



THE STUDENT VOICE OF METHODOIST UNIVERSITY

# small TALK

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Methodist University

Fayetteville, NC

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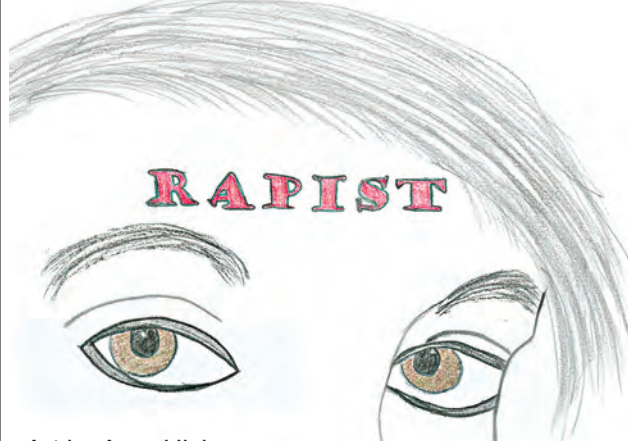
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## Branded

What happens when "he said, she said" leads to an arrest



Art by Aryn Hicks

Matthew Snowberger  
Staff Writer

As of now, the details of what happened on August the 27 on Sanford Hall's second-floor are unknown, or least are not being disclosed, the unofficial story however is fairly consistent. Big questions still remain: How could this have happened? How can future assaults be prevented? What are the ramifications of accusing another student?

At approximately 10:30 p.m. a male student whose name has not been released was taken, in handcuffs, from his second-floor dorm in Sanford. Accused of rape, the student spent the night in a Fayetteville jail cell while a team of investigators were sent to examine his room. Neither the accused nor the accuser has been identified by the police.

"There is still evidence to be examined

forensically" said James Phillips chief of campus police.

Phillips would not comment on whether the charges were still in place or had been dropped, but said that an investigation was still pending.

Since the arrest, the accused was released and has returned to campus. According to police, it appears that the allegations were intentionally false. It is unknown whether this conclusion was drawn by the victim's confession or through the gathering of evidence, but those charged with acts of violence, including rape and sexual assault, are not typically released into general public.

Any other details on the case are sketchy. As the investigation is still active, no officials are willing to comment on the

*continued page 5*  
**RAPE ALLEGATIONS**

## Welcome Back Jam

*Student Activities Committee welcomes students back to campus*

Aryn Hicks  
Entertainment Editor

SAC started off the year with a bang at this year Welcome Back Jam. The Welcome Back Jam gave new and returning students the opportunity to socialize with one another, while giving everyone a chance to have fun before having to buckle down for the semester. The humid air was filled with music, laughs, and the occasional cheers.

Instead of having the uniform, single color t-shirts, SAC added color to the mix by having 5 different colors for students to choose from. This color choice fell into accordance with SAC's semester mantra of "adding color to your week;" SAC and CRIMP have joined forces to host activities for every night of the week for an entire semester.

For the steamy evening of August 19, students flooded the outdoor basketball court for the multitude of activities. Students could play laser tag without leaving campus in the inflatable arena. Complete with actual laser tag attire, students lined up to let off energy in the giant, inflatable

*continued page 3*  
**WELCOME BACK JAM**



Students pose for a photo before entering the lazer tag dome.  
Photo by Lakeisha Story.

# small TALK

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

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 [smalltalkmu@yahoo.com](mailto:smalltalkmu@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.

Initial copies of smallTALK are free. Additional copies are 25 cents.

## Campus Ministries fosters interdenominational dialogue

*Ashley Young  
News Editor*

Campus Ministries is gearing up for an exciting semester this fall. Through student worship leaders, the Student Activities Committee (SAC), and the Student Government Association (SGA), campus ministries will bring a full semester of interesting and fun activities.

This year, Campus Ministries will be sponsoring activities, community service events, and a well-known Christian artist at this year's Easter Jam. The year's events began during orientation with a worship service for incoming freshmen and their parents. Upcoming events include a community Thanksgiving dinner on



Donna Wilson, administrative assistant for Campus Ministry. Photo by Ashley Young.

Nov. 23 and a Moravian Love Feast on Sun, Dec 6. Other events will be announced through The Roar, student e-mail, Facebook and chalking on sidewalks.

"We're expanding the activities to involve more students and provide more community service opportunities," said Donna Wilson, director of campus ministry events and administrative services.

The Campus Ministries office is staffed by Rev. Mike Safley vice president for University Relations and Campus Ministry and Donna Wilson administrative assistant for Campus Ministry. Volunteers lead the Men and Women's Bible Studies, Catholic Mass, and the Fellowship of Christian Athletes (FCA). Student leaders also organize, plan, and set up ministry events held throughout the year. The praise and worship band, Common Ground, and the gospel choir, One Voice, also play a part in the leadership of campus ministries.

Safley leads the Interdenominational Campus Worship Service held every Wednesday in the Hensdale Chapel at 11 a.m., and offers pastoral guidance and support by appointment. Safley



Reverend Mike Safley, vice president for university relations and Campus Ministry. Photo by Ashley Young.

feels it is important for the campus services to be interdenominational to support dialogue between Christian students and students of other faiths.

"I believe that everyone is in search of meaning and purpose in their own lives, and campus ministry is here to help nurture and support [them] on their journey of discovery," said Safley.

The campus ministry leadership team meets once a month at Safley's house where student leaders brainstorm ideas for furthering the ministry. To become a student leader students should attend to campus ministry events, participate, and express interest in joining campus ministry. Current leaders vote to include others in the leadership group.

**For more articles, updates and photos, check out our website:**

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



Where  
are the  
Reading  
Nooks?

# Sept.

## Methodist Campus

**Sept. 11, 11 a.m.**

Fall Convocation: Paul Cuadros will speak on his book "A Home on the Field," which was selected as the common reading text for all freshman seminar courses.

*Reeves Auditorium*

**Sept. 11-13**

Family Weekend: "Happy Hour" pep rally, men's and women's soccer, football, and more.

*Methodist University*

**Sept. 14, 11 a.m.**

Student Recital: Music students will showcase their instrumental and vocal talent.

*Reeves Auditorium*

**Sept. 14 and 28, 6 p.m.**

Masters of Business Administration Open House: Prospective students have an opportunity to ask questions pre-register for the upcoming semester, and tour the campus. Classes begin until Jan. 8, 2010, application deadline is Oct. 1, 2009.

*Yarborough Auditorium*

**Sept. 23, 9:30 a.m.**

Board of Visitors Golf Tournament: A walking tournament held on the university golf course. Freshmen and sophomore PGM students will serve as caddies, while a junior or senior will play on each team.

*Methodist University Golf Course*

**Sept. 23, 6:30 p.m.**

SGA Town Hall Meeting: Students can present their concerns to their student representatives in an open forum.

*Berns Student Center*

*smallTALK reports the events that did not appear in the SAC 2009 semester calendar. More events can be found in the SAC calendar and on the university website.*

2009

*On the*  
Town**Sept. 11-13, Fri. & Sat. 11 a.m. - 10 p.m., Sun. 12 - 7 p.m.**

19th Annual Greek Festival: Sts. Constantine and Helen Greek Orthodox Church will offer food, worship, and dancing in a three-day-long event. Vendors will sell traditional Greek items and food, and the Fayetteville Police and Fire Department will perform canine demonstrations.

