



small TALK

Jan. 24, 2011
Volume 50, Issue 7

Methodist University
Fayetteville, NC

Water main break gives new meaning to the phrase 'dry campus'

Jessie Heath
Editor-in-Chief

Students at Methodist University found a new meaning to the phrase 'dry campus' after a water main broke in Fayetteville on the evening of Thursday Jan. 13.

The campus was going about its normal business when it suddenly and unexpectedly lost water service, following the rupture of a water transmission line at the Hoffer Water Plant. The break caused more than 50,000 customers, including Methodist University, to go completely dry.

It took some time before students were able to get any information on what happened to cause the water outage on campus. Facebook was full of queries as to where all the water went and whether or not it would soon be available. Students and staff members made calls to the Welcome Center in search of information, only to learn that nobody had any answers.

"I had just come back from dinner and was trying to brush my teeth when I found out we didn't have any water," said Katy Sonner, a freshman justice studies major who lives in Pearce Hall.

Within one hour of the water loss, an email was sent to the Methodist University community from the ALERTNOW system.

"Domestic water service to Methodist University campus has been interrupted," read the email. *"This outage resulted from a waterline break off campus and is affecting a significant portion of the Fayetteville area. We do not yet have an estimate for when service will be restored."*

"You really don't know how much of a necessity water is until you have none," said Shereece Saxton, a freshman biology major.

Water service was restored to campus after just a few hours, but the water was still unsafe to drink or wash hands in. While the majority

of the Fayetteville community was being urged to boil their water, students at Methodist were being urged to use bottled water and not drink from the water fountains, because of the possibility that the water was contaminated.

"I had to use what little bit of bottled water I had to get ready for school Friday morning," said Saxton. "It disappeared quickly."

The campus did its best to provide bottled water to residential students who did not have kitchen access to boil water. Flats of water were put hall lobbies, and RC's and RA's went door to door making sure that residents knew that water was available to them. Signs were put on water fountains and tapped to dorm room doors to remind residents not to wash their hands, brush their teeth, or use the water for cooking until further notice.

The water advisory lasted through the weekend, which caused problems not only in the dorms but also in the café and other buildings on campus. The café had to boil all the water they used in food preparation throughout the weekend. The café had to make large containers of lemonade and fruit punch for students to drink, as the fountain drink machines were shut down.

After a slew of emails to students and staff members, the last advisory email was sent out just after 7 p.m. on Sunday, Jan. 16.

"The Fayetteville Public Works Commission (PWC) has announced that the precautionary "Boil Water" advisory has ended," read the email. *"Tests have demonstrated that local tap water is safe for human consumption."*

"I feel like Methodist did the best it could with a situation that was beyond their control," said Sonner about the incident. "They had bottled water for the residents and made sure to keep us updated through emails."

Photo by Jessie Heath.

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 are free to join smallTALK at any point in the school year. Meetings are every Monday at 5 p.m. in the Heritage Dining Room.

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

Elevator lifts hopes for future campus accessibility



Newly completed elevator in Trustees building.
Photo by Jessie Heath.

Ashley Young
News Editor

One of Methodist University's oldest buildings has finally received the lift it needed. After months of construction, the Trustees Building received several upgrades, including the completion of the much needed elevator at the south end of the building.

An extended canopy and an automatic-open door were also installed to go along with the elevator.

The Trustees Building was originally built in 1960, before federal laws required builders to accommodate the need for disability access in multi-level buildings. With many of the core

classes needed to graduate located in Trustees, the need for an elevator was crucial.

Students put the elevator to use upon its opening.

On Tuesday Jan. 18, the elevator was marked "out of order," after the elevator began making an irregular noise. Upon inspection and repair, technicians approved the elevator's safety and the elevator was up and running again.

The previous pathway to access the top and bottoms floors of the Trustees was long and time consuming. People who could not use the stairs in Trustees had go around the ramp behind Trustees, down the long sidewalk and take a right by the side of Reeves Auditorium. Individuals would then have to follow that sidewalk, ride down the steep sidewalk that leads to the water fountain, take a right or left around the brickway and head down towards the long sidewalk between the library and Trustees that leads to the downstairs of Trustees. After that trip, they would then have to pry open the doors using one hand, which is especially difficult from a wheelchair or powerchair.

