

smallTALK

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THE STUDENT VOICE OF METHODIST UNIVERSITY
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Methodist University
Fayetteville, NC

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Participants gather at Monarch Stadium to cheer each other on. Photo by Lakeisha Story.

Aaron Bressler
Staff Writer

Laughter and cheers echoed around Monarch Stadium as athletes competed on Friday, Oct. 15 as Methodist University hosted the local Special Olympics. Over 250 disabled children from grades K-12 and 175 volunteers, parents and teachers participated in the event.

Bradford Melvin works for the Gilmore Recreation Center and was first introduced to the Special Olympics through his mother. This was his third year supervising the event through the recreation center.

"They don't always have something to smile about, so you got to give them something," Melvin said. "Once you see their faces light up, there's nothing else like it."

Terrell Tallings, a sophomore criminal justice major at Methodist, also attended the event. He volunteered on behalf of SAC.

"I just wanted to interact with the kids," said Tallings. "Seeing the kids smile makes me smile."

The athletes competed in a wide variety of events while rock music rang out through speakers. There were events in agility, endurance and speed. In one event, participants were

asked to walk along a narrow beam, jump from star to star, and kick a ball into a goal. The athletes performed with grace, speed, wide grins and laughter. Everyone danced to the music and applauded the winners.

For a while, no one had a disability and nobody was different; everyone was just having fun.

smallTALK

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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. Story suggestions should be sent to the same address.

Students can join smallTALK at any point in the school year. Meetings are every Monday at 11 a.m. in the Heritage Dining Room.

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

Housekeeping at Methodist: The unsung heroes behind the campus



Janice McKoy is the custodian for the Berns and Hensdale Chapel. Photo by Ashley Young.

Ashley Young
News Editor

How badly do you want to get to work between 4:45 and 5 o'clock a.m. every day, and work for eight hours with a starting salary of \$7.25 an hour? Not many people would. But that is exactly what custodians in Methodist's Housekeeping Department do on a daily basis.

Currently the housekeeping staff has 16 employees who work during the day, but Warren Goodman, Director of Housekeeping, is in the process of putting together a night staff. While the starting salary is \$7.25, with their salaries increasing as they gain experience.

"I select people who are self-motivated and willing to do the job," said Goodman. "Integrity is one of the most important reasons why I hire people."

All the housekeeping custodians have cubbies for their belongings. They also have a daily list of

duties to complete. Just to name a few of the duties the custodial staff performs: changing trashcans throughout the buildings; mopping the floors in the bathrooms, hallways, dining areas and residence halls; dusting the TV screens, computers, and work desks; scrubbing all of the windows with Windex; vacuuming, sweeping, replacing toilet paper, soap, and paper towels; scrubbing commodes, brushing the stairwells; oiling door panels and much more.

Some housekeeping custodians work in up to four or five places and if an employee is out sick, their work loads are doubled. All of the custodians work at least one weekend per month.

"We have to be ready no matter what because we have to cover campus one way or another," said Goodman.

During the summers, the housekeeping custodians strip and wax the hard floors and, in doing so, are required to move everything out and then back into the rooms.

"We do a lot of things during the summer," said Andy Ong, a floater on the housekeeping staff, who works wherever he is needed. "It requires a lot of physical activity and we try to work hard here."

Putting the right people in the right places for detailed cleaning is a key element of ensuring Methodist's campus remains tidy, according to Goodman.

"Cleanliness is everybody's job," said Rodney Graham, a custodian for Clark and Sanford Halls.

Despite the hard work they put in, housekeeping isn't all fun and no play. Employee's birthdays are celebrated through the housekeeping's birthday club, where one member is elected to throw a small party for another member's birthday.

Housekeeping custodians receive the same benefits as other employees in regards to taking classes at Methodist. Custodians can work here for six months and then either take classes or send a child of theirs to Methodist without tuition fees.

Goodman expressed his appreciation for all the work that RA's, SAC and other clubs and individuals do to help the housekeeping department keep Methodist clean. Goodman keeps workers motivated by reminding them of the work they do and providing them with positive feedback.

Upcoming Around Campus

Oct. 27 - 7 p.m.

Hoopla Frenzy
Kick off the MU basketball team's season with games, food and fun. Admission is free.
Riddle Center

Oct. 28-29 - 8-10 p.m.

