

APRIL 23,
2007

small TALK

VOLUME 46
ISSUE 11

THE STUDENT VOICE OF METHODIST UNIVERSITY

WWW.SMALLTALKMC.COM

The Mind of a Killer

Aamer Madhani
Chicago Tribune
(MCT)

The gunman in the Virginia Tech shooting rampage, Cho Seung-Hui, was a troubled 23-year-old senior from South Korea who investigators believe left an invective-filled note in his dorm room, sources say.

The note included a rambling list of grievances, according to sources. They said Cho also died with the words "Ismail Ax" in red ink on the inside of one of his arms.

Cho had shown recent signs of violent, aberrant behavior, according to an investigative source, including setting a fire in a dorm room and allegedly stalking some women.

A note believed to have been written by Cho was found in his dorm room that railed against "rich kids," "debauchery" and "deceitful charlatans" on campus.

The English major from Centreville, Va., a rapidly growing suburb of Washington, D.C., came to the United States in 1992, an investigative source said. He was a legal permanent resident.

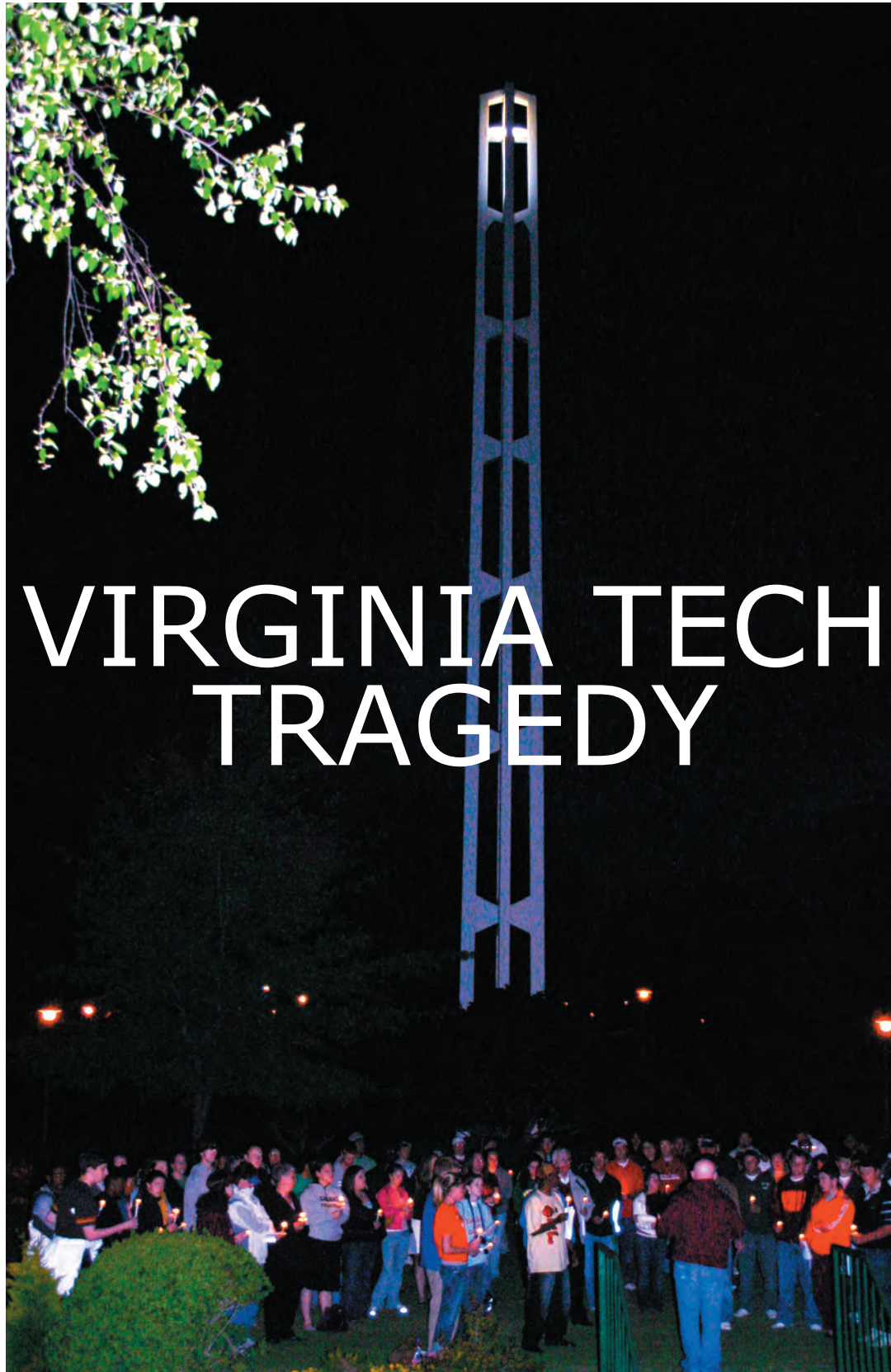
His family runs a dry cleaning business and he has a sister who graduated from Princeton University, according to the source.

