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# smallTALK

WWW.SMALLTALKMU.COM

THE STUDENT VOICE OF METHODIST UNIVERSITY

## Hendricks to retire after 27 years at MU

Ashley Young  
News Editor

After 27 years of faithful service as President of Methodist University, Dr. M. Elton Hendricks made the announcement that he would be retiring in July. He made the announcement during a Board of Trustees Executive Committee meeting on Jan. 7.

"When you reach 65 or 70 you begin to think about [retirement]," said Hendricks, who is 74. "I've been seriously considering it for a year."

Three years ago, Hendricks was asked by the Board of Trustees if he would stay through the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS) reaccreditation process, which is performed every ten years. Hendricks agreed to delay his retirement because he did not want to leave a lot of work for the next president to sort out. Last March, it became clear to Hendricks that Methodist would be reaccredited, and he began making plans for retirement.

The Board of Trustees will have the responsibility of choosing a new president and a faculty member will more than likely be elected to the board for this process. A search firm will be created which will help structure the election process by reading through applications sent in. While there is a chance that a Methodist faculty member may be elected, the Board of Trustees has gone outside the college for the three previous presidents.

Hendricks said that Methodist needs a president who can create programs, make financial campaigns and accomplish other changes that will require longer duration than is appropriate at his age. Innovations and other changes at Methodist can take up to five years to be completed entirely, and



President Hendricks and his wife, Jerry pose for a photo at a ceremonial luncheon to commemorate his 25 years of service to the university. Photo by Roxana Ross.

the university needs a president who is going to be here for those changes. Hendricks felt he was not in the stage of life where he could plan five years ahead

continued on page 5  
HENDRICKS

## Methodist chemicals found in drug arrest

Alicia Secord  
Editor-in-Chief

When most students were leaving for Christmas vacation, two Methodist University students were being arrested in Monroe, N.C for drug possession. During the search of their car, various chemicals (which could be used as explosives or components of a mobile methamphetamine lab) were found in their trunk.

Senior Associate Dean of Students William Walker confirmed that some of the chemicals had come from the Methodist University inventory. Some of the chemicals were not from Methodist, and their origins are not known by the university.

According to an article in the Enquirer Journal, [names omitted by Methodist administration] were pulled over for driving 90 mph in a 35 mph zone. Their car was subsequently searched, and the Union County Sheriff's Department discovered marijuana, cocaine, drug paraphernalia, and a stun gun. In the trunk, the deputy also found liquid and powder chemicals. The article reported that "the police believed the chemicals to be components of a methamphetamine lab."

The students involved declined an interview.

"Both students have been suspended indefinitely," said Walker. "Until this gets cleared up, they are no longer considered students here."

Dean of Students George Blanc requested that the names be kept out of the paper.

continued on page 5  
CHEMICALS

What are we talking about?

Textbook Tantrums ... 2

SGA Update ... 3

Your Friendly Campus Ninja ... 7

crossTALK ... 8

Crossword ... 9

Movie Review ... 9

Game Review ... 10

Scoreboard ... 11



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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](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 p.m. in the Heritage Dining Room.

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

## Students throw textbook tantrums

*Deanna Piacente*  
Staff Writer

With an ever-rising tuition, and a suffering economy, the one place students cannot expect to find a stimulus-driven financial break is textbooks.

At Methodist University, the business office typically assumes a student desires a "bookslip" (money allotted to use on books and other products from the university bookstore) of between \$400 to \$1000. The exact amount is to be determined by the student, and is added to the student's financial account, where tuition and other fees are also charged.

For students whose account is paid gradually in installments, or those who receive scholarships to cover books and other expenses, the bookslip process in itself can be a blessing..

However, for students who have a remaining tuition balance on their account and have to pay out of pocket for things such as meal plans and bookslips, the process is not only costly, but downright inefficient.

The bookslips basically mandate where students can purchase their books. The money on an account can only be spent in the on-campus bookstore, instead of more cost-effective book vendors



Graphic by Skyler Champ

such as Amazon.com, Ed McKay, or even Chegg.com, where students can now rent textbooks for a semester or a year. According to Chegg's site, they've saved students over \$117 million off the list price of new textbooks. The books are sent within days over UPS, and can be returned for free after the rental period expires. Not to mention all books come with a 30-day full-refund guarantee, something the university bookstore does not offer to students who have dropped courses after purchasing their textbooks.

After polling 35 random students, it was found that the average student is only purchasing three to four books from the bookstore, and have resorted to sharing and/or borrowing other required books from friends.

Students who were able to utilize external vendors spent only an average of \$267 and reportedly purchased all required texts, an average of about six books per student.

"I feel bad for my mom," said Brian Barrows, a senior PGM student. "I only bought one book this semester to save her some money."

So how much money are students actually spending at the bookstore? This semester, students seem to be cutting back on their book buying with an average of \$445, down from \$627 last semester.

"Publishers are trying to make books to be used for classes that are spread over two terms," said Larry Smith, the university bookstore manager. "They say the price of paper keeps going up, so the books are more expensive, but they don't offer just the online content for a fair price. It's not fair to students."

Smith also says that professors who constantly change and upgrade the edition of the required class texts make it impossible for students to sell back the books for any sort of a profit, even at online and off-campus vendors.

In an attempt to assist students in saving money on texts, Smith offers students a large inventory binder, where they can look up the required text for each course, record the ISBN number, and search for it at a lower price... that is, if they are not stuck using a university bookslip.

