

What are we talking about?

Business Projects ... 2

Your Friendly Campus Ninja ... 5

Ashley Asks ... 5

Crossword ...7

Game Review Guide

... 7

Football Ends with a Win ... 8

Scoreboard ... 8

WWW.SMALLTALKMU.COM THE STUDENT VOICE OF METHODIST UNIVERSITY

Administration still promising change

Ashley Young News Editor

The administration has been promising a renovation for the Trustees Academic Building for over a month. However, the only changes students have seen so far have been minor renovations at the Public Safety Office and Nimocks Fitness Center.

Over the past weeks, maintenance build a wooden ramp from the sidewalk to the front door of the Public Safety office and painted bright yellow lines on the edges of the steps around campus. The ramp makes the Public Safety office wheelchair accessible for the first time and the painted steps are easier for the visually impaired to navigate.

"The changes made to Methodist's campus will certainly make prospective students aware that we are making an effort," said George Blanc, Vice President for Student Development and Dean of Students. "But we're still not a disabled friendly school. We are showing we care, but we may not be able to meet every disabled student's needs."

The administration has proposed to add a ramp

onto the side of Trustees facing Clark Hall. The overhang outside Trustees' doors would also be extended and automatic doors would be installed.

These changes would make it much easier for disabled students to get into Trustees from the Clark Hall parking lot and would protect them during storms while waiting for the automatic doors to open.

"These are projects which are needed to be done to support students who need these changes," said Gene Clayton, vice president for Business Affairs.

Estimates put the cost of the ramp at \$110,000. Members of the Board of Trustees and administrators decided it would be more cost effective to add an elevator onto the south side of Trustees.

Clayton is working with architects and contractors to get an estimate for an elevator. The ballpark figure is about \$250,000, but the administration will have a better estimate when the building plans are completed.

continued on page 2 CHANGES



The new ramp makes the Public Safety office more accessible to those with wheelchairs and crutches.

Art by Aryn Hicks.

Strategic plan a roadmap for the next five years

Ashley Young News Editor

After six months of hard work and a lot of meetings, the new strategic plan has been completed and approved by the Methodist University Board of Trustees. Though this is important to the university, many students were out of the loop.

"What's the Strategic Plan? I've never heard anything about it," said Katie Johnson, a junior biology major. "They need to publicize the plan more."

Using the information gathered from two campus-wide analysis sessions held in April 2009, the members of the strategic plan-

ning committee have identified six university goals.

The goals involve establishing a culture of excellence; increasing revenues; increasing enrollment and retention; new and improved facilities; upgrading the university's technological capabilities; and fostering global citizenship among the students, faculty, and staff.

Each goal has a practical application. For example, the members of the strategic planning committee hope that introducing new programs, like the new Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree, will contribute to the enrollment goal. The goal is to enhance the academic profile of the freshman class, and increase retention by three percent per year. Other new programs are

also under consideration to contribute to this goal.

The technology goal addresses academic and administrative technology. Methodist is attempting to secure a Title Three grant that would fund all offices to become networked.

Delmas Crisp, committee char of the strategic planning committee for 2010-2015, said that the strategic plan was like a map the university plans to follow to make sure it stays within its goals for the next five years. He went on to say that just because there have been plans made, does not mean those plans will not be altered along the way.

continued on page 3 STRATEGIC PLAN



Editor-in-Chief Alicia Secord

News Editor Ashley Young

Opinions Editor Jessie Heath

Entertainment Editor Aryn Hicks

> **Graphics Editor** Skyler Champ

> > Web Staff

Matt Beitzel Matt Decker Tiffany Jones

Staff Writers

Austin Bordeaux Bernard King Deanna Piacente

Photographers Cecilia Bode Sung Kim

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smallTALK welcomes Letters to the Editor. All letters should be delivered to the Student Media office on the first floor of Bern's Student Center or sent via e-mail to 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 p.m. in the Heritage Dining Room.

Initial copies of small-TALK are free. Addicopies are 25 tional cents.

small CHANGES

begin, Renovations more changes on the horizon

from the sidewalk on the West Hall side.

be put in, eventually, by maintenance.

