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# small TALK

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THE STUDENT VOICE OF METHODIST UNIVERSITY

[WWW.SMALLTALKMC.COM](http://WWW.SMALLTALKMC.COM)



Photo art by Matt Beitzel

## Dr. Cue Knocks 'Em Racks 'Em And Stacks 'Em

Ashley Young  
News Editor

After playing pool for 40 years, one might think that it would get old, but not for Tom Rossman, better known as "Dr. Cue."

Dr. Cue has been playing pool for 86 years, but he has professionally played for 40 years. He has also been elected "as the American Poolplayers Association's new ambassador to promote amateur pool."

"We've been here quite often. Just enjoy the beauty of the game and rack up a victory in the game of life," said Dr. Cue describing his life of pool playing.

Dr. Cue performed in Berns Sept. 12. Hewarmed up by knocking balls around a bowling pin into the various pockets on the table. "It's a good way to test the right brain in the morning," Dr. Cue told audience members as he prepared to begin the show.

From there-Dr. Cue showed the audience many tricks like hitting balls over a cue stick, he performed what he called, "Spin shots," where he would hit the ball so fast that it would go spinning into the pocket every time,

and he performed a "choo-choo" trick where he lined up a few balls onto two cue sticks and let them slide right into the side pocket.

Dr. Cue even went so far as to borrow someone's tennis shoe and then shoot pool balls off the table and into the shoe, which was on the opposite side of the table from him sitting on the ground.

Dr. Cue's most audience-enticing trick was shooting six balls over a cue stick, lying on the table, into the opposite side pocket while holding another cue stick above his shoulder with one hand.

"I think it helps students take more respect in the game," said Kyle Berry, a sophomore, and a PGM major.

Dr. Cue ended his show by challenging any audience member willing to participate to a game of pool. Among the first five to play were Preston Combs, Cameron Carlilie-who won, Will Coleman, Tyler Gilmour, and Kyle Berry-who also won.

## Rape Incident Promotes Caution on Campus

Ashley Young  
News Editor

A Methodist University student was assaulted in a nearby apartment complex last Monday, said Dawn Hamerla, the chief of campus police, in an email.

The attacker entered the apartment by force. Harmerla said police officials believe it was an isolated incident and the attacker took some of the student's personal property with him.

The best advice to do in any situation to prevent injury, larceny, or rape is to be sure to keep good personal safety habits. Lock all doors and windows in both vehicles and houses, use the "buddy

system" where you are always with someone else when you travel, do not ever take rides with people that you do not know well, and do not ever open the door, to your home or vehicle, to anyone that you do not know.

While these rules may seem like something that has been taught since childhood, there are shocking statistics on how often events involving injury, larceny, or rape occur. Based on the 2006 statistics from the Fayetteville Police Department there were 63 rapes, 714 assaults, 8,548 larcenies, and 15 homicides that were reported.

Hamerla, said the best thing to do in a situation where someone is trying to steal another's purse or car-let them have it.

Credit cards, cell phones, and other forms of personal information which may be in a purse or car can be replaced. If someone is attacked with the intent of rape, fight the attacker as hard as can be because the situation is not worth giving up on.

"Don't give up," said Winston Churchill in regards to any situation involving an attacker. This is a quote which is taught in police departments and should be enforced in any rape situation.

Hamerla told the community earlier to "Record important information, check doors, windows, and have serial numbers on everything," in order to be safe and help catch perpetrators.

## Dance Dance Methodist U.

Daniel Lee  
Staff Writer

The dance competition at Berns Student Center was very hyper.

Methodist students "strutted their stuff" as each competitor danced the night away against three large video projection screens. Various colored spotlights and black curtains adorned the room to complete the atmosphere. Also, refreshment tables were set up with fruit punch, chicken wings, and celery.

Over 30 students competed for audience acceptance and the \$100 cash prize. Each dance lasted around 3 minutes, and

students could vote a person in or out via electronic handhelds. The competition was fierce, but the audience proved that some were better than others.

The spot for first place resulted in a tie between Michael Price and Amanda Underwood (aka "Wood"). They decided to split the money.

Price said, "I really didn't expect to win. I only entered because my friends made me do it."

Underwood said, "It was really hard to win."

When asked how they were going to spend the money, both contestants shouted, "We're going to the clubs!"