RHA Haunted House
Prepare for a bigger scare with this year's edition of King's Asylum. Put on by RHA, this haunted house is sure to leave you shaking. For ages 12+. Admission is free for students, faculty, and staff.
Chris' House

Oct. 28 - 7:30 p.m.

Fayetteville Symphonic Band Concert featuring the MU Jazz Band
Come hear your favorite Halloween tunes. Band members will be dressed in costume: don't be left out, dress in your own costume. Admission is free.
Reeves Auditorium

Nov. 3 - 8 p.m.

Casino Night
Don't miss an opportunity to play your favorite casino games and win prizes without the risk of losing all your money. Bring your poker face. Admission is free.
Berns

Nov. 5 - 7:30 p.m.

Friends of Music First Friday Concert
The Friends of Music concert series welcomes Don Milholin, baritone. Admission is Free.
Hensdale Chapel

More events can be found in the SAC calendar or on the university website at www.methodist.edu.

Events *On the* Town

Oct. 29 - 4-6 p.m.

Downtown Trick or Treat
Come see the costumes and decorations as businesses and restaurants hand out candy.
Historic Downtown

Oct. 29 - 5-7 p.m.

Trunk or Treat
SwampDogs and Operation Ceasefire team up to host the 4th annual Trunk or Treat at "The Swamp." Have fun with music and games, and stay late for a free movie showing on the field.
Admission is free.
J.P. Riddle Stadium

Oct. 30 - 7 p.m.

Make A Difference Tour 2010
Max Lucado partners with Third Day, Toby Mac, and Michael Smith to make a difference through World Vision by raising sponsorship for 25,000 children. Call for ticket information
Crown Center

Nov. 2-3 - 9 a.m.-4 p.m.

Special Operations Forces Symposium and Exposition
SOFEX is an annual special operations event that exhibits the latest in equipment and services.
Admission is free.
Fort Bragg Officer's Club

Nov. 6 7:30 p.m.

Sinbad
See the stand-up comedian who has gained a following by using the trials and tribulation of daily life. Call for ticket information.
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.

From graduate to felon: Guest speaker addresses drunk driving



Sterner's mugshot taken from his hospital bed. Photo courtesy of www.campuspeak.com

Ashley Young
News Editor

While planning on being the first person in his family to graduate from college, one bad decision led Mark Sterner to become the first in his family to be charged with second degree murder.

On Monday, Oct. 11, students gathered in Reeves Auditorium to hear Sterner's story about the realities of drunk driving and the consequences he has to live with.

Sterner began by sharing video clips of him and his Tau Kappa Epsilon fraternity brothers drinking in their hotel room in Florida during their spring break, then speeding down roads at speeds of over 100 miles per hour and visiting various bars.

"Since I was the least drunk, we decided that I should drive," Sterner said.

At 3 a.m. that morning, Sterner's mother got a phone call telling her that her son was in a car accident and she needed to get to the hospital immediately, because was unclear how much longer he would live. Throughout the next 12 hours, as Sterner's parents tried to get from Philadelphia to Florida, Sterner's mother called the hospital every 30 minutes to find out how he was doing. At 6:30 a.m., Mark had to be put on a respirator. By 7 a.m., Mark's mother was afraid to call.

It was two weeks before Sterner woke up in a hospital in Florida to find that he'd been responsible for a drunk driving accident and that three of his four fraternity brothers had been killed. His friend, Darren, was the only other survivor. The red Lincoln Town Car Sterner had been driving flipped and slid for approximately 200 yards. Sterner now had a tree branch through his lung and arm. He had lost a third of the blood in his body, and when paramedics found him, they thought for sure he was dead. The accident happened two miles from the hotel where they were staying.

After Sterner heard what happened, two police officers came into the room and placed him under arrest, telling him he'd been charged with murder and could face a maximum sentence of 45 years in prison. Sterner showed his mug shot taken from his hospital bed. His mother, father, brother and sister watched as he was arrested, three months before his graduation from college.

Sterner pointed out that life is all about choices, and the worst choice he ever made was choosing to drive that night. He said that his friends trusted him and the only good that came out of that accident was that no other car was hit that night.

"I didn't take care of my friends and I regret it every day of my life," said Sterner.

Sterner's testimony impacted students who attended the lecture. His supremely real-life account of the death of his friends made students sit up and take notice of a situation many of them were already aware of.