"It's a good thing we finally have it!" said Pamela Randon, a junior who uses a powerchair.

The construction of the elevator installation cost \$300,000, which came from the university cash reserve fund. The costs for the canopy and automatic door came from the university operating budget. Tuition costs will not be raised due to this project.

Vice President for Business Affairs, Gene Clayton, supervises financial operations and helped in selection of a sight, design and building grounds for the elevator.

"First, the elevator will certainly assist those individuals who have difficulty getting around campus. It will allow them to get from the first floor to the second floor without having to circle around campus," said Clayton. "Second, it makes Methodist more handicap accessible," said Clayton.

Plans for future disability access improvements are currently on the being discussed.

Upcoming *Around* Campus

Jan. 26 - 8 p.m.

A Pair of Nuts - Comedy Show

You'll laugh, you'll cry, and you'll probably wet yourself. Comedy duo Yamil Piedra and Johnny Trabanco will grace MU with their comedic presence.

Admission is free.

Berns Student Center

Jan. 29 - 7:30 p.m.

Jan. 30 - 5:00 p.m.

Fayetteville Flight vs. Savannah Storm

Fayetteville's ABA team, Fayetteville Flight, faces the Savannah Storm on home turf.

Admission is \$8 or \$5 with student or military ID.

March F. Riddle Center

Feb. 2 - 8 p.m.

Movie and a Meal

Tyler Perry's *For Colored Girls* depicts issues that impact women.

Admission is free.

Berns Student Center

Feb. 5 - 2 p.m.

Pink Zone Basketball Game

Come support your Lady Monarchs and help raise awareness for breast cancer! Wear pink!

Admission is free.

March F. Riddle Center

Feb. 6 - 6 p.m.

Super Bowl Party

Wanna watch the Super Bowl but have a small TV? Fear not, and come watch Super Bowl XLV with some friends.

Admission is Free

Berns Student Center

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

Events *On the* Town

Jan. 20 - Feb. 13

Hairspray

Change is here, and Tracy Turnblad is embracing it with all of her heart and soul!

Call 910.323.4233 for show times and ticket prices.

Cape Fear Regional Theatre

Jan. 28 - 7 p.m.

Fourth Friday

The historic downtown area of Fayetteville is transformed into an art-rich paradise with plenty to see and experience.

Admission is free

Historic Downtown Fayetteville

Feb. 2 - 7 p.m.

Music As A Weapon Tour V

Monster Energy presents their "Music As A Weapon 5 Tour" with a double headliner of Disturbed and Korn with Sevendust.

More information can be found at www.atthecrown.com

Crown Center

Feb. 3 - Feb. 20

Dateline: Greensboro

A drama that tells the story of the sit-in in Greensboro, NC, that started the civil rights movement.

Call 910.678.7186 for show times and ticket prices.

Gilbert Theater

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.

Club Fair encourages students to get involved on campus



Sophomore Jordan Aytych (left) recruits senior Yalita Rivers (right) for the Miss Methodist Pageant at the Get Involved Fair. Photo contributed by SAC.

Jessie Heath
Editor-in-Chief

Every fall, Methodist University clubs get the chance to show what they are made of at the annual club and involvement fair, which usually only takes place during Freshman Orientation. This year, thanks to SAC, clubs got a second chance to recruit members during the spring Get Involved club fair.

More than 40 clubs and campus organizations gathered in the Berns Student Center on Friday, Jan. 14 to show what they were made of. The fair took place from 11 a.m.-1 p.m. so that it would target the large portion of the student population who walk through Berns to get to the café. The majority of students who were walking to or from lunch stopped to look at a few of the different clubs and organizations.

SAC provided another incentive to visit the fair. The spring semester SAC shirt was available to students who took the initiative to visit at least 5 clubs and have a slip of paper signed proving that they had checked out the different clubs.

"We wanted the clubs to benefit from this," said Doris Jackson, director of the Student Activities Committee. "I wanted to make sure that people were not just coming for the free t-shirt and then leaving. The clubs needed to be the main focus."

At one point during the fair, more than 100 students and staff members were milling around the Berns, either browsing the club booths or doing their best to advertise all that their club had to offer. Each club was given the opportunity to set up a table display in the Berns. Club members were available to answer any questions students had, from how to join to what was expected of members.