People showing what dance skills they have in the competition.

Photos by Aaron Casteel.

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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 Monday at 4:30 p.m. in the Heritage Dining Room.



The addition to the Science Building and Nimocks Fitness Center were dedicated in a ceremony on Friday. From left to right, Dr. M. Elton Hendricks, Dr. Bob Allen, Ramon Yarbrough, Keith Allison, Congressman Mike McIntyre, Congressman Bob Etheridge, Harvey Wright, Al Cleveland, Richard Player, Jr. Photo by Roxana Ross.

# Freedom of the Press: Publisher Shares Love of First Amendment



Fayetteville Observer Publisher Charles Broadwell, left, speaks during a lunch while administration officials listen. Photo by Aaron Casteel.

**Jameson Jones**  
*Entertainment Editor*

As part of the required mandate by the federal government, Methodist University hosted Fayetteville Observer publisher Charles Broadwell for Constitutional Law Day.

On Sept. 17, 1789, the United States Constitution was ratified by the State of North Carolina in Fayetteville which has led many people to believe that it is a “sacred text” amongst Americans and especially for those who are in the press.

Broadwell discussed about the key importance of the freedom of the press to journalists as it applied to the various aspects of covering news and gathering information. With past experiences of covering the news in venues

such as the military, he discussed about the Freedom of Information Act which was applied during an investigation of the military about the misuse of tax dollars by soldiers. This might have led to some tension between the military and the press, but the press has seen more tension with the government in regards to fighting to keep governmental meetings open to the public.

In addition to dealing with the government and the military, Broadwell also discussed about how newspapers try to cover controversy regardless of the light that it places on an institution. For example, with the recent news at Fayetteville State University of the nursing program not graduating 30 nursing students due to improper preparation for graduation and the chancellor of the university resigning, the university has been covered with a negative vibe.

On the other hand, when things happened for Methodist University such as the grant received last year for the Environmental Management and Forensics program to expand their programs, Methodist is considered to have a positive vibe. When people read the newspaper, they always see a certain light that is cast upon these universities if something of the opposite magnitude happens, as in the case with the Café A La Carte problems at Methodist, these things tend to be swept underneath or not talked about in general discussion.

Broadwell closed the lecture by challenging students to “not let [the world] classify or categorize you..question and participate [and] get engaged.”

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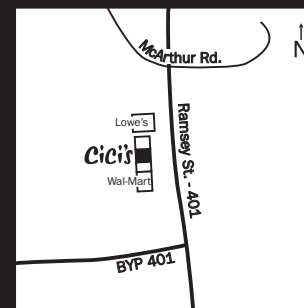


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## Passport to Success

Melinda Anderson  
Staff writer

Passports, leis, and even a palm tree are scattered around the Career Services office.

To kick off their multi-cultural Passport to Success event, Career Services threw a luau party. Hawaiian-themed Aloha Career Week was held Sept. 17-21, in Berns Student Center.

Hawaii will be the first of several stops around the globe. A passport, made by Career Services, is required to enter each event. A stamp will be placed in the passport for each Passport to Success event.

Students with a fully stamped passport at the end of the journey will have their names entered into a raffle for a "big prize," says assistant director of Career Services Katrina Stanley-Blue. A television and several other small-

er items will be given away.

Passport to Success is about helping Methodist University students prepare for the job market. Job search skills will be taught in themed environments along with prizes and games. Topics include how to dress for success, write a killer resume, ace an interview, and negotiate a job offer.

Career Services staff, guest speakers and corporate recruiters will trade off hosting and teaching workshops this year. These experts attend many workshops and conferences throughout the year to keep up-to-date on current job market trends.

Kimya Driggers of NC State Employees Credit Union held an information session for Call Center Representative jobs during Aloha Career Week. "The employees we have in our Call Center are hard-working, dedicated individuals that see this as

a career and not just a job. We're looking forward to finding these qualities in your students," said Driggers.

Career Exploration 2007, a career fair, will be held from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., Oct. 9, in March F. Riddle Activity Center. Methodist University and Campbell University will be co-hosting the event. Students interested in attending Career Exploration 2007 are instructed to, "Dress for success, bring resumes and come prepared to meet with a diverse selection of employers!" said Stanley-Blue.

