

# smallTALK

THE STUDENT VOICE OF METHODIST UNIVERSITY  
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Fayetteville, NC

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## And then there were two...

The search for the new Methodist University President narrows down to two finalists



**CONTENDER 1:**  
**Dr. Delmas Crisp**

Photo by Roxana Ross.

*Jessie Heath*  
*Editor-in-Chief*

The job qualifications: be an eloquent speaker, an astute and creative thinker, cheer loudly every time the Monarchs score a point.

In the last 54 years, Methodist has transformed dramatically. The campus has gone from a cotton field to a college, and on the eve of its 50 anniversary in 2006, the Board of Trustees voted to rename the school Methodist University. Campus president Dr. M. Elton Hendricks spearheaded the growth of the university for the last 28 years, but as he prepares to step down at the end of the calendar year, it is time for somebody new to step up.

After an 18 months search for President M. Elton Hendricks's successor, the Presidential Search Committee has released the name of two finalists. In January 2011, one of them will have a new title.

Dr. Ben E. Hancock, Jr. or Dr. Delmas S. Crisp, Jr. will replace Hendricks and be named MU's next president.

The Board of Trustees sent out a mass e-mail to students and staff on Nov. 4, disclosing the names of the finalists and informing the Methodist community of their impending visits.

"The purposes of these visits are two-fold," wrote Harvey T. Wright, the chair of the Presidential Search Committee in his e-mail to students and staff. "First, they will enable all of us in the Methodist University community to know the candidates better. Second, and perhaps more important, the visits will allow us to further acquaint the candidates with the institution, its constituents and the Fayetteville area."

Hancock served as vice president for university Advancement at Ball State University, beginning in the summer of 2006. Prior to his position at Ball State, Hancock served as the vice president for institutional development at Albion College in Michigan for 16 years. During his tenure, Albion successfully raised more than \$255 million through three all-inclusive campaigns. Hancock also served as the director of development and the executive director of the university foundation at Boise State University, and the director of university relations at Penn State University. Prior to his work at Penn State, Hancock worked in the alumni services field at James Madison University and Maryville College.

Crisp was named the vice president for academic affairs and dean of

Methodist University in 2007. Before his move to Methodist, he held the same title at Wesleyan College for 6 years. He assisted both schools in their SACS reaffirmation programs and helped administer budget programs at both schools. Crisp also held the position as the head of the department of English at Southeastern Louisiana University and worked at both Purdue University and the University of Southern Mississippi.

Wright made sure to point out that, in addition to interviewing both Hancock and Crisp, the presidential search committee made it a point of interest to speak with individuals who have worked with the finalists and who know them well, in hopes that those people can offer some insight.

While the Board of Trustees gets the ultimate vote, a student panel was elected to meet with both Hancock and Crisp. The student panel represented the student voice of the university and panel delegates were able to question the finalists on topics important they believe to be important to the future of the university.

Katelyn Dockery, a sophomore physical and health education major, served on the student panel. Dockery met with both Hancock and Crisp during their formal visits to Methodist.

"I was impressed with both candidates," said Dockery. "They seemed excited to meet with students and hear our thoughts about our campus. Both candidates seemed eager to answer our questions as thoroughly as possible."

Like most of her peers on the student panel, Dockery was quick to point out that both candidates had their strengths and weaknesses.

"Dr. Crisp has been here and knows the campus," said Dockery. "But Dr. Hancock would bring a fresh face and new ideas to Methodist. [That] is something we need."

As per the job description set forth by the University, the fourth president of Methodist University should be "optimistic," "of impeccable character," and "have an inclusive leadership style" who has earned a terminal degree, preferably the Ph.D.

But the job isn't all serious. The next leader of Methodist University is also expected to support campus clubs and organizations, interact with alumni, current students and future students and, of course, be the loudest and proudest Monarch on campus.



**CONTENDER 2:**  
**Dr. Ben Hancock**

Photo contributed by Ball State.

## 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](mailto: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.

# Methodist hosts Operation Christmas Child collection center

*Emily Kennedy*  
*Staff Writer*

Operation Christmas Child, a ministry of Samaritan's Purse, held its national collection week starting on Nov. 15.

Methodist University was proud to host the organization's regional central drop-off location in the parking lot located next to the Reeves' auditorium. While there are 6 national collection centers located around the United States, this region has 10 "relays" that bring their boxes to Methodist. After they are collected at Methodist University, the packages are then transported to one of the national collection locations in Charlotte.

"So many people come, and they come from all over and give up their vacation time to get a chance to volunteer at the collection centers," said Debbie Tierney, who has

been volunteering for four years. Operation Christmas Child urges donations to be given in an average shoebox, or a 6.5 gallon container.

Friday, according to Cornette "Pudge" Nettes, is the busiest day, however more than 1,300 boxes were collected on just the first day, just at the Methodist drop-off location. Glancing over the boxes, the age group of "five to nine seems to be the most popular," said Nettes.

Last year, more than 8 million children received boxes, according to the Operation Christmas Child website.

"It's amazing what a few dollars can do, just a simple shoebox," said Tierney, moved and glossy-eyed just speaking on the subject, "the impact is powerful for just a few toys."

Volunteers wait for shoeboxes to arrive at the Methodist drop-off point. Photo by Emily Kennedy.



## Upcoming *Around* Campus

Nov. 24-28

### **Thanksgiving Holiday**

Take a break from the stresses of class and spend time with family and loved ones. Eat plenty of turkey.  
*Around a Table*

Dec. 2 - 7:30 p.m.

### **Fayetteville Symphonic Band Winter Concert**

Join this Friends of Music event, also featuring musical performances by MU Symphonic and Jazz Bands. Admission is free.  
*Reeves Auditorium*

Dec. 3-4 - 7:30 p.m.

Dec. 5 - 3 p.m.

### **The Nutcracker**

See this holiday classic story of a girl's dream about a fight between the Nutcracker Prince and the Mouse King. This show is put on by the Dance Theatre of Fayetteville. Tickets are \$10.  
*Reeves Auditorium*

Dec. 7 - 8 p.m.