Investigators believe Cho at some point had been taking medication for depression. They are examining Cho's computer for more evidence.

The gunman's family lived in an off-white, two-story townhouse in Centreville.

"He was very quiet, always by himself," neighbor Abdul Shash said of the gunman. Shash said the gunman spent a lot of his free time playing basketball, and wouldn't respond if someone greeted him. He described the family as quiet.

continued on page 3, Killer



VIRGINIA TECH TRAGEDY

Methodist students hold a candle light vigil in honor of the shooting victims. Photo by Tiffany Nabors

Campus Reactions

Ashley Young
News Editor

With the tragedy at Virginia Tech, everyone throughout the nation has become wary of possible attacks elsewhere.

"I realize that we are all touched by the horrors that occurred there," said Dawn Hamerla, Director of Public Safety at Methodist University, in an e-mail sent out to all faculty and staff on campus.

Hamerla felt that now would be "an appropriate time" to call attention to the plans that we have here at Methodist in the case of an emergency. While there are no measures being added to the system, the procedures currently in place are being evaluated. First of all there is a "heightened sense of awareness" among everyone here on campus. At the beginning of the school year students, staff, and faculty are given a handbook entitled Emergency Operations Plan Summary that tells what to do in different emergency situation events that may happen on campus. Methodist also has an air siren which would go off in an emergency situation on top of Garber Hall, there are 17 emergency alarm boxes throughout campus, and every one of the police officers on campus has trained at the Rapid Response to the Active Shooter which is located at the NC Justice Academy. There is also action taking place for the installation of lights out on the football field.

"I'm very saddened by it and I wish it could have been prevented. It appeared the student had a problem that was ignored. By ignoring the problem it turned into a tragedy. God bless the families and college," said Larry Smith, the bookstore manager.

"My thoughts and prayers go out to that community. Living in a college community myself I'm reminded that something like that could happen anywhere," said Joey Harris, residential coordinator for Garber and Pearce Halls.

Wed evening the Rev. Dr.

Continued on page 2, Campus

CAMPUS

continued from page 1

Michael Safley held a candlelight vigil to honor those at Virginia Tech. The vigil had Safley give a prayer, then everyone there sang two hymns, then people recalled memories they had with family members and friends at VT, then Safley finished with a benediction.

Lydia Haig, a sophomore, said, "I think it's makes you think twice about how you live your life. Makes you realize it could be gone just like that."



Methodist's Got Talent

*Cassandra Wells
Staff Writer*

Methodist especially had talent on the night of April 4.

The Student Activities Committee put on a talent show in Berns.

The \$200 first prize went to Keva Wilson, who sang. The \$100, second prize went to Erin Yarborough, who also sang. The \$50 third prize was shared

by Chelsale Hester, Ashley Smith, Stacy Williams, Yolanda McNeil, and Regina Reeves, who danced to a rap re-mix.

Singing and dancing were not the only talents that night. There were contestants who played the piano, played guitar, recited poetry, recited a monologue, and even rapped.

When asked what he thought of the talent show, Chase Patisillo said, "I thought the talent show was AWESOME, I really go into it with everybody singing along and having a good time." He also said, "LADYT!", when asked what his favorite part was.