This is the first year for themed Career Weeks. Career Services hopes that these events will entice students. "Make sure you take advantage of Career Services," reminded Stanley-Blue, "We're here to help you."



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[www.methodist.edu/roar](http://www.methodist.edu/roar)

## Elevated Visions

Daniel Lee  
Staff Writer

Just a few weeks ago, Methodist University opened its doors to a new venture, exterior art.

Right outside Reeves Auditorium rests a large and winding metal sculpture. Dr. Keith Dippre, chairperson of the Music Department, said, "I always felt that the front of the auditorium was a little bleak. Something needed to be put there."

He and Ms. Silvana Foti, Chairperson of the Art Dept., collaborated to find an artist to do an original work for the school.

They found Michael Baker, a metal sculptor, who welds and textures stainless steel. The three of them agreed on a sketch and commissioned it to be built. The funds for the project were donated by the Ellison family, who according to Dr. Dippre are "a couple well-known for supporting art."

The sculpture was officially established on Sept. 6. When asked about the future of outdoor art for Methodist University, Dr. Dippre stated, "I have no future personal plans. However, Dr. Hendricks has commissioned two new sculptures to be placed in front of the new science building. One will be a DNA helix and the other a mathematical pi symbol."

## Girls Only at Adelphean Society

Melinda Anderson  
Staff Writer

A group of Methodist University students want to join a national sorority that is not on campus, so they have taken steps to bring it here.

The Adelphean Society received approval from Methodist University's Student Government Association to become an official campus group on Sept. 9.

"Eventually, we hope to affiliate with Alpha Delta Pi to then become a sorority," says Jessalyn Lykins, a sophomore social work major.

According to the Constitution of the Methodist University Adelphean Society, membership is open to any female student with a minimum GPA of 2.4. Along with social gatherings, membership requires a commitment to community service and \$10 a semester dues.

Jean-Marie Weaver, First Year Experience director and residential coordinator of Cumberland and Pearce Halls, has agreed to be an advisor to the Adelphean Society and help them on their way to becoming an Alpha Delta Pi chapter. As an Alpha Delta Pi alumna, Weaver has been in contact with Alpha Delta Pi's national headquarters.

"We're going to need a lot of help and Alumnae support," said Weaver.

There have been three meetings of the Adelphean Society

this year. Meetings are Wednesdays at 9:15 p.m.

"We hope to find a quiet spot available for us to meet every week," Lykins said. "As for now, we are meeting in either Pearce or Cumberland lobby."

Members participated in a community service project Saturday, Sept. 15 along with a group of male students looking to bring a national fraternity to Methodist University. The Sigma Society is hoping to become part of the Kappa Sigma fraternity.

"We made care kits for the homeless," Lykins said. "We had a pretty good turnout." Participating in community service and other projects is a prerequisite of applying to become an Alpha Delta Pi chapter.

The Adelphean Society has been in contact with the Alpha Delta Pi chapter at North Carolina State University in Raleigh, N.C. They hope to do a combined community service event later on this year, "so they can see what doing a community service project with a real sorority feels like," said Weaver.

"The dues go towards items that we decide on as a group," says Lykins. "We have a lot of ideas that we need to narrow down. We hope to have a couple of social gatherings when we have sufficient funds."

Lifelong friendships are one of the goals of the Adelphean Society, along with character development, dedication and

leadership skills.

"A lot of people have misconceptions of sororities and think that they consist of drinking and offensive behavior, but that is far from the truth ... our group consists of women who really are dedicated to helping improve the lives of others," said Lykins.

The Adelphean Society has approximately 40 members, and they are looking to expand. Interested female students can email Jessalyn Lykins at [jesabobesa@gmail.com](mailto:jesabobesa@gmail.com).

"We hope that they will come to a meeting to see what we are like, and of course we hope that they will decide to join," said Lykins.

Alpha Delta Pi was founded in 1851 at Wesleyan College, as The Adelphean Society. They changed their name to Alpha Delta Pi in 1905. They currently have more than 130 chapters, and have initiated more than 182,500 members.

The name "Adelphean Society" was chosen by the Methodist University group because of the association with Alpha Delta Pi. There is no official association as of yet between the Adelphean Society and Alpha Delta Pi, which will have to approve the group as a chapter in the national association. Permission is also needed from Methodist University before the local group can petition the sorority.