## Cook Out is a regional classic

*Austin Bordeaux*  
Staff Writer

I visited the new Cook Out on Ramsey Street which is down to the left from Methodist's campus. I had to wait about five minutes to place my order, which allowed me time to study Cook Out's menu. One of the most interesting things on the menu, I felt, is the creative Cook Out "Fancy Milkshakes," which come in 46 flavors, including cheesecake, chocolate chip, and banana berry.

I ordered a "Cook Out tray," which is their version of a combo. I chose a Big Double Burger as my entrée, with fries and a corndog as my side dishes. I got a fountain drink and a piece of cheesecake for dessert. My food was ready within five minutes and the total was \$8, which was quite a good deal for the amount of food I got.

I sat at a small booth to enjoy my food. When I realized that I did not have anything to drink I went over to the soda fountain and surprisingly found Cheerwine. Delighted at this, I filled up my cup and sat

down to my food again. It was hot, delicious, and better quality than most fast food restaurants. The food was so hot that I had to wait to eat it so I would not burn my mouth.

When I finished, I went to the restroom to determine its cleanliness, and was happy to see that it was almost spotless. Because the restaurant is very new, the cleanliness may change overtime, but hopefully not. I spoke with the manager, on the way out, and he seemed quite friendly. He told me to "Have a good day and come again soon."

Altogether, I had one of the best fast food meals that I've ever had at Cook Out. The quality of the food seemed much higher than it would have been at a different fast food restaurant. The cleanliness of the restaurant as a whole was very high, and the management was friendly even though the cashier that waited on me was not. I highly recommend the restaurant to anyone who enjoys fast food.



The newest Cook Out is located at 430 Ramsey Street.

Photo By Sung Kim.

## Upcoming Around Campus

**Jan. 29 - 8 p.m.**

N.C. Symphony Concert

The show is titled "A Night in Old (and New) Vienna" featuring pieces by Shubert, Korngold, Strauss; and led by Resident Conductor William Henry Curry. Tickets on sale now.

*Reeves Auditorium*

**Jan. 30 - 3 p.m.**

N.C. Southeastern All-District Band Festival Concert

Led by Mike Robinson and Al Strickland, elite high-school students from around the region will perform a variety of band literature. The concert is free and open to the public.

*Reeves Auditorium*

**Feb. 1 - 11 a.m.**

Spring Convocation

A welcoming back for all current and new Methodist students, the Convocation will feature the MU Jazz Band, MU Gospel Choir, and the MU Faculty Jazz Combo in honor of Black History Month. Go and support your fellow students and enjoy some good music.

*Reeves Auditorium*

**Feb. 2 - 8 p.m.**

Miss Methodist Pageant

The Methodist Ladies will be participating in a Pageant to determine who is the best example of a Methodist student. Come out and vote for your favorite and enjoy the show.

*Reeves Auditorium*

**Feb. 5 - 7:30 p.m.**

First Friday Concert

Local musicians Ray and Reggie Codrington will be performing at Methodist as a part of the Friends of Music Series. They will be performing jazz standards for the music department and anyone who has a love for jazz music. Please come and support some of the best local musicians we have to offer. A master class that is open to the public will be given on Feb 8 at 11 a.m. in the Hensdale Chapel.

*Hensdale Chapel*

*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](http://www.methodist.edu).*

## Events

### On the Town

#### Jan. 26 - 8 p.m.

Paul Anka  
The Canadian singer, songwriter and actor is famous for hit songs, "Diana," "Lonely Boy," and "Put Your Head on My Shoulder."  
*Crown Coliseum*

#### Jan. 28- Feb. 21 - 7:30 p.m.

Peter Pan  
Peter Pan, like its namesake, is a tale which never ages. The local actors of the Cape Fear Regional Theatre will present their rendition of J. M. Barrie's timeless classic.  
*Cape Fear Regional Theatre*

#### Jan. 28 - 7 p.m.

9th Annual Civil War Quiz Bowl  
Contestants will test their knowledge of trivia, tactics and history as they are assailed with assorted categories, covering all aspects of the War Between the States.  
*Museum of the Cape Fear Historical Complex*

#### Jan. 31 - 1 p.m.

Antebellum Arsenal: An 1840's Living History Event.  
Was there life at the Fayetteville Arsenal before the Civil War? The answer is yes!  
*Museum of the Cape Fear Historical Complex*

#### Feb. 5 - 7:30 p.m.

Jason Aldean w/ Luke Bryan  
Country singer Jason Aldean is known for his gold certified single "Big Green Tractor." It was the number one single on the Billboard Hot Country Songs Chart of four straight weeks.  
*Crown Coliseum*

#### Feb. 6 - 3 p.m.

Tyler Perry Medea's "One Big Happy Family"  
Perry based his popular Medea character on his mother, who died recently at the age of 64.  
*Crown Coliseum*

*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](http://www.visitfayettevillenc.com).*

# Updates on student government

*Ashley Young  
News Editor*

The Student Government Association (SGA) has chosen three areas of focus for the upcoming semester: giving significant funding to three large groups on campus, hosting two blood drives, and requesting a format change for diplomas.

According to SGA Treasurer Jeff Headman, Campus Ministries, Greek Life and the Student Activities Committee (SAC) have been granted \$1,500 each to host events throughout the current semester. This money has come from the SGA's operation funds, and will not affect the available grant funding for other clubs.

"They've been a big help with the expansion effort," said James Barr, president of Lambda Chi Alpha. "The money for Greek Life will help us promote the campus in a positive way and improve retention by giving students ways to get involved."