Some groups tried to make themselves stand out from the crowd with different display tactics. The Mass Communications department produced a podcast during the fair, inviting different students and staff members to be part of interviews over the two-hour time period. The Center for Personal Development handed out free items to students who stopped by their table.

Courtney Pearson, a sophomore music major, thought the club fair was a success.

"I thought it was very informative for new students," said Pearson.

Students who missed the fair on Friday have not missed their only opportunity to join clubs on campus. Most of the clubs and organizations have weekly or monthly meetings and are open to new members year-round. Students interested in joining a club should contact the club advisor or check http://www.methodist.edu/student_life/clubs.htm for a full list of clubs and organizations.



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- 5 **THE SUPER SUB**
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- 7 **TURKEY BREAST AND PROVOLONE**
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- 6 **FAMOUS ROAST BEEF AND PROVOLON**
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- 13 **THE ORIGINAL ITALIAN**
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- 8 **CLUB SUB**
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- 9 **CLUB SUPREME**
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- 56 **BIG KAHUNA CHEESE STEAK**
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- 15 **MEATBALL AND CHEESE**
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METHODIST UNIVERSITY'S QUALITY ENHANCEMENT PLAN

Forensic Expert, Attorney Justin McShane, to Speak at MU on
February 3, 2011

The Chemistry and Physical Science Department will be hosting nationally renowned forensic science expert Attorney Justin McShane as a guest speaker on Thursday, February 3, 2011 at 2:00pm in the new PA lecture auditorium. This lecture is open to all MU students, faculty, staff, and the local community.

Based in Harrisburg, Attorney McShane is a highly qualified DUI and criminal defense attorney. Widely respected for his encyclopedic knowledge of all forms of forensic science, Attorney McShane has lectured at national forensic and DUI seminars all over the country and has even lectured before the American Chemical Society.

(<http://themcshanefirm.com> and www.thetruthaboutforensicscience.com)

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SNOW SCHOOL: Winter weather delays spring semester

Aaron Bressler and Jessie Heath
Staff Writer, Editor-In-Chief

Methodist University students returned to campus after holiday break with heavy hearts and even heavier bags. Break had ended and the opening of the residence halls on campus signaled that a new semester was about to begin. Students went to sleep on Sunday night with the knowledge that, on Monday holiday break would officially be over.

However, a large winter storm struck North Carolina on the night of Sunday Jan 9, leaving a heavy layer of ice and snow on highways and downing power lines throughout the state. Cumberland County was blanketed under three and a half inches of snow on Monday morning, causing Methodist University to shut down for the next two days.

On Monday morning, the campus sidewalks and roadways were covered in a thick layer of snow. Part of Joe Stout View Drive was closed because snow had made it too dangerous to drive down the hill. Members of the maintenance staff could be seen and heard all day as they plowed the roads around campus. Public Safety said that despite the hazardous conditions, no major injuries or accidents were caused by the snow.

"I think our students handled this most recent weather event really well," said Chief Phillips. "Everyone seemed to be patient, adapt well, and have fun without doing anything that was terribly unsafe."

Many students were concerned about the possibility of make-up days. Since the registrar doesn't have a clear cut snow day policy, they look at the days missed in relation to the number of days required for the semester. The registrar said that there is no need to make up the days missed due to the snow at this time.

A mass email sent out at 6:42a.m. Monday morning stated that Methodist University was open as usual, regardless of the snow, and urged students to exercise extra caution when making their way to campus. Another email was sent out at 7:16a.m., and caused mass confusion with its message: *The University is now CLOSED, REPEAT MU IS NOT CLOSED, 10 JAN 2011.*

Out of all the students at Methodist, commuters seemed to be most effected by the snow day. Mindy Song, a commuter student at Methodist had received the email giving students the go-ahead to come to school and was already on the way to MU when the second email telling students to stay home was sent.

"They could have sent the emails a little earlier" said Song.

Residential students did not have as far to travel as their commuting peers, but many still felt like the decision to cancel classes for Monday should have happened before classes actually began.

"The number of times it took to inform students that class was canceled was ridiculous," said James Barr, a senior residential student. "It took three tries for the email to be sent with the correct information on it."