"[Sterner's story] makes me more protective of my friends," said junior Cecilia Bode. "I don't want any of them to get hurt under the influence of alcohol."

"The speaker's story was a first-hand account of what can happen when alcohol is involved, and it hit home because it was a real-life account of a tragic incident," said Sophomore Kaitlyn Leger after the lecture.

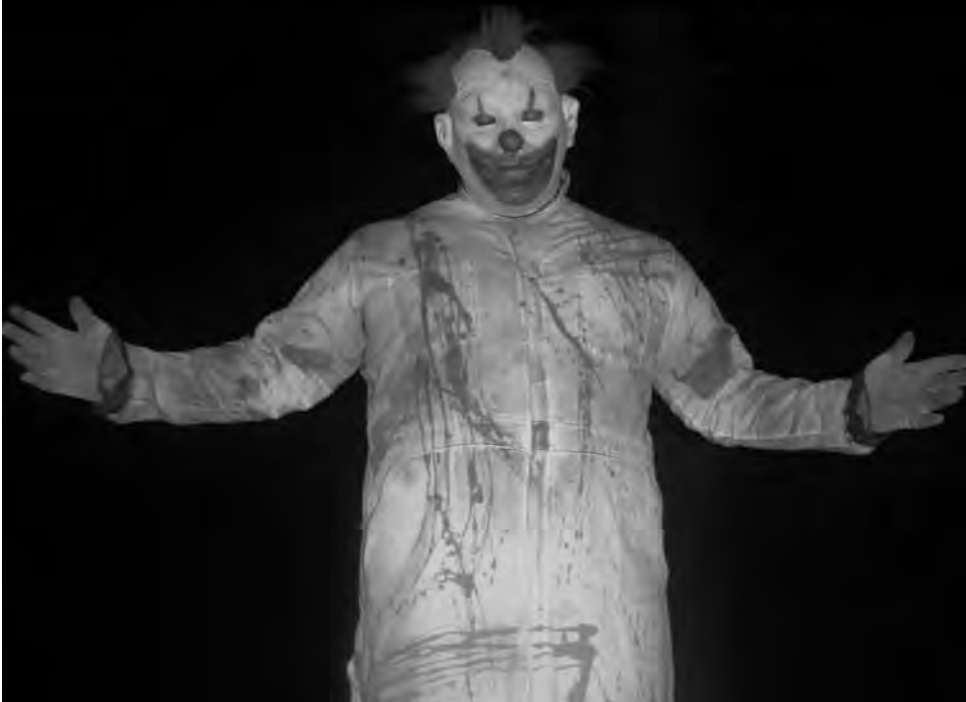
Sterner speaks at 100 colleges a year about his story on drunk driving.

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Mama Mia!: Methodist students to visit Italy

Ashley Young
News Editor

Methodist University students will have the opportunity to expand their world view next summer, and get some class credit at the same time.

This trip will take students to explore Italy. It is scheduled from May 24 to June 9. Students will begin their study abroad time in Rome, where they will have the opportunity to visit ancient sites like the Roman Empire and the Vatican. Cristina Francescon, Chair and Professor of Department of Modern Languages and Literature, hopes to take students to a Wednesday Mass at the Vatican.

Francescon, a native of Italy, is responsible for planning the trip. She is teaching an Italian course for students interested in the language and culture. The trip will count towards three credits in Italian or three credits in English, though interested students can complete both. For the Italian course, LAN 260 Foreign Culture: Study Abroad in Italy, Francescon will be teaching about the history and civilization of Italy, the areas that will be visited, and the history, artistic heritage, pop culture and the political situations there.

Students can also receive English credit for their time, through English 485: Contemplative Journaling in Italy. Professor Robin Greene will be teaching a class that exposes students to forms of personal and reflective writing through

creative non-fiction, free verse poetry, travel writing, journaling and blogging. Students in English 485 will also read models of excellence in these genres, discuss them and experiment with them.

"I'm excited for it. I think it will help me speak on an everyday level instead of a textbook language and it will definitely help me learn more about their culture," said Jarrett Covar, an interested student.

In addition to Rome, students will also be traveling to Florence, where they will visit the oldest university in the Western World, the University of Bologna, Ancient Roman Ruins and some of the top resort areas in Europe, including the Adriatic Sea. Students will have free days to explore Florence and Rimini.