### **Exam Breakfast**

Stuff yourself with some of the best food prepared at Methodist. Admission is free.  
*Cafeteria*

Dec. 11 - 7:30 p.m.

### **Holiday Spectacular Concert**

Listen as the Fayetteville Symphony Orchestra plays classic Christmas tunes. Tickets are \$25 or \$8 with student ID.  
*Reeves Auditorium*

*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

Nov. 26 – 1-9 p.m.

### A Dickens Holiday

Spend the day with taking Victorian style carriage rides, watch as chefs creates gingerbread houses, have hot cider or gingerbread cookies, and attend Fayetteville's largest candlelight procession followed by fireworks.

*Downtown*

Nov. 26 - 8 p.m.

### A Christmas Carol

In accordance with a Dickens holiday, see the holiday classic about Ebenezer Scrooge and his tale of redemption this Christmas season.

Tickets are \$15.

*Gilbert Theater*

Nov. 27 - 7 p.m.

Nov. 28 - 3 p.m.

### The Heart of Christmas

Experience the true meaning of Christmas with this annual family event. This local charity show for children, featuring award winning singing group Voices of the Heart, will display the splendor of the Christmas season with song and dance.

Tickets are \$12.

*Crown Coliseum*

Dec. 10 – 3:30 p.m.

### Disney Live! Mickey's Magic Show

Watch as a host of Disney characters come together and perform their magic on stage. See performances from classic Disney stories like Cinderella, Aladdin, and even Fantasia.

Tickets range from \$17 to \$37.

*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).*

# Methodist hosts first Red Cross blood drive in a decade

**Aaron Bressler**  
*Staff Writer*

The Berns Student Center was commandeered on Thursday, Nov. 11 to host the first Red Cross Blood Drive at Methodist in nearly 10 years. Employees and volunteers worked together for several hours to collect blood, while the smell of the iodine spread throughout Berns.

One of the organizers of the event, Daniel Bessauer, is the Vice President of Chi Delta Chi and the Student Veteran's Association.



“Blood is needed everywhere ... they can't artificially make it, so it has to come from donors,” said Bessauer.

After two hours, the blood drive had 30 donors, according to Bessauer, but event organizers were hoping for 40. The Red Cross had two-thirds of their goal after being there for less than half the time limit they set. The goal of the blood drive was to collect 40 units of blood and when all was said and done, the Red Cross left with 61 units.

Chi Delta Chi and the Student Veterans Association hope to do more blood drives in coming semesters.

“We've been highly successful,” said Bessauer.

The supervisor for the Red Cross was Lee Jones. He brought the equipment to the site and is trained to deal with any problems that the donors may have, such as nausea or weakness, usually caused by the donor not eating or drinking enough prior to giving blood.

“Most people actually leave here under their own power,” said Jones.

Janice Spencer, a phlebotomist, or technician who specializes in drawing blood, explained her line of work. She said she was given special training from organizations like the Red Cross and performs blood drives, like the one at Methodist, 7 days a week. She also recommended coming early, especially if you plan on giving doubles. Spencer has been working with the Red Cross for 5 years.

“[Donors] need to eat something very substantial before donating, and stay very well hydrated.” Spencer said.

One of the donors there was Dylan Pusey, a residential assistant for Sanford. He decided to give double because it meant fewer trips to donation centers. He gives because he, or someone else, might need a transfusion and he thinks that it is his responsibility as a healthy citizen, however, he does not condemn those who choose not to give.

“It's their opinion,” Pusey said. “They don't have to donate if they don't want to.”

Freshman Brandi Weaver, prepares to donate two units of blood during the American Red Cross blood drive. Photo by Lakeisha Story.

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

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

# Pizza, Cookies and Makeover Tips in Weaver

*Ashley Young*  
News Editor

How many of the female students at Methodist University wear make-up? How many wash and moisturize their faces daily? These were two of the many questions asked at the first Women's Focus Group meeting, held in Weaver Hall, Nov. 18.

"I want to inspire confidence through teaching them to take care of themselves. Mary Kay is all about instilling confidence in women, whether they wear make-up or not," said Darcy Stonger, an Independent Beauty Consultant for Mary Kay, and guest speaker at the meeting.

Stonger asked and answered questions about facial care including what kind of make-up should be used, what clogs the pores, how to apply make-up, what colors to choose and, most importantly in Stonger's eyes, how to properly clean the face. Stonger said that the face needs to be washed and exfoliated using a sponge or throw-away cloths and specialized cleanser verses a wash cloth and soap. All sponges and cloths should be disposed of after one use.

The in-look for today, according to Stonger, is the "natural" look—light on the eye shadow and lipstick, in order to highlights one's own natural beauty. Stonger also noted that it was very important to use a daily serum with SPF protection and that if women spend 15 minutes or more applying make-up, then they are putting too much on, because it seeps into the skin and can cause breakouts.

What is the biggest issue in make-up today? According to Stonger, properly applying eye shadow. Dark colors must be kept away from the inside part of the eye lids.

Mary Kay has approximately 1.9 million beauty consultants within the United States and holds a 100% money back guarantee on all beauty products if consumer is dissatisfied.

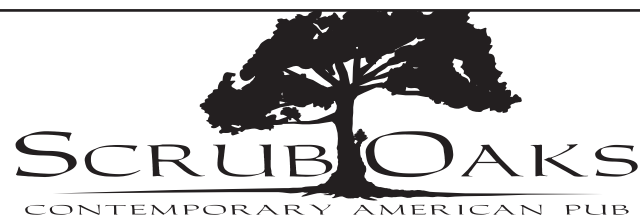
The Women's Focus Group is a group where women come together to discuss issues affecting women along with helping to build self-esteem and awareness towards women's issues. The group hopes to meet again before Christmas Break.



Top: Mary Kay representative, Darcy Stronger, addresses participants of the women's focus group.

Right: Sample beauty products were displayed and tested during the group discussion.

Photos by Ashley Young.