To the left, third prize winners Chelsale Hester, Ashley Smith, Stacy Williams, Yolanda McNeil, Regina Reeves. Below, Lady T sings. Photos from Doris Jackson



FIND ADVENTURE WITH STUDENT MEDIA!

BE THE NEXT EDITOR-IN-CHIEF OF THE YEARBOOK!

Also Looking for:

- Sports Editor**
- Opinions Editor**
- Photographers**

Call (910) 988-5884 for more info

smallTALK staff

Editor-in-Chief
Ashley Genova

Web Editor
Cassandra Wells

News
Layout/ Copy Editor
Ashley Young

Staff Writers
Byron Lowe
Remille Shipman

Opinions
Layout Editor/Copy Editor
David Santiago

Photographer
Margina Cocozza
Bendana

Entertainment
Layout Editor/Copy Editor
Marianne Mosch

smallTALK is the student-run newspaper of Methodist College. It is published every other week throughout the school year. The newspaper is editorially independent of Methodist College, and any ideas and opinions expressed herein do not necessarily reflect the views and opinions of the faculty, staff and administration of Methodist College.

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.

Big Read Celebrates Zora Neal Hurston

*Tracey Pearson
Contributing Writer*

The Davis M. Library in conjunction with Cumberland County Public Library participated in Fayetteville's first Big Read. The Big Read is an initiative of the National Endowment for the Arts designed to restore reading to the center of American culture. The NEA presents The Big Read in partnership with the Institute of Museum and Library Services and in cooperation with Arts Midwest. The Big Read brings together partners across the country to encourage reading for pleasure and enlightenment.

"Their Eyes Were Watching God" by Zora Neale

Hurston was the featured book. Students from Dr. Emily Wright's Southern Literature class participated in an interpretation of passages from the book followed by a discussion led by Dr. Wright and Tracey Pearson, director of Library Services. In the reading, Lisa Bellamy was Phoeby, Thomasa Bonner was Nanny, Michael S. Murray was Logan Killicks & Joe Starks, Rachel Bethea was Janie and Antwin Shuford was Tea Cake.

"Since this will now be a yearly celebration, we can't wait for the next book to be announced," said Pearson.

The Big Read will run through April 27, and the library has information on where other events will be held.



Photo by Tiffany Nabors

Cassandra Wells
Staff Writer

Bright colors, glitter and embroiders were just some of the things represented on the clothing of the participants in the International Fashion Show. April 18 was the First International Fashion Show, sponsored by the International Club to show the variety of clothing around the world. The countries that were represented included, Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Cameroon, China, Japan, Panama, Nepal, Palestine, India, Nicaragua, Russia, Guyana, Uzbekistan, Belarus, Mongolia, Senegal, Saudi Arabia and the Philippines.

Audience members

World Wide Web of Fashion

learned different things like kimono, which is the traditional dress in Japan, literally means 'something worn.' The audience also learned that some colors, embroiders or symbols could represent a person's place in society. Ornaments attached to the Belarusian national dress is to protect a person wearing them from evil spirits.

Along with seeing different countries attire, the audience saw an Indian Dance, performed by Rahila and Group; an Iranian Dance, performed by Kiho, Sana, Rahila, and Deepak; and a Philippine Dance, performed by, Emily and Company. The opening act was, Melanie Gibson, Keva Wilson, Michelle Altmore and Michael Price; also known as 'The Glamorous,' danced to a mix of songs.

To bring humor into the International Fashion Show the host, Byron Lowe, and his co-host Fallon Bethell, made a few jokes in between introducing the new countries.



Dr. Johnson Memorial Science Wing a Possibility

Ashley Genova
Editor-in-chief

Though Dr. Wenda Johnson, the late interim Academic Dean, has passed on, she may remain on campus in a very concrete form.

At April 9 Student Government Meeting, Senator Stacie Canady suggested that the new wing of the Science Building be named after Dr. Johnson. She said that the idea came from Junior Christy Rudolf.

Members of SGA will be distributing petitions until the end of the semester in an effort to pass the naming of the building.

Killer

Continued from page 1

Marshall Main, who lives across the street, said the family had lived in the townhouse for several years.

According to court records, Virginia Tech Police issued a speeding ticket to Cho on April 7 for going 44 mph in a 25 mph zone, and he had a court date set for May 23.