"I think the trip to Italy will be a great way to study Italian culture and practice the language. I look forward to experiencing Italy first hand and better understanding what I have been learning in the classroom all year," said Richelle Modolo, another interested student.

Francescon is hoping to take 10 to 18 students on the trip, however there are only seven currently signed up. Participating students will be encouraged to get international cell phones to communicate with families, as the use of computers will not be encouraged during the trip.

"It is important for students to not be familiar with the language and culture to give them an opportunity to understand how our international students feel here. It will give them a broader philosophical perspective on life in general," said Francescon.

Interested students should contact Francescon at francesco@methodist.edu, or Greene at rgreen@methodist.edu.



Pope Benedict XVI leads a general audience dedicated to the altar servers in Saint Peter's Square at the Vatican. Francescon hopes to take students to a Wednesday Mass, at the Vatican while in Italy. Photo by MCT Campus.

Methodist University to host Wesley Heritage Seminar and the Moravian Love Feast

Adriana Wilson
Contributing Writer

Methodist University will host a "Wesley Heritage Seminar" Nov. 12-13, 2010, in the Medical Lecture Hall, the newest addition of the Physician Assistant (PA) Program Complex on the campus of Methodist University.

The seminar will include a screening of *Wesley*, panel discussions, and a celebration of the Moravian Love Feast. The cost for attending the screening and panel discussion on either day is \$5.00, and all events are open to the public.

Following the screening Friday, Nov. 12 at 7:00 p.m., there will be a question and answer period with the producer, the Rev. John Jackman, and actor Burgess Jenkins. Saturday's events will include a matinee of the full length movie at 2:00 p.m., followed by a panel presentation and discussion. Dr. Mark Wethington, president of the Wesley Foundation, will be the moderator. Panelists include Dr. M. Elton Hendricks, president of Methodist University; the Rev. John Jackman, producer; the Rev. Phil Bauguess, Moravian pastor; and actor Burgess Jenkins.

Wesley is a film based closely on the actual events of the life of John Wesley, the founder of the Methodist Church. The film captures the tragedy of Wesley's love life, as well as the controversy that surrounded his ministry.

"Many religious leaders of history aren't really good movie material because their lives are filled with reading, contemplation, and lots of preaching," said Jackman. "Wesley's story is filled with conflict and action... And the conflict is complex since a great deal of it is with himself."

The cast includes June Lockhart, Kevin McCarthy, R. Keith Harris, Carrie Anne Hunt, and Burgess Jenkins, as John Wesley. Jenkins's credits include *Remember the Titans*, *The Reaping*, and hit television shows such as *One Tree Hill* and *Army Wives*.

The Rev. Jackman is an award-winning director and author who works include the documentary *After the War: Rebuilding Nicaragua*. His broadcast credits include ABC, The Hallmark Channel, The History Channel, and many public television stations. He has served on the Board of Directors of the Piedmont Triad Film Commission and as chair of the Division of Communications. The Rev. Jackman is an ordained pastor in the Moravian Church and currently serves as the senior pastor of Trinity Moravian Church in Winston-Salem, N.C.

For more information or to make reservations, please contact Donna Wilson, director of ministry events and administrative services, at (910) 630-7157 or send an e-mail to dlwilson@methodist.edu.

Adriana Wilson is a senior at Methodist University who is majoring in mass communications. Wilson is an editorial assistant in the Office of University Relations.

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Movie and a Meal: SAC presents ‘Despicable Me’ and despicable smoke

Cecilia Bode
Staff Writer

Laughter filled the air as students enjoyed SAC’s showing of ‘Despicable Me’, shown on Sink Field on Oct. 13. Approximately 80 students made themselves comfortable for the film, braving the chance of rain for their free showing of the popular movie.

This month’s Movie and a Meal proved to be better than the last attempts at an outdoor movie, when problems with the sound system put a damper on the showing and caused a reschedule. Although SAC started setting up a little late, most of the movie-goers didn’t seem to mind and began to chow down on popcorn, cotton candy, and other treats as soon as they arrived at the field.

The sound system gave everyone a scare when it stopped working for a few minutes, but SAC members got it back up and running. The projector also stopped working, but SAC once again came to the rescue and made it possible for the movie to continue. Luckily, all the glitches happened at the beginning of the movie.

The crazy schemes and ridiculous inventions portrayed in the film gave everyone a chance to laugh off stress that had been building up since the beginning of the semester. It was also a



great comedic relief and way to relax after the hustle and bustle of midterms and homework that many students had been struggling with.

