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small TALK

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'SHE WILL BE SORELY MISSED'



*"Christ shall come with shout of
acclamation and take me home, what joy
shall fill my heart."*

From her favorite hymn, "How Great Thou Art"

*Ashley Genova
News Editor*

On Mon, March 19 Dr. Wenda Johnson, the Interim Vice President for Academic Affairs, was found dead in her home. Johnson was 58. The cause of her death is not yet known.

Johnson was born on Oct. 20, 1948, in Minneapolis Minnesota.

Johnson came to Methodist on Aug. 14 of 1991 and served as the chair of the Physical Education Department. She was the first person at Methodist with a doctorate in Physical Education.

Continued on page 2

Above photo courtesy of Melissa Jameson. Other photos by Ashley Genova.





Reverend Dr. Michael Safley speaks to audience while other speakers sit in the background. All photos by Ashley Genova



One Spirit sings "Thy Will Be Done"

Continued from page 1

Johnson also played an important part as dean of the School of Science and Human Development by advising to the vice president of Academic Affairs. She also served as the head of the Interdisciplinary Studies (IDS) program.

Reverend Dr. Michael Safley, Vice President for Church and Community Relations, held the worship service in Hensdale Chapel on Wed in honor of Johnson. He began the service by reading from Ecclesiastes 3:1-12, and then the members of the congregation sang hymns that were Johnson's favorites. Safley reminded every-

one to be grateful for Johnson's life on Earth he said several prayers thanking God for her. Following, members of the congregation shared memories that they had of Johnson throughout her time at Methodist.

"The community will certainly be at a loss," Safley.

"It's going to be hard to walk by her office and not see her," said Lois De Vico, office manager. "Dr. J. was a great role model for me, I loved her bright, bubbly, unique personality and I hope that I can show that same personality."

"Dr. Johnson was a loyal friend and I will miss her friendship greatly," said George Blanc, the Vice President for Stu-

dent Development and Services and Dean of Students. "She was a strong advocate for the highest standards of academic achievement by all concerned with the educational process, but she was an even stronger advocate for the students that she served."

Thurs, Mar 22 "A Celebration of Life for Dr. Wenda D. Johnson" was held in order to honor Johnson. The program began with a prelude played on the piano by Jane Gardiner and concluded with a Hymn of Grace, "Precious Lord Take My Hand."

"With my education work at Methodist University she helped prepare me for the different aspects of student teaching. She was a dedicated professor and enjoyed working with her students," said Abby Boone, a Senior majoring in Elementary Education.

"As professionals we felt that she helped prepare us for our future endeavors as educators," said the Student Teachers of 2007.

"Tragic loss for community. Dr. Johnson was

a wonderful woman, bright, smart and funny. We'll have a hard time replacing her-no doubt," said Kevin Page, Student Government Association President.

"In the family, she was the one that always played with the kids," said Miriam Johnson, her brother's wife.

"She was a big kid," Francis "Scorchy" Johnson, Johnson's brother.

Johnson will live on through her mother, Mrs. Arvis Johnson of Haines City, Fla. and her brother of Auburndale, Fla.

Audience sings one of Johnson's favorite hymns.



Rev. Safley lights candles before the service.

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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 Bern's Student Center or sent via e-mail to ashgenova@yahoo.com. Story suggestions should be sent to the same address.

Students are free to join smallTALK at any point in the school year. Meetings are every Tuesday at 4 p.m. in the Heritage Dining Room.

Do You Have a Passion for Fashion?

Byron Lowe
Staff Writer

America's Next Top Model? How about Methodist's Next Top Model? Come out Tuesday, April 10, 7 p.m. at the Reeves Auditorium to experience the fashion flavor of Methodist University.

Our very own MU International Club will be hosting a fashion show featuring Methodist students in various styles of unique fashion wear. In addition to the fashion show, there will

be dancing, singing, and other breathtaking entertainment. Experience something new and exciting here at Methodist, tickets will be as low as \$2 for 16 and under, \$4 for adults, and FREE for anyone with a Methodist I.D.