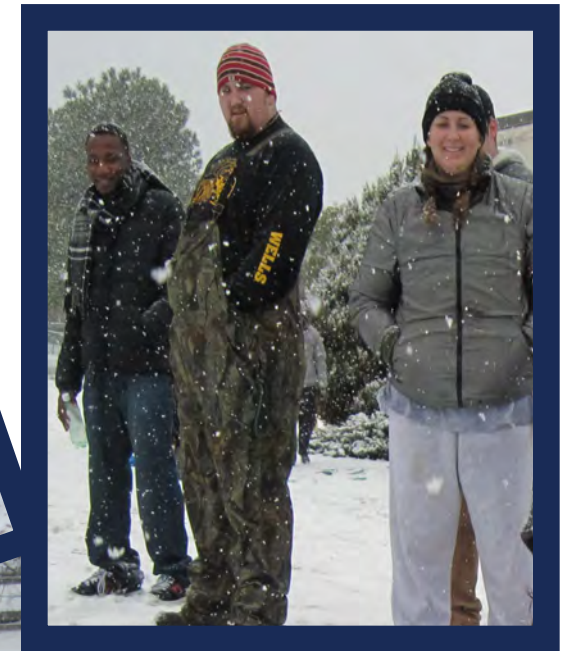
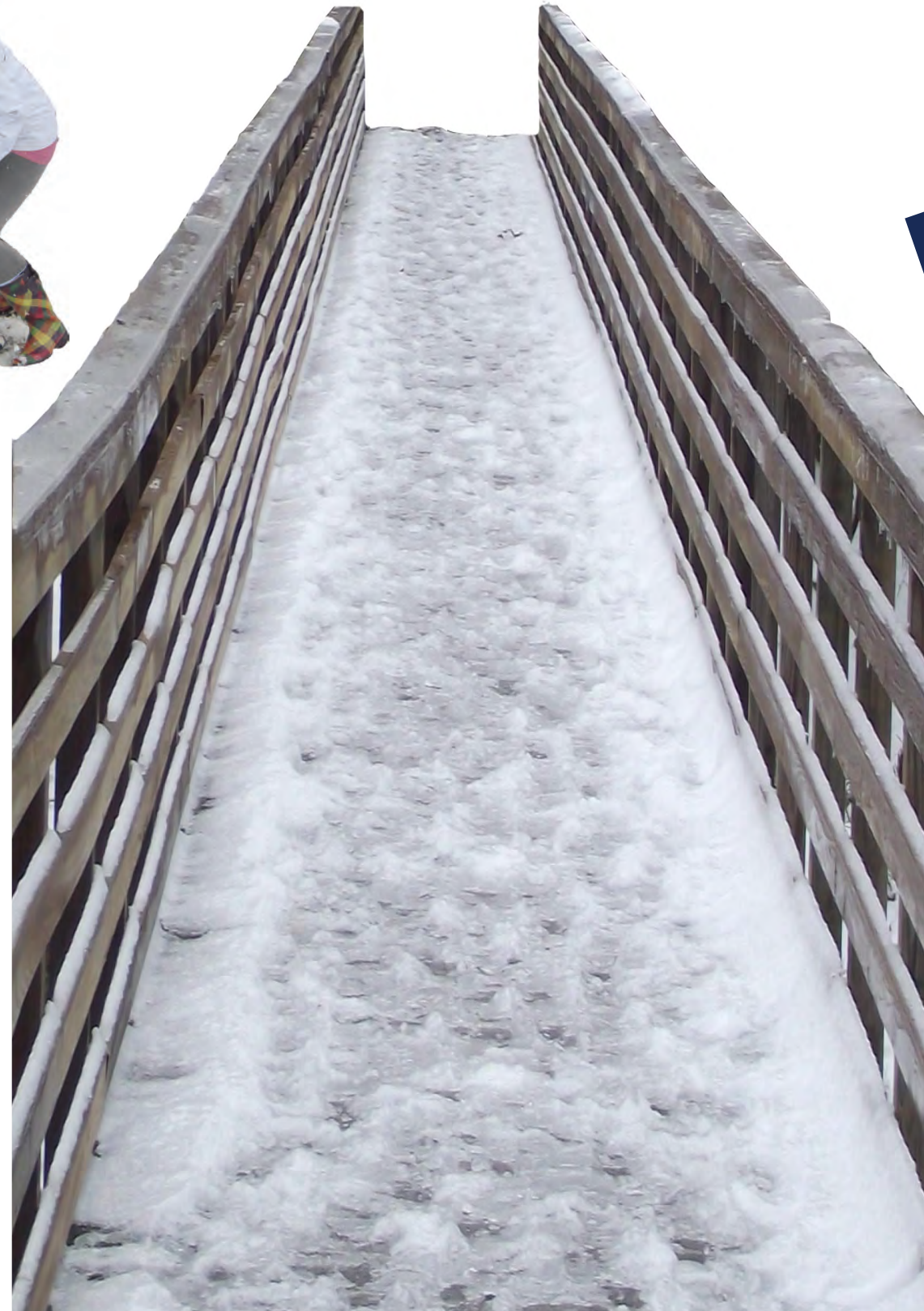
Many residential students took advantage of the extended break. Groups of students participated in outdoor snow day activities, such as sledding and snowball fights. Others decided to remain indoors and enjoy the warmth. Some students took the time to focus on a major activity that they would not get to do much of during the semester: sleep.