The grass by the Center for Personal Development

For more than ten years,

the Methodist administration

and faculty have been dis-

cussing small scale changes

would make it friendlier to

disabled people. Parts of

Methodist's campus are over

60 years old and were built

long before things like the

Americans with Disabilities

has been spray painted with white lines where a

sidewalk could go. Clayton says the sidewalk will

continued from page 1

The overhang outside the doors of Trustees on the north and south ends will be turned into an extended canopy to protect students in inclement weather and automatic doors will still be added.

The money for these projects will come from

Other changes that were suggested include: the

the Capital Improvement Budget which currently

stands at \$125,000. It is unclear where the rest of

fire doors on the inside of Trustees should open

with the push of a button or automatically, that

the ramp inside of Reeve's Auditorium should be

flatter, and that there should be a sidewalk to the

Center for Personal Development in Pearce Hall

The fire doors on the inside of Trustees will be attached magalarm so that they will stay open most close in the case of a fire. These changes are estimated to cost

the funds will come from.

We're still not a disabled friendly netically to the fire school. We are showing we care, to Methodist's campus that but we may not be able to meet

> Act were made. Suggestions by members of the Methodist community made it clear to the administration that changes were necessary.

The small scale changes have been done by maintenance, but bigger changes, such as installing an elevator in Trustees, require a professional architect. The architect that Clayton is currently working with is Eric Lindstrom, from SFLA

of the time, but will every disabled student's needs.

- Dean of Students George Blanc

Bragg puts limits on Palin visit

Martha Quillin The News & Observer Raleigh, N.C. (MCT)

Sarah Palin kicked off her book tour in Michigan this week, and thousands gathered outside a Barnes & Noble chanting her name, giving the event the feel of a political pep rally. The Army wants Palin's appearance at Fort Bragg on Monday to be much

The base has asked Palin not to make a speech at a public book-signing at the base exchange; she also will not write personal notes, pose for photographs or sign anything besides her new memoir, "Going Rogue: An American Life." Fort Bragg also wanted to bar reporters from the event.

Garrison Commander Col. Stephen J. Sicinski determined that by keeping out the media, the base would prevent Palin, a Republican and possible candidate in 2012, from having a platform from which to attack President Barack Obama, a Democrat.

Fort Bragg, nor any other Army installation, cannot be used or appear to be used as endorsing criticism of the commander in chief," said base spokesman Thomas D. McCollum. "Because this book signing is turning into a political platform with the addition of media coverage, we are restricting the media coverage.'

But late Thursday, after news outlets complained to the Pentagon, the base changed course, saying a limited number of reporters could cover the event if they shared their material with those kept out. No limit was set on the number of people from the public who could attend the two-hour session at the base exchange.

Lines are expected to be long. Media lawyer Hugh Stevens, who has represented The News & Observer, said it will be a political event whether the media are there or not, and he questioned the wisdom of allowing it to happen on a military base when there are bookstores and other venues in nearby Fayetteville that would be more appropriate settings

"This is innately, inherently and inevitably political," Stevens said. "If you're going to allow a politician and public figure who goes around clothed in this much controversy and notoriety to use your base as a platform, then you've got to let in the people they're not letting in to see what goes on



Sarah Palin autographs her new book, "Going Rogue" at the Barnes and Noble in Kentwood, Michigan. Courtesy of

Upcoming Events

Campus

Nov. 30 - All Day

Cumberland All-County Band Concert Methodist University will host local high school and middle school musicians for the annual All-County Band Concert. The students will perform a free concert at the end of the day.

Reeves Auditorium

Dec. 11 - 7:30 p.m.

Fayetteville Symphonic Band Concert Members of the Fayetteville and Methodist communities will come together to perform holiday music. Admission is free.

Reeves Auditorium

smallTALK reports the events that do not appear in the SAC 2009 semester calendar. More events can be found in the SAC calendar or on the university website at www.methodist.edu.

Town

Nov. 27 - 1 p.m.

A Dickens Holiday

The Fourth Friday celebration sponsored by the Favetteville Arts Council. Actors will dress as the characters of Charles Dickens' "A Christmas Carol." There will also be food vendors, fireworks, and Christmas carolers.