According to Thomas Hutton, SGA president, SGA will host two blood drives. They will take place in February and April. The

blood drives will be done by the Cape Fear Valley Blood Bank. The donated blood is used at Cape Fear Valley Medical Center for surgeries and emergencies.

Recently, the idea of adding a student's major to his or her graduating diploma was suggested by Anna Gore, a senior, and SGA plans to pursue that idea.

In the fall semester, SGA sponsored Homecoming and several community service events, like the Jesse Woodcutting. The group also set up a Blackboard site for students and suggested the four-day schedule.

Since the suggestion of a four-day schedule the idea has been evaluated by SGA through mixed responses from students and the four days a week schedule will not happen in coming semesters.

SGA recently sent an email to students announcing that "there are currently seven open senate positions due to graduation and other losses."

All students have been invited to apply for one of these positions by following the instructions under the "My Announcements" section on Blackboard. The forms must be turned in by 5 p.m. on Tuesday to be considered. If there are more than seven applicants, elections will be held.

SGA meets every Wed. at 6 p.m. Students should check Blackboard each week for the meeting's location. Hutton says he is available to talk or email to anyone that would like to. His e-mail is [thutton@student.methodist.edu](mailto:thutton@student.methodist.edu).



The SGA advisor and executive board pose for a picture after one of their weekly meetings.  
Photo by Roxana Ross.

# Luau tries to make cafeteria fun

*Cecilia Bode  
Photographer*

Sodexo will sponsor various events to make eating in the cafeteria fun for students. Jan. 14, the Green and Gold Café hosted a luau.

Sodexo staff served Hawaiian style food and fruit smoothies. Luau decorations completed the theme of the evening. There was also live music, including a guitar duo and a Congo drummer.

The work on the stairwell nearby confused many students on where to enter, but once inside they were greeted with warm smiles and a free lei from employees.

Students also had the chance to stand behind a board and take a picture as beach goers.



Above: Brandon Davis, Anthony Liuzza, and a visiting musician play beach music for diners.

Left: Kaitlyn Leger poses with her fruit smoothie in the Green and Gold Café.

Photos by Cecilia Bode.



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Evacuated patients sit outside a hospital ward that was evacuated following a strong earthquake aftershock rocked Port-au-Prince, Haiti, Wednesday. Courtesy of MCT.

## Aftershock rattles Haiti: Relief workers continue to send supplies

*Joel Marino, Rachel Hatzipanagos and  
Sofia Santana  
Sun Sentinel, Fort Lauderdale, Fla.  
(MCT)*

A powerful aftershock rattled Haiti's capital again Wednesday morning, as relief workers continue to send supplies into the devastated country.

The magnitude-6.1 temblor was the largest aftershock yet to the apocalyptic Jan. 12 quake that shattered Haiti's capital. It was not immediately clear if it caused additional damage or injuries.

A team of about 80 firefighters and other first-responders from Broward and Palm Beach Counties who have been helping with rescue efforts in Port-au-Prince were at their base camp when the tremor struck. None were injured.

"We heard from our team, and they're all OK," Mike Jachles, spokesman for Broward Sheriff Fire Rescue, said Wednesday morning.

The team, though, entering its sixth day of the intensive search for survivors, is working through fatigue and exhaustion. There is also anguish over the people they could not reach in time.

"They've had some successful rescues, but they've also lost communication with some victims and had to move on," Broward Sheriff Fire Rescue Capt. Mike Nugent said Tuesday.

As Haiti responds to the latest quake, relief flights are continuing to leave from South Florida.

A cargo plane left the Homestead Air Force Base early Wednesday morning and another is scheduled to fly out to Haiti sometime today. The Air Force plans to deliver 50,000 hand-held emergency radios to survivors this week. The radios are solar-powered and hand cranked.

In Fort Lauderdale Wednesday morning, a group of doctors and nurses from New York hoping to lend a hand were stranded at the airport. The plane that should have taken the crew to Haiti on Tuesday had to undergo repairs.

"It's just frustrating that we're left here without any idea when we'll be flying out, just waiting, when we're all so eager to be there helping," said Patricia Nicholas, a doctor from Long Island.

The rest of the group, nearly all Haitian-Americans with family in Haiti, stayed at a nearby hotel and a few workers stayed behind to guard the 60 boxes of medical supplies they had brought with them.

As supplies leave the area, an estimated 4,536 people have been evacuated to Florida so far, with 119 of them going to hospitals spread out between Jupiter and Key West, said Chuck Lanza, director of the Broward County Emergency Management Division.

The airlift was nothing short of chaotic in the first few days after the earthquake, but it has gradually grown more organized, Lanza said.

"In the first couple days, we would get 15 minutes' notice" that a plane was arriving with critically injured people, Lanza said. "In some cases, we didn't know until they were on the ground. There wasn't even an ambulance there for them."

"We've got it arranged so we're getting one or two hours' notice now, and that's a big help," Lanza said. "It's getting smoother by the day, but much busier by the day."

The majority of the evacuees have been citizens of the U.S. and other countries who are either unhurt or slightly injured. Some initially were brought by the Coast Guard to the Guantanamo naval base in Cuba, then to Florida, officials said.

Those being returned to the U.S. or other countries have been funneled through Homestead Air Reserve Base and Orlando Sanford International Airport, which have been designated by federal and state officials as staging areas in disasters because they have strong U.S. Customs operations, Lanza said.