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# Pakistan's biggest city fears gang-led war

## "It would only take one small thing for outright civil war to erupt"

Saeed Shah  
McClatchy Newspapers (MCT)

At Karachi's giant Shershah automobile parts market, customers are scarce nowadays, fearing more violence of the sort that left 13 dead last month. The gunmen arrived by motorbike and rampaged through the narrow alleys of the bazaar, executing shopkeepers.

It was a shocking example of the attacks by ethnic gangs that are threatening to engulf Pakistan's biggest city and paralyze a vital part of the country's flagging economy, politicians, officials and foreign diplomats warn. The groups are not so well known as the Taliban and al-Qaida, the religious extremists who also plague this megacity of 18 million. Last week, a car bomb demolished the compound of the anti-terror police in Karachi, killing 18 people, an attack blamed on a group allied to al-Qaida.

In Karachi, most of the violence is clan-based, and the killers operate as criminal gangs, engaged in a turf war. The Shershah market traders are largely "Mohajirs" who came here decades ago from northern India, while the assailants were believed to be ethnic Baloch, originally from the Pakistani province of Balochistan. The gang war, which kicked off a year ago and claims several victims a day, had mostly involved the Mohajirs and the city's huge ethnic Pashtun population, but the Shershah killings confirm that the Baloch are now a third major player. Periodically, the bloodshed flares up into a multi-day killing frenzy. Elsewhere in Pakistan, Islamic extremists are blamed for the mayhem. But in Karachi, it's mobsters with political cover.

"It would only take one small thing for outright civil war to erupt in Karachi," said a Western diplomat, who spoke on condition of anonymity because of the sensitivity of the issue. "The question is whether there is going to be a tipping point."

What makes it intractable, and able to veer out of control, according to police, is that the principal gangs are linked to political parties - not just any parties, but those sharing in the civilian-led coalition that governs Pakistan. A senior Karachi security official, who spoke on condition of anonymity because he isn't allowed to speak to foreign media, said that police are "powerless" to stop the ethnic clash, as each warring group enjoyed political patronage. He warned that if it continued, the city could end up like Beirut, with clans fighting it out from their enclaves across the city.

By some estimates, Karachi accounts for 25 percent to 30 percent of the entire economy of key U.S. anti-terror ally Pakistan, making it a highly lucrative target for money-hungry gangs from poor neighborhoods. Karachi matters greatly to the United States, as 40 percent of all supplies to U.S. troops in neighboring Afghanistan funnels through the port.

Last month, the mix of criminal, ethnic and sectarian killing claimed 169 lives, with 1,300 dying in violence in Karachi over the past year, according to the Citizens Police Liaison Committee, an official organization that holds the police to account. Most of the victims belonged to no political party but were humble people targeted for their ethnicity or the area they lived in. They included roadside vendors, drivers of rickshaws and shopkeepers. \*For years, one ethnic-based party, the Muttahida Quami Movement, which represents the Mohajirs, had a stranglehold on Karachi, allegedly running an extortion operation and death

squads, according to police and rival political parties. Now, the Baloch, and the Pashtuns, originally from northwest Pakistan but long established in the city, each with its own violent street gangs, are challenging the MQM. The bloodshed at Shershah market was one grim example. The security official said the attack on the market was a stark demonstration that the Baloch, who are based in the adjacent rundown Lyari area, had also emerged as a power. The Baloch are associated with the Pakistan Peoples Party, which leads the national government in Islamabad, while the Pashtuns are represented by the Awami National Party. The situation is further complicated by the fact that all three political parties might be warring on the streets but they're also in the coalition government together.

The fighting in Karachi regularly rocks the government in Islamabad and could yet bring it down. The MQM, which controls about 80 percent of Karachi, claims it's the victim of propaganda from its enemies.

"In Karachi, it is the MQM versus the rest," said Haider Rizvi, a member of the national parliament from Karachi for the MQM. "We have been painted so black that even if a cat is killed, it is blamed on us."

The three-way ethnic tussle doesn't explain all the strands of Karachi violence. There's

also a break-away faction of the MQM known as Haqiqi, which is at war with the original MQM, and Sunni Tehreek, a sectarian group. At its heart: money, including profits from extorting protection money from shops, factories and offices, a property grabbing operation - occupying land or buildings - and the drug trade. The competition is over who collects. Crossing a single street can take you into the territory of another gang. Only the upscale areas of Defence and Clifton, where the city's elite lives, are spared.

Saleem Hingoro, a member of the provincial parliament for the Pakistan Peoples Party, for Karachi's Lyari area, insists his party doesn't support the Baloch gangs. But, Hingoro added: "Criminals are taking shelter in every political party. If the parties stopped giving criminals shelter, the killing would stop. But all the parties would need to do this together."

The Awami National Party wants the army called in to clean things up. Shahi Syed, the head of the party in Karachi, told McClatchy Newspapers that the city needs an operation

like the anti-Taliban offensives in the northwest of the country. "Without an army operation here, the whole of Pakistan will be brought down," Syed said. "Karachi is the heart of Pakistan."

At Shershah market, there is now, belatedly, a visible police presence, but the shop owners still don't feel safe. One trader quietly told how on Oct. 19, gunmen pulled up the steel shutters of his store and shot his two sons and brother inside. His sons, age 24 and 26, died, while his brother was critically injured and is now partly paralyzed. The shop owner said that he, along with every other outlet in the market, was dutifully paying extortion money to Baloch gangs.

"They shot them as if they were infidels," said the shop owner, who didn't want his name used out of fear for his safety. "We are not linked to any political party. We were just doing our business. What was our fault?"



People gather on the streets of Lyari, a run-down district of Karachi, Pakistan, which is the stronghold of Baloch gangs and the Pakistan Peoples Party. Photo by MCT.

# SGA updates: Take part in your student government

## Recent Topics:

- Smoking Survey
  - Presidential Candidates
  - Guest Speakers regarding Public Safety and Food Services
  - Izzy's Issues
- And so many more!!