Downtown Fayetteville

Dec. 12 - 11 a.m.

Fayetteville Christmas Parade The town of Favetteville will celebrate Christmas with their annual parade. The parade will feature floats, area activist groups, and the Methodist University Marching Monarchs. Downtown Fayetteville

There are many more events happening around Fayetteville for all interests. The Fayetteville Visitors' Bureau lists a community calendar which can be found at www.visitfayettevillenc.com.

THANKSGIVING COMMUNITY FEAST



TONIGHT: 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. (\$6.00 For Those Without A Plan)

Come join us in the Green & Gold Cafeteria for dinner and fellowship with the Methodist community. Dinner will be a Thanksgiving Feast. Join us at Hensdale Chapel for worship service at 7:00 p.m.







Deadline for submissions: 27 January 2010

For information email mbaggett@methodist.edu

STRATEGIC PLAN A map for the future

continued from page 1

In the meetings last April, alumni and students brainstormed the Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, and Threats (SWOT) that may face the Methodist community within the next five years.

The SWOT sessions included evaluating the increased competition in programs like the Professional Golf Management (PGM), financial constraints, and the tuition rate at Methodist compared to other schools. Students were invited to attend these meetings through their student e-mail accounts last spring.

Likewise, when the plan was adopted, the news was posted on the university site and was e-mailed to students through their university accounts.

"I didn't know anything about it," said Stuart Villegas, a freshman chemistry major. "What is it?"

The main goal of the plan is comprehensive. The document states, "Methodist University will be a top-choice, comprehensive university that attracts and retains a capable and diverse student body by pro-

viding relevant traditional and professional academic programs and an overall culture of excellence through highly qualified and motivated faculty and staff in an engaging, enriching, and empowering environment."

The committee to form the new strategic plan consisted of four faculty members, administrators, two members of the Board of Trustees, and one student, Taron Stubbs. Crisp was appointed chair for the committee in April.

Approximately 85 percent of the goals from the previous strategic plan, which will end June 2010, have been accomplished. The previous plan took 21 months to complete.

"We still have eight months left so maybe more of those goals will happen," said Crisp.

The 2010-2015 plan is the fifth to be adopted by Methodist. Planning committees have been met every five years since 1990 to establish goals for the university.

The rest of the information for the 2010-2015 Strategic Plan can be found on the Methodist website under "more news" and "University news" at http://www.methodist.edu/home/news.shtml.

Students to present on business policy

Jessie Heath Opinions Editor

Methodist University's Business 470 students added last minute touches over the weekend as they prepared for the upcoming project presentations.

Dr. Michael Wayland's Business Policy (BUS 470) class will begin presenting their semester-long projects starting tomorrow. The project presentations will be held at 2 p.m. in the Yarborough Auditorium in Clark Hall.

"This would be a great opportunity for

the business students that have yet to take Business 470, since this class and presentation are a requirement," said Thomas Tollevsen, a member of the Business Policy class.

Business Policy is a required course for students graduating in business at Methodist. All students, faculty, and staff are invited to the presentations.

The topics and dates are:

Nov. 24: Pepsi Dec. 1: Disney

Dec. 3: Sprint
Dec. 8: Google

DID YOU KNOW THAT...



The Green and Gold Cafeteria will close after lunch tomorrow and will reopen Sunday at dinner.

Monarchs Share Their Deep, Dark Secrets

Aryn Hicks Entertainment Editor

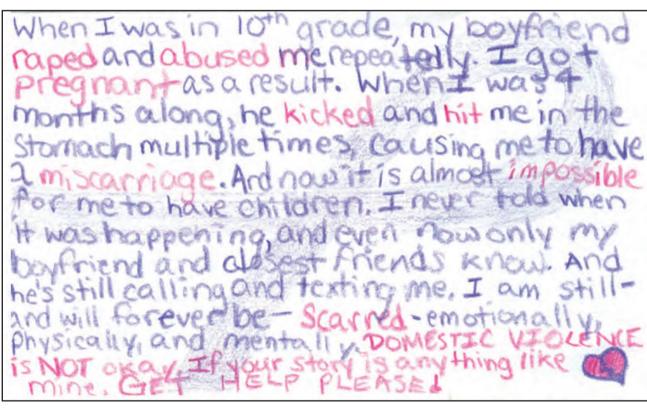
Secrets, Secrets are no fun, unless they're shared with everyone.