Victims with serious injuries and illnesses have been evacuated mostly through Homestead and Fort Lauderdale Executive Airport, which is a base for several privately run rescue operations that are using personal and corporate aircraft, Lanza said.

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All of the teas selected are 100% USDA Organic certified and six of the range are Fairtrade certified with the remaining two being ethically sourced. Here is a list of our teas:

Breakfast Blend	Jasmine Green
Moroccan Mint	Berry Black
Aged Earl Grey	Gunpowder Green
Orange Spice White	Rooibos Chai

**We are now on Facebook!**

Anyone can go to the Methodist dining webpage at <http://www.methodistdining.com> and click on the facebook icon. Check out upcoming and past events in the Green and Gold.

Jan.-Feb. we will be introducing **Food For Love - Love For Food**, a celebration of Sodexo's main attraction... FOOD! But there is a lot more to this promotion, as it covers "love" for many of the important things in our lives, some of which can be easily overlooked. When this promotion comes to a conclusion, students, faculty, staff, and guests should take away new perspectives and useful information that will help them live a life full of love.

We are introducing a new **dollar menu** up at the Lions Den. Students, faculty and staff will be able to purchase a mini chicken wrap, chicken nuggets, a burger, value fries, or a fountain drink for \$1.

## HENDRICKS: Hendricks will retire in July after 27 years at Methodist.

*continued from page 1*

and he needed to take life one year at a time.

"Dr. Hendricks has played an important role in turning this small college into a great University. His shoes will never be filled," said Jade Lister, sophomore, and biology major.

Methodist is a much different place than it was 27 years ago when Hendricks became president: Enrollment has nearly tripled, there are more physical facilities and the staff is five times larger.

"I feel it's going to be a big change to the school. He brought a lot of good changes to the school," said Matt Novozisky, sophomore and business golf management major. "It's going to be very hard to step into his shoes. I'm excited for the new president."

Hendricks and his wife, Jerry, purchased a home in Fayetteville a few years ago and will move there once he retires. From there, Hendricks hopes to more actively pursue being a ham radio operator, his hobby for the last 60 years. He will also be available to serve as a minister or teacher if his talents are needed throughout Fayetteville.

What Hendricks will miss most about Methodist is time spent with students, staff, and faculty, along with problems to work on.

"He seems like a guy I could get along with, maybe a mentor figure, and he seems like a nice guy," said Jean Ocasio,



Dr. M. Elton Hendricks, President of Methodist University  
Photo by Ashley Young

freshman, and biology physical therapy major.

What Hendricks will miss least as an administrator, however, is saying, 'No,' to good ideas because Methodist does not have the resources. Hendricks reiterated that he will greatly miss talking to students which is one of his favorite parts of the job as president of Methodist.

The new president will have different ways of handling things, and different ways of understanding what the college will be and do, according to Hendricks.

"You'll have to listen to his or her stories rather than mine," Hendricks said with a laugh.

While a lot of students seem sad about Hendricks' retirement, many are excited to see who will be chosen as the new president of Methodist University.

## CHEMICALS: Routine traffic stop yields drugs and chemicals.

*continued from page 1*

Though the students have been suspended, they have been offered a chance to return to Methodist once the situation has been cleared up.

"Both students have expressed the desire to return if they can get past the current situation," said Blanc.

In a phone interview, Charlie Ingram, a Union County crime scene investigator, said that the chemicals were tested on the scene. Ingram confirmed that a hazardous materials crew was called to assist with the sampling. However, an incident report was not available before the date of printing. Blanc said that Public Safety had an inventory of the chemicals that had been taken, however they were not available before the date of printing. The Union County Sheriff's Department was not sure whether the chemicals were intended for use in an explosive or a methamphetamine lab.

"There were some dangerous chemi-

icals present, but they were not in a high enough concentration to be used as an explosive," said Ingram.

The situation raises the question of how the students gained access to the chemicals in the first place. The Chair of Chemistry and Physical Science, Dr. Narendra Singh said that he did not know how the students had gained access. The lock on the chemical storeroom has been changed since the incident. Also, the department is considering other security measures, such as a camera or a combination lock. Previously, all science professors had access to the stockroom. Now, only the department chairs, the laboratory coordinator and the dean of science have keys.

"Other than the last two years, I have been chair since 1992," said Singh. "I don't know what happened during the last two years, but when I discovered problems after taking over again, I took action."

"We are taking rigorous steps to protect our stock, our students and our faculty."

Narendra Singh, Chair of Chemistry and Physical Science Department

When the department was notified that the chemicals had been taken, an inventory was taken of the storeroom chemicals. Singh said that the most hazardous chemicals had been secured. He added that he now checks the stockroom every morning when he gets to Methodist, and every evening before he leaves to make sure that it is not left open.

Public safety is currently conducting a vulnerability study of how chemicals are maintained and stored to identify other weaknesses. The study will be presented to Dean of Academics Delmas Crisp when it is completed. Blanc anticipates the study to take another two weeks.

"We are taking rigorous steps to protect our stock, our students and our faculty," said Singh.

At the students' Jan. 6 court dates, they were granted a continuance. The new court date is scheduled for March 16.

# SAC welcomes students back with a 4-in-1 event

*Aryn Hicks*  
Entertainment Editor

On Jan. 13, the Methodist Students Activities Committee, or SAC, hosted a joint event with the Methodist University Basketball teams to put on a Welcome Back Jam that supported both student activities and athletics. Instead of having the event outside in the cold weather, SAC held the Welcome Back Jam in the Riddle Center during the men and women's basketball games.