614 Oak Ridge Ave, Fayetteville, NC

**Sept. 12, 7 a.m. - 8 p.m.**

LaFayette Birthday Barbeque and Concert: The Methodist University Chorale will perform "Vive La Liberte, Vive Lafayette" during the concert (5-8 p.m.). There will also be a pancake breakfast, fencing tournament, and other attractions. Tickets are \$10 and proceeds will benefit the Revolutionary War Park.

Cross Creek Park

**Sept. 10-20, 5 p.m. - 10 p.m.**

Cumberland County Fair: The annual fair features livestock, carnival rides, and art from area students. Admission costs \$6 per person, and advance tickets are available from the Crown Coliseum box office.

Crown Coliseum

**Sept 17,**

Fayetteville After Five: An outdoor concert series sponsored by the Fayetteville Arts Council. This month features The Tams a beach music band.

Festival Park, Downtown Fayetteville

**Sept. 25-27, Fri. 7 - 9 p.m., Sat. 11 a.m. - 6 p.m., 12 - 6 p.m.**

International Folk Festival: The yearly festival will host an art contest Friday, a parade of nations Saturday, & food and entertainment all weekend long. Methodist students often participate in the Parade of Nations and other cultural events.

Festival Park, Downtown Fayetteville

# Friendly campus-wide competition at Capture the Flag event

*Bernard King*  
Staff Writer

The evening of August 26 was full of food and competition, as SAC and SGA hosted Capture the Flag. After a late start, students were separated into teams and a battle quickly ensued. The event was full of intensity as each team strived to defeat the other.

Students listened as the rules for Capture the Flag were explained to them. Participants were required to stay within the boundaries of the four main campus roads. Teams were not allowed to enter any buildings other than the Berns Student Center. If an individual was tagged by an opposing team member, he or she was to go to one of the two jails: one near the library, and the other near the flag. After the rules were explained, both the yellow team and the green team took off in pursuit of victory.

Kay Brigman, a freshman physical education major, found the instructions to be "clear and understandable." "The game is good, fun, and enjoyable," said Brigman.

Despite the light-heartedness of the game, some students took the game seriously. Individuals ran and jumped in efforts to elude the opposition. As the game progressed, students became more and more competitive. Both teams strived to be victorious, despite the

interventions of the opposition.

Kyle Combs, a freshman Physical Education major was a member of the winning green team. "This game is exciting, but I did not expect it to be this intense," said Combs.

After playing multiple games, both the green and yellow teams won rounds. Students boasted at their achievements, never failing to include the strategies used to defeat the other team.

"I captured the flag, but the other team had a heavy defense. We had to play to their advantage to make them gullible which would allow us to take the flag. Once we accomplished this, I snatched the flag and ran, so we won that round," said Jaime Lyndo, a freshman communications major.

"This event is very successful because it unifies the campus body by allowing everyone to have fun and socialize," said senior SGA president Thomas Hutton.



Juniors Ashley Deese and Teresa Berens take a break from Capture the Flag to pose for a quick photo.  
Photo by Lakeisha Story

## Welcome Back Jam: Returning students enjoy food, music, and fun activities

*continued from cover*

dome. Upon exiting, covered in sweat, teams could view which team won the laser fight.

When asked about the Welcome Back Jam, freshman Forensic Science major Praise Mmworia responded "[its] pretty fun...it seems like everyone is having fun."

One could also make personalized mementos: personalized dry erase boards or video flip books. Many Monarchs took silly pictures that would later be watermarked onto dry erase boards. Individuals walked away with free marker boards, each of which contained a funny photo memory of the evening's events. Many students enjoyed making faces and dancing around for 7 seconds while a video camera recorded the movements to make one-of-a-kind flip motion books. Even some faculty members

took part in the flip book shenanigans by donning feather boas and inflatable guitars.

Morgan Artis, a freshman Business Administration

major, was enthusiastic about the Welcome Back Jam. "[Its] pretty fun and it keeps you entertained. [All of] the fun is right here."

Besides the burgers and drinks, a popular area at the Welcome Back Jam was the foam pit. Students were grateful that the foam pit was functional, considering the malfunction (or lack of foam) in the pit at Spring Fling 2009. New students, unaware of the past semester's lack of bubbles, enjoyed diving, sliding, and dancing in nearly 3 feet of foam. Students enjoyed doing various dances, including the Cupid Shuffle, while covered in bubbles. Foam eventually invaded the entire basketball court as students entered and exited the pit. Some students compared the foam pit to a childhood bathtub, without the water; they found comfort and entertainment playing in the bubbles.

After being covered in soapy bubbles many students found refuge at the most popular station of the evening: the slip-n-slide. It was quite entertaining to watch as swarms of students raced to take a place in line to careen down the giant water slide. Everyone, from senior football players to freshman science majors, took turns sliding through the inflatable slip-n-slide. Students enjoyed cooling off by diving along the slide after the heat and humidity of orientation, move-in day, and sport practices.

Brandon Allen, a sophomore Business Administration major, found the slip-n-slide "a great way to relax, especially after football practice."

Between students mingling on the court and dashing to the slip-n-slide, the Welcome Back Jam was a hit among the students. Freshman and seniors alike gathered together to partake in an evening of fun, music, and relaxation. SAC started the year off with an enjoyable, successful event. The Welcome Back Jam added a both color and entertainment to what was originally a hot, dreary week.

## Ashley Asks

'Ashley Asks' is a man-on-the-street section by Ashley Young, news editor of smallTALK. Each issue, Ashley asks a question about university policies, current events, or trends. Several responses are published in the print edition of smallTALK. This column is usually found in the Opinions section.

**Jeremy "J.R." Hustwit**, assistant professor of religion and philosophy, replaces Sean Doyle.

"I do most of my teaching in religion, specifically Eastern religions, but also will be teaching some philosophy classes. Before this, I taught at California State University in San Bernardino and Mount San Antonio College, both in Southern California. I've been teaching at least part-time since 2005. Before that, I was a hard working graduate student."

**Amanda Briggs**, assistant assistant director of the Environmental and Occupational Management Program and assistant director of the Southeastern Center for Environmental Excellence. Briggs is a new hire in the growing Environmental and Occupational Management Program.

"Previously, I was an Assistant City Attorney for the City of Fayetteville. I've also been a prosecutor for the Cumberland County District Attorney's office. I was also an adjunct professor at Fayetteville Technical Community College.

One of my goals at MU is to give students a strong, real world foundation of environmental science and environmental law. This is a fascinating field and I hope my students share my enthusiasm for these topics."

## "Who are the new faculty at Methodist?"

**Casey Roberson**, access services librarian, can be found in the Davis Memorial Library helping students with borrowing books.

"This is my first professional position as a librarian. I graduated from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill with a Master of Science in library science in 2008 [and I] previously worked at Berry College Memorial Library."

**Daniel Trigoboff**, associate professor of mass communications, is replacing Sarah Christ in the communications department.