Methodist University remained closed on Tuesday Jan. 10, and operated on a 2-hour delay on Wednesday Jan. 11. The first full day of classes was not until Thursday, a full three days after classes were scheduled to begin. On Wednesday and Thursday mornings, the maintenance staff arrived early to salt and sand the roads and sidewalks so that students and faculty could get to class. Maintenance was unavailable for comment.

Above: Nucharin Kantapasara enjoys her first sled ride. Photo by Cecilia Bode.

Center: The bridge to Downback covered in snow and ice. Photo by Jessie Heath.

Right (clockwise from top): Sophomore Haley Williams gets a push from Rachel Cornett and Zach Klees. Tony Wells and Rachel Cornett watch friends sled. Megan Wilson and Alexis Speck start a snowball fight. Matt Quick sleds down the hill beside the Riddle Center. Photos by Cecilia Bode.



Just for fun

Pop tops year-end charts: Billboard Top 20 songs of 2010

1. Tik Tok – Ke\$ha
2. Need You Now – Lady Antebellum
3. Hey, Soul Sister – Train
4. California Gurls – Katy Perry feat. Snoop Dogg
5. OMG – Usher feat. Will.I. Am
6. Airplanes – B.O.B feat. Hayley Williams
7. Love the Way You Lie – Eminem feat. Rihanna
8. Bad Romance – Lady Gaga
9. Dynamite – Taio Cruz
10. Break Your Heart – Taio Cruz feat. Ludacris
11. Nothin' on You – B.O.B feat. Bruno Mars
12. I Like It – Enrique Iglesias feat. Pitbull
13. Bedrock – Young Money feat. Lloyd
14. In My Head – Jason Derulo
15. Rude Boy – Rihanna
16. Telephone – Lady Gaga feat. Beyonce
17. Teenage Dream – Katy Perry
18. Just the Way You Are – Bruno Mars
19. Cooler than Me – Mike Posner
20. Imma Be – Black Eyed Peas



Source: Billboard.com



Riddles of the week...

A man was at a bar feeling poor. He sees a rich man take 50's out his pocket to pay the cashier. The poor man says to the rich man "I know all the songs known to man." The rich man laughed and said, "I bet you all the money in my pocket that you can't sing a song with my daughter's name in it, Sarah Lee Greyson." The poor man went home rich and the rich man went home poor. What song did the man sing?

Answer: The man sang "Happy Birthday."

An old man wanted to leave all of his money to one of his three sons, but he didn't know which one he should give it to. He gave each of them a few coins and told them to buy something that would be able to fill their living room. The first man bought straw, but there was not enough to fill the room. The second bought some sticks, but they still did not fill the room. The third man bought two things that filled the room, so he obtained his father's fortune. What were the two things that the man bought?

Answer: The wise son bought a candle and a box of matches. After lighting the candle, the light filled the entire room.

Gaming 2010: The good, the bad, and the ‘was this really worth my time?’