## Future Semester Goals:

- Get Extremely Involved with new President
  - Expect many meetings with the opportunity to truly get to know your new University President!!
- Work Hand-In-Hand with campus clubs to sponsor major Spring Semester events such as:
  - Spring Fling
  - Easter Jam
- Major upcoming surveys and changes to all three areas of food on campus including:
  - The Café
  - The Lions Den
  - Freshen's Smoothies
  -

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- ✓ Finance Committee
- ✓ Academic Committee

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7PM Clark Auditorium





## MU student attends West Point conference

*Andrew Ziegler  
Political Science Professor*

Andrea Candlish (white coat), an MU junior majoring in Political Science, attended the Student Conference on United States Affairs (SCUSA) at the United States Military Academy, West Point, NY, Nov. 10-13, 2010. About 300 students from around the world attended the conference. Pictured with Andrea are participants of the roundtable on “American Federalism and Immigration.” For information on SCUSA 62:

[http://www.dean.usma.edu/sosh/scusa\\_beta/index.php](http://www.dean.usma.edu/sosh/scusa_beta/index.php)



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# International food festival: students get a taste of cultures around the world

*Aaron Bressler  
Staff Writer*

The smell of foreign, exotic foods filled the air along with music and laughter Thursday, Nov. 11 at the International Food Festival in Berns. This yearly event drew in more than 60 people as cultures collided into a smorgasbord of food and treats. International students prepared many dishes in order to give participants a taste of their home countries.

Some of the available options included Thai pepper spring rolls, Arabic salad, Bosnian meat and cheese pies, Indian chicken curry, jerked chicken and Bosnian apple cake. Many students said they were surprised to find that the curry was not as spicy as they were expecting.



Methodist student Mohammed Jarkhawaja helped prepare the Arabic salad, which consisted of beef and other ingredients, wrapped in grape leaves. This salad is common to many Arabic countries.

“Some foods need more time than other foods,” said Jarkhawaja, a native of Palestine.

Jarkhawaja, along with many other International students at Methodist, views the festival as a way to show his culture to others.

Amber Cartwright, a student from the Bahamas, also helped by selling drinks. She was not able to cook this year, but still had fun seeing all the different dishes from around the world.

Berns filled quickly as students, staff and faculty members ate and enjoyed plates piled high with food. By the end of the festival, everyone knew a little more about other cultures and had the food in their stomachs to prove it.

Alisha Hunt, an American student at the festival, said this was her first time attending and she enjoyed learning about the other cultures represented at Methodist along with getting to know new people. Hunt’s favorite food was the curry and she, along with many other students, intends to return next year.

Above: Several international students serve Bosnian apple cakes and pies to students and staff members during the International Food Festival.

Left: The line at the food festival stretched the width of the Berns Student Center. Photos by Kika Frisone.



# 'Pangea' brings together MU community for a night of cultural entertainment

*Erika Paris  
Staff Writer*

Thursday, Nov. 18 was a night of culture and entertainment in the Reeves auditorium, as the International Club presented their annual show 'Pangaea', which is the word for a hypothetical supercontinent that included all the landmasses of the earth.

As the show opened, the audience grew silent as they watched a heartfelt and moving interpretive dance as flags from around the world were placed together on the stage. Following the opening, the acts began with multiple groups and individuals performing dances and songs that shared a little international culture with the audience.

At several points in the show, the mood sobered as the tone grew more serious. A video was played about help and relief aid in Indonesia, a country facing turmoil after volcanic eruptions, and a song dedication was made to the students and staff who had been touched by the shooting at Izzy's Sports Bar, which happened just a few weeks ago.

Sibusiso Ntshalintshali, the performer who dedicated his song to those touched by the incident at Izzy's said, "I got the dedication out to members of our community affected by Izzy's Bar shooting."

Joe Engleheart, a freshman who attended Pangea, appreciated the moments that brought the audience back down to earth. "My favorite part was the dedication," said Engleheart.

Yalita Rivers performed Etta James's "At Last," while Jose Pablo Salas-Rojas and Michelle Simmons

performed a dance to the love song. Another dance team got the crowd energized with a song that transported them to the colorful world of Bollywood.

Munti Musiwa and Laone Oagile sang a touching song that brought everyone to their "hometown" and the memories that they had there.

"A Beautiful Symphony" was played on drums and ended with a song by Teriyaki Boys - Tokyo Drift.

Frankie J's touching song about love, "More than Words," was well performed and received an intense amount of appreciation and involvement from the audience. The show closed with a beautiful song and the reunion of all the performers.

Pangea brought together many countries, heritages, and people and hopefully can continue to do so in the upcoming years here at Methodist University.

Below: Nucharin "Noon" Kantapasara and Lemuel Nicholls dance for the audience.

Right: Michele Dacosta danced to "Waka Waka" by Shakira. Photos by Jessie Heath.



# Call of Duty Black Ops: Above and beyond the call of duty



*Aaron Bressler  
Staff Writer*

While many games this year have promised a lot, few have lived up to their expectations. Call of Duty Black Ops on the other hand, not only meets these expectations but exceeds them in one of the best releases of the year.

One of the first things you notice is the drastic change in the way the campaign tells its story. First of all, it Black Ops has a story that players are interested in. The story is set in the height of the Cold War, with Kennedy as president and a young Fidel in Cuba. You start the game as Mason, a Black Ops agent. At the beginning of the game, you know nothing about the character. By the end, you still don't know anything, and really don't care. The only reason you'll remember his name is because other characters spend most of the game yelling "Mason" at you.

The game makes no effort to make the characters interesting or memorable (with the exception of Reznov) and benefits from it. The emphasis is clearly on the story, although it has a habit of jumping around. The story is told from the perspective of someone who is not only being tortured, but is just a little crazy. The game also failed with the villain character development because you simply can't make an emotional connection with a character who's hardly ever there or felt.