Tickets can be purchased at the door or purchased in advance at room 12 in the Berns Student Center, phone 910-630-7225. All are welcome, so bring your family and friends to view your fellow peers in our First Annual Fashion show.

'Throw Out Your Rules—These are ROAD RULES!'

*Alicia Bates
Contributing Writer*

On March 14, Rachel Robinson of Road Rules came to Methodist University to address issues on Body Awareness. In her lecture, Robinson talked about the criticism that a lot of the female competitors on Real World and Road Rules receive from fans, especially women.

In other countries, women are celebrated for their curvy figures and their beauty. In America, women are compared to unrealistic measurements of Barbie.

"If Barbie were an actual woman, she would be six feet tall, 101 lbs, have a dress size of four and a 39" bust; so basically she'd topple over," Robinson said.

Robinson talked about different types of eating disorders, from anorexia to chewing and spitting. Statistics show that 43% of young adult between the ages of 16-20 have eating disorders, and 10% of those cases involve men. In order to overcome media stereotypes, Robinson suggested talking back to you television when it shows something that offends you. She

also suggested paying attention to the more positive ads in the media, such as the Dove campaign for real beauty.

At the end of her lecture, Robinson told the audience her opinions of the show. When talking about her overall experience on the show, Robinson said that it was "incredible because she went to so many places that she wouldn't otherwise be able to go."

Robinson then went on to say how the show has changed and has become one big frat party. Along with her season of Road Rules Campus Crawl, Robinson has done five Real World/Road Rules. She said she is happy that she has been able to step away from the

challenges and television to develop a personal life, unlike others who just get so caught up in it.

When asked around campus if more speakers should be brought to campus, 90% of students said they would like to have more speakers come to Methodist. Students said they would like to hear topics including sex, sports, religion, politics, and drugs.



Rachel Robinson with a student. Photo courtesy of Doris Jackson.

What's QEP?

*Spencer Davis
Contributing Writer*

Have you heard about the Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP)? The QEP is a project that Methodist University is required to do for accreditation. Methodist University will be choosing one aspect of student learning and applying it campus-wide.

The QEP committee now brings forward to students, staff, faculty, and alumni the "Big Five." These are the five proposals for the QEP theme. Take a look at the "Big Five" and choose your favorite. Once you have chosen, let your favorite professor(s) know. Professors will be voting in April on the "Big Five."

1) The Internship Project - Methodist University will develop campus-wide internship opportunities. All day students would be encouraged (required) to participate, as well as those night students who have the opportunity to engage in internships. Internships with government agencies and nonprofits could especially focus on community involvement and civic learning.

2) The Big Idea Project - This program would involve adopting a "big idea" at periodic intervals (every year, every other year etc.) and address the idea from as many different angles as possible. The idea in question might be phrased as a subject - love, war, freedom etc - or it might be phrased as a question. This proposal would have the campus community choose the "big idea" and then address this

idea in as many different aspects of students' lives as possible.

3) The Teaching and Learning Center at Methodist University - The center will present workshops and seminars on using contemporary and innovative approaches in teaching and learning. As well, the center will serve as a vehicle to help improve student learning skills. Emphasis will be placed on enhancing such skills as critical thinking, reading comprehension, and writing.

4) Enriching the International Experience at Methodist University - A major component of this project will be to encourage Methodist University students to take part in exchange programs. Along with travel, there are many activities we can do on campus that can enhance the international experience. We can, for example, bring in international speakers and conduct seminars and conferences. We can assist professors in developing curriculum that focuses on the international experience.

5) The Research Project at Methodist University - Methodist University will develop a program that will focus on improving and enriching the research skills of students, faculty, staff, and alumni. Every student will learn research skills and will be required to complete a senior thesis within their field of concentration. Faculty and staff will also engage in research and will be given opportunities to share their work with colleagues. Alumni will be invited back to campus to share their latest research projects.

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Opinions

America the Bootyful!!!

David Santiago
Opinions Editor

As I look at myself in the mirror every morning I say to myself "Who is that fat pig in the mirror?" and my reflection says back to me "Just your average American buddy!!!"