*Aaron Bressler
Staff Writer*

Videogames were a hot topic for gamers in 2010. With so many newly released games, it was impossible to play them all. Overall, these are the top video games of 2010. This guide is a reference so that potential players know which ones they shouldn't have missed, and which ones are best left for the nOObs.

Content

One of the most important criteria of judging a game is by its content. Even if the game looks good or plays well, it can still be a terrible game if the content isn't good. The best game of 2010 for content is StarCraft 2. This long-awaited sequel of the groundbreaking RTS (real time strategy) of the 90's provided enough content in the single-player mode alone to win this category. The interactive menus and many achievements allow for weeks if not months of entertainment.

While many games felt somewhat lacking this past year, none seemed quite as padded as Dead Rising 2. While the game was initially entertaining, it became apparent that the game was just copying and pasting the majority of the 'content' from itself. This lack of original content made it seem as if the player was repeating the same stages several times in order to complete the game once.

Mechanics

The term mechanics refers to the gameplay, not only the goals of the game but how well it the gameplay is done. Surprisingly, one of the top contenders is Popcap's Plants vs. Zombies. While the game's mechanics are simple, they are surprisingly well done. It is no wonder then that Plants vs. Zombies has leapt to the top of casual gaming.

For the title of worst offender, Fallout New Vegas takes the cake. While a good game, the expansion was – and still is – plagued by bugs and glitches, possibly the result of a rushed deadline. Fallout New Vegas takes worst mechanics despite its other redeeming qualities.

Graphics

The award of best or worst graphics is fairly relative. One cannot expect a DS to have the same level of graphics as a PC game. When judged by its platform and competition, one of the best graphics comes from the MMO, Global Agenda. This up and coming third-person shooter uses a lot of special effects and detail to create a beautiful visual experience without appearing too busy.

Despite the decent initial appearance, Medal of Honor was somewhat lacking in graphics. The textures and other effects seemed sub-par or washed out.

Story

While the story isn't always the most important aspect of a game, it can make a mediocre game great or a good game terrible. StarCraft 2 and Call of Duty: Black Ops are tied for best story. StarCraft 2 continued the story from Brood, and the interactive menus and varied side paths offers a well-polished experience. Despite a complicated story line and an underdeveloped main character, Black Op's still managed to convey a powerfully dark and intriguing tale.

Global Agenda on the other hand had a perplexing lack of a story. The game starts with a backstory, but drops it as soon as the tutorial ends. While the storyline really wasn't necessary for the game, the tease offered at the beginning was quite interesting.

Multiplayer

One of the best parts of playing a game is testing your skill against other players and competing for the top rank. The number one multiplayer of 2010 therefore is Assassin's Creed Brotherhood. There is only one problem with multiplayer games: people can be jerks. Brotherhood takes advantage of the natural urge to ruin somebody's day with a brilliant stealth-based game. Using crowds and smoke bombs to assassinate your target is hours of fun.

One of the worst of 2010 was Medal of Honor. An obvious Call of Duty knock-off, most of its features really either fell flat or just ended up irritating people.

Originality

The most original game of 2010 was by far the cheapest and simplest game yet. In fact, the game hasn't been publically released. Minecraft is a survival game with the potential for endless creativity. For a game that hasn't yet left beta testing, this game has sold an unreasonably large number of copies to its target audience.

Upset

This year's biggest upset is Pokémon Heart Gold/Soul Silver. The Pokémon series, despite working from a good formula, seems to have come to a complete stand still. The new edition of the game is an exact replica of all of its predecessors. The game still has the same plot, same storyline, same everything. There is no originality whatsoever regarding the game.

No game this past year was perfect, but a few came pretty close. Hopefully, 2011 will be promising year with the rumored releases of Diablo 3 and Duke Nukem Forever, as well as many other games.



An explosion of 2010 gaming hits and misses. Graphic by Aryn Hicks.

Last Sacrifice:

Vampire Academy series ends while making no sacrifices to storyline or action

Emily Kennedy
Staff Writer

As a reader, I'm always looking for new books to read. I hit gold back in 2007 when I discovered the Vampire Academy series by Richelle Mead. *Last Sacrifice* is the sixth and final book of the Vampire Academy series. Despite the series' end, there will be a spin-off called *Bloodlines*. The final book reminds readers of previous events, but does not go into the amount of detail one would need to fully understand the plot if one were to read the last book on its own. *Last Sacrifice* can be compared with the Harry Potter series in that sense.