Cho was found among the 31 dead found in an engineering hall. Police said the victims laid over four classrooms and a stairwell.

Police said Cho killed 30 people in a Virginia Tech engineering building Monday morning and then killed himself.

Another two students were shot to death two hours earlier in a dorm room on the opposite side of the university's sprawling 2,600-acre campus, bringing the day's death toll to 33.

Students at Harper Hall, the campus dormitory where Cho lived, said they had little interaction with him and no insight into what might have moti-

vated the attack.

Timothy Johnson, a student from Annandale, Va., said people would say hello to Cho in passing, but nobody knew him well.

"People are pretty upset," Johnson said. "He's a monster; he can't be normal. I can't believe I said 'hi' to him in the hall and then he killed all those people."

Officials said the same gun was used in the attack in the dorm room and the larger-scale classroom killings.

"At this time, the evidence does not conclusively identify Cho as the gunman at both locations," said Col. W. Steven Flaherty, superintendent of Virginia State Police.

Between the dormitory shooting and the classroom shooting, Cho sent a package that was delivered to NBC News on Wednesday, April 18. The package contained a 23 page written statement, 23 video clips, and 43 photos of the killer. News stations are limiting airing of the videos due to the disturbing content.

HEALTHY VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Earn up to \$3000 participating in a research study of an investigational medication. Healthy males and females between the ages of 18 and 55 years of age:

Visit www.aaipharma.com or call 800-292-6188, option 2 for more information.



RESEARCH
FOR
HEALTH

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

Opinions

A Voice From The Wilderness

David Santiago



Hope is the main message of faith. In recent discussions with some peers of mine I got the sense that they thought doubt and fear was the devil talking, and that the mark of being a Christian is having none. It's not, ok, that's not the devil. Fear and Doubt are reality. They are traits of being human and we can't avoid them.

fear and doubt.

Now there are those that would say that a true Christian should be able to live without these things. Well if that is true, than the entire Christian faith is one big lie.

If I thought that this is what Christianity taught than I would have made that left years ago. But fortunately, this is not

They will always be there in front of us. We live in a world of disillusionment, especially these days. The natural consequence of this is that we live in

the sense I get from the Bible.

Jesus compared faith to a mustard seed, saying this is all you needed to have enough faith. The reason for this is that this is all the faith any of us are capable of having. We live in a world in which logically, the evidence in front of us day to day is the only evidence we can objectively confirm. We cannot say beyond reasonable doubts that we are right or that there is even a God. We can logically philosophize such things, but there is no fool proof time tested method to come to any of these conclusions. So we can never have faith the size of a mountain. The mountain is made up of the evidence that were probably wrong, that there is no hope, and that there may not be a God.

So how does a Chris-

tian deal with these things, we take a chance on the mustard seed. In a class I am taking it was said that the hope presented in J.R.R. Tolkien's "The Lord of The Rings" is a pagan hope, meaning that it is a hope absent of guarantees. Sure in Christianity we have an assurance of an afterlife, but this assurance only exist in the context of Christianity itself; we have no proof to solidly say that any of it is true. That is the reality we live with every day. Outside the context of Christianity, we have nothing.

So yes, we pursue something with no current guarantee. Let's face it, were second guessing everything here.

So what is it that keeps our and my faith alive? Let me put it this way. At the end of the movie "The Return of the King," Aragorn gathers the good forces, small in number, at the gates of Mordor. They cannot obtain victory for themselves. They are doing it to give Frodo a chance to destroy the ring at Mount Doom by distracting Sauran and the Orcs. They fully expect to die, but will put life on the line so that good can prevail. They don't even know of the one who can achieve this is even alive at all, but just on the chance that maybe, MAYBE it can happen, they will die for that, for something they cannot really know is even an option at this point, but it's the only hope they have. In a way, you could say that the reason to doubt was, well, reasonable and the size of a mountain. But they chose to dictate there actions of the mustard seed of a chance that this little pipe-smoking Hobbit from an isolated agrarian society was even capable of doing what he set out to do.