What is it about us Americans that makes us so obsessed with eating everything in sight? It's gotten so bad that spreading democracy in the world has become a code for establishing grease ball burger joints in Baghdad. You think the war is just about oil? It is, cooking oil. Petroleum is fraction of how much money were going to cheat out of Iraq when we set up McDonalds over there.

And of course it's not our fault, it's because there is an "obesity epidemic" going around. Great, let's take a collective lack of self-control and turn it into the flu. I suppose my grandchildren will be sitting on my knees asking me about this horrific event. "Oh it was horrible kids; there were ribs and cheesecakes and quarter pound cheese burgers and donuts everywhere. I don't know how I survived."

That's the irony of it all, in some countries they die from involuntary starvation and we have gotten so fat we actually have a disease like anorexia where people starve on purpose when they have three course meals in front of them. That's pathetic!

And how about those starving children in China and Africa? They are the reason we all got this way in the first place. Remember when you were a kid and actually were smart enough to eat half your food and say "I'm done." Our parents, and more so our grandparents, would say "Finish your plate, there are starving kids in China." I fail to see how my eating myself into childhood obesity benefited



them. If there starving, send the food I don't want to them. They need it more than me, and then we can be one happy world of people at exactly our ideal weights.

That's how we do it here. We eat 20-ounce steaks, grease-ball burgers from McDonalds and Burger King, and then get dessert. While on a recent trip to New York I was in the food court of the airport and saw a sign for a Burger King credit card. A BURGER KING CREDIT CARD!!!! Terrific! Now I can have Burger King for breakfast, Burger King for lunch and be dead by dinner and totally dodge paying for it.

And ladies, for the love of all that is sacred, don't go around with your cute little "life is sweeter with chocolate, chocolate is a woman's best friend" attitude and then ask us if you look fat in the pants that were two sizes too small for you when you were 12! The answer is YES, you ate the entire box of Valentines Day chocolates in an hour, you are going to look fat.

Hey, you don't see us guys crying over it, were just as fat as you, so for our next date, let's take that walk on the beach you said you liked in your match.com ad.

And of course then we get all these diets that tell you what low fat stuff you can eat endlessly. Hey, how about eating what you want, just not in bulk. You don't need a bucket of French Fries and ten patties of beef on your burger, how about just learning to eat ONE HAMBURGER, with maybe a real vegetable (fries don't count) like some carrots in dip, and then instead of sitting on the bean bag all day playing your football and basketball X-Box games, GO OUTSIDE AND PLAY REAL BASKETBALL AND FOOTBALL!

Naturally, I am spoofing myself here in a way since as I indicated before; I ain't no bean pole myself. But personally, I've determined to take responsibility for my own weight, not hide behind some supposed fat disease and accept being the fat American who ate what could have kept some kid in Africa alive one day longer.

Remille's
Rhetoric

Remille Shipman
Sports Editor



It is common knowledge to many upperclassmen at Methodist that graduating in four years is a difficult task. The late Interim Dean of Academic Affairs Dr. Wenda Johnson-God rest her soul-stated in a meeting with the entire freshman class that it takes an average of 15 hours per semester for one to graduate in four years.

I believe that it is also common knowledge among Methodist upperclassmen that not a lot of people manage to graduate within the stereotypical four-year requirement. From what I have witnessed in my three-year Methodist tenure, I haven't seen a lot of people graduate in four years without a bit of worry. And I've also witnessed a lot (by my count) of four-year seniors having to wait another semester to walk that stage. Maybe we need bigger-name speakers for our December commences, because I've come across a lot of past, present and future nine-semester students.

Why are all these fifth-year seniors continue to lurk on our campus? I don't believe that it's because Methodist is full of unintelligent individuals. I think that every student that has failed to graduate is only halfway re-

sponsible for their mishap. Students still have to maintain the checklist that their advisor gives them own their own, because advisors, like all human beings, are imperfect. Plus, these professors who advise us have a million other things to do besides advise us.