Something else also filled the air during the movie, too: Smoke. Some students lit up their cigarettes while enjoying the movie. Multiple students chose to smoke as they sat watching the movie. Coughing could be heard through the laughter as students struggled to get fresh air in some areas of the field that were especially heavy in smoke.

“[The smoking] was rude,” said freshman Brandi Weaver. “Not everyone wants to die from secondhand smoke.”

Although the smoke was not enough to obscure the screen it was still enough to disturb many viewers. The breeze that helped with keeping the clouds moving and keeping the rain away also caused smoke to be easily distributed amongst the crowd. Movie goers could be seen with their shirts pulled over their mouths and noses in an effort to breathe easier. However, the smoke did not prove annoying enough for anybody to do anything about it and continued through the end of the showing.

Above: (Left to right) Joshua Buckrucker, Nick Deane and Connor Mason wait for the movie to begin. Left: Freshman Mistie Jo Williams (right) gets cotton candy from Will Terry. Photos by Cecilia Bode.

GAMER TAKEOVER: ALL HAIL THE GAME REVIEWS

Metal of Honor : New but not so improved

Aaron Bressler and Lucas Perry
Staff Writers



Technical Review

Medal of Honor is just like every other game of first person shooters, or FPS: Some are bigger, some are smaller. This game falls in the middle, it doesn't stand out for any one thing.

The graphics are, at best, average. While it won't win any awards, it looks good. But, then again, so does nearly every other FPS released this generation. The single player campaign runs an iteration of the Unreal 3 Engine. The single player campaign does very well at looking almost exactly like Call of Duty Modern Warfare.

The multiplayer, on the other hand, is the better looking side of the game. It runs the Frostbite. The graphics are better and clearer, and they run more smoothly without any of the texture drop in.

Like graphics, the sound is average. The crack of gun fire is the crack of gun fire. Medal of Honor had plenty of predecessors, and it follows their lead. The one thing I did like was the echo from radio chatter when the person speaking was right next to you.

The performance on each of its given systems is average. I tested this game on both PC and Xbox360. It looks marginally better on PC, but performs well on both systems. There are a few hiccups in game play on the Xbox360, which is par for the course with all games coming out this late in the generation.

Overall, the game is average from a technical standpoint. It could have been much better, but it could have been much worse.

Campaign Mode

The largest problem with most games is their lack of story. Without a good, or at least plausible, storyline most games are hard pressed to keep the player interested. The likelihood of the newest Medal of Honor game having any storyline was low. However, the game did have a little bit of a storyline to it, which is surprising, considering that most of the shooter games do not.

One of the first things you notice in Medal of Honor is the complete lack of characters and originality. All the characters have identical personalities and mannerisms. They also look alike. The main characters seem to be the usual characters taken straight from every gritty war game or movie you've ever seen. EA almost seemed afraid to make truly original characters, as if this might disappoint their fan base somehow.

The good thing about the game was the overall story. Set in modern and controversial times, the storyline uses a variety of characters and perspectives to actually make you care about the missions. Unlike most shooters, the plot actually maintains most of its realism. The characters and plot, while wholly unoriginal, are still mostly realistic.

Medal of Honor definitely lived up to the hype with the game mechanics. The guns and other weapons have real weight to them, and have a very real recoil effect that accurately reflects their real-world counterparts. The game uses light very well too. Your night vision is actually a benefit as opposed to a handicap, and glare never makes it impossible to see who's killing you.

The game had other problems however. When playing as the Special Forces, your allies and your enemies are identical. While your friends can't die, they do complain a lot when you shoot them, given their tendency to jump in front of your snipe or machine gun target. More than once, you wish you could leave your allies behind.

Campaign mode is very short, about six hours on the hardest difficulty, and while it is very fun, it is limited to a very specific story. The campaign has very little replay value. Unless you really like the multiplayer, it is probably best to rent it for a couple days. It was fun to play, but not worth the cost of buying the game. This is a promising start to an amazing franchise, if they learn from their mistakes.

Naruto Shippunden: Ultimate Ninja Storm 2: Simple yet fun

Austin Bordeaux
Opinions Editor

Naruto is an anime series about a group of ninjas that train to become stronger as they battle against evil plans to topple their countries. It is an extremely popular series and has been the basis for over a dozen video games. Storm 2 is the newest in the installment of fighting games based on the series.