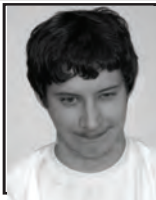


The new sculpture, "Elevated Visions." Photo by Roxana Ross.

# Opinions

## The Angry Liberal

Jameson Jones



right to prohibit some religious practices such as cannibalism, murder and bigamy that would be punishable in a criminal court, people can practice their religion however they choose.

### Angry Liberal Takes a Look at the First Amendment: First of a Three-Part Series on What He Holds Dear

*“Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the government for a redress of grievances.”*

This statement is the exact words from the First Amendment of the United States Constitution, the amendment that I hold most dear to my heart. In the next three issues of smallTALK, I hope to expand minds about this vital amendment that makes up our way of living.

The First Amendment was put into place by our Founding Fathers after the Declaration of Independence in 1776. These people wanted to escape from the religious tyranny that ruled England and therefore would later write this amendment to include a freedom of religion.

So, what does this mean to the individual in regards to the types of religious beliefs a person may possess? A person can practice any religious or spiritual belief that a person may think of, regardless if it is Christian, Jewish, Muslim or any other belief system that is found here in the United States. Even though the government does reserve the

After having this short discussion on the freedom of religion, I hope this has brought about some new insight into this vital part of the First Amendment. For people who are not used to this type of freedom based on their native backgrounds, I hope that you are welcomed to practice whatever religious or spiritual belief that you choose and do not feel intimidated based on the societal expectation in the United States to be Christian as many people have come to believe that we are a Christian nation. I will dismiss this myth in a later issue as I will prove this to be not the case.

Be proud of whatever religious background you have as I have done with my Unitarian Universalist beliefs.

In the October 5 issue of SmallTalk, I will be discussing the second part of the First Amendment that has to do with the freedom of speech and the freedom of the press.

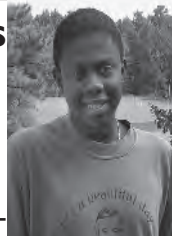
If there are any questions, concerns or comments in regards to this article or suggestions for upcoming articles, please send them to [muangryliberal@yahoo.com](mailto:muangryliberal@yahoo.com).



Photo from MCT Campus

## Remille's Rhetoric

Remille Shipman



I Had To Say It... Forgive me if I go too far this time. But Britney made me do it.

I didn't watch the media circus that was Britney Spears' performance at the MTV Video Music Awards on Sept. 9. I saw the replay of it a couple of days later. But I saw enough of Spears' trashy act (even though she does look okay after bearing two children) and ridiculous lip-synching to finally speak up about the pathetic state of MTV.

My personal MTV experience actually began in 1998 when I saw a video of Nine Inch Nails' controversial video "Closer." This was when MTV was great. The network played music videos on a frequent basis back then (I hope somebody out there remembers Yo! MTV Raps and Headbanger's Ball). And the programs that didn't feature music videos were stellar. Does anybody remember Beavis and Butt-head, Daria, The Real World, and Singled Out?

I also remember when the MTV Video Music Awards were worth watching. Again, I didn't start watching until 1998, but still, I was able to watch enough snippets of VMAs past to appreciate the quality of the show. Back then, MTV gave you shocking moments (for example, Micheal Jackson and Lisa Marie Presley making out in 1994) and great performances. They also gave awards to the BEST music videos each year.

But MTV's glory days are long gone. Music videos have been replaced by reality shows that feature ridiculously spoiled 16-year olds and ridiculous car repairs.

When you do see music videos, it comes in the form of a one-minute clip that is aired in the teeny-bopper atmosphere of Total Request Live. I think I'm

glad that I squandered an opportunity to sit in TRL's studio audience while I was in Manhattan a year ago.

And the VMA's have become unwatchable. I stopped watching in 2004 because I realized that artists and their videos weren't being recognized for their artistic merit. I noticed this in 2001 when Christina Aguilera, Mya, Lil' Kim, & Pink's rendition of "Lady Marmalade" beat out Fatboy Slim for MTV's Video of the Year award.

Now you may not know or care about Fatboy Slim now, but back then he had a entertaining video called "Weapon of Choice" (please YouTube it) that featured Christopher Walken dancing all about the place. It was the best video back then, and it got screwed. Until this changes, cutting back the show to two hours and giving out awards like Quadruple Threat of the Year won't mean squat to me.