I feel we need a system that allows students to be assisted in their class advisement more closely. When I attended Fayetteville State, I had a separate academic advisor that saw that I was on the right track academically. Now Methodist isn't 6,000 students strong like FSU, but couldn't we at least look at moving away from professors advising us and replacing them with personnel whose main focus would be to bend over backwards to see that we get out of here in four years? I believe that's the solution to our long-term problem.

This advisement situation is a problem here at Methodist. Why do I even write about this, you ask? I'm a victim of what I just wrote about. But I'll also add that it is your responsibility to follow your calendar. And I screwed up on that one myself.

A Voice From The Wilderness

David Santiago



Now it appears I have only three articles left to rant on in this column before I enter the real world and start a new chapter in life. One of these will be a farewell so I only have two articles to really stir things up and create some controversy, so with no further delay...

I am so sick of the simple minded con artist I see on TV everyday called "televangelist." How do these people still make money? Hasn't anyone gotten the hint that these are just a bunch of sleazy business types like the guy who sold you that really crudy car for three times it's value? They tell you everything will be all happy and sunshine with no sickness if you believe in Jesus (under their own given conditions). Naturally this always involves giving them money which finances THEIR extravagant lifestyle. Naturally there are a few I must point out.

First let's talk about our good friend Jerry Falwell, good ole Jerry. From his right wing fascist agenda to homoerotic puppets, Jerry gets an A in making a first class jacka** out of himself. First his politics are garbage. I am admittedly a liberal non-affiliated democrat with some heavily socialist sympathies true, but I can be respectful of my more conservative peers when it is within reason. But Jerry basically has succeeded into tricking most evangelicals into thinking that God is a modern day Republican, that Teletubbies like to get it on back stage with puppets of the same gender, and somehow making the 9/11 attacks out as God's punishments for giving women equal rights in the work place. Falwell belongs in a strait jacket in a

rubber padded room!

John Hagee. I can't be nice about this, his ideas of making homosexual acts punishable by imprisonment makes him the Hitler of the right wing. He actually thinks homosexuals make a choice to be that way, even other Christians who are against homosexuality admit that it is something physiologically ingrained, but not to John, he pretty much thinks people purposely decide to be ostracized by there families and most of society. And even as the "Hitler" of the right wing, John Hagee ironically loves the Jews. So much so that he basically would commit genocide on the Palestinians in Israel. And hey, I am not going to deny the historical fact that the Jewish people came out of Israel long ago an understand the want to returns and have there own state, but you can't just show up an tell the people who were there for last 2000 years at least to leave. John Hagee ought to be watched by the FBI, he is literally one of the most dangerous leaders on the planet.

People remember this isn't some atheist talking here, this is one of your own (Christians) speaking.

Now for a close look at good Pat Robertson. From running for president to calling for world leaders assassinations, Pat is the crown jewel of insane televangelist. He mystically cures diseases of people he never has met over the airwaves, interprets the news so we know what the latest to be announced date of the rapture is, and now he gives health advice. Yes, he is a health guru now. Because when I think about getting in shape, I think about how great it would be to look like a hunch backed wrinkly bobble head doll. Seriously, his head is more agile than Shakira's hips, and unlike Shakira's immaculate hips, Pat does lie. While running for president Pat was quoted of saying about who should be in the government: "Individual Christians are the only ones really -- and Jewish people, those who trust God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob -- are the only ones that are qualified

to have the reign, because hopefully, they will be governed by God and submit to Him." Than when called out on it he completely denied what he was clearly on record saying: "I never said that in my life ... I never said only Christians and Jews. I never said that." And of course he has repeatedly stated that the separation of church and state is not in the constitution. Pretty clever trick there, building on the fact that no, that exact phrasing of the concept does not exist in the constitution, but there is a little thing he might want to do. It's called comprehending what you read, if he had any concept of this, I can only imagine what he might discover about the very First Amendment in the Constitution.

Again I wish there was a way I could be nice about this, but it's impossible, these guys have nothing to do with the kingdom of God, there just a bunch of money hungry windbags who's political ideals boil down to crying like a bunch of five-year-olds because the world doesn't work the way they want it to.