"Last year I taught at University of North Carolina at Pembroke and before that I taught at Elon University. I had a long career in the media before that, mostly as a newspaper and magazine reporter and editor with some time in broadcasting. My initial goal is to help advance the radio presence on campus, but I'd like to work with all student media."

**Clay Britton**, assistant professor of biology, is replacing Theresa Zucchero.

"I have done student teaching at Purdue University in Indiana for five years. One of my goals is to interact and engage with students so that by the time they've left my classroom they've learned something. More importantly, teaching students that science is fun."

**Gloria Peuster**, instructor of education, has been teaching in various settings for 41 years.

"I would like to make a difference and help prospective teachers understand what teaching is all about. I've taught at Fort Bragg Elementary School, Fayetteville State, and University of North Carolina Pembroke before coming here."

**William Billings**, instructor of English, is the author of the university history book, "From Cotton Field to University: A History of Methodist University, 1956-2006."

"My goal is to help students be better writers and so far I like it. I'm getting close to retirement and have been a journalist and writer for 30 years. I finished the history of Methodist last spring and then was requested to teach English full time by Dr. Hendricks."

**Michael Eaglen**, instructor of chemistry, is replacing John Fields in the chemistry department.

"My goal is to contribute to the advancement of the chemistry department in whatever ways I can and to assist students in career planning choices. I am going to develop the highest quality organic chemistry courses ever. I've worked for 15 years teaching and spent 15 years in lab work.

**Vida Bajc**, assistant professor of sociology, has extensive teaching experience.

"I've been teaching since 2001, beginning at the University of Pennsylvania as an adjunct lecturer in the college of general studies, then at Swarthmore College as adjunct lecturer in the department of sociology, then DeVry University as adjunct lecturer of general education. I received a doctorate in sociology at the University of Pennsylvania in 2008 and did post-doctoral research in Queens, Canada.

One of my goals here is to enliven the sociology major. The important part of becoming a sociologist is to learn how to think sociologically about social relations."

**Mark Bowman**, assistant professor of justice studies, is filling a new position at Methodist.

"I will be teaching in the department of justice studies and applied forensic sciences. I recently retired from the Virginia Beach Police Department. This is my first teaching job. One of my goals is to learn more about local police agencies and find ways to help them."

**Sekhar Kommu**, program director, Methodist University Physician Assistant Program, is replacing Ron Foster as the program director.

"I began teaching at Methodist with the very first PA program class in October 1996 as an adjunct faculty. In 1997, I became the Associate Medical Director and held that position till August 2007. I moved to Virginia in that summer, but have returned as the program director in June of this year.

My goal is to help make Methodist University PA Program a nationally recognized institution for PA education. I would like to continue helping our students become well trained, compassionate and capable medical providers."

## Campus Crime Briefs

**Assault on a female student in the Pines Apartments.** Campus police are investigating an assault by an unknown assailant on a female student. The student was not physically harmed. The evidence gathered in the case indicates that the assailant was not associated with the university.

Aug. 23, 2009

**Emergency medical services called for four students, one staff.** On five occasions, EMS was called to campus. One maintenance employee, a football player, two dorm residents, and a student in Reeves. Two students were transported to the hospital, the rest refused or were taken separately.

**Drug paraphanelia found unattended.**

A sweep of the maintenance driveway turned up drug paraphanelia, which was confiscated by campus police.

Aug. 25, 2009

**Unrelated collision on same day.** On the same day, there was an unrelated collision in the maintenance driveway.

Aug. 25, 2009

**Fire alarms go off.** A malfunction in Garber Hall's fire alarm and a batch of burned cookies in the Pines Apartments triggered fire alarms on separate dates.

Aug. 25, 2009 and Aug. 31, 2009

**Larceny from a automobile.** A GPS unit was stolen from a parked vehicle in the North Administration parking lot. The student said that her car was locked before the robbery, but there were no signs of forced entry. The GPS unit was the only thing taken.

Aug. 26, 2009

**Larceny from a residence hall.** A student living in Sanford Hall left the room door unlocked, and upon returning found several items missing.

**Chemical odor in lab.** The Campus Safety Officer was called to the Organic Chemistry laboratory in the New Science Building to investigate a suspicious odor. The chemical was found and disposed of without the assistance of local HazMat.

Sept. 2, 2009



New staff left to right: Vida Bajc (Sociology), Clay Britton (Biology), Casey Roberson (Access Services Librarian), J. R. Hustwit (Religion & Philosophy), Dan Trigoboff (Mass Communications), Mark Bowman (Justice Studies), Amanda Briggs (Environmental & Occupational Management).

Not pictured: Gloria Peuster (Education), William Billings (English), John Sill (Sociology), Sekhar Kommu (Physician's Assistant Program), Michael Eagan.

Photo by Roxana Ross

## Rape allegation: Facts are unclear in recent accusation

*continued from cover*

matter. The floor's resident advisors, Joey Vergeno and John Camuso, were ordered by the school not to comment on the incident.

According to Phillips, police hope to have the case resolved in the coming weeks barring any unexpected turns.

As you have probably noticed, since this and another incident involving a campus resident, security around campus has been tightened. Random ID checks at the gate, more frequent campus patrols, and added lighting are just a few of these improvements.

Philips stressed that "after dark [students should] travel around campus with groups" and to "always keep room and car doors locked even if your only out for a moment".

Any student can request a student escort between 6p.m. and midnight by calling ext. 7487 or 7098. Escorts are free and make a student travelling across campus alone at night less of a target.

## University makes academic changes

*This is intended to inform you of several policy changes that have been approved by Methodist University for the 2009-2010 Academic Year. The information comes straight from the Registrar Jasmin Brown.*

### Grade Change Policy

Grades of "A" through "F" are permanent grades and may not be changed except when assigned in error. All grade changes must be approved by the Vice President for Academic Affairs. A grade change must be made before the end of the next semester, excluding the summer semester. For example, a fall grade change must be made by the end of the following spring semester. A spring grade change must be made by the end of the following fall semester. A summer grade change must be made by the end of the following fall semester. It is the responsibility of the student to check his/her grade report or transcript for errors. A student who believes he/she has been assigned a grade in error must appeal a grade before the end of the next semester, excluding the summer semester.



### Assignment of Incompletes Policy

An I grade is awarded when extenuating circumstances warrant an extension of time for completion of the course. The course work must be completed within a reasonable period, as set by the instructor, not to exceed the end of the next academic semester, not including the summer semester; otherwise, the I grade becomes an F grade. The criteria for assigning an incomplete grade are as follows: a stu-

dent should be passing the course with at least a D grade; and students must discuss with their instructors the need for an I grade before one can be assigned. If the I grade is assigned, the instructor is required to complete the "Assignment of Incomplete Grade" form.

### Course Load for Students on Warning/Probation

Students who are on Academic Warning must enroll in no more than 15 semester hours (previously 13 s.h.).

Students on Academic Probation must enroll in no more than 14 semester hours. (previously 13 s.h.).

**Core requirements** (*applies only to the 2009-2010 Academic Catalogue*)

Regional Geography (GEO 252) can no longer be used to fulfill one of the core requirements.

Reading Circles (IDS 210) is a core requirement for every student.