During the month of October, Student Media placed note cards across campus in efforts to recreate a Monarch Post Secrets page for the final issue of smallTalk for the semester. Students were encouraged to illustrate secrets and submit them in them in the Berns Student Center.

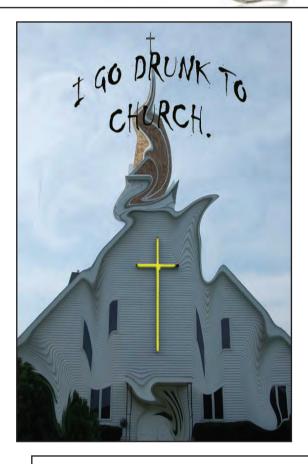
In November, the smallTalk staff selected the most interesting and best illustrated post cards to be published.

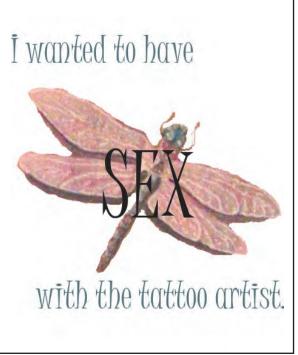
Frank Warren created Post Secrets in 2005, as a way for people to anonymously submit their secrets that they have never revealed. Within the first two years of founding Post Secrets, there were over 2,000 secrets submitted. Secret were submitted on illustrated post cards and later posted to the website.

I slept with my Best Friend's then Ex-boyfriend out of revenge. He told me I was better... and she doesn't know. I'm still her Maid of Honor!







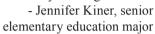


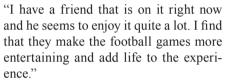
Opinion

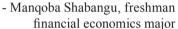
Ashley Asks: Now that the season is over,

what did you think of the new Marchina Monarchs?

"I think it's a really great start. I know they only started this year. I do hear them practicing a lot, which I guess would be good for school spirit. I haven't seen them perform, but I would like to see them because they sound good."







"I wish I was able to see them on TV or something. I want to see MU out there. When I talk to my friends about MU they would know a face that goes with it."

- Tameka Jeffries, junior justice studies major







Ninja suggests rational approaches to bike feud

Riding my bike around campus is my one passion in life. My bike, Sasha, is a priceless tintura roadmaster from Japan (1981).

At first, everything was going great for me. People would comment on my bright orange duct tape seat and give me high fives as I rode to class. I felt like I was somebody and not just another face on campus.

Then, I started noticing things. At first, it small things, like a flat tire or dog crap on my handle bars. But then the attacks became more malicious. Last week my brake line was cut, and just recently, I found Sasha fully submerged in the campus fountain.

This has got to stop before it escalates any further. I come to you humbly and ask, how would a Ninja deal with this scoundrel? This BIKE TERRORIST? Personally, I would love to find this guy and really make him pay for what he has done to me and to Sasha!

From, Bike Lover

Dear Bike Lover,

Before I give you advice on what to do, I would just like to tell you that your bike sounds flippin' sweet man. Any ninja would be proud to ride on one of those marvelous machines into the heat of battle or the night. Now, onto your problem with this rapscallion that is harming your precious Sasha.

The first thing to do is make sure Sasha is perfectly safe when you leave her. Lock her to something, preferably something out of the sight of popular walking routes. Attacks should stop, or at least slow down.

If not I think you should embrace the rage that flows through you and make it your own. Swear a vendetta against whomever it might be who is harming your bike and hunt them to the ends of the earth. Once you find him

or her, ask politely for an apology and be on your way.

Dear ninja, My buddy has this stupid bike with an orange seat. Lately, I have been putting it in the fountain to send him a message. He just fished the stupid thing out again. What would a ninja do to a bike to send a more effective message to its owner? I was thinking of taking off his seat and holding it for ransom. Please help, I need some ninja ideas.