Corner Worker

Jameson Jones
Staff Writer

It seems like only yesterday as I was going through similar emotions of mourning the death of someone special in the North Carolina region back in December 2005.

Now as I think about the sad news of Dr. Wenda Johnson's passing, am seeply saddened.

Even though I did not know her personally, I found out how great of a person he really was and when I saw the news release on the website, I felt that someone had kicked me in my stomach.

After reading on what she had done for the Methodist University community, it has made me realize that without her ideas for what are now MU at Night and MU Online, this university would be not in the position that it is today.

With the dedication that she had for not only those programs but for the other programs that she was involved in, including the teacher education

programs in which many of my friends are a part of.

It will be hard to replace Dr. Johnson due to the numerous contributions she made not only from being the Interim VP for Academic Affairs and a tenured faculty member in the Wellness and Exercise Science program, but her contributions to life.

To the family of Dr. Johnson, I mourn your loss and ask that the Giver of Life bring you peace during this sad time.

To the entire Methodist University community, we must be inspired by Dr. Johnson's contributions to this community so that we can move forward in making this a great and outstanding university that serves all who desire academic success.

Until next my friends, I will see you at the races.

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Entertainment

'300' a Historical, Inspiring Bloodbath Movie

Aaron Sagers

Merge of The Morning Call (Allentown, Pa.) (MCT)

History buffs take note: This may be the first and only time the word "Thermopylae" will be making headlines.

The blood-soaked epic "300" — adapted from a Frank

Miller graphic novel about the titular number of Spartans battling a massive Persian army — slaughtered its box office competition on opening weekend.

Taking in around \$70 million, and setting the bar for a potentially successful upcoming summer movie season, the movie doesn't actually teach much

about the famous battle at Thermopylae. But it does say a little bit about human nature.

When the final heads had



A wounded Leonidas, played by Gerard Butler roars his defiance at the Persian invaders in Warner Bros. Pictures' action drama, "300". (Handout/MCT)

Crossword

- ACROSS**
- 1 Spheres
 - 5 IRS mo.
 - 8 Seek
 - 14 Big pile
 - 15 Batman and Robin, e.g.
 - 16 Glistens
 - 17 Gymnasts
 - 19 Most Indians
 - 20 "___ Polie Olie"
 - 21 Smile!
 - 23 Danny of "Radio Days"
 - 25 Body of water
 - 26 Slugger Musial
 - 27 Crafty
 - 28 Kimono sash
 - 30 NBC classic
 - 32 Opening letters
 - 33 People with upturned noses?
 - 35 Comparative construction
 - 37 Branchlet
 - 40 Digits, briefly
 - 42 Floor squares
 - 43 Affectionate critic
 - 45 Carried
 - 47 Part of a play
 - 48 CD's rival
 - 50 Man's title
 - 51 Our star
 - 54 Decays
 - 56 Smidge
 - 58 Medicinal solution
 - 60 Mine activators
 - 63 Nervous
 - 64 Rugged range
 - 65 Ran naked
 - 67 Hidden
 - 68 Chinese philosophy
 - 69 Calf meat
 - 70 Packing a wallop
 - 71 Sellout letters
 - 72 Agatha's contemporary

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3/31/07

- DOWN**
- 1 John and Maureen
 - 2 Shrink back
 - 3 Cereal grass
 - 4 Ruin
 - 5 Nabokov novel
 - 6 Places
 - 7 Ponselle and Parks
 - 8 Depth charges
 - 9 ___ Tzu
 - 10 Coniferous trees
 - 11 Thoroughly
 - 12 Not a throwaway
 - 13 Concentrated extracts
 - 18 Fit in
 - 22 Affirmative
 - 24 Seller's \$\$ equivocation
 - 29 Abdul Aziz ___ Saud
 - 31 Well-read
 - 33 Palindromic sibling
 - 34 Drunkard
 - 36 Halfway, briefly
 - 37 Switches on
 - 38 Italian ewe's-milk cheese
 - 39 Most shabby
 - 41 Distress signal
 - 44 Filled with happiness
 - 46 Shakespearean contraction
 - 49 Black goo
 - 51 Trick pitch
 - 52 Remove shrink wrap
 - 53 Razz
 - 55 Shopaholic's outing
 - 57 Outshines
 - 59 Be off
 - 61 Small songbird
 - 62 Deneb or Vega
 - 66 One of Pooh's pals

