seven years before Congress restructures the Higher Education Act again. Concerned students and educators should urge their legislators to take the lead in helping young people stay in school where they belong.

If Congress doesn't act now, another 175,000 students could have the doors to education slammed shut in their faces.



# Are Core Classes Really Needed?

Andrew McIntyre  
Staff Writer

Core classes are wonderful little classes that start your college career. They are classes that must be completed before you graduate from college.

Honestly, these classes are obstacles in a student's way. To tell the truth, some classes that are considered core classes have nothing to do with some students' majors.

Now, I'm not drowning any particular class. It is just the fact that core classes have to be taken in order for you to graduate.

In high school, this was understandable. Now when the pressure starts to build and it really counts the most in college, why bother?

Why waste someone's time with a class that does not even consist of learning how to fix a broken ankle, knowing the difference between a theory and a hypothesis, or naming the different bones in your hand.

For instance, if a person's major is in the health occupation field, do not waste their time with a class like the basics of Art



and Music.

In college time management is critical. So if a student is taking all classes for their major plus core classes, and they don't pass a core class for whatever reason that means there is a good chance that it will be taken over again in the future.

Have you ever just had a class that you just wanted to disappear?

Maybe the work was too hard or you just could not comprehend a thing that the teacher was saying.

The only reason you passed, is because you knew that you needed that

credit to pass or graduate. Colleges should stop putting so many restrictions on what a student needs in order to have a degree and more on what a student should have in order to pass a class. Let the student take the necessary classes for that field. Students would have a better chance at passing a class that is

important for their field or major. Rather than a class which is "just slapped" on a requirement sheet because a school felt like you needed it.

If a student is a music major, don't put that student in a math class.

Not even their first year. The math that was needed has already been taken in high school in order to be accepted to the college or university.

All I am saying is, let's take a moment to think and ask ourselves, if we are we doing what's in the best interest of the student or what is in the best interest of the bottom line profit for the university?"

# We Debate, You Decide

## The Issue on American Oil

Justin Morehead and Landon Bentham  
Contributing Writers

**Justin:** Due to terrorist attacks and the American involvement in the Middle East, the Bush Administration is pushing for domestic oil drilling - especially in the ANWR (Arctic National Wildlife Refuge). Supporters say that this drilling is necessary to lessen reliance of foreign imports. Ok, so let's take a minute to look this over. Yes, republicans are right. If we had oil here we wouldn't have to get it there. But isn't there something to be said for preserving our natural habitats? Will there be anything flawless in nature to show our children?

**Landon:** Of course there will always be [a] flawless nature to show our children, just walk into any forest and you have natural beauty.

**Justin:** Does "the man" have to go and put his paws all over everything beautiful in the world!? Does it make sense to drill domestically? Yes it does, but have we looked into other fuel sources? Soy fuel, "green gas", hybrid cars.

**Landon:** Yes but, we have to pay for those. I am from New York where green gas tax increases the prices by twenty cents per gallon!!

**Justin:** But we will never take any steps into uncharted grounds with this administration. Less Bush, More Trees!

**Landon:** Ok so let's recap here. You're making the case that it is important that we preserve our natural beauty so that we can show the next generation this beautiful planet. It's a good argument but you didn't consider what plan is in place by the Bush administration. ANWR is a refuge that is some one and a half million acres small!! The Bush plan calls for exploration and development in a mere two thousand acres. That's it!! That means that 99.99% of the land will be untouched, to last for generations to come!! Bush wants one-one-hundredth of a percentage.

**Justin:** 110 miles on the coastline.

**Landon:** Not to mention that petroleum engineers are discovering new technologies in drilling that allow them to drill straight down and to the sides. This shrinks man's footprint on the surface considerably. Look, we have tried to perfect this alternate technology for decades: wind and solar. Look how successful has it been. More importantly at what cost to the American taxpayer? I believe that using our resources here on the home front will obviously relieve our foreign dependence on oil. This will not only drive the cost of gas down but also our oil reserves will be filled much easier for times of desperate need.

**Justin:** It would take any where from 10-15 years to bring Arctic oil to market.

**Landon:** It simply makes sense to exercise our natural resources!!



## Residence Hall Association

Mondays 8 p.m.

Alumni Dining Room 3

### Upcoming Events

**POWDER PUFF and BONFIRE:** You are invited to a night of fierce competition on Oct. 21 at 8:30p.m. on the practice field beside the football field. Two teams face off in the flag football game of the year! A spirited Bonfire with Foxy 99 hosting finishes an evening filled with Monarch pride. The Bonfire starts at 9:30 p.m. and is located on the gravel parking lot behind the Riddle Center.

**October Fest Halloween Style:** RHA, in conjunction with SGA, presents a fantastic night of turkey legs, root beer legs and cake walks! Last year's was a blast, this year's could only be better! Come indulge in the fun on the evening of Oct. 27 outside on the basketball courts! Festivities start at 8 p.m.