Gameplay:

The fighting modes in this game are fast and entertaining. Boss battles - during the campaign mode - call up button prompt scenes that demand your utmost attention to hit the right sequence in the right time. It is really a fun addition that games like 'God of War' have employed. The quick tag-in system to call support characters is a major contribution to the strategy and the general smoothness of the fighting experience makes it a fun experience. The combo system is extremely simple though, and some characters are clearly more powerful than others, both of which I consider negative points of the game.

Graphics:

The graphics are by far the best characteristics of this game. During campaign mode, the camera angles give the game an authentic Naruto feel. While in combat modes you will be completely encapsulated by the attractiveness of this game, not just the settings but also the characters. The cell shading is bright and smooth, making the game almost look like an Anime episode.

Sound:

The background music is a contrast between the peaceful Japanese flute and an intense combat score which stays true to the series. You may notice that the voices don't always coincide with lip movement, kind of like a badly dubbed martial arts movie and this is simply because the characters should be speaking Japanese which I might add is an option for those hardcore fans.

The sound is good but not the highest quality by modern standards.

Story:

The story, presented in campaign mode, is really aimed towards fans of the Naruto series that are already aware of what is going on. The story starts after a 2 1/2 year skip where the main character goes off to train with a legendary ninja. Also, throughout the boss fights there may be flash backs to earlier in the series that may cause newbies to the series to have no idea what is going on. But once the game gets going, the story is easy enough to pick up.

Overall:

The game is a very fun casual fighting game that anyone can enjoy. It is simple enough for people that find fighting games too complex to enjoy, but fun enough that hardcore fighting gamers will enjoy a break from the constant rush of traditional fighters. It is also a must for any fan of the Naruto series, though, if you are one, I didn't have to tell you that.



8/10

9/10

8/10



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Paranormal Activity 2: “More ‘normal’ and run of the mill than you’d expect”

Roger Moore
MCT

You only get to take the movie world utterly by surprise once. But you can, if you’re going back to that “Paranormal Activity” well one more time, produce a more polished, more “studio”-looking film the second time around — even if it’s allegedly built around home surveillance video and camcorder footage of an ordinary Southern California family under supernatural assault.

Tod Williams’ “Paranormal Activity 2,” a sequel-prequel to Oren Peli’s scruffy, much-tinkered-with no-budget hit, is a confident, cocky and often comic promenade down the same primrose path. It had multiple writers which give it funnier touch for its first half, and a far more conventional Hollywood Horror finish. Stakes are raised, the effects are more special. And when you have a Paramount budget, even a modest one, you can afford to film a child actor and a dog until they give you the shots you need, becoming the most special effects of all.

We have another suburban family --this one tucked in a much more lived-in two-story tract house with broken faucets, stained carpets. There’s a new baby, a second marriage for the father, Daniel a doting mom, dad’s teen sassy daughter from his first marriage and a connection to the folks who were haunted in “Paranormal Activity 1.”

So naturally, things start going bump in the night. And as we learned in the first film, when they start going bump in the daytime, that’s when you really need to worry. Dad’s an “I don’t believe in that stuff” skeptic who chases away their superstitious Latina housekeeper. Mom is more credulous. And Ally, the daughter, wonders if these loud noises are her late mother trying to have a chat from the Hereafter. Paging Matt Damon! Things start out jokey: nerdy parents, faux cool kid, let’s laugh at the pans falling and the house being ransacked. Then the surveillance video starts to win family members over, one by one.

“Paranormal Activity” worked by lulling us, feeding the viewer banality and inactivity until a tiny thing -- a door opening, a shadow -- jolted you into awareness. Williams and Co. aren’t nearly that subtle. But the best effects are still the simplest: a pool vacuum that crawls out of the water, by itself, in time-lapse, a dog alert to something we don’t see, a toddler excitedly waddling over to a mirror.

The movie’s shortcomings are the Hollywood literalism in the third act, the need to show us things and connect dots that we don’t need to connect. The acting is better, but the hair-raising moments are mostly encores, with the occasional clichéd leap at the camera, a body suddenly jerked off camera

and the like. It’s not a bad movie, far less graphic than most studio or indie horror these days. Even at less than 90 minutes, it takes its time to lull us into a false sense of security. But the horror movie tropes that turn up make this “Paranormal” feels a lot more “normal” and run of the mill than you’d expect.