I used the examples of Britney Spears and the Video Music Awards to show why MTV has declined. They've gotten away from the M in MTV and they've pretty much buried rock music. I want more



PHOTOGRAPH BY LIONEL HAHN/ABACA PRESS (November 17) LOS ANGELES, CA-- Britney Spears is honored with the 2242nd star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame in front of the Kodak Theatre, Los Angeles, California, November 17, 2003. (Ide) 2003. For her performance at the award show, Spears showed nearly all the skin this sweater covers.

music and artists with more substance than style to be promoted if they want me to come back.

I want less reality shows featuring spoiled brats. And I want more videos as well. Bringing back Beavis and Butt-head and Celebrity Deathmatch wouldn't hurt either.

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# Entertainment

## Busting

## Boredom with

## Fall Activities

*Kiesha Story*  
Staff Writer

Autumn is just around the corner, cooling down the hot summer days, turning hiking trails into an ideal place to be. Instead of sitting around indoors, go walk the trails and watch the seasons change.

There are two located close to campus, the Pauline Longest Nature Trails, located behind the baseball field, and the Cape Fear River Trail, located by the Jordan Soccer Complex. Both trails are open to the public, but close at 8 p.m.

The Cape Fear River Trail is a paved trail, making it the best trail for joggers and bike-riders.

There are also many things for nature lovers to enjoy, including many kinds of plants, animals and some amazing water features.

The Cape Fear River Trail follows alongside the river for four miles, with occasional views of the river along the way. For those who love water scenes, there are a few bridges crossing over a lake, a stream and a bridge that goes underneath railroad tracks beside a small waterfall.

The lake is small, but very beautiful, with lily pads dotting the water and the occasional family of ducks playing in the water.

The stream is a popular place for people to sit, relax, and watch the water flow by, maybe seeing an occasional fish swim through.

The bridge under the tracks is a great place to watch

the waterfall cascade down, falling underneath the bridge into the hidden river.

There are many types of animals to look for among the trail, although since autumn is near, many animals are migrating.

Bird watchers may be out of luck, but may be able to see an occasional cardinal on its way to warmer weather. Squirrels are also very common, often sitting nearby the trail until a something gets too close.

Snakes are very rare, but can be found lying on the rocks lining parts of the trail or on the trail itself. A majority of the snakes are not poisonous, but still avoid walking near them as much as possible.

For the nature lovers, it's the perfect time to be out in the wilderness as the leaves are changing colors. The trail will slowly turn into a walkway of red, gold, and orange as time goes by.

Safety is an all-important factor in hiking on any trail. Try to travel with a partner or in a group, and always have a first-aid kit with you. Snake bite kits are optional, but I would recommend having one at all times. You can find both first-aid and snake bite kits at Wal-Mart.

There are places to stop for water along the way, but they are spaced far apart, so it may be better to carry your own bottle of water.

The days are getting cold quickly, so get out and walk the trails while you still can.

## Transformers

## Transforms Theaters

*Amanda Stewart*  
Photographer



"Transformers" will be out on DVD on Oct. 16 with both High Definition and Widescreen versions. Photo from MCT Campus.

"Transformers" may seem to be somewhat juvenile, but this movie is actually for everyone from teens and up.

The film was directed by the brilliant Michael Bays, who also directed "Pearl Harbor." The movie stars the up and coming actor Shia LaBeouf.

There is a silent war, unknown to the people of earth. It is a war between good and evil, Autobots and Decepticons. They are robots that are not of this world.

The movie is about the time at which this war becomes visible to those on planet earth; mainly, the government who has already seen evidence of foreign invaders and Sam Witwicky who finds himself in the middle.

Before anyone else, the government began to see the signs of some type of foreign invasion.

As a shocked Captain Lennox, played by Josh Duhamel, phones in for help ev-

eryone with high authority soon learns that there is something very odd going on. They all began to work together on understanding what is happening, but Sam soon finds out even more than anyone.

Sam, was a regular high school boy, who had a grandfather with a great tale, and a great treasure that pertained to the unknown war at hand. Everything was normal for Sam until the day he bought an old, yellow Camaro.

This Camaro was no ordinary car; instead, it was an Autobot, named Bumblebee.

Sam then goes on the adventure of his life as he learns of the Autobots, led by Optimus Prime, and the reason they need his help.