So you see, doubt is not an attack from the devil, it is merely a result of the condition of the world, and we cannot escape it. If you tell me you have no doubt or fears, I'm sorry, but I am calling you a liar, and you are mostly lying to yourself. There is a difference between legitimate spirituality and tricking yourself into a physiological state of comfort and false security.

We always have doubt. There are many legitimate reasons to say that there may not be

a God, that the Bible was written by schizophrenics and people trying to control the lower classes. These are perfectly reasonable arguments. But we need hope, and the reality in front of us offers none. That's why there is still, in this day in age when we have proven things like evolution v literal 7 day creationism and stuff, we choose the small chance, the mustard seed size of a chance, that there is a God, that there is good in the world and in humanity, that there is a higher calling, and that we can trust in any of this. We are all taking a gamble here. The thing is, that despite the doubt we all still have, even Jesus had it, if we follow the mustard seed of hope despite the mountain of evidence that there is none, God that may exist will take that same chance on us. And it's not about whether we successfully achieve victory for ourselves with the mustard seed, God will love us just for taking the chance despite the odds against us, that's it. We have no real evidence that can reassure us and prove Jesus was God, or that Moses really heard got the commandments from God, or that Mohammad, or Buddha, or who's right for that matter, but the hope that there is any hope is what drives us. And that's the spiritual path for all of us. Not knowing, but taking a chance on the stuff we can not truly know, adhering to a higher calling that we may not know even really exist.

Like in "Return of the King," we take a chance on hope. Why did they take a chance on the unlikely hope they did in that story, because without it, there was no other good alternative, so why not take a chance on the only thing that offers any hope at all?

So, true hope is in the small, almost invisible chance that there is even hope at all. And that's what it is to have faith. It's not an assurance, it's a gamble, but one worth taking, because without the ends of this bet, there basically is nothing. So even if there are holes in all of this,, why not take a chance on that idea that it could be true? Honestly, there really are no other options.

Donate plasma

Your fill up could help someone have a regular life.

GET A **\$10** BONUS

First Time Donors

Present this coupon on your first visit.



Donate plasma.
It's easy & simple.

BioLife
PLASMA SERVICES

give. receive.

Available to first time donors only.
Paycode: 40022 NPADFNC

Call for an appointment today.

Receive up to **\$200**
a month and give life
to patients in need.

910-764-9300

4441 Bragg Blvd.
Fayetteville, NC 28303

www.biolifeplasma.com

Remille's Rhetoric

Remille Shipman
Sports Editor



I've been a student at Methodist University for three years now. And I've been a college student for five years. I tried to prepare a column that would showcase my views on the events of this year, but I couldn't help but reflect constantly on the things that have happened to me while I've been here.

I came to Methodist on August 10, 2004 for several reasons, but one of the major reasons I came here was because I wanted to make my college years the best years of my life. Now some people here at Methodist claim that the school isn't up to par with other colleges in America, but I've been one to try to make the most of what I have. And I can tell you that I've accomplished my mission.

Since I've come here, I've been to Nashville, Tennessee, and Kansas City, Missouri on behalf of the university. I've been to New York City twice. Twice! I know it's not a big deal to some people, but it's a big deal (yet an expensive deal) for someone like me that doesn't get to travel that often. I've met a lot of people and earned a lot of respect from the students and the faculty for what I have done for the sports section here. And I've almost won the title of Homecoming King twice. To have attained that kind of popularity without participating in a varsity sport is amazing to me. Thank you for caring and reading my works. I can't list the number of people that have given me positive vibes.

And I've done this with the odds already against me. Very few people know this, I was born with Asperger's Syndrome (aka mild autism) and I was unable to speak until I was four years old. You're welcome to look it up on the Internet. My disorder basically makes it harder for me to communicate with people, but it doesn't mean that I'm not intelligent. I can still achieve anything I wish...I just have

to work harder.

I say this because my situation has changed somewhat. I'm not the Sports Editor anymore; I "fired" myself because my academic workload called for me to focus my efforts on school. Plus, I am graduating in December, and I

feel I need to spend time with the people close to me. And I admit that I was worn down by the lack of help I received (as well as the inconsistent enthusiasm). I couldn't hold a position that I couldn't commit to with 110% vigor.