The actual gameplay is very much like its predecessor. It tries to emphasize realism and chaos, and does a reasonable job. The battles are frantic and logical. Enemies use cover and grenades effectively. Even on the easier difficulties, standing in the open is a good way to get you shot. However, there are a couple fights that aren't challenging, they're just frustrating. More than once you get stuck in seemingly endless grind fights as the game

spawns more and more commies between you and your next objective. The game also does an excellent job at breaking up the monotony with several mini-game sections that are immensely fun. From piloting missiles to commanding troops from a blackbird RTS (real time strategy) style, the game gives you plenty to do. The guns are many and varied, mostly accurate and have real effects on not only the character, but also the world around them.

The levels are very well designed, often with multiple paths and options given. The game also avoids using invisible walls, instead using buildings, cliffs, and long drops to keep the player on the map which helps the player from being feeling like they were herded. The friendly AI, or artificial intelligence, was surprisingly intelligent, but sometimes was too slow or unhelpful. However, their actions are heavily scripted, to the point that they had a distressing habit of shoving you out from behind cover they were supposed to have. Not only did this have a habit of getting you shot by the ever accurate enemy, as well as horde the good cover, but led to some vaguely amusing moments were they would scream for you avoid the grenade while stubbornly squatting on top of it. They enemy also had an annoying habit of randomly changing tactics retry to retry, once resulting in the player getting no less than six grenades thrown to his corner at once. He didn't make it.

There were some moments that really should have been cut scenes as it takes away almost all control from the player. While the graphics were good in combat, it became apparent that they skimped on some of the textures, especially faces and foliage, when the action slowed. The music and audio on the other hand was one of the best I've heard. The voice acting wasn't great but the gunfire was good and the soundtrack was truly epic. It spends most of the time in the background but there are times when you just have to pause a moment and admire the music. The highlight was when you pilot a gunboat down a river in Laos to the tune of "Sympathy for the Devil" by Rolling Stones.

As promised, the game also includes a zombie mode. To say the game is brutal is an understatement. You really have to play with others to get very far. The game plays much like the others, with the same mechanics. Not much was changed, but it was still fun.

As well as the campaign did, the real highlight of the game is its multi-player. It plays much like its predecessor but with a few improvements on balance. While rank does affect play, high-level players don't have that much of an advantage over noobs, letting new players stay competitive. It also uses a new credit-based economy. Higher ranks unlock new weapons and attachments, but now you have to buy them to use them. You do get these credits by playing the game. The credit system makes you decide what supplies you want first, as opposed to just having everything at once.

You can also earn credits in special wager matches. You pay to get in, but receive a nice payout if you win. Wager matches also use some of the most original game types anyone has ever seen. In Gun Game, you receive a new weapon with every kill in attempts to get to the final weapon. Sharpshooter cycles the weapon everyone has randomly every 45 seconds, forcing you to use a variety of tactics. You can also get more credits and experience by buying contracts (mini achievements) which encourage the player to use weapons and tactics that they normally wouldn't. Black Ops is probably one of the best and most balanced multi-player games I've seen.

Call of Duty Black Ops is easily one of the best shooters I've played, and far exceeded anyone's expectation. This is not a game you rent, because it is entirely possible that you won't want to give it back. If you were wondering if it was worth the money, the answer is a resounding yes. Black Ops goes above and beyond the Call of Duty.

# Holiday Game Guide: Exclusively for smallTALK

*Austin Bordeaux*  
Opinions Editor

I was unable to play a new game to review in time for this issue, so instead I present a guide to game releases for the holidays. I've only listed one game for each system, but I hope you enjoy these suggestions.

## Golden Sun: Dark Dawn – exclusively for Nintendo DS

The incredibly popular Golden Sun RPG series is getting a new entry 7 years after the previous one. Golden Sun: Dark Dawn updates the popular portable Golden Sun role-playing series with an impressive graphical style. This installment follows the story of the previous heroes' descendants 30 years after the last game ends and immerses players in the magic of its adventure by pushing the boundaries with intuitive touch-screen controls. The game is to be released Nov. 29.

## World of Warcraft: Cataclysm – for PC

Blizzard Entertainment's third expansion to immensely popular World of Warcraft forever alters the face of Azeroth, as the destruction left in Deathwing's wake reshapes the land and reveals secrets long sealed away. Players will be able to re-experience familiar zones across Kalimdor and the Eastern Kingdoms, areas wrought by the cataclysm and filled with new opportunities for adventure. The game is to be released Dec. 7.

## Gran Turismo 5 – exclusively for PS3

The next installment of the award-winning racing franchise, Gran Turismo 5, is coming exclusively to the PLAYSTATION 3 system. Known for its signature beauty and precision, the highly anticipated racer will showcase new jaw-dropping cars, real-life tracks, and

diverse racing styles. Gran Turismo promises to deliver exciting advancements to the series in the most comprehensive racing experience ever. The game is to be released Nov. 24.

## Prinny 2: Dawn of Operation Panties, Dood! – exclusively for PSP

Prinny 2 is a side-scrolling hack and slash action game. Players will control demonic penguins, Prinnyes, who are known as the "weakest monsters in the Netherworld." Players can run, jump, slash, execute special skills and ride tanks or jets to battle enemies. The Prinnyes' mission is to find Demon Lord Etna's stolen panties! If they fail... Etna will turn THEM into panties! As an extra bonus, a whole new main character and story become available after you complete the main game. The game is to be released January 2011.

## Disney Epic Mickey – exclusively for Nintendo Wii

Disney Epic Mickey is an action-adventure platforming game for the Wii console that sends Mickey Mouse on an epic journey of creativity and discovery. As Mickey, the player is propelled into Wasteland, an alternate world made up of Disney's forgotten creative efforts, and is given the power to wield paint and paint thinner to dynamically change the world while determining Mickey's path to becoming an epic hero. The game is to be released on Nov. 30.

## Splatterhouse - for Xbox360 and PS3

Inspired by the landmark 1988 arcade hit, Splatterhouse combines visceral, adrenaline-soaked combat with horror elements to deliver an original gaming experience that defies the boundaries of the traditional action category with over-the-top gore and shocking new gameplay mechanics. The game is to be released Nov. 23.