For more information, come to a meeting!

# Love Doctors: Third Party Affair



Dear Love Doctors:

Jay (not his real name, of course) is my best friend. We have enjoyed dating now and again but our main focus has been on friendship. I have always known my feelings for him were stronger than his were for me. I would have been so happy to have a commitment with him, but since that was not happening, I was okay to settle for a close friendship.

Over the summer break he got engaged to a woman from his hometown. They have known each other all their lives and I know that Jay has always loved her, because he has talked about her often. I have tried to be happy for him and distance myself from our friendship. Then guess what happens.... now he is chasing me! He tells me he plans to continue his engagement, but he doesn't want to lose me. He tells me how confused he is and how much he wants me in his life. He is a more attentive and affectionate lover than ever.

My girlfriends say that what he is doing to me is not cool. They say He is toying with me and that I should break it off, but I can't! If I break it off I will lose the only chance I have with him. What should I do?

Jay's Toy

Dear Toy,

Romantic feelings for a good friend can lead to beautiful relationships or unhappy situations such as you have found yourself in. You should not have to "settle" for anything in a relationship. If something is not satisfying you and you put up with it, it will cause problems later.

It seems to me that you, based on your occasional dates, have stayed friends with Jay in hopes that his attentions will turn from friendship to something more.

But then Jay became engaged to another girl and started courting you! What does that mean? It seems to me that Jay has some problems settling down and wants to keep his options open. In your "friends with benefits" relationship, he was able to keep a relationship with you and pursue others.

Jay is doing the same thing in his engagement; keeping his options open without settling down. However, an engagement is a serious commitment that should not be broken. You said that a commitment would make you happy, but it is easy to see that this might be impossible for Jay; he cannot even commit to his fiancée!

You said that you don't want to lose your only chance to be with Jay, but take a look at it from another perspective. What chances are you taking by staying with him? Even if he does see you as more than a friend, his past behavior makes it seem that any relationship would not last long.

My best advice to you is to open yourself to other people. You can always stay friends with Jay, but you can meet some one else who is possibly better for you and who can commit to you. In time, your romantic feelings for Jay may even fade, and a simple friendship will be enough.

Good luck, Ashley Genova

Dear Toy,

Loving someone can hurt a lot, can't it? There must be something very special about this guy for you to love him through all of this. When your friends criticize him, something in you jumps to his defense and says, "You can't judge this. You don't know him like I do." Their comments might even make sense when you are not with him. But when you are together, sense goes out the window and all that's left is the joy and the comfort of being held. Is that sort of how it is?

Some people can enjoy dating with no regard for the outcome. But for you there is something about your friend's involvement with both you and his girlfriend that leaves you feeling unsettled and uncomfortable.

Ask yourself some hard questions and respond honestly. What is the likelihood that this young man will choose you and then make a commitment to you and keep it? What needs of yours are you getting met by "hanging in there"? What is the emotional cost of getting your needs met this way? Are there other ways you could get some of those needs met in ways that would not cost you so dearly?

It sounds like you have some good friends. Let them help you meet your needs for companionship and sharing and fun and comfort. I know it's not the same. Still, if you invest more in other friendships and less in the one that hurts you, you will get what you need without so much pain. You deserve a love of your very own. Don't settle for less.

Best Wishes, Darlene Hopkins

## You Should Know: Darfur Disaster

**Justin Morehead**  
Contributing Writer

The Sudanese Government and its paramilitary allies have killed 400,000 people in Sudan.

Two and a half million have been driven from their homes and 3.5 million have been left without enough food to survive.

George W. Bush and the United States Congress

have recognized the situation in Darfur as "genocide". Darfur has also been declared the worst humanitarian crisis in the world today.

The root of this evil goes back to a government-sponsored militia known as the Janjaweed.

They have embarked on a campaign of pre-meditated slaughter, starvation, rape and displacement in Darfur.

Many of the victims have fled to Chad and are living in camps that lack adequate food, water, and shelter.

How does this make you feel? Do you look past it because you aren't directly affected?

I encourage all of those reading to be aware at the least. As a nation we are blessed with ignorance, but how does that make us look?

Do you feel that we as a nation have a moral obligation to help this situation?

I have heard people say that we had a moral obligation for our involvement because Iraq was a humanitarian priority.

I am not taking away from the inhumane things that had taken place in Iraq.

I am just asking you to make a comparison, a com-

parison between dead and starving Africans and radical fundamentalists swimming in oil. All the while an estimated 400,000 people have been slaughtered in Sudan.

I hope that you all follow the still continuing situation in the Darfur region.

Don't be afraid to ask questions. For a further look at the situation please visit: [www.savedarfur.org](http://www.savedarfur.org)

# Remille's Rambling Guy to Girl Ratio



Photo by Will Montoya

**Remille Shipman**  
Sports Editor

**Disclaimer:** For the past 21 years, millions of thoughts, questions and ideas have been flying in and out my head...and I just wanted to get all of this off my chest. Yes, this is my opinion and mine only, not the opinion of anybody else. I'm not the type of guy offend people, and I hope I don't, but I just felt that Methodist College needed my take on virtually everything that on in this little world of ours..

