

smallTALK

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THE STUDENT VOICE OF METHODIST UNIVERSITY
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Methodist University
Fayetteville, NC

Talent show puts the spotlight on students



Matthew Snowberger
Sports Editor

Some of Methodist's most adept students took the stage Wednesday, March 23, in the annual SAC sponsored talent show. For a few hours, it was difficult to distinguish the Berns Student Center from the Apollo.

"It was the best show we have ever had," said Doris Jackson, the director of Student Activities. The acts included stand-up comedy, acoustic guitar players, singers, dancers, rappers and even a jump roper. Students participated from every academic class and represented a wide variety of majors.

"It was a good feeling," said Dustin Autry, a senior music major, who was part of a duo who sang an Opera piece that took first place. Autry and his partner, Alexis Howard, said they have been singing together for 5 years, and plan to use their prize money to pay for their accompanist at their upcoming senior recital.

"The response from the crowd was great," said Autry

"It was exciting doing my own thing; my own style," said second prize winner Erin James, when asked how dancing solo in the show

compared to performing with the MU dance team.

"It was pretty wild, performing in front of the new president," said James.

More than 400 people attended the Talent Show. Extra chairs were brought in from the Lion's Den and many had to perch on cushions by the pool tables or stand.

The bulk of those in attendance were students, but they were joined by a significant group of faculty and administrators, as well as many of their children. President Hancock and his wife were both in attendance, and spent several minutes greeting audience members before the opening act. George Blanc, Dean of Students, even got in on the show. He helped support the show's opening act, a contortionist, while he juggled knives atop a pole.

Fueled by a free Moes taco bar provided by SAC, the crowd was quick to applaud and cheer throughout the night. Several students brought signs supporting their friends on stage. The atmosphere stayed light and festive.

Talent show winners Dustin Autry and Alexis Howard. Photo by Fernando Tevez-Rosales.

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 5 p.m. in the Heritage Dining Room.

Initial copies of smallTALK are free. Additional copies are 50 cents.

Yellow Ribbon recipients benefit at Methodist

Ashley Young
News Editor

Methodist University has opened its doors through the Yellow Ribbon GI Education Enhancement program to military participants who are interested in receiving a collegiate degree and have served for 36 months or more since September 10, 2001.

300 qualified Yellow Ribbon recipients will receive tuition assistance exceeding the rate of GI Bill compensation for the 2011-2012 school year. Through the program, the Department of Veterans Affairs will match that assistance by up to 50% of the difference between the student's tuition benefit and the total cost of tuition and fees. Qualified Yellow Ribbon recipients will receive up to 5,510 dollars per year. With the GI Bill base assistance and Yellow Ribbon Program, recipients can attend Methodist at no cost.

The Yellow Ribbon program is a provision of the Post 9/11 GI Bill, which was updated by the Veterans Educational Assistance Act of 2008. The program was created to give veterans enhanced educational benefits that cover educational expenses, provide a living allowance, money for books and the ability to transfer unused educational benefits to spouses or children.

Norbert White, a junior business administration major, served as a Logistician at Fort Bragg, and found out about Methodist through the Veterans Administration's website.

"I chose Methodist University because of its academic excellence in Business and its commitment to the Fort Bragg and the Fayetteville Community," said White.

White retired after spending 22 years in the army and currently works as a Logistics Analyst Contractor on Fort Bragg for Honeywell. White said he enjoys the flexibility that Methodist offers working military students by offering night and online classes. Through his Yellow Ribbon benefits, White was able to purchase a laptop computer, which was needed for his classes.

"Because of the op tempo in the military with the

82 Airborne Division, getting an education while on active duty can be almost next to impossible," said White. "I have served seven combat tours overseas and a lot of those places were remote and did not forward me the opportunity to continue my learning."

Like White, many military students have gotten the opportunity to continue their education at Methodist University through the Yellow Ribbon program. Randy Smith, Director of Veterans Services, is in charge of assisting students who are eligible for Veterans Administration Education benefits.