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Campus life at your finger tips

Questionable queries of a Campus Ninja

Dear Campus Ninja,

I enjoyed my fun, but short break this past weekend. I took the time to catch up on some well deserved sleep that I have missed during the semester. In fact, I literally took all the time to catch up on sleep. As soon as I got home, I rendered myself unconscious by reading a textbook and remained in that blissful state for a full 100 hours. I dreamed about a ninja and figured I would ask, how did the ninja spend fall break?

From,
Lazy Sunday

Dear Lazy,

I spent some time to catch up on training that I have been a bit too busy to take care of lately. That included increasing my skill in ninja dashing, astral projection, and Italian cuisine. The last one was fun, and I can make a pretty killer chicken parmesan dish now. By killer, I mean that in all ways that the word can be defined. I took care of some school work that needed to be done and collected the bounties for finishing it. I also found out that while practicing my astral projecting, I can enter more non-corporeal realms, such as dreams and the spirit world.

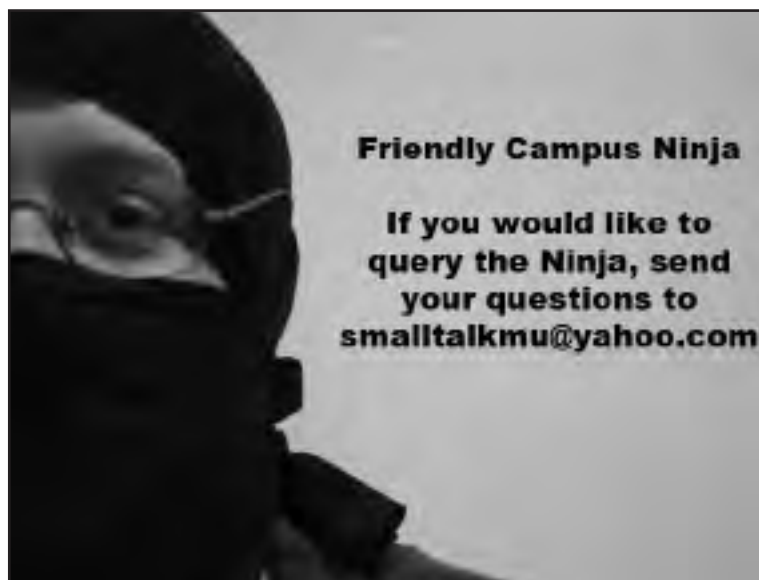
Dear Campus Ninja,

I totally bombed my midterm, and I will fail my goal of making sure I would survive until my 21 birthday if my parents find out. I've been doing well in the class so far, but I'm afraid that it's going to mess up my class grade beyond repair. What can I do to keep up my GPA, O Glorious Infinitely Knowledgeable Ninja?

From,
Future Fail

Dear Future,

The main way to keep from failing at this point is to simply work hard and focus on classes for the rest of the semester. Gone are the days of sweet freedom and weekend romps to the countryside. Done are the ceaseless nights of movies and frenzied love making sessions with your significant other. Do not completely become absorbed with school and give up everything else in your life, but do make your studies your primary focus. It may not be fun, but with hard work, you should live to see your friends again next year.



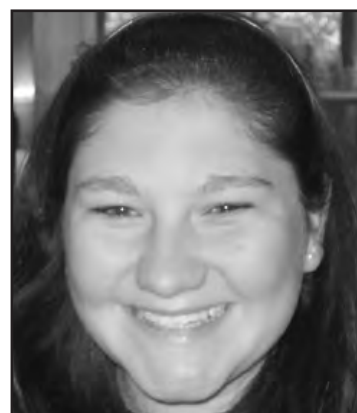
Ashley Asks... *How do you feel about having such a large base of international students on campus?*



"I like the fact that they're on campus because it opens up college students to different diversities and ethnic groups and gets [students] outside their comfort zones by learning about different parts of the world." -Martin Rosser, a freshman.



"I think it's a great idea because by having international students, there's diversity at the university, we can learn [about] different cultures and we introduce our culture to [other students]." -Reifa Tangon, a senior CIT major and international student.



"I think it's cool to have the diversity that the International Program provides, but I wish more students took the opportunity to study abroad." -Sarah Phillips, a freshman social work major.



"I think it's cool. I have international students that I'm friends with, and its fun learning about different places and different cultures." -Jamison Robinson, a sophomore business administration major.