Solutions

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rolled and the last soldier felled, Rorschach-like blood splattered credits flashed and the audience rose from their seats, filled with a lust for battle and glory. Grown men filed out of the theater sounding war cries while flinging nacho spartips.

You've heard of beer muscles? This was a case of movie muscles.

I am not immune to it, either.

After seeing "The Matrix," I spent a week trying to run up walls. And if not for a patient girlfriend adept at literally talking me off a ledge, I'd still be trying out a homemade grappling hook ala Batman.

But epic movies like "300" affect us the most. Tales of a warrior with a sword leading his

people into (a hopeless) battle against a tyrant is inspiring. Sure, the movies and history tell us those heroes always die — and sometimes they die while painted blue and getting disemboweled — but they die with honor and glory.

Who doesn't want that? Those heroes fought for something, and if the notion of that doesn't grab on tight and squeeze the cockles of your heart, I doubt you bleed warm red liquid.

Maybe I'm an optimist but I think a movie like "300" is popular because it is at our core to want to be the hero; to right wrongs and leave a mark on the world. And if someone erects a statue in our honor, well, that would be cool, too.

But honestly, most of our life's battles consist more of competing with a fellow driver for the same prime parking spot or scoring the empty checkout line in the grocery store.

Although there are those who fight poverty, corruption, disease or actual wars with guns (like the current one in the area once known as Persia), overall, we are pretty soft.

To wit: "What we do in life echoes in eternity." ("Gladiator")

"Every man dies, not every man really lives." ("Braveheart")

"All men lose when they die and all men die. But a slave and a free man lose different things." ("Spartacus")

"A new age has come, an age of freedom. And all will know

that 300 Spartans gave their last breath to defend it." ("300")

"I wonder if the carbs in that Olive Garden breadstick are really worth it." (Your columnist)

Not exactly an inspiring message to the troops, right? Nope, but I'm not ashamed to be soft.

That's why I go to the picture shows — to vicariously experience love, adventure and glory, then go home to a cushy bed.

It's one thing to like the idea of a life of purpose, and quite another to pursue it. Plus, saving your fellow man is time-consuming and tough.

Besides, true glory is hard to come by and some of us are just better at being sheep than shepherds.

After all, some are born great, some achieve greatness, some have greatness thrust upon them — and some are just great at flinging nachos in the theater.

Aaron Sagers writes for Merge, an edition of The (Allentown, Pa.) Morning Call. Reach him at Aaron.Sagers@mergedigital.com. Find Merge online at: www.mergedigital.com



Courtesy of yahoo movies.

'The Last Mimzy' A Familiar Story

Roger Moore
The Orlando Sentinel
(MCT)

Something in the theater made my hand work across the page. There it is, scribbled in the notebook, barely legible.

"Why is 'The Last Mimzy' so much like 'Ghost' ... so Tibetan?"

A slow movie will do that to you when you take notes in the dark.

And then, there's my answer, in the credits. Bruce Joel Rubin, who introduced "The Tibetan Book of the Dead" to movie audiences with "Ghost" and "Jacob's Ladder" in 1990, is one of several credited writers on this odder-than-odd children's film.

A famous sci-fi short story ("Mimzy Were Borogoves") is the framework for this movie, about kids who find a cache of strange toys — spinning rocks, a wriggling blob, an aged stuffed rabbit doll — in a box that washes up near their beach house.

The kids, Noah and Emma (Chris O'Neil and Rhiannon Leigh Wryn) keep the cache secret from their parents (Timothy Hutton and Joely Richardson). But it's obvious they've gotten their hands on something extraordinary. The stonies spin and weave holographic pictures. The doll whispers to Emma. It appears to see all and know all.