*Please contact your academic advisor if you have any questions or concerns about any of these changes.*

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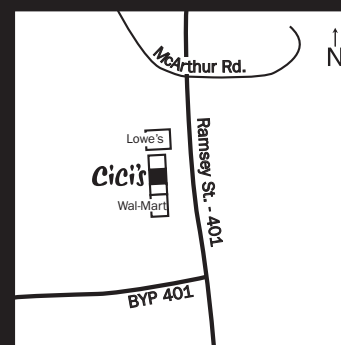
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# Monarchs prepare for a stronger season

Monarchs optimistic despite low preseason estimates

Matthew Snowberger  
Staff Writer



Coach Jim Sypult reflects on another successful practice.  
Photo by Trey Cole

Monarch football is back at last! With camp winding down and the first home game rapidly approaching, the 2009 team is ready to make the new season one to remember.

As camp winds down and the team prepares for its first kick-off, fans are surely wondering what to expect from the 2009 Monarch team.

According to a USA South pre-season poll, Methodist is picked to finish seventh out of the eight team conference. Coach Jim Sypult on the other hand, disagrees with the estimate.

“If we play to the best of our ability as hard as we can then what ever the scoreboard says is what is says,” he said. “If we do that and have the talent we will be in the playoffs.” When asked what he thought the biggest improvement to this year’s team, Sypult said “We’re older, we’ve got a lot of experience, particularly in the offense. We have all returners back with the exception of the tight end.”

These returning players include quarterback Erik Teague and wide receiver Chris Peoples. Both are looking forward to a better season this fall. The offense line will rely on their experience to improve on last year’s average of 15.8 points a game.

On the other side of the ball, Methodist fans can look forward to a stingy Monarch defense with eight returnees in the starting line-up.

“Our defensive line is our strength,” said Sypult.

The Monarch recruiting staff worked hard this off season to fill the holes in the defensive secondary and line-backing core. They brought in several strong prospects from around the country. Though the results have yet to be seen on the field, these freshmen are optimistic.

“You’ve got to have confidence and toughness,” said Rodney Holloway, a freshman team member.

The coaching staff is optimistic that the new team members have what it takes in both skill and attitude.

“We’ve got about 22 or 25 guys all pushing for starting positions,” said Sypult. “These guys can play in the open field, they’re skilled, and we’re real happy about that”

It has been a hard few weeks of camp for this year’s prospects. They reported at 5:30 a.m. to condition and weight train, followed by training outside during two daily practices. The work has paid off, though. Players are stronger, faster, and “battle-tested” with a recent scrimmage game. This period was especially critical for the incoming freshmen players, who not only must catch up to the physical performance of their older peers but must adjust to different field dimensions in college.

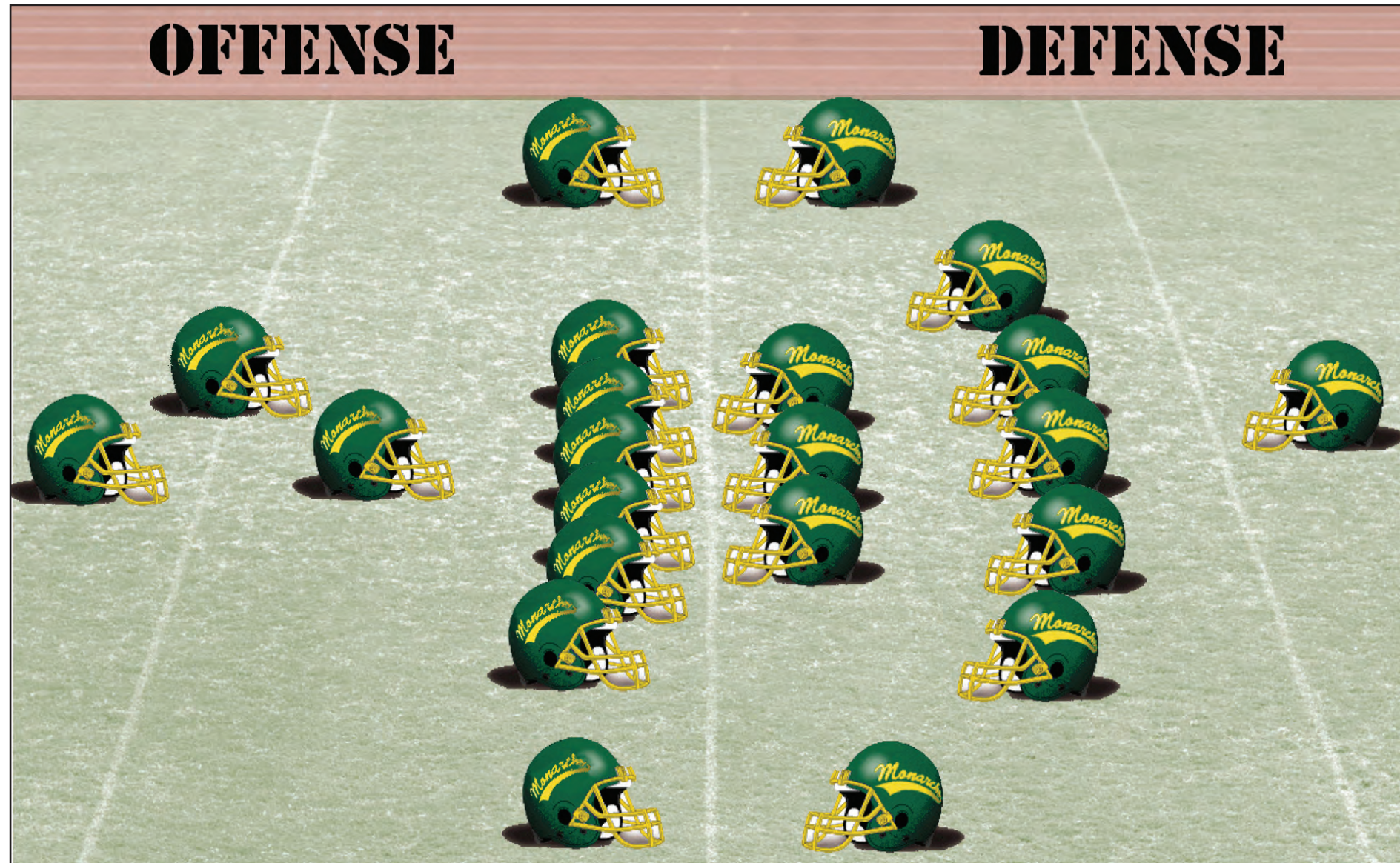
“They know what a bump and a bruise is now,” said Sypult.

In the final week before the season the team got an opportunity to recover and be their best before their first game at Campbell University. Monarch fans drove to Buires Creek for the game against the rival Camels.

Fans and athletes alike look forward in anticipation of the season’s first home game Sept. 12 against Guilford College.

*Due to the date of printing, smallTALK was unable to report the results of the first football game, held at Campbell University. Scores can be found at [www.smalltalkmu.com](http://www.smalltalkmu.com) or in the next issue of smallTALK. The first home game will be held this Saturday. Pre-game activities begin at 11 a.m., and kick-off is at 1 p.m.*

# READY TO RUMBLE



Kerrick Brown, defensive back, blocks a player from Maryville College in the 2008 Homecoming game.  
Photo by Andrew Carey.