"Students can stay warm and have fun at the same time," said Jerricka Brown, a freshman political science major.

The Welcome back jam allowed students to have their photos taken on a green screen, which later printed out to be a photograph against a giant monopoly board. Students struck silly poses that later became even sillier photographs. Students could also make personalized street signs at the event. Between the two basketball games, over 150 students lined up for a chance to make their own sign. While waiting for their signs to be made, students could attend the basketball games. SAC members made rounds throughout the game to deliver freshly made street signs to all of the students who participated. Members of the basketball teams, cheerleading and dance teams, and pep band also had an opportunity to make signs in between performances.

"There need to be more events like this," said Chuck Stephenson, a freshman PGM major. "It enables people to go to more events at once."

The Monarch basketball teams played the Averett University Cougars in a double header. The women's basketball team started off strong and was tied 57-57 at the half. The Averett Lady Cougars narrowly defeated the Lady Monarchs, leaving the final score 61-63. The men's basketball team took an early lead, but fell 24-40 at half-time. The men's basketball team lost to the Cougars 64-85.

Although both basketball teams lost, SAC hosted Victory Dance in the Berns student center after the games. Despite the large turnout of the activities in the Riddle Center, few students attended the dance. Some of the students found it distasteful that the dance was called the Victory Dance, even though both teams lost their matches.

"It was ironic," said Betsy Aviles, a freshman biology major.

Many students picked up complementary t-shirts featuring the SACopoly logo, then left soon after. The students who stayed at the dance enjoyed dancing to the music. SAC provided free pizza to all attendees, along with the music that kept students pumped up despite two losses. The dance gave students the chance to show off their dance moves to their friends, as well as provide an environment where people could just socialize.



Above: Marc Slade leaps over an opponent to score against Averett.

Left: Shanta Brooks pumps up the crowd during a break.



Sophomores Dionna Crawford and Asia Thompson take time out to pose with their personalized street signs at the Welcome Back Jam. Photos by Aryn Hicks

Get your  
personal ad in  
the paper!

To celebrate Valentine's Day, smallTALK will reserve space in the Feb. 8 issue for personal messages. Write your message on a card (which can be found either in the Trustees Building or at the Mane Spot in the Berns). Bring your card to the smallTALK office (Room 5 in Berns), before Jan. 29 for approval.

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## Campus Ministry Calendar

spring 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

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

## Special Worship Opportunities

Sacrament of Holy Communion  
Offered 1st Wednesday following the conclusion of Chapel Service

Mar. 7-13: International Work Team (Eleuthera, Bahamas)

Mar. 30: Easter Jam

Apr. 4, 7:00 a.m.: Community Easter Sunrise Service

Apr. 14: Community Friends Association

May 15, 10:30 a.m.: Baccalaureate Service

## Questionable Queries of a Campus Ninja

Dear Ninja,

I got all kinds of things for Christmas that are so insanely awesome that I am beginning to suspect my parents may be ninjas. I received a lot of woolen socks, a cup with a ball attached by a string, and a year's supply of sardines. It was one of the happiest days of my life, second only to the time I got a tambourine for high school graduation. Oh, how I walked through the streets jingling it for hours on end! Anyway, I was wondering what you, the ninja, got for Christmas.

From,  
Awestruck Art Major

Dear Awestruck,

Seeing as my parents are ninjas all of my gifts were insanely awesome. I got a brand new ninja outfit made with sweat wicking material so I can stay dry and pleasant-smelling during those sweltering desert missions. I got a cursed ninjutsu scroll that will teach me techniques of unimaginable power once my soul is corrupt enough. I got the new comic book I was wanting and most impressive of all,

I also got a large number of Wal-Mart gift cards. Those puppies can be redeemed for all kinds of crazy, incredible things like chocolate milk, cubed cheese, towels, and windshield wiper fluid.



Friendly Campus Ninja

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

Dear Ninja,

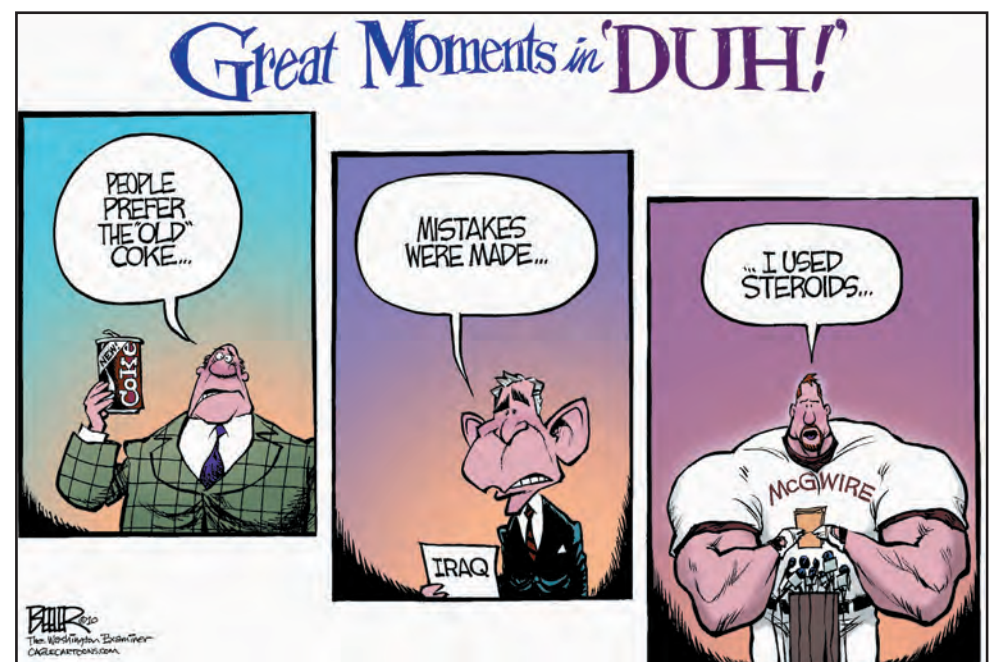
The winter break is over and my hope for happiness is coming to an end as school begins once more. Personally, my spirit has been crushed beyond all recognition leaving me a hollow shell of my former self at the thought of having to endure another semester of pure evil.