But I'll still contribute to smallTALK on occasion. I feel as if I have signed a contract with this paper. And this paper and the persons that have worked for me have been too good to me. I'm still undecided on whether I'll do this column next semester. But bet on Remille's Rhetoric being back. I'll still have a lot to say come August.

HAS THE KKK INFILTRATED ENTERTAINMENT?

David Santiago: Opinions Editor

From Mel Gibson's rant about the Jews to Michael Richards outburst if the n-word in his comedy act, and finally to Dom Imus' comment about "Nappy-headed 'ho's'" Racism is the now the hottest trend amongst Hollywood's washed up and forgotten elites. If your having a hard time getting people's attention, nothing like a quick outburst of bigotry to get yourself back in the public eye.

These days it doesn't matter if what you do is bad, as long as it's outrageous you can get yourself plenty of attention with it, if only Archie Bunker were alive to see this.

What we have here is not necessarily a revival of old social battle lines, but just an-

other manifest of the recent trend amongst famous people to make complete idiots of themselves in order to keep in the public eye, and of course as a people, black white Latin, whatever, we bite

right into it.

How else you explain the insane behavior of Brittny and the undeserved fame of Federline, or the multiple sex tapes of Paris Hilton.

But if you're an older male that no one wants to see in a sex tape, what do you do, how about a couple of racial remarks? And boy does it work.

This does not justify the actions and words said. In fact it shows how truley pathetic the culture has become, when some old washed up celebrity or sports commentator makes a splsh in the news for being a racist. And that fact that our news media will bite and follow it with a vengeance is what is truley pathetic.

A Farwell to Arms

Dave Santiago:
Opinion Editor signing off

I started writing my religion column when I came here in the spring of 2005, and was immediately accepted since there had just been controversy of Norma's sex column, which I felt was perfectly tasteful and hardly called for all the fuss made over it, but anyhow:

As my undergraduate career coming to an end, I have some advice.

Make the best of school, especially while you have lower (100 and 200) level classes. Sometimes the best things cost no money nor require the schools support. We had a monsoon come through in the fall of 2005, so me and some friends got skim boards and went surfing in the ankle seep water in front of Pearce at 1 am. I could have gotten fired from my RA job, but it was worth it, that's what it's all about.

To be clear, this isn't the last you have heard from me, I will continue to write my religion column. I hope to continue to inspire the spiritual and tick off the fundamentalist with my healthy doses of truth. But I will no longer be the editor of the Opinions section, and I will hardly contribute anything else it seems. This will be a big relief to those of you who see my realism as cynical, radical and leftist.

But, I just have too much of a belief in freedom of speech and a despise passive discussion when it comes to Politics, Social Issues, and Religion. We live in a democratic society, if you want to system to work, say what's on your mind, and deal with it when you don't get your way. That's the nature of the beats, but when I think about monarchy, fascism, theocracy, and anarchy, I can't think of any other beats I would rather live under. So I say what I think as intelligently as I can.

So in conclusion, if I have offended anyone in the ramblings I have set forth in the past few years, you have no idea how much I don't give a rats behind.

STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION

We exist to promote the needs and concerns of the student body and protect student rights.

JOIN US!

call ext. 7108 or visit our office Berns Room 6

Entertainment

Summer of Sequels

Ashley Genova
Editor-in-Chief

Summer '07 seems to be the summer of twos and threes. Here are the top picks for summer sequels.

Spiderman 3
Releases May 4
Spiderman's suit turns black and gives him strange new powers, but brings out his dark side. He faces off against Venom and Sandman as he tries to balance time with Mary Jane.

Shrek the Third
May 18
Shrek returns with the possibility of becoming King of Far Far Away. He goes in search of Fiona's cousin, Artie, to take place as heir to the throne. Fiona has a little surprise on the way for Shrek, a baby!

Pirates of the Caribbean: At World's End
May 25
Will, Elizabeth, and the pirate crew team up with Captain Barbossa to rescue Jack Sparrow from Davy Jones' locker. Along the way to Singapore, they encounter Chinese

pirates.

Ocean's Thirteen
June 8
Danny Ocean must team up with his old adversary, Terry Benedict.