The following subject matter is something that has been on every Methodist male's mind for at least one second. It has been an issue that I have observed and heard complaints about since the first month I have been at MC; that is the ratio. Yes, gentlemen, the male-to-female ratio.

For a number of years, people have either raised a fuss or celebrated the fact that guys outnumber girls at Methodist. Well, the reason that I am writing about this is that despite the fact that male on-campus enrollment is still more than 60 percent. The ratio situation is getting much, much better. Why? I shall tell you.

Face the facts, people. Weaver was full at the beginning of the year, and even a couple of RAs in that building had roommates. My former home in Cumberland Hall locked

down the 1<sup>st</sup> floor of the north side and re-made the bathrooms so girls can live there. Garber Hall has a strong chance of being co-ed next year. Dean Blanc said during our orientation training that "more and more females are projected to come to campus."

Well, the only reason the ratio exists is because of two programs that have helped to put this school on the map. Football recruited 92 freshmen in the fall of 2004 and it brought around 70 or so freshmen this fall.

We are also the top-ranked Professional Golf Management school in the country, and that automatically brings more males. Although the PGM program will not and should not slow down anytime soon, football has cut down on recruiting by design, and this will surely help the ratio. As Methodist grows in status, more females will arrive for academics, since they outnumber males in terms of college attendance nationwide.

But that's looking at it long-term. I don't want to talk about what I think personally about the ratio; I'm just talking from an observer's point of view. But in the short-term, here's some advice for the single male: stick it out and don't be a pig or a jerk; remember that this is a military town and girls have great options in the form of soldier boys when they get fed up by our bad behavior!

# Visitors Not Welcome



**Will Montoya**  
Editor-In-Chief

Changes are taking place everywhere at Methodist College.

There have been recent changes to the curb in front of the administration building. These changes include the fresh white paint with the bold letters faculty/staff; the fresh paint replaced the visitors' parking spots. Does this mean that visitors are no longer welcome at Methodist College or maybe it's

a plot to give visitors more parking tickets? Whatever it is I'm sure that the faculty and staff are happy that they have more parking spots than they actually use.

On the lighter side of things it seems that the parking problem at Methodist has improved this year. There are more parking spaces available for commuters in the Trustees parking lot, which is good news for all commuter students. However, there are still those occasions where a parking spot cannot be

found in the Trustees parking lot. What will it take for the administration to take action on our parking problem? Maybe, if the non-renovated Pines ever comes trembling down the administration will decide to build another parking lot.

Methodist plans to build and renovate more buildings, but shouldn't they be taking care of the small problems first? It seems to me that our college keeps looking over the small problems for their own convenience.

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# ENTERTAINMENT



## Red & Blue Truly A Work in Progress

*Melanie Gibson*  
News Editor

“Red & Blue,” a new play-in-progress, written and directed by Dr. Evan Bridenstine, made you think.

The story starts out with campaign staffer Ivan Richards, played by Ian McCormick, giving Beth, played by Heather Gilroy, his usual campaign spiel the night before the elections. As the two discuss the various topics

of the campaign, Richards drinks more and more “special” lemonade and eventually passes out asleep.

Helen, played by Erin Yarborough, enters chatting excitedly about a coming protest to Beth, completely oblivious to the passed out Richards, until she finally takes a moment to breath, only to freak out again because she thinks he’s dead.

The night continues on clearing up Richards’ well being, but that’s it. Everything else is left

questioned and without any answers.

Whether that choice for ambiguity was intentional or not, we won’t know until the piece is deemed complete by its creator. Unfortunately, other bits of the plot that were left unclear maybe should not have been.

For example, who is Gladys Stokes, and why was she important to the campaign? Gladys Stokes is the reason Richards comes to visit Beth, but it is never explained why.

What is the

relationship between Beth and Helen? Are they sisters, friends, roommates, or even lovers?

What motivated Beth to “kidnap” Richards besides wanting to stop the campaign? In other words, why did she want to stop the campaign? Or, as was asked by an audience member at the end, is Beth just crazy?

The piece seems to be very much a work in progress with a lot of holes that need to be filled in. Some ambiguity is good, especially with the campaign topics are that discussed, because it makes the audience to think about their own stance on the subject. That part was done well.

But there is more to a play than just a message that it is trying to get across. People come to shows for many reasons, but one of the major ones is escape. Theatre allows us to step into some one else’s life for a moment and forget about our own problems.

With that said, the indistinctness of the relationships between the characters, not only on the stage, but also mentioned in the story, made it difficult to escape. Why should you care about these characters? How do they relate to you? What makes their life more interesting?