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# Just for fun

## DVD releases in time for the Holidays

Ah, yes, the time has come for presents to be purchased! For the movie lover in your family (or yourself), keep this list to know what days to dash to the store to pick up the newest releases for the holidays. Don't forget, you may have to pick up some late holiday gifts.

### Dec. 7

- Inception
- Shrek Forever After

### Dec. 14

- Despicable Me
- The Other Guys
- The A-Team
- Cyrus

### Dec. 17

- Legends of the Guardians: The Owls of Ga'Hoole
- The Town

### Nov. 23

- The Expendables
- Eat Pray Love

### Nov. 30

- Knight and Day
- The Sorcerer's Apprentice
- Vampires Suck
- Going the Distance

### Dec. 21

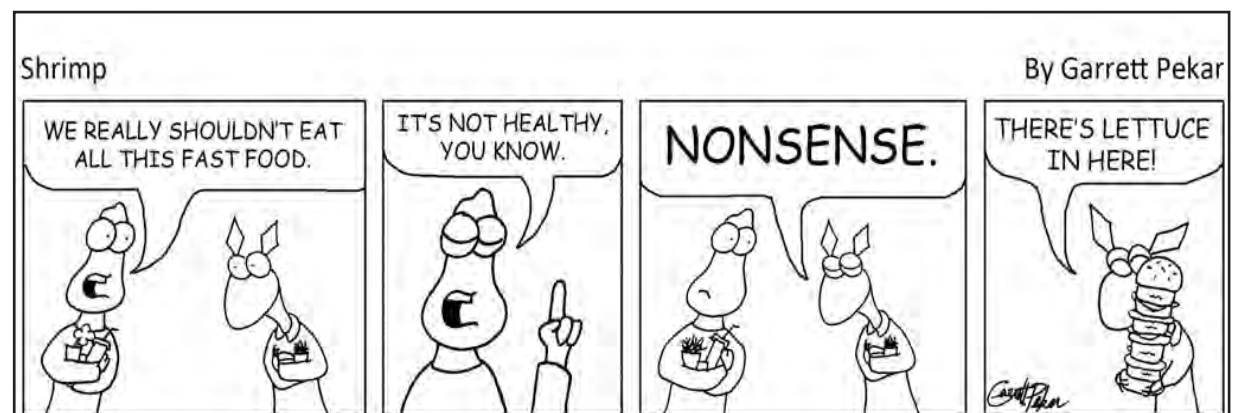
- Easy A
- Salt
- Devil
- Step Up 3-D

### Dec. 4

- The Twilight Saga: Eclipse

### Dec. 28

- Resident Evil: Afterlife
- The American
- Twelve



## Riddles of the week...

This is an unusual paragraph. I'm curious how quickly you can find out what is so unusual about it? It looks so plain you would think nothing was wrong with it! In fact, nothing is wrong with it! It is unusual though. Study it, and think about it, but you still may not find anything odd. But if you work at it a bit, you might find out! Try to do so without any coaching!

You are in a room that is completely bricked in on all four walls. The ceiling and floor is also made of bricks. You have nothing but a wooden table and a mirror in the room with you. How do you get out?

Answer: None of the sentences in the riddle contain the letter 'e'.

Answer: You look in the mirror and see what you saw. You take the saw and cut the table in half. Two halves make a whole. You climb out of the hole.

## ScrubOaks Restaurant Review: Worth the pricetag

*Emily Kennedy*  
*Staff Writer*

ScrubOaks is a small “contemporary American” restaurant on Ramsey Street, right next to Pierro’s. Recently, smallTALK sent a writer to ScrubOaks to review the restaurant.

### **Appearance:**

From the outside, it ScrubOaks does not look like much, but once you step inside, you find a nicely-furnished restaurant complete with a small bar and televisions with plenty of games to keep every sports-lover entertained. The overall atmosphere of the restaurant is laid-back, however, in what seems to be an attempt to make this restaurant a classy version of an average sports-oriented establishment, the tables, table clothes, glasses and silverware all give off a very clean and put together look. The hostess, kitchen staff, and waiters/waitresses were all neatly dressed and looked well-polished.

### **Location:**

This location isn’t ideal in my personal opinion, seeing as Ramsey street is very busy. The parking is limited, and overall cramped.

### **Menu:**

The menu is very limited and slightly expensive, especially considering the average amount of money college students have. However, since ScrubOaks is a locally owned business and relatively small, they must up their prices to compete with larger chains. That being said, the quality of the food is definitely worthy of the extra cash. The food, presented beautifully as a true culinary artist dreams of one day doing, was delicious. While the menu, while shorter than most, will not disappoint.

### **Overall:**

I was impressed by ScrubOaks, but the thing that impressed me the most was when the owner, who seems to genuinely enjoy what he does, came around and asked every single customer how their food was.

I give it an overall score of 7/10, mainly because of price, selection, and location.

ScrubOaks Restaurant. Photo by Jessie Heath.

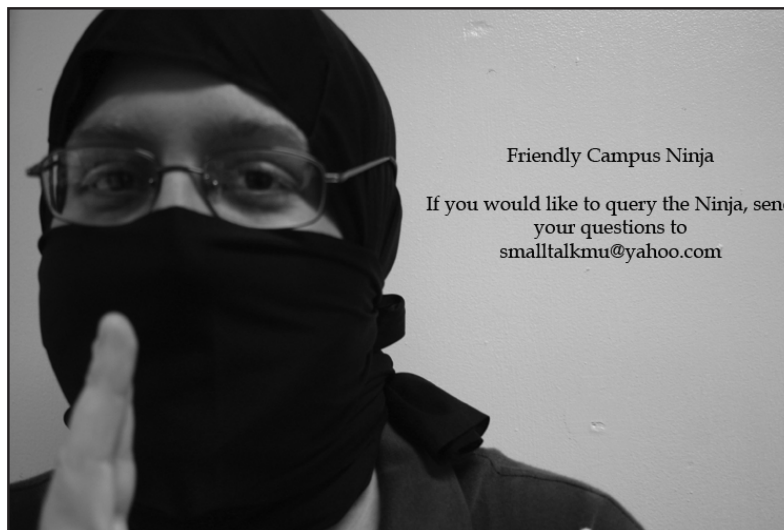


# Questionable queries of a Campus Ninja

Dear Campus Ninja,

Thanksgiving is coming up and soon after that the semester will be over and we will be celebrating Christmas and New Years. The holidays are my favorite times of the year, because they allow me to gorge myself and do as little as possible, without having to listen to anybody complain that I'm being lazy. I still do that the rest of the year, but hearing the constant criticism and comparisons of myself to rodents or insects is a tad annoying. Do you enjoy the holidays as much as I do? A better question: do you celebrate all holidays, Oh Glorious Incarnate of Epic?