"An education is a noble endeavor that should be pursued by all, and learning never stops no matter how old you are," said White. "The Yellow Ribbon program is a constant reminder to the men and women who serve that they are appreciated for their service and sacrifice."



Norbert White is currently attending Methodist University through the Yellow Ribbon Program. Photo by Lakeisha Story.

Upcoming Around Campus

Mar. 30 - 7 p.m.

The Fifteenth Annual B.F. Stone Lyceum

"Sharing the Tomb of Christ: Conflict and Boundaries among Jerusalem's Christians" Dr. Vida Bajc, Assistant Professor of Sociology, will be speaking on the conflicts in the Middle East, specifically the conflict of the Christians in Jerusalem. Boundaries and borders are a hot issue the world around, and nowhere is this more apparent than in the holy land.

Yarborough Auditorium

Admission is free

Apr. 1 - 7 p.m.

Easter Jam Concert featuring Seventh Day Slumber

Celebrate the Easter holiday with the Easter Jam concert! Methodist's praise band, as well as Kiros and Common Ground will be performing.

Reeves Auditorium

Admission is free

Apr. 2 - All Day

Spring Fling

Some like it HOT! Some like it WET! Some like it WILD! Come out and have some fun with SAC for this year's Spring Fling.

Next to Davis Memorial Library

Admission is free

Apr. 8 - 6 p.m.

Documentary "Playground" and Panel Discussion

Child sex trafficking is a crime rarely spoken of. The panel will feature guest speakers Dr. Sharon W. Cooper, Dr. Elzibieta Gozdzia, and Ms. Charity Magnuson. This event is cosponsored by the MU Sociology, Social Work and Justice Studies Programs and Lyn and Michael Green, Christiane Thompson, and The Manna Church.

Medical Lecture Hall

Admission is free

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

Events

On the TOWN

Mar. 29 - 8 p.m.

Burn the Floor

Dancing with the Stars has a head-on collision with Broadway in an entertainment extravaganza. Lights, music and plenty of action await the intrepid explorer who ventures forth into the entertainment experience of a lifetime.

Crown Theater

Contact Theater for prices

April 1 - 8 p.m.

Salt-n-Pepa's Legends of Hip Hop Tour

Salt-n-Pepa, the Grammy award winning artist, and the first ladies of hip-hop are coming to Fayetteville. Performances will include Whodini, Doug E Fresh, Kool Moe Dee and Kurtis Blow.

Crown Center Arena

Contact arena for prices

April 1 - 7-10 p.m.

2nd Annual Rhythm and Blooms benefit concert

Many bands, such as the Blue Dogs, will be holding a benefit concert for the Cape Fear Botanical Garden. Rhythm & Blooms features Charleston, SC-based band the Blue Dogs who blend country, roots, bluegrass and Americana into their own unique sound.

Cape Fear Botanical Garden

\$10 in advance, \$15 at the door

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.visitfayetteville.com.

Methodist students join together to help raise funds for Japan relief efforts



Members of the Japanese community of Fayetteville, the Methodist University International Club and Campus Ministries rallied together to raise funds for the relief efforts in Japan, following the deadly earthquake and Tsunami. Photo by Erik Alegria.

Ashley Young
News Editor

A devastating 9.0 earthquake clamored the northeastern coast of Japan at 2:46p.m. Japan Standard Time on March 11. The quake triggered a massive tsunami wave more than 33 feet in height and struck Japan just minutes after the quake, sending off evacuations all across the Pacific Ocean and generating a nuclear plant crisis.

The earthquake and tsunami left thousands in Japan injured, homeless or missing and millions more without clean water, electricity or transportation. Many children were in school during the earthquake and tsunami and are now being taken in by organizations like the Children's Village Fukuoka until they can be reunited with their families or a more permanent solution can be established.

Organizations like the Red Cross, International Medical Corps, Unicef and Save the Children have come together to raise money and relief efforts to assist in any way possible.