I didn't prepare for this horrible atrocity and was wondering how the ninja prepares for a new semester.

From,  
Bored in Berns

Dear Bored,

We ninja look forward to a new semester as it is a chance to have a fresh start and learn new things. I prepared by meditating under a waterfall for a fortnight, learning several new ninjutsu techniques, and using the Wal-Mart gift cards I got for Christmas to buy school supplies such as a new katana, the heart of a phoenix, and some of those yellow sticky notes that are useful for reminding yourself of important dates like history tests and assassination targets. The most important thing is to embrace what is thrown at you and go on with life at your own pace.



# crossTALK with Jessie and Aryn

## *Freshmen with cars vs. Leave them at home*

*Jessie Health*

At the age of 18, society considers us adults. We can drive. We can vote. We can defend our country. We are free and legal adult citizens of the United States, but more and more colleges across the country are stripping incoming freshmen of their driving privileges. Whether freshmen are coming from ten minutes down the road, or ten hours away, they should be able to keep automobiles on campus.

Many college students seek their education far from home. These students need transportation to and from campus during holidays. It is not enough to assume that parents or siblings will come pick freshmen up; some parents do not have flexible work schedules that will allow them to retrieve their child from a college that is seven hours away.

Students come to college with varying levels of needs. Some may come in perfect health with the means to walk down the street to Wal-Mart or Food Lion. Others are not as lucky; some come with weekly or even daily doctor's appointments for ongoing health problems. I'm not talking about the typical cold that requires a run to the student health center to get Motrin and Mucinex. Some students deal with illnesses that require a higher level of care than university health centers can offer. These students need reliable transportation to and from appointments.

A large part of the college experience is the off-campus community. Having a car on campus enables freshmen to enjoy not only their campus life, but the city life around them. Cars allow students to get involved in the community outside of their campus. This involvement may come in the form of internships, volunteer work or just a night out with friends. These activities require reliable modes of transportation that city transport cannot always meet.



*Aryn Hicks*

Incoming college freshmen often struggle with adapting to college life. Instead of adapting to life on campus, many college freshmen use their cars as an excuse to not making new friends. Freshmen should not be allowed to bring cars on campus, regardless of circumstance.

Not having cars on campus forces freshmen to participate in school activities. Without an automobile to take them off campus, students get more involved in extracurricular and resident life activities. These students spend more time getting to know the campus community than those who prefer to spend their free time off campus. If freshmen need to go off campus, they have

to find an upperclassman willing to drive them. Not only is this carpooling environmentally friendly, but it is also encourages both freshmen and upperclassmen to meet new people. Students with disabilities or other medical needs can use city transport to get to and from off-campus appointments if they cannot find anybody to take them. However, most Resident Coordinators or Resident Assistants are willing to act as emergency transport for late night gallivants to Urgent Care or the emergency room, if needed.

Organizations such as CRIMP, SAC and the Outdoor Adventure Club provide off-campus activities and opportunities to all students. These clubs offer a variety of off-campus activities with transportation, to and from at cheaper rates than students will get by themselves.

While internships and jobs are important, good grades must precede them. Not having a car on campus allows students the opportunity to study more. The better grades a student has, the more qualified they seem when it comes time to apply for jobs.



## Ashley Asks

*Ashley Young*  
News Editor

### *What is your New Year's resolution?*



"My New Year's Resolution was to have a better work ethic."  
—Stephen Perry, freshman.



"My New Year's Resolution was to learn when to explain things and when not to and to stop explaining if people don't ask me to."  
—Jamesha Brown, freshman

"My New Year's Resolution is to stop procrastinating so much."  
—Tamesha Brown, freshman.



"My New Year's resolution was to make the soccer team."  
—Courtney Byrd, freshman

My New Year's resolution is to plan ahead better and become more organized.

"My New Year's resolution was to gain weight and get out of debt."  
—Shanice Stokes, sophomore



"My New Year's resolution was to be a gentleman, friendly to people, and wish a better life to everyone and myself."  
—Semere Girmehannes, junior



## 'Avatar' is worth the price of admission

*Felicia Aycock*  
Staff Writer

James Cameron, writer and director of movies like "Alien" and "Titanic," has done it again with the long-awaited "Avatar." The film creates a new generation of special effects, and it delivers a new kind of fully immersing cinematic experience.

The film is set in the year 2154, on a distant moon, Pandora, in the Alpha Centauri, a star system. The movie is about a clash between the natives of Pandora (the Na'vi) and humans.

The humans have traveled to the land of Pandora to mine the moon's precious minerals, especially the compound Unobtainium. They did this in order to stave off an energy catastrophe on Earth.

The humans who were sent to Pandora are mercenaries. Their mission was to move the Na'vi away from their ancestral home, where the unobtainium is found.