Richelle Mead opens *Last Sacrifice* where the previous novel, *Spirit Bound* left off. Rosemarie "Rose" Hathaway is being held in a cell for killing Queen Tatiana Ivashkov. *Last Sacrifice* ties up many loose ends that were left throughout the series. It answers questions such as what happens between Christian Ozera and Vasilisa "Lissa" Dragomir, if Dimitri Belikov will ever love or even speak to Rose Hathaway again and how Adrian Ivashkov fits in to the whole scheme.

Rose, after a jail break, ends up in the middle of nowhere with Dimitri, the emotionally unavailable love of her life, and Sydney, the alchemist she befriended in Russia, while her boyfriend, Adrian Ivashkov, stays back at the Royal Court. However, Rose is still troubled by a secret note that she received from Ambrose, the late Queen's lover. The letter states that Lissa is not



the last of the Dragomir line, and that Eric Dragomir, Lissa's father, had an illegitimate child. The now fugitive Rose, in her typical way of doing things, blindly sets out to find this child so that Lissa can have her rightful seat on the council.

This book is filled with surprises, love, jealousy, self-realization, and betrayal of the worst kind. While I personally do not like how Mead handled the storyline with Adrian Ivashkov, I think the subplot was fitting to his unstable personality. The stories fit well together, showing that Mead is writing because she loves telling the story she imagined, not just to please her readers.

Other than a few things here and there, the overall novel was well-written and entertaining. The characters were kept to their personalities through the novel and the series, and while the ending was unexpected, it made a lot of sense in hindsight. *Last Sacrifice* was a great close the series, while leaving enough options open to write a spin-off. I must warn you, though: you will not want to put down this book once you start reading.

Last Sacrifice is a must-read for anyone interested in urban fantasy. However, if you haven't read any of the other Vampire Academy books, you may find yourself slightly lost. If you have no knowledge of the Vampire Academy series, read the first novel, *Vampire Academy*. I would suggest if you like the series, or just want a good book to read, go and read *Last Sacrifice*. The series is worth the time and money.

The Mousetrap comes to Methodist

Ashley Young
News Editor

An unconventional murder mystery with an unexpected ending will take the stage at Methodist University. Agatha Christie's *The Mousetrap* is a non-traditional play that will keep the audience guessing.

"Ultimately the play is about trust and why we trust and distrust people, and end up trusting people that seem untrustworthy," said Dr. Evan Bridenstine, associate professor of theater.

The entire play takes place in one room on stage and the play has two acts with three scenes. The plot behind the play focuses on a couple who opens their guest house to four people. When a snow storm hits, a fifth stranger joins the guests after being stranded. Bridenstine requested that the characters of the play not be revealed.

The play will be an on stage/back stage production, meaning the audience

will be sitting on stage. Whether or not the audience will go around all four sides of the production or just three sides has not yet been decided.

"It's a little experimental in the way we're going to do it because usually murder mysteries center around specific plays and props and *The Mousetrap* doesn't depend on that," said Bridenstine.

The Mousetrap was introduced in the West End of London in 1952. The play has been performed for more than 22,000 audiences, making it the longest running show of any type in the modern era.

There will be four performances of *The Mousetrap*. Performances will take place from Feb. 24 - 26 at 8 p.m. and Sunday Feb. 27 at 2 p.m. Tickets for the play are free to Methodist University students, staff and faculty. Admission for the general public will be \$10 for adults, \$7 for seniors and \$4 for kids.

Ashley Asks...

*What did you do over the holidays?
What did you get for Christmas?*



"I got a PS3. I went home and was with the family the whole time. I had fun and slept."

- Kevin Collins, a sophomore business administration major



"I traveled to four different states: Maryland, Ohio, South Carolina, and Georgia, with my family, and I got a Cheshire cat hat."

- Kierra Middleton, a sophomore biology major.



"I got a new computer over Christmas and basically sat around and played Magic all day."

- Philip Ziehlke, a sophomore CIT major.

Campus clubs: Are they what they seem?