Sam realizes that he and his long-pined-for love, Mikaela, are now in the middle of this great war and that they must help the Autobots to save earth.

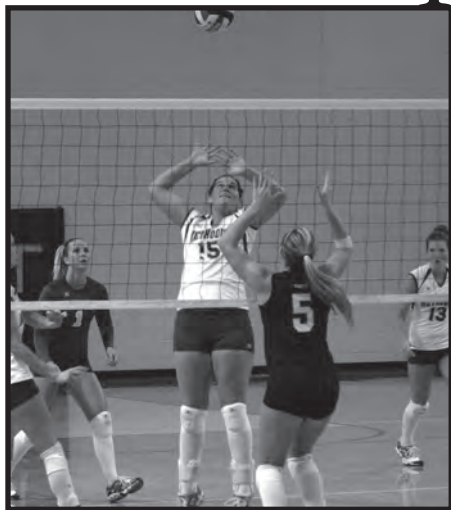
This film has many different aspects to it. There is a quaint love story between two

seemingly different people, a war waging behind scenes that finally shows itself, Autobots who can transform into large robots, unity in a common mission, and a story of looking deeper into people to find who they really are.

I would recommend this movie to anyone looking for a great, well-made, and meaningful movie that still has a bit of fun added in.

# Sports

## Volleyball Roundup



Sophomore Laura Gilbert prepares to return the ball over the net. Gilbert is third on the team in serving percentage with a .912 in 48 games played. Photo by Aaron Casteel.

In Methodist's four wins in that stretch, they only dropped three sets, but in their four losses, they only won four sets.

The Lady Monarchs had a successful game on Sept. 19 as they defeated the Meredith Avenging Angels 3-0 at the Riddle Center. They hope to continue that success on Sept. 26 as they head to Rocky Mount, N.C. to take on N.C. Wesleyan.

To do this, the Monarchs will need Sara Yeatman to continue to come up big. She leads the team with 196 kills (4.17 per game), and was named the USA South's Player of the Week in volleyball earlier this month.

Also playing a big role is Taylor Cates, who has 112 kills (2.33 per game) and 14 blocks (0.29 per game).

*Thomas Honan  
Staff Writer*

It has been an up-and-down start to the 2007 season for Methodist's volleyball team. Through September 19, the Monarchs are 7-6 and have had consecutive wins and consecutive losses only once each.

The Monarchs have played on the road for the past eight games, with six of those games being played in Virginia.



A rough tackle in the Sept. 8 football game. Photo by Aaron Casteel

## Upcoming Games

**Volleyball**  
**Sept. 26 @ N.C. Wesleyan\*** 7 p.m.  
**Sept. 29 @ Christopher Newport University\*** (in Greensboro, N.C.) 7 p.m.  
**Sept. 29 @ Ferrum\*** (in Greensboro, N.C.) 2 p.m.  
**Oct. 3 vs. Greensboro\*** 7 p.m.  
**Oct. 5 @ Agnes Scott** 5 p.m.  
**Oct. 6 @ Piedmont** (in LaGrange, Ga.) 2:30 p.m.  
**Oct. 6 @ LaGrange** (in LaGrange, Ga.) 4:30 p.m.  
**Men's Soccer**  
**Sept. 26 vs. Averett\*** 4 p.m.

**Sept. 29 @ N.C. Wesleyan** 3 p.m.  
**Oct. 6 @ Christopher Newport University\*** 7 p.m.  
**Women's Soccer**  
**Sept. 29 @ Averett\*** 2 p.m.  
**Sept. 30 @ Lynchburg** 2 p.m.  
**Oct. 6 vs. Shenandoah\*** 2 p.m.  
**Oct. 7 vs. Mary Baldwin** 2 p.m.  
**Football**  
**Sept. 29 vs. Emory & Henry** 1 p.m.  
**Oct. 6 vs. Averett** 1 p.m.  
**Cross Country**

**Oct. 6 Walt Disney Cross Country Classic** (in Celebration, Fla.)  
**Men's Tennis**  
**Sept. 29 to Oct. 1 ITA Regionals** (in Fredericksburg, Va.)  
**Women's Tennis**  
**Oct. 5-7 Methodist University Invitational**  
**Men's Golf**  
**Oct. 1-2 Greensboro Invitational**, Greensboro, N.C. (hosted by Greensboro College)  
 \*USA South Conference game

*Open Hearts... Open Minds... Open Doors*

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 Wednesdays  
 11 a.m.  
 Hensdale Chapel  
 Methodist University

# Men's and Women's Soccer Roundup

Thomas Honan  
Staff Writer



Sophomore Bret Brennan scores on an opposing goalkeeper. Brennan leads the team with 10 goals and 22 points through eight games this season. Photo by Aaron Casteel.