Jake Sully (Sam Worthington) is asked by a group of scientists to go to the moon and

operate his late brother's avatar (an artificial Na'vi that can be controlled remotely by a human). He was recruited by Mission Commander, Col. Miles Quaritch (Stephan Lang) to find out the best strategy in attacking the Natives. He is asked to infiltrate the Na'vi using his avatar to gather intelligence.

"Avatar" brings together the best of James Cameron's repertoire. It is an epic story with lots of plot twists, forbidden romances, and even a coming of age saga. Elements of naturalism bring the world of Pandora and the religion of the Na'vi to life.

The entire movie was filtered through computer generated images (CGI), but unlike previous attempts at CGI, "Avatar" is very realistic. The 3-D effects were tastefully done, though are not required for enjoyment of the movie. Unlike the cheesy ax-throwing of "My Bloody Valentine," "Avatar" presented subtle 3-D effects such as tree branches, smoke, and particle effects.

The effects were nearly tangible.

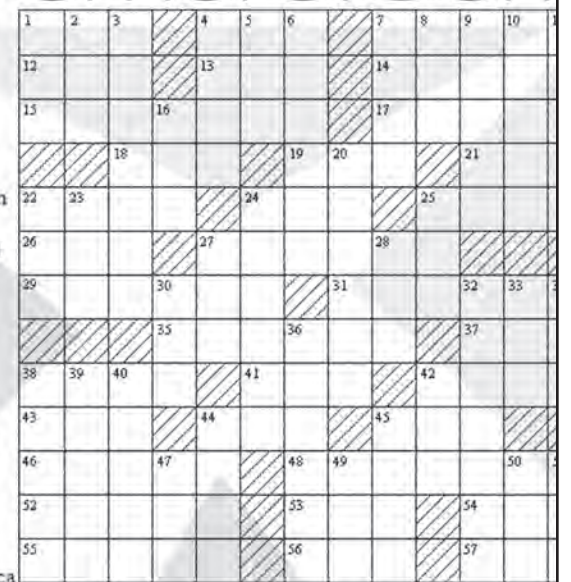


Jake Sully (Sam Worthington) and Neytiri (Zoe Saldona) in James Cameron's "Avatar."  
Photo courtesy of MCT.

## WeDesireMore.Com

### ACROSS

1. Worthless or oversimplified ideas
4. Percentage (abbrev.)
7. Leg covering
12. Protects the environment
13. Mauna \_\_\_\_, Hawaiian volcano
14. Long narrow straight valley on the moon
15. "Metamorphic structures"
17. Submit yourself (to a debt or obligation)
18. Tibeto-Burmese people
19. The bill in a restaurant
21. Electro-Magnetic Field
22. A European river
24. Prefix denoting "in a"
25. Talks
26. Daughters of the American Revolution
27. Industrious
29. Disqualify
31. Absorbed liquid
35. Gets up
37. Doctor of Education
38. Large burrowing rodent of South America
41. \_\_ Ling, Chinese mountain range
42. Makes lively
43. Express pleasure
44. A woolen cap of Scottish origin
45. Shaft horsepower
46. Capital of Bangladesh
48. Endurance
52. Organic compound
53. Type of tree
54. Playful dog bite
55. Excessive fluid accumulation in tissues
56. Bom
57. Includes Ewe and Fon languages



### DOWN

1. Chest muscle (slang)
2. Military mailbox
3. Green Bay football players
4. A way to work the soil
5. Against
6. Preferences
7. Baby's bed
8. Ancient Hebrew unit of liquid measure
9. Genus of hollyhocks
10. Exactly vertical or true
11. Slaves
16. Paddle
20. Came up
22. Not divisible by two
23. Family of languages of southeast Asia
24. Dog Chow brand
25. A swindle
27. A block of soap or wax
28. \_\_ Angeles
30. The cry made by sheep
32. A way of looking
33. Electronic Data Processing
34. Doctor of Dental Services
36. \_\_\_\_ and Delilah
38. Religious father
39. Expressed pleasure
40. Pursue
42. Philemon (Biblical abbrev)
44. Source of the Blue Nile
45. Fermented rice wine
47. Actress \_\_ Basinger
49. Scottish for "To"
50. Horny projecting jaws of bird
51. Gorilla

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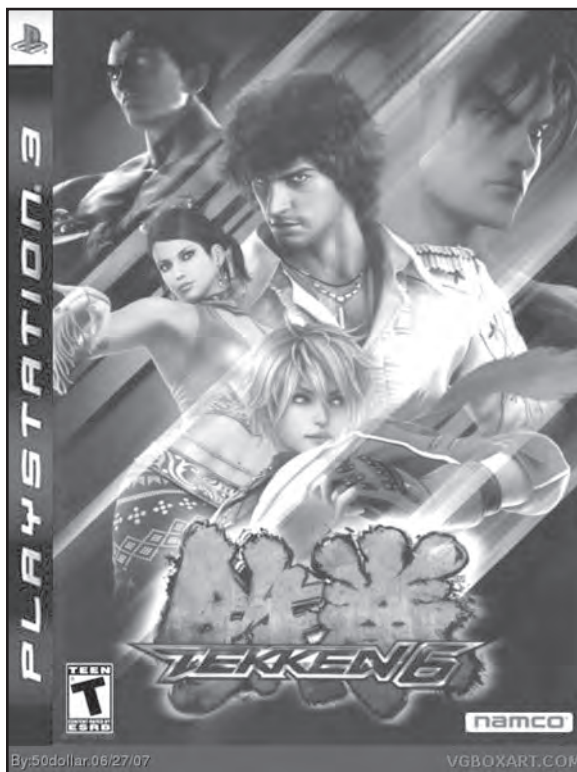


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[WWW.SMALLTALKMU.COM](http://WWW.SMALLTALKMU.COM)

# Latest Tekken installment is intense

For PlayStation3, PlayStation Portable, and Xbox 360



*Aryn Hicks*

*Entertainment Editor*

Tekken 6 is the latest installment of the Tekken saga of video games. With well-detailed graphics and more exciting game play, Tekken 6 delivers action to anyone who enjoys fighting games.