The irresolution left you with a feeling of incompleteness. Does Beth die? Is Helen dead or is she just passed out? How does Richards leave? Most importantly, was the whole ordeal worth it?

Who wins the election?

What was presented is a great start to what could be a fantastic piece. It had memorable characters, hilarious moments, especially with lemonade, and intense dialogue that really got you thinking about your own political views and which side you agreed with more.

The cast gave good performances as well, having the scripts in had didn’t hinder the show at all. After a while, you forgot they were even there.

Yarborough effortlessly displayed Helen’s passion for “the cause,” whatever “the cause” may be. McCormick’s role as Ivan Richards was confident and intelligent. Gilroy’s cryptic Beth was very believable.

Bridenstine’s direction was fluid. Movements were logical and well thought out. The use of space was smart, it never was just two people sitting and talking to each other. Characters moved, even slight movements, to emphasize their points.

Overall it was a good performance and was presented well. With the audience feedback, that was given at the end of each production, and further thought by the author himself, like was said earlier, “Red & Blue” has the potential to be a fantastic piece.

Hopefully we’ll be fortunate enough to get to see the finished product here at Methodist.

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# M O V I E S

## Magnusen & Aldridge



**Steven Magnusen**  
Managing Editor



**Joe Aldridge**  
Entertainment Editor



If any of you guys are looking for a good date movie, "In Her Shoes" is perfect.

Hey, I know it's a chick flick, and I completely expected it to be a bad one at that, but I was pleasantly surprised. "In Her Shoes" has a deep plot, great acting, hilarious writing, and excellent directing that brings it all together.

"In Her Shoes" has one of the best plots I've seen in recent films. Mainstream Hollywood movies haven't been giving audiences much to cheer about in the past few months, and good plots have been hard to find. "In Her Shoes" delivers with a deep storyline about family and friendship that anyone can relate to.

The acting is top-notch in this one. Cameron Diaz, who normally isn't a great actress (let's face it, that's not why she's famous) is awesome as Maggie Feller, the prissy ditz who uses her looks to get through life. I guess she had a lot of experience in that area to work from. Rose Feller, Maggie's sister is brought to life by Toni Colette, who convincingly portrays depression, contentment, and anger.

The Writing and Directing of "In Her Shoes" is what really

makes the film extraordinary. Jennifer Weiner's novel and its screenplay adaptation by Susannah Grant are incredibly written and make a good core for Director Curtis Hanson to work with. The result is a movie that is not only funny, but deep and introspective at the same time.

"In Her Shoes" is a surprisingly good comedy that will be enjoyable for almost anyone who sees it, even the guys.



Cameron Diaz ("There's Something About Mary") and Shirley MacLaine ("Guarding Tess") team up in this semi-romantic comedy about a family trying to find itself.

"In Her Shoes" is not just a comedy of a "normal" American family; it is a movie about how people no matter their age can change for the better.

Diaz plays Maggie, the younger of two sisters, who is more than just a problem for the family. In the beginning of the movie she is thrown from her father's house by her odd and all-around annoying step-mother.

Maggie lives with her

sister, Rose, for a short time until she then is thrown from her house by stealing her sister's boyfriend and ultimately being a pest in the worst possible way.

Out of work and out of a home she finds out that she has a Grandmother she thought to be dead. Maggie now finds herself free-loading from her Grandmother, and some how wanting to change her life around.

This movie is not one to be taken with hopes of a comedy, or even a romance. Instead the movement of the characters through their downfalls is what will reach even the bottom of the most hopeless heart.

Although it was rather funny at times, this film has a deeper meaning of family and the bonds that tie us together.

Director Curtis Hanson ("8 Mile, "Wonder Boys") does an wonderful job of conveying the message that a families love has the power to overcome even the worst situations.

Enjoyable, heart-warming, moving, yet not a film that one would want to see alone.

Guys listen; take your significant other to see this movie. She will thank you for it. Besides you might actually be surprised, this movie is great.

## Weekend Box Office Stats:

Rank:	Title:	Weekend:	Total:
1.	The Fog	\$11.8M	\$11.8M
2.	The Curse of the Were-Rabbit	\$11.5M	\$33.1M
3.	Elizabethtown	\$10.6M	\$10.6M
4.	Flightplan	\$6.49M	\$70.8M
5.	In Her Shoes	\$6.11M	\$20.1M
6.	Two for the Money	\$4.69M	\$16.6M
7.	Domino	\$4.67M	\$4.67M
8.	A History of Violence	\$3.6M	\$22.4M
9.	Corpse Bride	\$3.58M	\$47.8M
10.	The Gospel	\$3.12M	\$12.1M

\*for more information on movies visit [www.imdb.com](http://www.imdb.com)\*



# American Idol, Just A Starting Point

for her quest to be the next American Idol.

Unfortunately, on Monday, October 3rd, her quest ended for the show when she did not make the cut for Hollywood.