Orange Bike-Seat Hater



Friendly Campus Ninja

If you would like to query the ninja, send vour question to smalltalkmu@yahoo.com.

Dear Bike Hater,

Hahaha! I agree with you, that bike just sounds absurdly stupid. A ninja would never be seen riding a lame two wheeled mechanism such as that for fear that he would be eternally shamed.

As for what a ninja would do to a bike to send a message he would hook it up with some crazy electronics to control it remotely. Then, buy a nice gift basket with smoked salmon and fancy chocolates, like the ones in the mall from Hickory Farms around Christmas time. Write the message on the card that comes with the basket.

Using the rigged bike, balance the basket on the seat, remotely drive it up to the recipient's door and ring the doorbell. Once the message has been delivered, disappear from sight.

Word of warning: leave the bike seat on the bike because the basket is balanced on the seat.

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Campus Ministry Calendar fall 2009







10:30 a.m. Reeves

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.		Chapel
Wednesday	8:00 n m	Worship Service 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

Saturday, December 19 Baccalaureate

Offered 1st Wednesday following the conclusion of Chapel Service

Wednesday, August 12 Faculty Worship 9:00 a.m. Chapel 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

Entertainment

Non-gamer's guide to game reviews

Austin Bordeaux Staff Writer

It has been brought to my attention that many people don't know some of the terminology that has been used in my game reviews over the past few years. Here is a glossary of gaming terms that are often present in my reviews.

Anime: Japanese style of animation abbreviated as anime. This can include anything from cartoons intended for young children to more mature styles of animation intended for an adult audience. In video games, this style in most evident in Role Playing Games (RPGs).

Abilities: Used in a variety of games, they are actions that can be taken to bring about a different, usually more powerful, result than default moves allowed by the character.

Boss: In many video games, each stage ends with an encounter with a creature or robot that is typically much larger and tougher than the normal enemies.

Combo: In one-on-one fighting games, this is a string of moves that can be executed in rapid succession.

Cut-Scenes: Short intermissions, typically presented between stages, to convey a storyline. These can be live or computergenerated videos clips, and are usually non-interactive.

First-Person: A point of view which allows you to see the action through your characters eyes.

FPS: First Person Shooter game.

Grinding: Fighting enemies repeatedly, over and over, to slowly become stronger. Normally a tactic used in RPGs to overcome a particularly tough boss.

J-: The prefix J- indicates it is of Japanese nature, normally having anime style graphics.

Micro-management: Controlling and maintaining the various aspects of individual characters or units in a video game.



Art by Aryn Hicks.

NPC: Short for Non Player Character, these are any characters in a game that are controlled by the game itself.

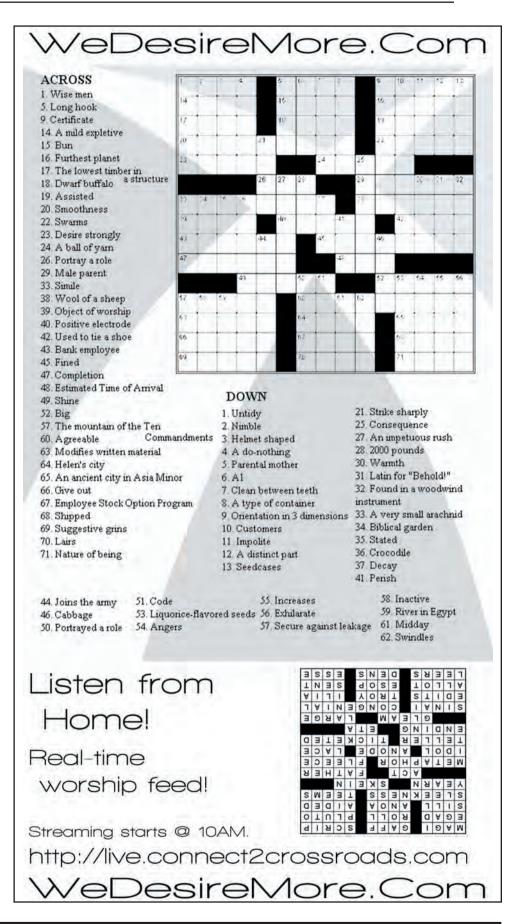
Power-Up: An item that gives you special abilities or makes you more powerful. Power-ups usually only last for a limited time

Real-Time: Normally used to describe combat sequences, the action does not stop to allow you to enter commands. This is the opposite of "turn-based".