From,  
Glutton Grad



Dear Campus Ninja,

I realized when I went to my advisor that my schedule was so messed up that I am going to graduate 2 years later than planned. One of the main reasons is that I seem to have taken no classes in my major during the past 3 years. This mistake is all my advisor's fault! They should know what I want and picked the right classes for me. If I pick my own classes, I might miss out on something that I need, so that is a no-go. What would you do if your advisor messed up your schedule, O wise Ninja?

From,  
Stupid Schedule

Dear Stupid,

My advisor is an extremely high ranked member of the Yamashiro clan, and to register for my classes I have to traverse the merciless forest

Dear Glutton,

I love the holidays with the passion of a thousand suns. The burning desire to taste that holiday food and immerse myself in the joy of giving is so overpowering that I sometimes lose control of myself. As a Ninja, I celebrate each and every holiday there is, even if they conflict with one another. I even celebrate Boxing Day, even though few people really knows what that day is about.

of death to earn the right to even ask for a particular class. Even at that point, it is up to the mood of my advisor at the time as to whether he agrees or sentences me to some days at the bottom of the Pacific Ocean to think about what I've done. One key fact is that I do all my research ahead of time and keep track over the years so I know what is needed or not. I recommend that all students do this instead of blaming their advisor if they themselves did no preparation.

## *Ashley Asks... What is your favorite holiday and why?*



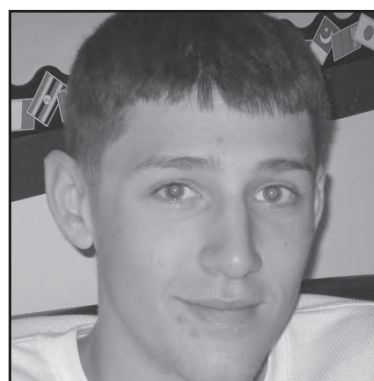
"Christmas is my favorite holiday because you get presents."

- Tim Howard, a freshman physical education major



"Christmas because of the decorations, the spirit and the actual meaning behind it."

- Alisha Hunt, a freshman psychology major.



"Christmas is my favorite holiday because of the gifts and family."

- Christopher Romeo, a junior CIT major.



"Thanksgiving because of the food, the friends, the family and the ham!"

- Kierra Middleton, a sophomore biology major.



# Time To Talk Holiday Food Safety

With the holidays fast approaching, we would like to share the Holiday Food Safety Success Kit with you.

The kit is presented by the FDA, USDA and Partnership for Food Safety Education and includes information on how "to have a festive, delicious, food-safe celebration."

For more information go to [holidayfoodsafety.org](http://holidayfoodsafety.org).

Sodexo is a proud sponsor of the Partnership for Food Safety Education.

## LIMITS ON LEFTOVERS

Having leftover turkey and other dishes means you can have additional tasty meals the day after your feast. But there are limits on how long you can safely keep leftovers.

Temperature and time cause bacteria to grow, which is why it is so important your refrigerator be cold enough and you not keep leftovers too long.

Even when refrigerated properly (at 40 °F), leftovers should be eaten, frozen or discarded within 3 to 4 days.

When heating and storing leftovers keep the following in mind:

~Refrigerate cooked leftovers promptly - within 2 hours. Use an appliance thermometer in your refrigerator to ensure your refrigerator is at 40 °F or below. Divide leftovers into smaller portions and store in shallow containers in the refrigerator.

~Wash hands with warm water and soap for 20 seconds before and after handling food.

~Reheat cooked leftovers to 165 °F as measured with a food thermometer.

~Sauces, soups and gravies should be reheated by bringing them to a boil.

~When microwaving leftovers, make sure there are no cold spots in food (where bacteria can survive). Cover food, stir and rotate for even cooking.

## Organizational Meeting | November 29th @ 11am

Methodist University is forming a CERT (Community Emergency Response Team).

This team is open to any member of the MU community (Students, Faculty, Staff) who is interested in helping their community. Stop by S-263 for the meeting.



## Training Class

December  
4th and 5th

8:00am - 5:00pm

If you would like to attend training, Please see  
Carla Raineri: Director SECEE. S-263

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**Next issue:**  
**Look for us in January 2011!**

small**TALK**

wishes you the best of holidays!

# North Carolina finally hits the big score in rout

*Robbi Pickeral*  
*McClatchy Newspapers (MCT)*

Remember those Tar Heels who used to like to put up points in bunches, bury three-pointers and run up the score? They might be back.

Eighth-ranked North Carolina blew out Hofstra, 107-63, on Thursday in the first round of the Puerto Rico Tip-Off, marking the first time they've broken 90 points since late last December and surpassing any of their point totals from last season. UNC (2-0) will play Minnesota in the second round at 8:30 on Friday night at the Coliseo de Puerto Rico. The game will be televised on ESPN2.

"It's fun to score," Carolina coach Roy Williams said after watching his team make 56.3 percent of its shots. "Guys enjoy playing that way, I enjoy coaching it, fans like to see it. . . . I've said it 100 million times: Everything looks better when the ball goes in the basket."

One game, of course, does not prove that this team has totally recovered from an anemic 2009-10 season that saw it score in triple digits only once and hit 90 points only thrice more than that. But there were pretty good signs, such as making 12 three-pointers (three more than any time last season); and recording six players in double figures (including junior Justin Watts, who had a career-high 13 points, and sophomore Leslie McDonald, who tied a career-best with 16 points).