## 2009 Football Schedule

Sept. 12 - 1:00 p.m. Home v. Guilford College	Oct. 10 - 2:00 p.m. Away at Ferrum College	Oct. 31 - 1:00 p.m. Home v. North Carolina Wesleyan College
Sept. 26 - 1:00 p.m. Home v. Emory & Henry College	Oct. 17 - 1:00 p.m. HOMECOMING v. Shenandoah University	Nov. 7 - 7:00 p.m. Away at Greensboro College
Oct. 3 - 1:30 p.m. Away at Maryville College	Oct. 24 - 1:00 p.m. Away at Averett University	Nov. 14 - 1:00 p.m. Home v. Christopher Newport University



Eudora McLaughlin catches a flag during an afternoon practice. Photo by Lakeisha Story

# Putting on a show

Carly Hatfield  
Staff Writer

For the first time in Monarch history, Methodist University will be proudly represented at football games by a marching band.

“My goal for this marching band is for us to represent Methodist University to the best of our ability” said Band Director Charles Dumas.

For one week before school started, the marching band practiced several times per day. Despite the hot afternoon sun, numerous frustrations, and the repetition of numerous run-throughs, band members tried to always put their best foot forward.

Practices consist of learning the drills and music, this means a lot of time outside on the field. The color guard, members of the band that perform with flags and rifles, learn routines to accompany the music and incorporate them into the band’s formations.

This year, the band performances will have a retro funk theme, featuring music from the 1970s and 1980s. The music selections include songs from Chicago; Earth, Wind, and Fire; and Tower of Power. Since the band is small, the choreography spreads out the band members and color guard on the field to make the group seem larger. Everyone gets a chance to be front and center.

The drum major, Joshua Buckrucker, enjoys the smaller size of the band. He feels that it has allowed them to be closer than a larger band might be.

“I love being able to know everyone in band

and color guard,” said Buckrucker. “I also love having the leadership experience.”

Because the goal of the marching band is to inspire school spirit, Dumas chose the MU school colors for the band and color guard uniforms, rather than uniforms to match the theme. Dumas had a marching band costume designer provide the band with several choices, then let the band members make the final choice of the costume design.

“If they were happy with it, the audience would be happy with it too,” said Dumas.

The accompanying color guard is just as dedicated as the band. The color guard instructor is Dumas’s wife, Eugenia Dumas. She is assisted by Camille Walker, color guard captain. Like the band, the color guard has focused on teamwork and constant improvement.

“I enjoy everything about what I do,” said Walker. “Getting to know others, assisting others when needed, and being there to help with new stuff.”

Dumas and Walker agree that they can’t wait for it all to come together and see how the show turns out.

In five years, the Dumases hope to have 150 students in the marching band and color guard. They plan to travel to as many away games as possible and take the band members on a group trip. The main goals for the band is to represent the school and be a recruiting tool for the university.

See the Marching Monarchs in action at the first home game of the season on Sept. 12 in Monarch Stadium.

# 8 Opinion

## Thoughts from the Editor:

### Bringing down the wall

*Alicia Secord*  
Editor-in-Chief

Every generation has a day that changed their world. For many of today's students, it was Sept. 11, 2001. Not only did the attacks change the New York skyline, they changed the way Americans interact with the rest of the world.

The words of former President George W. Bush, "We will not falter, we will not perish, we will not fail," have been with us for the past eight years.

Sept. 11 altered Europe as well, in 1989. On that date, Hungarian border patrols permanently opened the passage into Austria for East Germans seeking to cross the Berlin Wall. Shortly after, the wall came down.

I recently spoke with Joan Bitterman, professor of French and German, who studied at the University of Heidelberg in the early 1980s. She travelled to East Germany several times in the years before the wall came down. She described strict border guards, and backwards living.

"It was like stepping into another century," said Bitterman. "There was always a shortage of something, many raged at the oppression, but some were happy. Especially outside of Berlin."

Bitterman went on to describe a young mother who was content with her life; because the country offered health care, she was able to sew clothes in

her home while her husband retained a job. She needed nothing more.

For decades, the only travel in and out of East Germany was done by diplomats, those with special permission, and those leaving the country for good. Anyone crossing into the country without goods for trade was looked on with suspicion by the border patrols. Those leaving the country left behind their homes and families.

The fall of the Berlin Wall was a complicated event. In some ways it seemed like a miracle, there was very little hope that it would happen when it did. Americans saw it as the beginning of the end of Communism. By the end of 1989 reform reached the Communist countries outside the USSR.

On the other hand, Germans had been separated for so long that there was a lot of mistrust and jealousy on both sides. The East Germans had been sheltered from many of the innovations made in the Western world. Their money was worth little and their factories were out of date. As Germany reintegrated itself, half of the country paid for the restoration of the other half.

Our generation can learn something from the Germans. As we reflect on 9-11 this Friday, think about the barriers we have constructed over the last eight years. We have spied on our neighbors, discriminated against those unlike us, and tightened our borders against neighboring countries.

Instead of Bush's call to war, perhaps we should take the advice his father gave to Mikhail Gorbachev: "Tear down this wall."

## Thoughts from the staff:

### Accusations affect more than you may intend

Until this decade, it was hard for a sexual assault victim to be taken seriously. The Small Talk Sept. 1993 issue featured a first person account by one staff writer about a sexual assault that occurred at a party off-campus. There were witnesses and physical evidence that supported her accusation. The male student was never prosecuted. The alleged victim blamed the legal system, which at the time was predominantly male, for the lack of progress in her case.

In the past 16 years, victims' rights and forensic procedures have evolved significantly. It is easier to isolate evidence of assault and identify the attacker. There are victims' crisis groups, empathetic investigators, and zealous prosecutors.

Like Duke University three years ago, Methodist University is now home to a serious legal investigation involving a false claim of rape.

At Duke, it was lacrosse players who were under scrutiny. The players cooperated with the investigation, submitted to DNA testing, and were prosecuted despite the lack of evidence. They were subject to persecution from community leaders and prosecution from an overzealous prosecutor trying to further his career and gain support from minority groups.

At Methodist, we are seeing a similar drama unfolding. Two freshman, after being on campus for only three weeks, have become embroiled in a legal entanglement. A female student accused a male student of rape. With no witnesses or physical evidence, the male student arrested and placed in jail. While we agree that an accusation such as this warrants removal of the accused student from campus during the investigation, incarceration without solid evidence is an affront to his constitutional rights.

And what about real victims? How can a woman who has truly been assaulted be taken seriously if the community has a history of falsehoods? If a woman has no regard for her male peers, surely she feels some camaraderie with other females in the community. Right?

According to Eugene Kanin's article "False Rape Allegations" in the Archives of Sexual Behavior, "a survey of all forcible rape complaints during a three-year period at two large Midwestern state universities found that 50 percent of the accusations were false."

Despite these instances of false accusations, real victims should under no circumstances be discounted or disregarded. We commend the police for diligently investigating the allegations. It is unfortunate that some women don't understand the seriousness of the accusation they have made.

We implore all students to think before they act. There are choices to make over the course of a college career, and many have the potential of affecting the rest of someone's life. In some cases, the life that is most affected is that of someone else.