She went through all of the steps, arriving first at Greensboro Coliseum at 5:30 a.m. The doors opened at 9 a.m. and she received her wristband by 10 a.m. She was judged shortly after, but she only had one judge, not the usual Simon, Randy, and Paula.

In her audition, she sang a fifties type dance number and the judge loved it and loved her voice. However, the judge did not let Robertson advance to the next round. The judge's reasons for her decision were unclear, but she did say that Robertson, despite her wonderful voice, was not what they were looking for.

Robertson accepted her judgment and left the audition room. While leaving, she began to sing random songs that came to

her, something that she does quite often while walking around campus. In doing this, great things began to happen. Several people who were present at the audition were looking for aspiring talent, and liked what they heard.

Immediately, each of the three record producers and the one talk show host came up to her and commented on her voice. Also, an entertainment executive from BET and a singing telegram company inquired about her as well.

Robertson is currently in talks with each of the record companies, the BET executive, and the singing telegram company.

She also is scheduled in the future to sing on the talk show in Alamance County.

In our first interview, Robertson said that she saw American Idol as a way to put her music out there. Well, she may not have won, but as we all see, American Idol did just that for her, and maybe a little more.

*Demario Campbell*  
Staff Writer

She may not have won American Idol, but local student Latoya Robertson's audition was well worth it.

Robertson's intentions while auditioning for American Idol were to get her music heard. She did just that. In the last issue of Smalltalk, Robertson was featured in the paper

*Julia Parker*  
Staff Writer

Switchfoot released their 5th album "Nothing is Sound" on Sept. 21.

The album debuted at number three on the Billboards top 200-bestselling list. The San Francisco band sold a gross total of 131,000 albums within the first week.

Switchfoot became very popular last year with their release of "Meant To Live" and "Dare You to Move". Due to the success of their

album "The Beautiful Letdown," many people had high expectations for "Nothing is Sound." The album was typical Switchfoot in terms of music style but their lyrics experienced the largest transformation.

Switchfoot has made many transformations over the years. They have made a successful transition from Christian music to the secular realm last year and the transition has brought them much success.

Switchfoot began with three members and

now consists of five.. Their lyrics have nearly shed the Christian themes and now direct their lyrics to problems in society and the overall irony of life.

The track entitled "Stars" is the bands newest radio song, and I personally like the way this song flows. "Stars" is easy sing along with and the vocals are well preformed.

Overall Switchfoot doesn't disappoint and their new album "Nothing is Sound" is worth investing in. After all, sometimes change is good.

# Rock



## Merle Norman

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# Orthodoxy or Hypocrisy

**David Santiago**  
Staff Writer

Liberal, Conservative, Protestant, Catholic, the divisions between Christian are almost as numerous as sand on the beach.

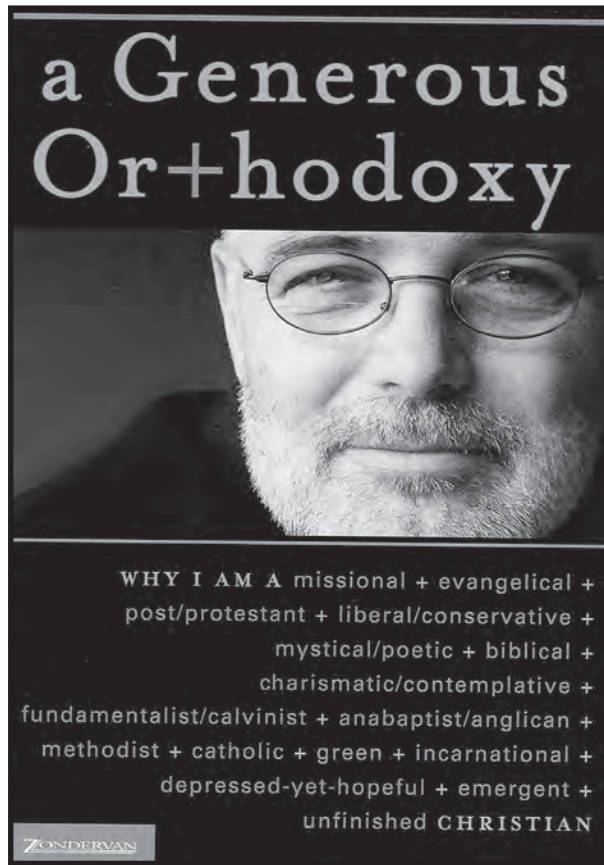
But, in "A Generous Orthodoxy" Brian McLaren examines the wide landscape of Christian faiths and brings the best of each to the table, attempting to show that true Christianity is outside any human philosophical terms and institutions.

Rather than try to deconstruct old stuff or make everything contemporary, he tries to learn from the past, and bring the church into the world not as an institution of political majority, but a constant visual presence

on the world. Instead of mixing worship practices into one grey paste, he tries to show that our communion with God can be a feast with a wide variety at the table.