And the children — the girl's 6, Noah's about 9 — start doing amazing things, complex science projects for school, doodling obscure Tibetan pictographs.

That gets the attention of the hipster science teacher (Rainn Wilson of "The Office"). Before you know it, a movie

about innocent children receiving a message from the future, across the eons of time, has become a "Little Buddha" for the new millennium, with pushy Tibetan-loving teachers and seemingly "chosen" children.

Plus a doll, a stuffed rabbit named Mimzy.

It's been 25 years since "E.T.," so we're long overdue for an emotional sci-fi movie that kids will connect with. "Mimzy," directed by the fellow who runs the New Line movie studio, Bob Shaye, benefits from a tear-jerking turn by little Miss Wryn and some very familiar story beats.

But it's awkwardly constructed, with a lame teacher-tells-a-story-in-the-future framework that gets the film off on the wrong foot. It takes a good, long while to get going, and the action doesn't exactly crackle when it does. "Mimzy" has the same E.T. "government agents" tracking these goings on (Michael Clarke Duncan is their chief), only with less menace and more incompetence.

Still, that kid can make you cry, and the story's payoff is rich and heartwarming. It has a few moments that suggest the movie it might have become, but the poor pacing robs the movie of urgency and emotion.

Shaye marshaled this project through his studio as a labor of love. No doubt that included bringing in multiple screenwriters, including the Oscar-winning Tibeta-phile, Mr. Rubin.

But Bob, don't you remember that ancient Tibetan catch-phrase, "If you love something, set it free?"

Or at least let somebody else direct.

A College Girl Named Joe



I ADORE RYAN. I NEVER REALIZED WHAT A GREAT GUY HE WAS BEFORE.

NOW, EVEN JUST THINKING ABOUT HIM I FEEL FUNNY, MY THROAT GETS DRY AND I CRAMP UP.



by Aaron Warner



Two Dudes



by Aaron Warner

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Sports

Neon Tennis

Susan Miller Degnan
McClatchy Newspapers
 (MCT)

MIAMI — Nineteen-year-old tennis pro Marcel Goodman, ranked 1,014th in the world, knew he would never survive in the midday sunshine of this week's Sony Ericsson Open on Key Biscayne.

But when the dance-crazy teenager from Boca Raton, Fla., was invited to play in the dark under psychedelic ultra-violet lights in another Miami Sony Ericsson tennis tournament, he jumped at the chance. Spectators will drink free booze and groove to remixes by world famous DJs in town for the Winter Music Conference while Goodman and his indoor opponents' reflective outfits and tennis equipment glow in neon whites, pinks, blues, reds, greens and purples.

"That sounds awesome, really cool, a glowing ball with flashing lights like a disco with a tennis tournament right in the middle," Goodman said. "I'll try to stop from dancing in the middle of the point because I love to dance."

Sony Ericsson has dubbed its new concept Night Tennis, and it's free to the first 1,200 people 21 and older who register for tickets online at www.night-tennis.com. The two-night event March 22 and 23 takes place at the Ice Palace Film Studio in downtown Miami.

Dean Taylor, Sony Ericsson's British senior manager of sponsorship marketing, created the concept for a similar event last year at the Madrid School of Fashion. Taylor said Spanish college players competed in "everything from specifically designed UV hooded tennis tops to A-line skirts with tennis balls attached.

"Visually, it's incredible," he said. "Our vision was to knock down boundaries that put some people off to tennis — 'Quiet please!' — and unleash some fun and excitement. Tennis to music is a great idea, and the ball gets a tail-like comet effect when it's hit back and forth. We'll celebrate amazing shots with light displays."

The Ice Palace Film Stu-

dio will have banked seating for about 500 spectators with the rest standing on the pitch-black dance floor that surrounds the tennis court. A giant clock with neon lights is projected on the back wall to keep score, show replays and flash cool colors. A UV-intensive Gen Art fashion show will take place in the dark between games, and renowned DJs Paul Oakenfold, Masters at Work and Miami-based Murk will spin music from 1 a.m. to 4a.m.