## Questionable Queries of a campus ninja

Dear Ninja,  
I have always been told that breakfast is the most important meal of the day. Do you incarnate of awesome known as ninja eat breakfast and if so what do you regularly eat?  
From Starving in Sanford

Dear Starving,  
Whoever told you that breakfast is the most important meal of the day is a very wise person. Breakfast provides a person with the necessary energy to go throughout their day effectively and I, as a ninja, need to be at the top of my game or I could be ended at any time.

Personally, I like to have a lightly toasted, multigrain bagel with strawberry jam every morning along with a tall glass of chocolate milk. The bagel provides roughage to keep a ninja regular while the jam provides a serving of fruit and some natural sugars to give an energy boost promptly after consumption. As for the chocolate milk that is a simple answer. It is the ninja of dairy based beverages, and as such it is pure awesome in a glass thus we ninja are naturally drawn to it. A little known fact is regardless of the time of day chocolate milk is always a ninja's favorite drink to accompany whatever food it is consuming.

From Campus Ninja

Dear Ninja,  
My dream in life is to one day inhabit the same tri-city as a ninja and bask in his presence. I would love to be a ninja myself, but I know that is folly to even consider the absurd idea. I am curious though, what is the most important step in becoming a ninja?  
From Clueless in Clark

Dear Clueless,  
You were right to think it is impossible for you to become a ninja, but not due to the fact you are a mere, puny human. It is because you lack the most impor-

tant aspect of being a ninja: to have full confidence in yourself.

Someone without confidence will not be able

to disappear from sight at a whim or walk right up to a tyrant and end him. Another important step after having confidence is becoming ninja aware. It is kind of like the Force in that at any given instant those without the ability to sense it will become aware of the existence of the Force and have basic abilities of bending it to their whim.

Yea, becoming a ninja is a bit like that.

From Campus Ninja

Dear Ninja,  
I have heard that ninja are all over the place consuming our resources and not giving us anything in return aside from grief and cool viral internet videos. I don't want to believe that ninja are really that useless, so I pose a question before you. Are ninja actually functioning members of society that walk among us like normal peons?

From Worried in Weaver

Dear Worried,  
Of course ninja are functioning members of society! How else would we afford such cool weapons and aerodynamic, polycotton blend full body outfits? You see, superheroes originally started taking secret identities and day jobs, because they originally wanted to be like ninja. We, ninja, hold jobs of all kinds from movie theater attendant to CEO of Fortune 500 companies. If you have ever found an onion ring or chicken nugget in your box of fries at a fast food restaurant you can rest assured that it was the result of a ninja doing his day job. A good lesson to learn from this is be nice to all of your fellow employees, because you never know how many of them are master class users of ninjutsu techniques.

From Campus Ninja



# crossTALK

## with Aryn and Jessie

*Racial profiling or Good police work?*



**Arrests should never be based solely on race**

*Jessie Heath  
Staff Writer*

In 2008, approximately 32 million individuals filed racial profiling grievances against police officers in the United

States. Racial profiling is used by many law enforcement officials as a tool to identify suspects in a criminal case, based purely on skin-deep assessments. This practice is immoral and should not be tolerated in a country that boasts itself as “the land of the free and the home of the brave.”

Racial profiling is based on the assumption that a person can be judged solely by their appearance or ethnicity. Is this not the nation that pledges “liberty and justice for all?” Racial Profiling goes against multiple treaties and laws in which the USA takes party, and also violates the United Nations Convention for the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination. Racial profiling also violates the 14<sup>th</sup> Amendment, which states that no person is can be denied equal protection of the law.

Racial profiling prevents communities from willingly working with law enforcement agencies. Because racial profiling does not typically focus on white communities, it tends to send the message that whites are law-abiding citizens and all other minorities are assumed to be criminals. These assumptions lead many minority-based communities to resist aid from local law enforcement agencies. In contrast to racial profiling, citizens of communities that have a good relationship with their local law enforcement are more inclined to report crimes, cooperate in investigations, testify as witnesses, and volunteer their time as community watchmen.

Racial profiling is a practice that can easily escalate into racially-motivated violence. In 2007, Amidou Diallo, an unarmed West African immigrant, was killed by a 41 bullet volley in an exchange with the NYPD. Diallo was only trying to show the officers his driver's license and green card. Diallo's case was one of many in which police officers acted hastily rather than weighing hard evidence.

Racial profiling is morally and legally wrong. It sends the message that citizens of this country are judged by the color of their skin or their religious beliefs. Racial profiling is an unacceptable practice and a counter-productive tool in effectively protecting our communities.

**Stop using the race card with the system**

*Aryn Hicks  
Entertainment Editor*

Excuses, Excuses, Excuses. Life would be so much easier if people would take responsibility for their own actions, and

quit using their ethnicity as a crutch. It is too often that minorities use the race card when under the scrutiny of the police. When people use their race as a reason for being “targeted” by the police, they are undermining the entire judicial process.

Police and court systems have gotten a bad reputation in today's society because of the accusation of racial profiling. In many cases, accusations of racial profiling overshadow the more commendable actions of police officers. Criminal profiles have spent years gathering information and statistics to predict criminal patterns based on age, gender, and race.

Although the profiles are sometimes incorrect, the police are simply using the information they are given in order to prevent crimes from occurring. Minorities believe that the police are being racist and targeting their ethnic groups for malicious purposes, but they are doing their job based on previous findings. What gain do the police have for unjustly persecuting people? People who think that the police are specifically out to get them because of their race owe their mistrust to their own insecurities or wrong doing.

Reverse profiling occurs just as often as direct racial profiling. For example, the Duke University lacrosse team was harassed because of their high social standing. You may ask why. Community leaders were convinced that the police were not properly investigating the case because the victim was a lower-class black woman. Despite the fact that the evidence showed that the men were innocent, they were tried because of the pressure applied from community leaders. The men were finally proven innocent in court, and the prosecutor was disbarred for misconduct. The case, however, wasted police resources that could have been better utilized for more pressing crimes than one in which the evidence supported the men's claim of innocence.

Instead of crying and whining about “I got pulled over because I was black/brown/polka-dotted/ etc,” minorities should understand that police are doing their job to the best of their resources. The police serve and protect, they don't target and harass.



## Checking out the view

**Exploring residence options on and off campus**

*Deanna Piacente  
Staff Writer*

It's the age-old question all college students come to ask themselves ... to be on campus or to live on their own?

### On-campus

Undoubtedly, the best part of campus living is convenience. Financially, the plague of monthly rent is eliminated, and there aren't legally binding lease agreements looming over your head. If something breaks it's not your problem, and if worse comes to worse, blame it on your roommate ... right?

On-campus living is designed to be a transition period for students to gracefully shift from parental-control-safety-nets to the big, bad world. Dorm dwellers get basic freedom from mommies and daddies, while learning to cooperate with that stranger in the next bed called a roommate. Campus apartments provide even more independence, and teach students the responsibilities of supporting themselves without meal plans, which means budgeting to avoid starvation.

In the on campus apartments in The Commons and McCleary Residence Complex, students share a kitchen and two bathrooms with three other people. Unlike dorm-living, however, students enjoy the added comfort of a private bedroom.