He examines everything from conservative protestant, to old world Catholicism and eastern orthodoxy, to modern liberal churches and finds what things they all have right. The result is the message for Christians to be what Jesus intended, salt of the earth,

loving, and trying to make this world a better place.



Instead of focusing on an egocentric personal salvation experience, he views Christians as co-workers in the salvation of the world, not through preaching on the corner and passing out tracts, but living by the bible, doing whatever is needed to make this world a better place. Whether this is engaging in conversation with non-believers, protecting the environment or caring for the poor, he sees Christians not as a community bent on getting to heaven, but doing what is needed to show

God to the world today. He does not discredit certain biblical truths of heaven and hell; he just feels that those are weak foundations for faith and ministry. The book presents a form of Christianity that is not liberal, nor conservative. It is completely out of the realm of typical human thinking, and can only be fully comprehended by living the life.

This book changed my life. My entire outlook and world view has been broken down, and faded away, and now, I feel that I am free. I highly encourage anyone who is sick of the current captivities on churches by extreme conservatives, liberals, Catholics and protestant to read this book and take its message to the pulpit and the streets.

RED&BLUE cont. from pg 9

## Red & Blue

Photos By Melanie Gibson



# sports



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Soccer p. 14

Motorsports p.15

## Football Awaits Homecoming Against CNU

*Remille Shipman*  
Co-Sports Editor

After two exhausting wars against two tough rivals, Methodist's football program now finds itself in third place in the USA South conference race.

The Monarchs recently a pair of crucial conference games against long-time rivals Averett and Ferrum during the past two weeks.

Although Methodist showed heart and determination in rallying from a 13-point deficit at Averett on October 8, the Monarchs' good fortune-as well

as their four-game winning streak-ended against Ferrum on October 14.

The Monarchs' then-three game winning streak looked as if it would be in jeopardy against Averett as they fell behind 22-9 entering the fourth quarter.

But Methodist quarterback Chris Ronchetti refused to let his team quit as he led Methodist to a 20-point fourth quarter.

Ronchetti first completed an eight-play, 80-yard drive with a 1-yard run to cut the Averett lead to 22-16 with 12:11 remaining before leading Methodist to another six-

play, 84-yard drive that gave the Monarchs a 23-22 lead.

After Averett quarterback Todd Parsons' 26-yard touchdown pass to Eric Sicre put the Cougars ahead 28-23 with 1:54 remaining, Ronchetti responded by accounting for 58 of Methodist's 59 yards on their final drive of the game to put the Monarchs ahead for good, 29-28, after the two teams traded touchdowns in the closing minutes of the fourth quarter.

Ronchetti threw for 37 yards and ran for 21 on that final drive as he threw for 164 of his 180 yards in the second half, while sophomore sensation Mike Hill garnered his fourth consecutive 140-plus yard rushing effort with 177 yards and two touchdowns on 32 carries.

With 723 rushing yards this season, Hill is only 22 yards shy of breaking DeCarlos West's single-season record of 744 yards with four games remaining in the regular season.

But the Monarchs would have to do without an injured Hill on October 14 when they traveled to Rocky Mount, Va, to face a 6-0 Ferrum squad that held the top spot in the USA South conference standings.

Methodist did put forth an excellent effort, but the Panthers' option attack caught the Monarchs off guard en route to a 42-37 victory.

Ferrum rushed for 380 yards overall as they jumped to a 20-7 lead at halftime, but Methodist never surrendered as they



Senior halfback Jeremy McSwain heads for the end zone on a scoring drive. Watch the powerful Monarchs' offense battle CNU this Homecoming 2005. Photo courtesy of Monarchs online.

tied the game 28-28 in the third quarter on a 5-yard rushing touchdown by senior halfback Jeremy McSwain.

Ferrum responded with two more touchdowns in the fourth quarter, but the Monarchs made one last statement when Ronchetti scored on a delayed draw late in the fourth quarter to cut the lead to 42-37.

Methodist's onside kick failed, however, and Ferrum ran the clock out to take a 42-37 victory and improve to 4-0 in USA South play.

Ronchetti finished the

night with 14-of-27 passing for 215 yards and two touchdowns through the air, while sophomore receiver Jonathan Mularski had six catches for 119 yards. The Monarchs, now 4-2 overall and 2-1 in conference play, find themselves in, according to McSwain, a "win or die situation" at Monarch Stadium against a team the program has never beaten-Christopher Newport.

The Homecoming contest is set to begin at 1:30 pm on Oct. 22 2005. Come out and show your school spirt and enjoy a great football game.

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# Women's Soccer Report

**Amber Smith**  
Staff Writer

The Methodist Lady Monarchs played an excellent soccer match against the North Carolina Wesleyan Bishops on October 11. It was a hard fought game, and Methodist played doggedly and aggressively, pulling out the moves against the Bishops.

Wesleyan's defense was equally determined in stopping the Monarchs. The Bishops' Tori Tenner scored the first goal of the game with 22 minutes left in the first half, and at the end of the first half, Wesleyan was ahead 1-0.