The Methodist men's soccer team started the 2007 season in very impressive fashion. After eight games, the Monarchs found themselves at 6-2, with a whopping 24 goals scored and 14 goals allowed. A trip to Texas followed, in which Methodist had to play games on back-to-back days. First up was Trinity University, the top-ranked Division III team in the nation. The Tigers proved why they are so highly ranked, overwhelming the Monarchs in a 6-1 victory.

The next day, the Monarchs faced Southwestern University and unfortunately came up on the losing end again. Methodist could not find the back of the net and lost 2-0 to the Pirates.

Friendly confines await the Monarchs, though, as they play their second home game of the season on September 26

against Averett in a USA South Conference matchup.

Like their counterparts, the women's soccer team also kicked off the season on a high note.

Through six games, the Monarchs are 5-1, with 17 goals scored and two given up. In a September 12 home game against Guilford, they kept the success going with a solid 2-0 victory. The Monarchs kept the ball in the Quakers' zone for much of the game, as evidenced by the 23-4 advantage Methodist had in shots. In the seventh minute, Hevyn Diers connected on a free kick to give the Monarchs a 1-0 lead. The game went over 75 minutes without another goal, until Whitney Roberson made a speedy effort to get past a couple of Guilford defenders to score in the 83rd minute, rounding up the scoring for the Monarchs.

Unfortunately, as

Methodist hit the road for the first time this season, their winning ways came to a halt. On September 15, the Monarchs suffered a 2-1 loss at St. Mary's (Maryland), despite taking three more shots than the Seahawks.

Methodist will look to regroup on September 29 against Averett in Danville, Va., the fifth game of a six-game road trip.

# What is the Point of the FedEx Cup?

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Tiger Woods laid his paws on the inaugural FedEx Cup on Sunday, Sept. 16, finalizing what had been an interesting race for the prize. At least it was, until Sir Eldrick entered the fray... in January. As he hoisted the gleaming silver Tiffany and Co. creation, all I was thinking was, "What's new?"

Did anyone really expect anyone but Tiger to walk off with the \$10 million bonus? For the man who wins over a quarter of the tournaments he enters, the FedEx Cup was an afterthought, a byproduct of a performance that has become a standard in his world.

Tiger is the number one player in the world, a lock for Player of the Year, wins the Vardon Trophy for low scoring average almost every year, and tops the money list. How would he not win the FedEx Cup?

The whole point is not to emphasize how dominant Tiger is, this does not need to be done.

The point is to show that the FedEx Cup is nothing more than a gimmick to get the best players to play more at the end of the season, and it does not even work.

Tiger and Phil Mickelson both skipped a playoffs event, and neither played more than normal between the PGA and the start of the Playoffs.

Thankfully, the Tour has recognized that the Playoffs need adjustment and since they have not announced the changes they plan to make, I offer the following suggestions:

1. Eliminate the deferred annuity bonus.

The players who win the FedEx Cup are the players who

win during the regular season. During the Tour's computer model testing of the system no one ranked lower than 13 on the year won the FedEx Cup. To a player with as much cash in his account as Tiger Woods, the promise of a retirement bonus is like winning a thousand points on "Whose Line Is It Anyway?". FedEx, pay cash.

2. Forget the points after the Playoffs start.

PGA Tour, you want end of the year excitement, do not let the player who earns the most points win. Give the Grand Prize to the winner of the Tour Championship. Start the Playoffs with 140 players and cut the field each week based solely on money earned.

As a result, The Tour Championship would be a 30-player tournament for \$10 million. Dismissing the points would also force players to play all the events on the Playoffs schedule, as skipping an event would result in no money earned and elimination from the field.

Both of these schemes not only help keep the top players playing, but they also bring in more of the field.

A no point playoff keeps a Cinderella winner alive.

Who would not want to see the next Rich Beem story? I know I would.