The evolution of bullying: From the playground to the grave

Aryn Hicks

Bullying has become a hot topic in the media after the suicides of several teens who were being harassed about their sexual orientation. These deaths raised a serious concern in my mind: why has bullying transformed into what it has over the years?

I remember the days when calling someone a “booger head” would get you in trouble on the playground. That more innocent form of bullying typically occurred when a friend would skip you in line at the water fountain... or worse, recess. After a reprimand by the teacher, you and your friend could make up over a nice juice box and cookies at snack time, and life was back to normal.

What happened to those days? When did bullying take such a tragic, hateful turn for the worst?

Names like “booger head” have been replaced with labels like “slut” and “faggot.” The internet is now the primary battlefield for bullying, not the playground.

Harassers can make their hatred visible to others around the world by humiliating people on Facebook and Youtube. Even worse, more and more people are sitting back and witnessing the torture, instead of standing up to help the victim by merely saying “this isn’t right.”

Bullying has become more personal over the years. It has transformed into a severe discrimination and harassment instead of the original teasing that would end at the end of the day. Aggressors torment others more now based on personal

qualities and preferences, beating up others verbally, emotionally and physically over trivial things, such as weight, ethnicity and sexual orientation.

Why? What gain do you get for tormenting and assaulting others based on their traits and choices? Everyone is different from one another, so stop harassing others because you don’t have the same beliefs or look identical to one another.

Sadly, bullying isn’t talked about until it reaches extremes, like the Columbine shooting in 1999 and the “Gay Youth Suicides” that have plagued the media over the past few weeks. After these incidents, everyone wants to stand up against bullying and harassment.

Innocent lives shouldn’t be lost for people to take notice of such issues. If people, like teachers, friends and families, would stand up and defend those who were being taunted, these deaths could have been prevented. If one person could stand up and say “that’s not right,” and defend a victim of bullying, we would hear fewer of these tragic headlines about young people killing other young people, or teens killing themselves.



Bullying has definitely evolved from simple playground taunting to a form of interpersonal terrorism in today’s society. Take a stand against bullying before it’s too late and reaches extremes. Advocating human rights is a great way to raise awareness after a tragedy, but if you stand by and watch a tragedy in the making as someone is being pushed to the limits, you are just as guilty as the person who is bullying the other. And that’s not right.

Fall sports freeze frames



Top left: Max Mellon stays on his feet during the Oct 9 home game against Ferrum College.
Top right: Freshman Clayton Newton heads the ball away from the goal at the Oct. 20 home game against North Carolina Wesleyan College.
Left: Dance team members Nicole Williams (left) and Yemi Wrenn pose during the Oct. 9 home football game.
Photos by Kika Frisone.

MONARCH SCOREBOARD

GAME RESULTS

Football		
Date	Opponent	Result
10/9/2010	Ferrum College	L 45-51 (3OT)
10/16/2010	Shenandoah University	L 18-21
Men's Soccer		
Date	Opponent	Result
10/13/2010	Averett University	L 0-1 (OT)
10/16/2010	Christopher Newport University	L 0-2
10/20/2010	North Carolina Wesleyan College	L 2-3 (OT)
Women's Soccer		
Date	Opponent	Result
10/9/2010	Christopher Newport University	L 1-2
10/10/2010	North Carolina Wesleyan College	W 3-1
10/13/2010	Chowan University	W 3-0
10/17/2010	Lynchburg College	L 1-7
Women's Volleyball		
Date	Opponent	Result
10/12/2010	Greensboro College	L 1-3
10/15/2010	Randolph College	W 3-0
10/16/2010	Regis College	W 3-0
10/16/2010	Southern Virginia University	W 3-0
10/19/2010	Meredith College	W 3-0

HOME GAMES

Football		
Date	Opponent	Time
11/6/2010	Greensboro College	1 pm
Women's Soccer		
Date	Opponent	Time
10/27/2010	St. Andrews Presbyterian College	4 pm
10/29/2010	Greensboro College	3 pm
Women's Volleyball		
Date	Opponent	Time
10/24/2010	Shenandoah University	1 pm
10/24/2010	Averett University	5 pm
10/27/2010	North Carolina Wesleyan College	7 pm
10/30/2010	Mary Baldwin College	12 pm
10/30/2010	Peace College	4 pm



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