The score changed with 35 minutes in the second half by a shot from Chrystal Bradley. Wesleyan's Buffy Casto, however, managed to score again not long after.

Methodist caught back up with the Bishops a second time with an amazing kick by Marie Finley in the final minute.

The match went into its first overtime, with

neither side scoring a goal.

The second overtime arrive, and again neither team made a winning goal. The match ended in a 2-2 tie for both teams, but it was Methodist' best effort so far this season.

The Lady Monarchs have three games remaining in the regular season.

First on Oct. 25 at 3:30 p.m., they will be hosting non-conference opponent Chowan at the Monarch Soccerplex.

Four days later, back at the Soccerplex, the Lady Monarchs will have a pivotal USA South Conference match against the Lady Panthers of Ferrum. Game time is set for 1:00 p.m.

They will conclude the 2005 regular season on the road on Oct. 30 against Christopher Newport at 1:00 p.m.

These three games will be important in determining seeding for the USA South Conference tournament.

**Sarah Davenport**  
Staff Writer

Leading the team in the most goals this season and having led the conference in goals and points last year, it's no wonder that Chrystal Bradley is the feature athlete for this issue.

Bradley is a sophomore at Methodist and is majoring in Physical Education with a minor in Coaching.

She has played soccer since she was seven and has played forward for two years at Methodist.

She wears her number 13 proudly because it is not just another number to her. It is a remembrance.

"My best friend died on December 13 and ever since then I have worn this number," Bradley stated.

Last year she was Rookie of the Year for the conference, player of the week numerous times, 1<sup>st</sup> team All-Conference and 2<sup>nd</sup> team All-Region.

She was also last week's Player of the Week for the conference.

Her teammates say



Sophomore Midfielder, Chrystal Bradley helps lead the Lady Monarchs with her high offensive production. Photo courtesy of Monarchs online.

that she has come this far because of her hard work and determination.

Bradley is from Fairfax, Virginia and chose Methodist because of soccer.

She has a twin sister that might be attending school here in the fall.

Bradley's favorite quote is: "the team that defends the hardest, with the most tenacity, the most

heart and the most focus will win the game."

She currently leads the Lady Monarchs' soccer team with 11 goals and 23 points through the 13 games that have been played so far in the regular season.

With those statistics, she is currently third in points and second in goals in the USA South Conference.

# Men's Soccer On A Roll Late Into the Season

**Remille Shipman**  
Co-Sports Editor

Methodist men's soccer team may have had its ups and downs this week, but only one thing matters right now: They're undefeated in the USA South.

The Monarchs managed to split two road contests against non-conference rival Hampden-Sydney on October 12 and USA South rival Shenandoah on October 15.

Although the Monarchs' offensive struggles surfaced again against Hampden-Sydney in a 3-0 loss, their gritty 2-1 victory over Shenandoah gave them a 2-0 record in conference play and puts them in a comfortable

position going into their last four conference games.

The Monarchs ran into the same problems that they did in previous losses against Hampden-Sydney when they out-shot the Tigers 15-6 and had seven shots on goal in comparison to Hampden-Sydney's six. Unfortunately, Tigers goalkeeper Pierce Buckingham stopped all seven shots he faced, and Hampden-Sydney scored on two second-half penalty kicks to account for the final 3-0 score.

Fortunately, Methodist rebounded when they needed it the most with their first road victory of the 2005 season against Shenandoah in Winchester, Virginia. Although the

Monarchs trailed 1-0 at the end of the first half thanks to a goal by the Hornets' William Phouminh, Methodist responded when sophomore Chris MacDonald scored on a 20-yard shot off the crossbar in the 63<sup>rd</sup> minute.

Junior Jimmy Izzaguirre then scored the game-winning goal on his second penalty kick goal of the season four minutes later. Junior goalkeeper Jeremy Belnap recorded two saves for the victorious Monarchs.

Methodist built on their momentum gained against Shenandoah when they recorded a 1-0 victory against Division II opponent Francis Marion on October 18 at the Monarch Soccerplex.

The game's lone goal came at the end of the first half when senior co-captain Gregg Cohen scored off a cross pass from freshman Steve Brumbaugh in the 41st minute. Monarch defenders Izzaguirre, MacDonald, Richard Distad and Desmond Keane helped make the goal stand in the second half with their excellent play.

The Monarchs concluded their non-conference schedule with a home contest on October 20 against Randolph-Macon before diving into USA South play for the rest of the season. Among the rivals remaining for Methodist include an NC Wesleyan team that defeated them in the USA South conference tournament final

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# Corner Worker's Corner: A Look Into Motorsports

**Jameson Jones**  
Co-Sports Editor



I bet there are many of you out there that wonder why the motorsports column is titled Corner Worker's Corner. The reason why is because I am a corner worker with the Sports Car Club of America (SCCA) and will be finishing up my first year of being involved in this organization.