Fantastic Four: The Rise of Silver Surfer
June 15
The quad of superheroes faces off against the mysterious



Photo courtesy of www.spiderman-3-trailer.com

and alien Silver Surfer, as well as facing the return of Dr. Doom.

Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix
July 13
Harry returns to Hogwarts for his fifth year expecting chaos at the return of Voldemort. Instead, he finds disbelief and a nasty new Defense Against the Dark Arts professor.



Bucky Covington. Photo courtesy by www.palmbeachpost.com

Howard Cohen
McClatchy Newspapers
(MCT)

TIMBALAND "Timbaland Presents Shock Value" (Blackground/Interscope) 2 stars

Timbaland is the King of Top 40 pop. As producer for hits by Justin Timberlake, Nelly Furtado and Missy Elliott, the 35-year-old Tim Mosley crafts beats like no one else. He's in a whole other universe for what he does with percussion and off-center rhythms. His Rolodex bulges with A-listers clamoring for his services. (Coming, new Timbaland-coated music from Madonna and _ gasp _ Celine Dion).

So it's disappointing that on his fifth album under his own name, and the first to really capitalize on his cachet,

New from Timbaland, Mika and Bucky Covington

Timbaland resorts to the most trite and cliched elements of hip-hop. Dig the beats, but you'll have to wade through a mess of self-aggrandizing taunts, the moronic overuse of the 'n' word and, at 17 cuts, over length.

Memo: It's a singles era again, trim these bloated albums.

Given his stature, it is unnecessary for Timbaland to use a lyric of his current hit single "Give It to Me" (featuring Timberlake and Furtado on vocals) to further his beef with rival producer Scott Storch, who last year helmed albums by Paris Hilton and Brooke Hogan. Let the work prove the point.

Rock, pop and rap marquee stars jostle for space on "Shock Value" Elton John, Timberlake, Elliott, Furtado, The Hives, 50 Cent, Fall Out Boy, She Wants Revenge, Dr. Dre _ but Timbaland often misuses them. John valiantly tries to get his pretty melody across on the piano on "2 Man Show" but he's stymied by Timbaland's inexplicable grunts, "uh-huhs," and constant exhortations _

"Come on, Elton, take it to the higher level."

As a rapper, Timbaland isn't nearly as masterful as his sonic touch on the boards. Thankfully, "Shock Value" takes advantage of the producer's gifts in this regard, especially on the aerobics-worthy syncopated banger "Release" (featuring best buddy Timberlake, again).

MIKA "Life in Cartoon Motion" (Casablanca/Universal Republic) 2 stars

Imagine a fey Robbie Williams with a Freddie Mercury obsession and an iPod loaded with the Scissor Sisters' last two campy discofied albums and you'll get an idea where the Beirut-born, Paris-raised, Royal Opera School-trained Mika, 23, gets his ideas from.

Fun, light, tuneful, catchy pop is missing on contemporary radio and the concept of someone like Mika _ photogenic, upbeat, a tunesmith _ is most welcome. Alas, Mika's more irritating than brilliant.

The first single, "Grace Kelly," has given this CD mileage in the UK and has made inroads in

1/2 OFF



3708 Ramsey Street Fayetteville, NC 28311

Buy any entree and receive a second entree of equal or lesser value free.

Valid now through May 6, 2007



BE A STAR!



The Office of Career Services wants to celebrate your accomplishments! If you receive a job, an internship or a summer position, let us know! You'll receive a "one of a kind" Career Services medal and be recognized on the "Wall of Fame" in the Bern 's Student Center!

continued from pg. 6

America with its Queen-styled vocal layering and cheeky re-buke to music industry moguls who offered to sign him only if he'd change to cater to the marketplace.

"Should I bend over/Should I look older/Just to be put on your shelf?" he inquires. It's a great novelty single, and clever, but like most it'll have a short shelf life.

The CD's other highlight, "Big Girl (You Are Beautiful)," plays like the B-side to Queen's "Fat Bottomed Girls." Both are much better than the CD's ballads, which are banal.

This is one instance where really going over the top might have made for a more interesting, engaging record. The massed, multi-tracked vocals on songs like "Grace Kelly" and "Big Girl" sound thin and should have been even more studiously crafted. The sawing "Jaws"-like string section on "Any Other World" is a nice touch but stops short and the melody goes nowhere.