Ralph Chew, a junior elementary education major, recently moved into The Commons and seems to be enjoying it.

“I love having my own room to escape to,” he said.

When asked if he'd ever consider moving off-campus, Chew was excited about the prospect, due to the nature of the elementary education program, which requires upper level students to spend time student teaching in area schools.

“It would be better to go home to my own place when I begin student teaching,” Chew explained.

Megan Ondrey, a junior who moved into The Commons this year, agreed with Chew's assessment of the campus apartments, but said she'd rather stay on campus.

“I like the space and the privacy [in the apartments]. The kitchen changes the atmosphere of dorm life,” said Ondrey. “Staying here helps me stay involved around campus.”

Between residence hall programs, Student Activities events, SGA, athletics, and a plethora of other campus clubs, there's never a dull moment for residential students. Which could be why more than 50 percent of Methodist's undergraduate students are commuters.

### Off-campus

Free at last, free at last ... from rigid campus rules, that is.

The lease terms in the apartment complexes up and down Ramsey Street may not condone college keggers, but cats, candles, and overnight guests are welcomed.

Many would agree that one of the most difficult campus policies to accept would be the ‘no animals unless it's a goldfish in a water glass that's bound to die next week' rule, especially for students who are accustomed to living with family pets. There's nothing like coming home from a hard day of classes to find a furry friend waiting by the front door.

Off-campus apartments also lack the limitations of what can be used in one's domicile. If I really wanted to have a halogen lamp and a hot plate, nobody is stopping me! And candles ... what's a romantic evening without candles? Or wine? Alcohol is also permitted, for anyone over 21, of course.

“I like being able to go home to my own place without all the noise and distraction,” said Courtney Fernandez, a junior who recently moved off-campus to Abbott's Park. “I also enjoy being permanently moved in. I don't have to deal with the hassle of checking out during breaks, or moving out at the end of the year.”

Unlike on-campus living, students living off-campus have the choice to stick around at the end of the semester. That means no packing, unpacking, repacking, unpacking, etc.

At off-campus locations, friends and family from out-of-town aren't harassed and frisked to receive an overnight campus parking pass, and they can stay for as long as they want. Heck, they could even bring their pets and beer if they really wanted to. Not to mention they won't be cramped into a 3x6 foot sleeping area shoved beneath a lofted bed. Off-campus apartments give students the obvious added space, with the option to upgrade to an extra bedroom for guests and/or office space.

Ultimately, the choice to stay or go is a personal one, and all students should take all aspects of both options into consideration. When that fateful graduation day comes, though, I'm afraid it's either on your own, or on the streets.



## Student poets seek off-campus inspiration

Aryn Hicks  
Entertainment Editor

Many students at Methodist complain about being bored on campus, while others complain about lacking the opportunity to express their creativity. Upon venturing off campus, one might find that Downtown Fayetteville is home to an event that is gaining popularity amongst young adults. Poetry-N-Motion has become a haven for individuals wishing mingle with others who share their interest in poetry, spoken word, and freestyle lyrical performance.

Poets LeJuane "El'Ja" Bowens and Yolanda "Yogii" Barnes host Poetry-N-Motion every Tuesday night at Bentley's Night Club on Hay Street. For El'Ja and Yogii, creative expression is their occupation and home. The hosts put on a variety of events, such as writing workshops on Saturdays, which aid aspiring writers to in practicing their talent while receiving creative criticism from professionals.

Upon entering the venue, individuals are greeted with warmth and kindness from the hosts. The event enables artists, both amateurs and professionals, to showcase their talents for a respectful and receptive audience. Any individual is welcome to perform up to two pieces of work. One segment of every evening includes 30-second freestyle, in which the hosts select poets from the audience to go on stage. El'Ja and Yogii then ask the audience to choose one random word for each poet use for an impromptu piece around. The event also has theme nights, which include Random Night, In-House Slam, Battle of the Sexes, and Love vs. Lust Night. On the last Tuesday of every month, Poetry-N-Motion features a guest artist to perform as the final act.

Poetry-N-Motion is a laid back environment full of diverse individuals. Artists of all age and race are able to interact with one another in an encouraging, empowering atmosphere. College students are welcomed to attend as both spectators and participants. The welcoming environment breaks down the dreariness of classroom blues and boredom in the residence halls. One might find it easy to relate to the deep, thought provoking works of other artists. Poems often vary, from light-hearted and comical, to deep and impassioned.

El'Ja finds that Poetry-N-Motion acts as a



LeJuane "El'Ja" Bowens, co-host of Poetry-N-Motion, performs an original piece

sanctuary for poets and lyrical artists, stating that "it is a blessing that individuals are able to express their souls and creativity."

Yogii encourages everybody to "speak their piece" in the family-like environment.

Adriana Wilson, a junior Mass Communications major, attended Poetry-N-Motion for her first time. Wilson found the event to be entertaining and enlightening. "Being able to be in [an] environment with people who enjoyed [poetry] made [her] feel at home."

Wilson, who also plays basketball for the Lady Monarchs, believes that it is especially important for students to venture off campus to prevent boredom. Wilson states that Poetry-N-Motion is "something different to do...it's supporting the arts, and gives people a better appreciation for [poetry]."

Poetry-N-Motion takes place every Tuesday evening at 8:00 P.M. at Bentley's Night Club. For a reasonable price, ranging from \$3 to \$5, students can enjoy a relaxed environment with amazing entertainment. When bored on campus on Tuesday evenings, one should certainly consider driving downtown to Poetry-N-Motion; it is a definite cure for a monotonous, mundane week. For further information, visit [www.reallifemusic.com](http://www.reallifemusic.com) to find more poetry and lyrical events around Fayetteville.

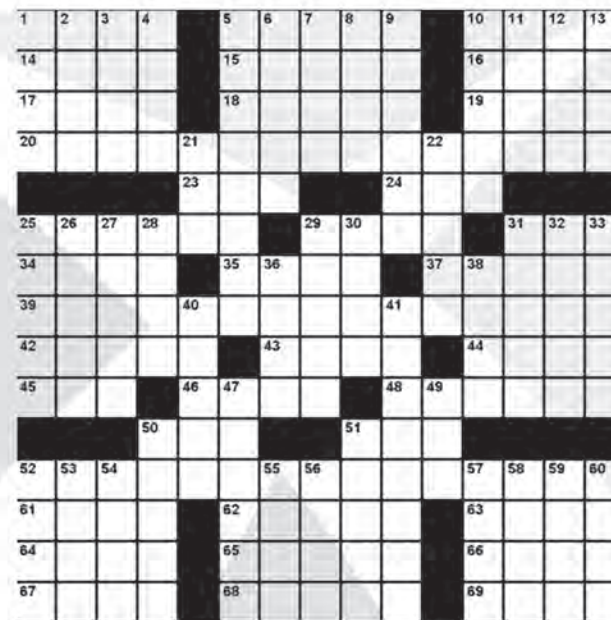
## WeDesireMore.Com

### Across

1. Dick's dog
5. Delineate
10. Store
14. VIP transport
15. Large bird
16. Unconscious state
17. \_\_\_ time (never)
18. Thomas Stearns \_\_\_
19. Candid
20. Hawaiian abduction
23. Global sports org.
24. Anger
25. Mend
29. Head light
31. Container
34. Organic compound
35. Nice summer month
37. Callow
39. Alabama homicide
42. Rendezvous
43. Daniel's music maker
44. Spock's distinguishing features
45. Drench
46. Sorrels
48. Reproductive cell
50. Mayo to mayo
51. Slip
52. Indian seizure
61. Eager
62. Cherished
63. Olfactory sensation
64. Where the farmer is
65. Flat out
66. Sister and wife of Zeus
67. Put in a stake
68. Lets
69. Shish kebab option