Role-Playing Game (RPG): Lengthy, slow moving game with elaborate storylines that involve going on a quest and developing one or more characters on the way.

Third-Person: A point of view that lets you see the character you are controlling. The opposite of first-person.

Turn-based: Normally used to describe combat sequences in RPGs, this pauses the action to allow the user to enter commands between attacks.



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

WWW.SMALLTALKMU.COM

Sports

ONARCH C COREBOARD

GAME RESULTS

Football		
Date	Opponent	Result
11-07	Greensboro College	L 20-42
11-14Chris	stopher Newport University	W 10-9

	Men's Soccer	
Date	Opponent	Result
11-03	Shenandoah University	W 4-1
11-06	NC Wesleyan College	L 1-2

Women's Soccer		
Date	Opponent	Result
11-03	Shenandoah University	T 1-1 2OT
11-06	Meredith College	W 2-1
11-07	Christopher Newport University	L 1-2

	Volleyball	
Date	Opponent	Result
11-06	Christopher Newport University`	L 0-3

	Men's Basketball	
Date	Opponent	Result
11-15	Maryville College	L 52-94
11-17	Guilford College	L 72-91

	Women's Basketball	
Date	Opponent	Result
11-15	Maryville College	L 54-66

HOME GAMES

Date	Opponent	Time
11-28	Peidmont College Women's Basketball	2 p.m.
Date	Opponent	Time
11-27	Newport News Apprentice School	7 p.m.

Monarchs close football season with stunning win

Bernard King Staff Writer

With a senior's last game, the word "win" seems to come to mind. That is how it turned out for the Monarchs as they beat the Christopher Newport University (CNU) Captains.

It was a great day to be a senior as the Monarchs played on November 14. It all started with a kickoff from CNU to the Monarchs. The crowd was intensely into the game as they knew it was the last game of the season.

the ball down the field on Photo by Aryn Hicks. their first possession. They

had a total of four first downs, but were not able to capitalize on that drive due to a lost fumble.

Then it was the Captains turn to try to score, but they could not because of penalty calls and the Monarchs were playing serious defense. Both teams played defensively but both were scoreless at the end of the first quarter.

As the second quarter began, the Captains had possession of the football, but quickly gained a few penalties. CNU fans were outraged and starting "booing" loudly.

The Captains punted the ball to Methodist and the Monarchs drove the ball down the field, but did not score.

The Captains regained possession and scored the



Cheerleaders cheer on senior football players in eating contest at Friday's pep rally. Photo by Aryn Hicks



Methodist was able to drive Monarchs Chris Peoples runs past Christopher Newport's defenders.

first points of the game. They led the Monarchs 3-0 going into halftime.

At the start of the second half, Methodist kept their expectations high. Their high expectations showed as they scored in the third quarter to lead 7-3 with ten minutes and 41 seconds remaining on the clock. By the end of the third quarter, the Monarchs led the Captains 7-3. Methodist had possession at the start of the fourth quarter, and they scored again by a 39 yard field goal kick by Tyler Mosko.

CNU scored in the fourth quarter with two minutes and twenty-two seconds left on the clock. They were not able to tie the game as defensive end Anthony Cassone blocked their attempted field

> goal, and the Monarchs pulled off a heartwarming win of 10-9.

"I played with my whole heart for the last time," said Cassone, a senior defensive end. "I am glad we won the game, but I am sad that I am leaving the program."

The players and coaches were excited, and added their input advice for future

"We were just trying to win it for the seniors and build up for next year," said Tyrone Jones, defensive backs coach. It is always bitter sweet sending the seniors off with a win, and it is great against CNU."

With a large crowd at the last home game the graduating seniors received a warm farewell.