"Twelve-for-17 from the 3-point line?" Williams said. "Last year, we'd go two or three games and not make 12 threes. But again, it was outrageous how well we shot it early."

Indeed, Carolina took control from the get-go, opening with a 15-2 run that included two three-pointers and a jumper from freshman Harrison Barnes, who was 4-for-4 from behind the arc, and scored all 19 of his points, by halftime. UNC was 8-for-9 from behind three-point line by halftime, impressive considering it managed only eight 3s, period, in two games last season.

"For one thing, I think we're doing better at rotating the ball and getting shots," said McDonald, who was 5-for-9 with four three-pointers for the game. "We attack the middle, give it to the big men, they pass it out, and we're getting shots. That's why we're getting more shots than last year." McDonald, Dexter Strickland and Barnes even managed to slow down guard Charles Jenkins, who scored only four of his game-high 24 points after halftime. Still, the focus for the Tar Heels fans who made the trip was the score.

First, UNC smashed the 4-year-old tournament's record for points in a game (it was previously 89). Then, with 4 minutes left, and the Tar Heels leading 98-58, a good-natured chant of "We want biscuits!" began - a

reminder of years past, when Bojangles' doled out two sausage sandwiches for a buck when the Tar Heels scored 100 (and they used to have to give out a lot of biscuits).

"I stood up, and I pointed over to them - because you've got to give the fans what they want," point guard Larry Drew II said, smiling. "If they want biscuits, who are we not to give the people biscuits?"



A UNC player fights for ball. Photo courtesy of UNC-Chapel Hill.

# MONARCH SCOREBOARD

## GAME RESULTS

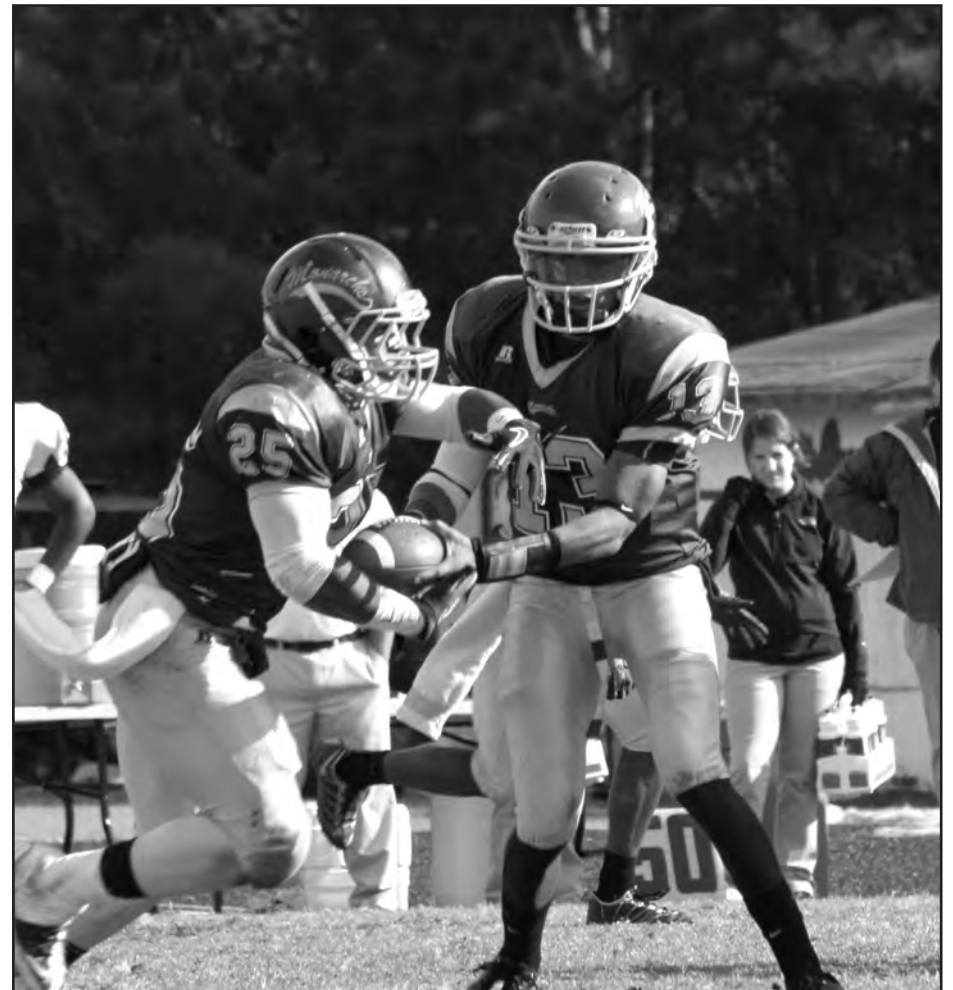
Football		
Date	Opponent	Result
11/6/10	Greensboro College	L 19-22
11/13/10	Christopher Newport University	L 10-49
Men's Basketball		
Date	Opponent	Result
11/14/10	Radford University	L 74-83
11/17/10	Guilford College	L 53-77
Women's Basketball		
Date	Opponent	Result
11/15/10	Salem College	W 64-43
Men's Soccer		
Date	Opponent	Result
11/5/10	North Carolina Wesleyan College	L 0-3
Women's Volleyball		
Date	Opponent	Result
11/5/10	Christopher Newport University	L 0-3



Above: Freshman Eric McGinnis kicks the ball past an opponent.  
Right: Travis Murphy (right) hands off the ball to John Flanagan.  
Photos by Kika Frisone.

## HOME GAMES

Men's Basketball		
Date	Opponent	Time
11/23/10	Lynchburg College	6 pm
11/28/10	Virginia Wesleyan College	6 pm
12/12/10	Maryville College	5 pm
Women's Basketball		
Date	Opponent	Time
11/27/10	Maryville College	8 pm
11/28/10	LaGrange College	3 pm
12/1/10	Greensboro College	7 pm
12/11/10	Shenandoah University	4 pm
12/12/10	Mary Baldwin College	3 pm



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