The fast-paced tournament will be played on a spongy-foam court with unconventional but simple rules and scoring. Each game is limited to three minutes. Taylor even got well-known tennis umpire Debra "Vigi" Dreker of Boca Raton — she has been a chair umpire or linesman for the past 14 U.S. Open finals — to be the umpire. Each night's winner among the eight mostly pro or former touring players will get a trophy and a pair of VIP tickets to the Sony Ericsson Open, which begins Wednesday at the Tennis Center at Crandon Park.

Don't be surprised if some Sony Ericsson Open players pop in for some late-night entertainment.

"It's out of this world, but extremely fun," said Sergio Moreno Gomez, 20, who plays for Madrid Polytechnic and competed in the Madrid event last November. "It was quite electrifying, especially with the spotlights and music playing. Having people dance by the side of the court while you were playing was quite strange..."

Next week's players include Adriana Biasella, 26, of Rome, who plays Futures and Challengers tournaments and is ranked 675, and Horacio Rearte, 43, who grew up in Argentina and France and now lives in Boca Raton.

"I heard it will be a bit different because we'll play with black lights, disco lights, so the ball will have a cool effect," Biasella said. "When the ball goes that fast and everything is dark, it could be tough to see. But the color, the music and all the people dancing and drinking — maybe tennis will be the least important thing."

Baseball Updates

Byron Lowe
Staff Writer

The Monarch baseball team is off to a proficient start with an impressive record of 14 wins and only six losses. Under head coach Tom Austin the Monarchs have never won fewer than 22 games in 26 seasons. The team is currently on a pace to win at least 25 once again.

So far it seems the main issue for the team is conference play where they own a 3-3 record, splitting their two-game series with Ferrum, North Carolina Wesleyan, and Greensboro. The Monarchs have 6 games left versus conference opponents: two versus Christopher Newport (Mar. 24, 25, road games), two versus Averett (Mar. 31, Apr. 1,

home games), two versus Shenandoah (April 6, 7 road games). Methodist will need to improve in conference play to position themselves for a desirable position in the NCAA Regionals (May 16-20).

Performance Players
Offense Leaders

- Freshman Seth Kivett is making a huge contribution as a rookie, batting .342 with 73 at bats. Kivett is also leading the team with two homeruns, and in runs batted in with 16.

- Senior Matt Hunt, is leading the team in runs scored 20, stolen bases with 11, and base on balls with 12.

- Senior Jonathan Spivey is a steady contributor with 16 runs scored and 14 runs batted

in.

- Other note worthies include: senior Michael Ellsworth batting .500 with 32 at bats, and sophomore Brad Davis batting .358 in 42 at bats. (all statistics as of March 19, 2007)

Pitching Leaders

- Junior Chris Toth has been the work horse so far for the Monarchs pitching a total of 35.2 innings, with three wins, and 26 strike outs while posting a 2.52 ERA.

- Sophomore Kurt Kelly is close behind with 35 innings pitched, while striking out 22, with a 3.34 ERA.

- Sophomore Elliott Bisplinghoff has three wins in 30 innings pitched, and a quality ERA of 1.50.

- Freshman Fred Geisinger also has three wins with three saves and an impressive 1.80 era.

Hang out in the outdoors!



Join the Outdoor Adventure Club

2006- 07 Schedule

September

Hot-air Ballooning

Sailing School- Annapolis, MD

October

White Water Rafting, Rock Climb & Rappelling

West Virginia, New York City, NY

November

Swimming with Manatees- Florida

Deep Sea Fishing- Carolina Beach

December

Cross-country Skiing, Snow Shoeing, & Dog Sledding

January

Downhill Skiing, Snowboarding, & Tubing

February

Horseback Riding School

Washington D.C.

March

Fishing, Snorkeling, & Scuba Diving
 Key West, Florida (Spring Break)

April

Sea Kayaking, Claming, Surf Fishing
 Outer Banks, NC

May

Backpacking, Hiking Grand Canyon