Aryn Hicks

Methodist University is home to so many different clubs and organizations that it can be overwhelming. This became clear at the Get Involved fair on Friday Jan. 14. While many students only attended for the free t-shirts, some actually went around to tables to learn more about interesting organizations. It was at this fair that I realized that there was more to the organizations than just joining and being part of a group on campus. Some groups you just can't join and fit in when you walk in the door. There are so many more aspects to organizations on campus.

Some organizations, you can join whenever you want. They don't discriminate on any basis. Students often come and go as they please, making those organizations more relaxed. Yet, these organizations get things done because they enjoy doing what they do. The advisors tend to be laid back and let the students run the organization, teaching them leadership and responsibility. Change is common in these groups, and is welcome with open arms because the members realize that change is necessary for growth. These organizations tend to stick around and have an impact on the campus and the community. Personally, I prefer these organizations over any other on campus.

A growing group at Methodist is Greek Life. Because they have certain weeks to recruit new members, the sororities and fraternities are harder to join. When you join, however, you become part of a larger organization, a national Greek organization. They are selective and strict with rules and policies. At the campus level, they appear to be totally student-run, but they answer to national and international officials. They serve the community by participating in fundraisers and off-campus service activities. Generally, Greek Life is not such a bad group, but out of fear for being chased by an angry mob in Greek letters, I will end my views and opinion of Greek Life here.

You have groups on campus that are designed to attract certain groups of

students, such as academic clubs. These organizations tend to benefit students within specific majors. These clubs are typically overseen by the advisor to keep things on topic, but club officers and members play a major role in controlling the various aspects of clubs. As officers and members graduate, changes occur as new students take the reins. These organizations remain active and productive because they serve the students by opening opportunities that may benefit them in the future.

Then, you have THOSE GROUPS. It is these organizations that drive me off the wall. Some organizations border regimes. Change is not often welcomed. The advisors practically control the organizations. Sure, elections occur, but if at any point there is any contempt, officers are removed and replaced with people who are more complacent with following rather than leading. The worst part is that these organizations are so standoffish that many students don't know the groups exist. It's like these groups dwell in secret caves that are only explored by the brave...or the lost. Sadly, people stay in these groups to keep from being targeted or alienated from their friends who are in these organizations.

It is the students' choice to join whatever groups they please. Being a part of campus organizations make up a big part of the college experience. But, my mom was right in saying "you are the company you keep." When you join a club, you become associated with that group. You have to ask yourself though, are you joining a group that you will be proud to say you are a part of?

This article is merely the opinion of one individual. The opinions expressed in this editorial do not reflect the beliefs of Student Media or smallTALK as a whole.

MONARCH SCOREBOARD

GAME RESULTS

Men's Basketball		
Date	Opponent	Result
11/23/10	Lynchburg College	L 65-80
11/28/10	Virginia Wesleyan College	L 71-81
12/4/10	Emory University	L 82-88
12/5/10	Piedmont College	W 66-61
12/12/10	Maryville College	W 75-72
12/17/10	Huntingdon College	L 80-88
12/18/10	Covenant College	W 87-64
1/2/11	Washington and Lee	L 62-75
1/3/11	Wells College	W 81-69
1/8/11	Ferrum College	L 56-79
1/12/11	Averett University	W 84-65
1/15/11	LaGrange College	W 53-48
1/17/11	North Carolina Wesleyan College	L 69-73

Women's Basketball		
Date	Opponent	Result
11/27/10	Maryville College	L 44-62
11/28/10	LaGrange College	L 43-68
12/1/10	Greensboro College	L 43-58
12/3/10	Guilford College	L 63-70
12/11/10	Shenandoah University	W 52-50
12/12/10	Mary Baldwin College	W 65-37
12/17/10	Piedmont College	L 44-74
1/6/11	Peace college	W 60-42
1/8/11	Ferrum College	L 64-71
1/12/11	Averett University	W 63-57
1/15/11	Mary Baldwin College	W 62-50
1/17/11	North Carolina Wesleyan College	W 72-51

HOME GAMES

Men's Basketball		
Date	Opponent	Time
2/5/11	Averett University	4 pm

Women's Basketball		
Date	Opponent	Time
1/26/11	Meredith College	7 pm
2/5/11	Averett University	2 pm



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