### Down

1. Chopped cabbage
2. Gyro



3. Present opener
4. Claimed
5. Islamic bible
6. Keepsake
7. Dry
8. Rocky was one
9. Require
10. Hunter's aid
11. Native of Arizona
12. Sign
13. Twinge
21. Davis Love letters
22. Tine
25. Musical notations
26. Chilly time in Chihuahua
27. Coral, e.g.
28. Handout
29. Polynesian rain dances
30. Rose oil
31. Curriculum \_\_\_

32. Head off
33. Laconic
36. Author Davidson ("The Best Of Enemies")
38. Attention getter
40. Expiate
41. Programmer's offerings
47. Arrest
49. Part of a circle
50. Confuse
51. Throw out
52. Nothing in Navarone
53. Tied
54. Sag
55. Bob
56. Famous dog watcher Pavlov
57. Former chancellor of Germany
58. Thought
59. Standard
60. Kind of bag

'Sin City' Crossword by Dave Fisher Copyright © dave fisher

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# Crimson Gem Saga generic but good

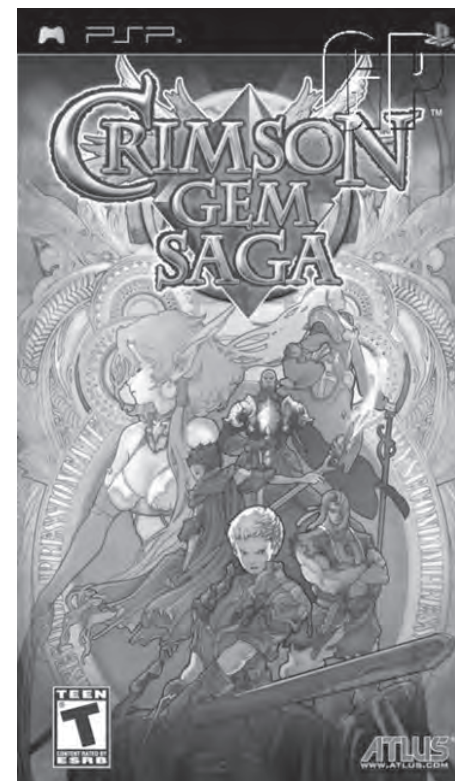
Austin Bordeaux  
Staff Writer

Crimson Gem Saga is one of the PlayStation Portable's newer role-playing games, yet it falls back on what the genre is best at: throwing together a well done game chock full of clichés and a gamut of experiences we've gone through before. Yet, this isn't necessarily a bad thing, especially since the game isn't trying to be innovative in any way. For the most part this game succeeds on this reason alone.

Graphics: 10/10    Sound: 8/10  
Gameplay: 7/10    Story: 8/10  
Overall: 8/10

Crimson Gem Saga is an old school style JRPG with breathtaking sprites and character art along with splendid music and voice acting. The gameplay is fun with a standard turn-based system, though frustrating at times due to a bad skill system and a lot of grinding. The story is generic, but has enough twists to make it entertaining. Overall, this is a more than adequate current-day make of old-school style gaming.

For the full review check out [www.smalltalkmu.com](http://www.smalltalkmu.com), where the graphics, sound, gameplay, and storyline are described in detail.



## Help prevent the flu!

- Wash your hands often, or use alcohol-based hand cleaner.
- Get plenty of rest and eat right.
- Avoid touching your face, eyes, nose and mouth.
- Cover your mouth when you cough or sneeze. Use your arm, not your hand, to cover your mouth if you don't have a tissue.
- Avoid close contact with sick people.
- Report health concerns to the Student Health Center.

Flu symptoms include:

Fever,  
especially 100.4+  
Cough

Sore throat

Runny or stuffy nose

And may include:

Body aches

Headache

Fatigue

Chills

Diarrhea

Vomiting

**Please visit the Student Health Center in West Hall or call ext. 7164 for more information.**

# MONARCH SCOREBOARD

## GAME RESULTS

### Volleyball

Date	Opponent	Result
09/02/2009	Randolph College	W 3-0
02/04/2009	Mount Aloysius	W 3-0

### Men's Soccer

Date	Opponent	Result
09/01/2009	Lynchburg	L 3-0
09/04/2009	Milligan College	L 3-1

### Women's Soccer

Date	Opponent	Result
09/01/2009	Chowan University	W 2-0

## UPCOMING HOME GAMES

### Football

Date	Opponent	Time
09/12/2009	Guilford College	1:00pm

### Men's Soccer

Date	Opponent	Time
09/12/2009	Emory University	10:00am

### Cross Country

Date	Event	Time
09/12/2009	Hot Summer Day 5K	8:00am

### Women's Soccer

Date	Opponent	Time
09/12/2009	Roanoke College	2:00pm
09/13/2009	Washington and Lee College	2:00pm
09/16/2009	Guilford College	3:00pm

### Women's Tennis

Date	Opponent	Time
09/12/2009	Guilford College	1:00pm

## Campus Ministry Calendar fall 2009 Mission



The mission of Campus Ministry at Methodist University is to offer the love and acceptance of Jesus Christ to all persons by planting the seeds of faith and providing a nurturing spiritual environment for the seeds to grow and develop. Each person will be encouraged to reach his or her potential through participation in diverse styles of worship, Biblical study, music, community service, pursuit of justice and leadership. Every person is challenged to pursue faith freely with open hearts, open minds, and open doors.

## Weekly Events

Wednesday	11:00 a.m.	Interdenominational Campus Worship Service	Chapel
Wednesday	8:00 p.m.	Women's Bible Study (DOGS)	West
Thursday	8:00 p.m.	Men's Bible Study	Commons
Sunday	7:00 p.m.	Soup Talk	Parsonage
	9:00 p.m.	Catholic Mass	Chapel
Monday	6:00 p.m.	One Voice Practice	Chapel
Monday	8:00 p.m.	In His Grip	Commons
Monday	9:00 p.m.	Praise and Worship Band Practice	Chapel
Tuesday	8:00 p.m.	Fellowship of Christian Athletics	Alumni

## Special Worship Opportunities

**Sacrament of Holy Communion**  
Offered 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday following the conclusion of Chapel Service

Wednesday, August 12	Faculty Worship	9:00 a.m.	Chapel
Sunday, August 16	Orientation	11:00 a.m.	Chapel
Monday, November 23	Community Thanksgiving Service and One Voice Concert	7:00 p.m.	Chapel
Sunday, December 6	Moravian Love Feast	7:00 p.m.	Chapel
Saturday, December 19	Baccalaureate	10:30 a.m.	Reeves