The SCCA has a long and glorious past which started back in the early 1900s as a regional car club that has become a nationwide membership of over 50,000 members throughout the United States.

Famous drivers such as Mario Andretti, Bobby Rahal, Lynn St. James, Rick Mears, Robby Gordon and Paul Newman began in the SCCA.

In Fayetteville, you are smack in the middle of the North Carolina region, which has been around since 1955 and is in the process of celebrating its 50<sup>th</sup> year in existence.

NC Region Executive Mark Senior notes that "SCCA is the premier motorsports organization where amateur auto crossers and grass roots road racers are able to get their start and if they have what it takes, [they can] work their way up to the professional ranks of road racing."

The SCCA races everything from the bone stock Hondas and Volkswagens to fully prepared Corvettes and Dodges as well as different formulas of open-wheeled and open-cockpit cars.

The region currently has one active road course, the Virginia International Raceway (VIR) in Alton, VA that has hosted many pro events including the Grand American Road Racing Association at VIR since 2000 and the annual Oak Tree National for the SCCA in August.

There are many



Left: Open cockpit cars with both open and closed wheel designs battle it out on the race track at the same time.

Right: Cars such as the Ford Mustang, Mazda Miata and Mini Cooper can be seen racing in the SCCA. Come and check out the exciting racing action on Oct. 29-30 with Goblins Go. The following Saturday on Nov. 5 will be the Kumho Tires Charge of the Headlight Brigade 13-hour endurance race. Photos courtesy of NC Region Sports Car Club of America.

specialties that a person can get involved in through the region which range from working timing and scoring to riding cars before a race.

Flagging and Communications (F&C) generally helps run all the events.

According to NC Region F&C Chief Chuck Stanley, "Flagging & Communications gets each worker as close to the action as possible."

If being right close to the track where cars zooming by you at average speeds of 100 m.p.h. gives you that ultimate adrenaline rush, then come up to VIR



for the last two events of the year.

On October 29-30, the region will be having its annual Goblins Go, the traditional Halloween party, which includes exciting ECR endurance racing, South Atlantic Road Racing Championship (SARRC) and the very popular Carolina Cup Pro Series (CCPS).

The 29th will have practice and qualifying sessions for all three groups that is immediately followed by the ECR's one and a half hour timed race which includes a mandatory five-minute pit stop.

The 30th has the cars out for hardship warm-ups early with the chief steward's approval then the SARRC races will begin for the seven groups.

The weekend ends with the CCPS 45-minute timed race with a mandatory two-minute pit stop.

If that hasn't filled your racing plate, on November 4-5, the SCCA's longest endurance race in the country happens with the 13-hour Charge of the Headlight Brigade as an expected field of 75 cars will take the green flag.

Senior notes that "this event will bring in teams from all over the east coast as well as a few from farther reaches to test the endurance of both man and machine and earn a prestigious spot on the winner's podium."

For many teams and drivers, this will be a tune up for the 2006 season as they sharpen their driving and competition skills to take on reigning National Champions and other veteran racers.

For those who just want to come to VIR for the exciting race weekends ahead, tickets for the two SCCA events are \$20 per event weekend.

VIR has a spectator friendly atmosphere where you can walk through the paddock and get up and close to the race cars. Also, there are opportunities to talk to the drivers and crews.

VIR is located approximately one hour from the Triangle and is about a two and a half hour drive from Fayetteville.

If you would like to learn more about the SCCA, please visit the North Carolina Region's website at [www.ncrsc.ca.com](http://www.ncrsc.ca.com).

## I've Got my White Sox Hat On

**Elizabeth Vargas**  
Opinions Editor

Last year, I began seeing Boston Sox hats all over the place, and I'm sure that all these people wearing these hats have been loyal fans all their lives.

Let's get realistic, who really cared about the Red Sox before they won the World Series?

How is it that you were born and raised in California and you're a Boston fan?

Now that the Red Sox blew it in the first round of the playoffs in three games, how many of these Boston fans will we see?

I give Boston fans some credit. The whole "Curse of the Bambino"

was pretty intriguing but what hype does Boston have to feed off of now?

I also can say that Methodist College seems to have some pretty dedicated Boston fans. I'll leave it at that.

But I would like to ask another question; what fun is it to jump the 'bandwagon' of every winning team?

Sports are all about sticking to your team through ups and downs whether they lose some or win some.

Switching teams like you change underwear takes the competitive edge away. It also makes you look like an idiot. No longer will you be able to make fun of your friends

for their team's lack of winning skills.

Cheering for the team that everyone thinks will win is way too easy. It also makes winning less rewarding because it is anticipated.

I personally see the underdog winning to be much sweeter because they not only beat the other team but others expectations.

How about them Patriots?

What is up with this win/lose pattern they've created these past six weeks?

That 3-3 record, along with their rough schedule, isn't looking too Super Bowl promising.

Good luck with that.

# Mr. Methodist



it could be you.

coming this January