**Story:** 7/10

The story line of Tekken 6 is merely a continuance of the previous 5 games. It's the same story about the King of Iron Fist Tournament, and how one character attempts to take it over to gain power over all others, and blah blah blah.

Forces of evil versus the forces of the lesser evil versus a giant chicken spirit god; yeah, that part threw me off too. After

awhile the entire story line gets somewhat redundant, but each individual character has his or her own back story.

The character backgrounds are far more entertaining than the game plot as a whole. If you are a new player, you may want to research the pasts of older characters before you view their newer plot continuances; however, knowledge, or lack of knowledge, of the story does not take away from the action and excitement of the entire game.

**Graphics:** 10/10

The graphics for Tekken 6 surpass those of all previous games by tenfold. Instead of the typical 2-D animations, Tekken 6 takes 3-D graphics to a completely new level. Even if you do not possess a high-definition

television, one can still experience exceptional visuals through the game.

Not only are the colors more vivid, but the game designers added light flares and dynamic lighting and shadows. One of the most noticeable graphic features is the depth field capability. By turning on the depth field, characters can interact with their environment, while experience the lag of kicking through water, knocking over bystanders, and beating characters through the landscape to reveal new sceneries. Depth field also adds to the 3-D feel by adding a more realistic element to the game backdrops.

**Sound:** 5/10

Other than the typical video game fight sequence music, the sounds are decent.

There is nothing too special about the sounds in the game. Most of the pre-battle dialogue is subtitled; however, you may have difficulty hearing or understanding characters that are not subtitled, which takes away from the witty trash talking sessions between the characters.

The game soundtrack is more diverse than previous games, but still lacks a certain originality to lure players to the game for musical enjoyment. If one is truly into the game, the music is drowned out by the yelling and trash talking between actual players, making the soundtrack useless and unnecessary.

**Game play:** 8/10

Waiting for the game to load takes some time between battles, but is worth the extra three seconds. During game play, you will experience very little lag, which is a refreshing relief from some of the past Tekken games.

Some of the new characters can be considered weighted cheats, at best. One character, Alisa, is capable of flying and pulling out chainsaws to slice her opponents. A single move can take away nearly a quar-

ter of a life meter. Other characters have more powerful moves and combos that can take away over half life with one hit. Many of the older characters have new and improved moves, which enables them to stand a chance against the new-school characters.

The online play option allows you to play characters from all over the world, but is typically not worth the wait of loading the server and waiting for a player response. Traditional or arcade game play still provides countless hours of entertainment, but also offers quick tips about how to handle characters in certain situations. Fights are more detailed and more

**Overall:** 8/10

Only one word can describe Tekken 6: delightful. It has better graphics and game play than previous versions. Tekken 6 is quite possibly the most interactive and well put together game of the Tekken series. With the intense fighting sequences and brilliant graphics, this game is superb.

Even though there are some flaws within the game, they are easy to overlook due to the more pleasing aspects of the game.

JOIN THE METHODIST COMMUNITY  
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Thursday, January 28 @ 7 p.m. in  
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# MONARCH SCOREBOARD

## GAME RESULTS

## HOME GAMES

Men's Basketball		
Date	Opponent	Result
1/02	LaGrange College	76-84 L
1/03	Piedmont College	90-111 L
1/09	Ferrum College	58-75 L
1/13	Averett University	64-85 L
1/16	Lynchburg College	59-93 L
1/18	NC Wesleyan College	71-84 L
1/20	Washington & Lee University	53-59 L

Men's Basketball		
Date	Opponent	Time
1/29	Greensboro College	7:30 pm
1/31	Ferrum College	4:00 p.m.

Women's Basketball		
Date	Opponent	Time
1/29	Greensboro College	5:30 p.m.
1/31	Ferrum College	2:00 p.m.
2/03	Peace College	7:00 p.m.

Women's Basketball		
Date	Opponent	Result
1/03	Guilford College	49-48 W
1/07	Peace College	55-58 L
1/09	Ferrum College	55-58 L
1/11	Meredith College	68-58 W
1/13	Averett University	61-63 L
1/16	Mary Baldwin College	71-66 W
1/18	NC Wesleyan College	80-61 W

### Why is this space empty?

This space is empty because we are currently short of sport writers. If you enjoy going to sporting events and writing, join the smallTALK staff. Meetings are every Monday at 4:00 p.m. in the Heritage Dining Room in the Berns Student Center. The sports section depends on YOU!

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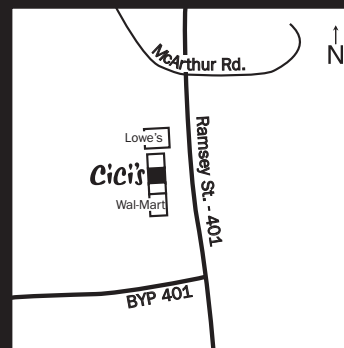
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