Don't be afraid to really give it to us Mika, we can take it.

BUCKY COVINGTON
"Bucky Covington" (Lyric Street) 3 stars

Bucky Covington's performances on "American Idol" last year revealed a guy graced with charisma but offered no evidence that he would wind up making the most cohesive album to come out of the franchise yet.

That's the good and the bad of "American Idol." The show's theme nights draw all ages but they also do a disservice to genre-specific contestants.

This 29-year-old North Carolina native has a hard-core country voice. There's no reason he should sound convincing singing Stevie Wonder's "Superstition," as "Idol" had him doing.

The self-titled "Bucky Covington"



Mika. Photo courtesy of www.clickmusic.com

caters to his strengths with a batch of honest country-rockers that bear the influence of Tim McGraw and Bob Seger but on the whole are 100 percent Covington.

Covington's somewhat thin voice doesn't make him the greatest vocalist in Nashville but, more importantly, he's believable when he sings about the joys of high school football games ("American Friday Night"), country living ("Hometown," "Carolina Blue," the one song he cowrote) and old-fashioned upbringing ("The Bible and the Belt"). Label-mates Rascal Flatts would kill for a surefire No. 1 country radio smash like the tragic but optimistic tale of paralysis Covington details on the sentimental ballad "I'll Walk." Rascal Flatts could never muster the empathy Covington conveys.

On its face, only the lead Top 30 single "A Different World" would seem to ring false since the performer is not yet 30 but sings with great insight about a prelitigious time in this nation when "Not every kid made the team when they tried/We got disappointed but that was alright," prayer was in school after the morning pledge of allegiance and a sip from the garden hose was sheer heaven.

Yet, here, too, Covington's down-home realism and the spot-on production from Sawyer Brown's Mark Miller sells the song. "Bucky Covington" may not rank with all-time country classic albums like "Coat of Many Colors," "Killin' Time," "Storms of Life," "Red Headed Stranger" or "I Am What I Am" but for blasting on the car radio, the mainstream country-rock "Bucky Covington" is ideal.

Two Dudes



by Aaron Warner

COLLEGE SPECIALS

DINO'S PIZZA



**ANDREWS AT
RAMSEY ST**

488-6100



WE DELIVER

ADD-ON SPECIALS

- \$1.49 - 2 liter of Coke
- \$1.99 - 16 Breadstix
- \$2.49 - 10 Cinnamon Stix
- \$2.99 - 16 Cheezystix
- \$4.99 - 10 Wings

Add-On Specials can only be used with the other offers on this page. Prices plus tax Limited Time Offer



LARGE PIZZA

CHEESE & 1 TOPPING

**PICK - UP
1 OR MORE**

**DELIVERED
2 OR MORE**

**\$5.00
EACH
PLUS TAX**



**\$6.00
EACH
PLUS TAX**

Limited Time Offer

Delivery charges may apply

Merle Norman Salon

Full Service Salon

- Trend Color
- Foil Highlights
- Prom Make-overs
- Facial Waxing
- Body Bronzing
- Purses & Jewelry

822-2022

3771 Ramsey St.

Sports

GOAL! MU Hockey Club Scores

Ashley Young
News Editor

The Methodist University Club Hockey Team played their last game on Thurs April 19. They played the Fayetteville Junior Fire Ants.

The team, as of right now, has 15 players ranging in ages from 19 to 22 years old. They are not an "official team" right now due to the fact that they do not have a full time coach, but they nonetheless

managed to pull off a 4:1:1 record this year. The club was started a year ago and is open to any male attending Methodist. The manager says that the club is for males only due to the forceful contact nature of the sport.

As of right now there are no regularly scheduled teams which the Methodist University Club Hockey Team plays- they simply play whoever is willing to take them on.



The Methodist University Hockey club faces off at center ice. Photo by Sammie Burke.

On Sale NOW!

Students \$3 Off



MAY 12

Crown Theatre
7:30 PM



BREAK!

The Urban Funk Spectacular

Tickets available at the Crown Center box office, Ticketmaster.com, all Ticketmaster outlets, or charge by phone at 910-223-2900

www.crowncoliseum.com