Here at Methodist, Jose Pablo Salas, a senior global studies major and president of the International Club, came up with the idea of joining the International Club along with campus ministries and the Japanese community of Fayetteville to raise money to go to relief efforts in Japan. Salas is good friends with Kiho Mushiga, who is originally from Osaka, Japan and is a graduate student here at Methodist working towards her MBA. Salas and Mushiga decided to start a fundraiser through a bake sale and the selling of magnets, which began on Tuesday, April 22 and ran through Thursday April 24, from

11 am to 2 pm every day.

"So far, I think it's going great! We've had support from many people and it's great to see how the Methodist community responds to disaster relief," said Salas.

The first day of the bake sale raised 355 dollars and by Wednesday, 700 dollars had been raised.

"We set up a goal of 1,000 dollars and this is going to be the last day of the bake sale here at Methodist," said Nariko Addaman, a member of the Japanese community who is from Okinawa, Japan. "We are doing a bake sale on base and hopefully we'll reach that goal."

The Japanese community of Fayetteville along with the International Club at Methodist set up a bake sale at Fort Bragg, Friday March 25, but the final amount raised is not yet known.

Campus ministries will be collecting monetary donations for relief efforts in Japan.

"Campus ministries will aid the International Club in getting the funds raised disseminated to the most needed areas in Japan," said Donna Wilson, Director of Campus Ministry and administrative services.

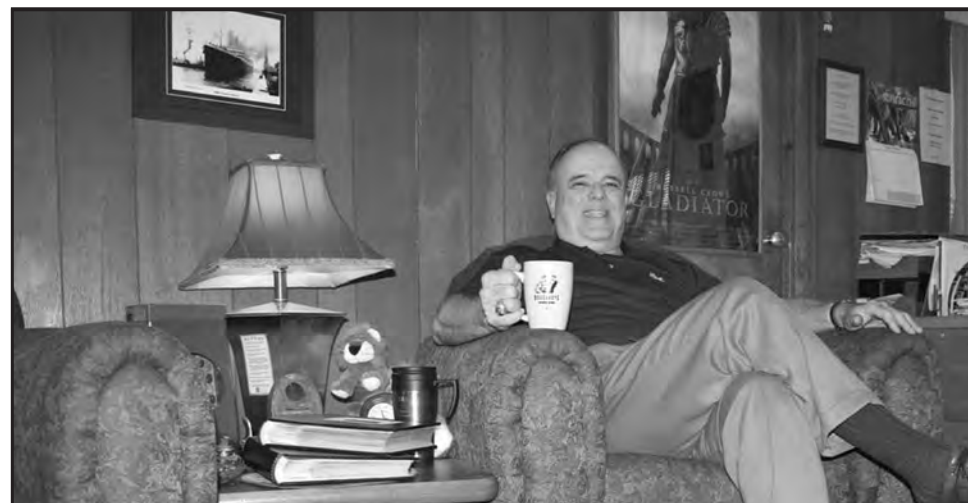
Salas said that support is still needed and the Red Cross can still be donated to by contacting him at 561-843-4818 or at jsalasrojas@student.methodist.edu or by contacting Michael Safley, who is Vice President for University Relations and Campus Ministry, at 910-630-7515 or msafley@methodist.edu.



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North Carolina Fossil Club makes a visit to Methodist University campus



Cecilia Bode
Staff Writer

Methodist students were given the opportunity to dig for fossils on campus during a presentation. On Thursday, March 17, the North Carolina Fossil Club set up outside of the Hendricks Science Complex to give a presentation of fossils. The club came at the request of Dr. John Dembosky, the associate professor of Geology.

According to the North Carolina Fossil Club, or NCFC, website, the group is a non-profit organization that was formed to “engage in and support the study, enjoyment and collection of fossils.” The NCFC supports fossil-related projects at North Carolina state museums and colleges, as well as student research. The group also holds educational presentations, such as the one held on campus, to educate students about fossils.

The club gave two presentations for students in the Earth Science classes to attend, but they also did one presentation that was open to all members of the campus.

They spoke about fossils from North Carolina and Northeastern Utah. During all of the presentations, attendees were able to search through rocks

and dirt that the club brought in to find fossils. Participants were allowed to keep the fossils that they found.

The fossils at the presentation were discovered in Aurora, N.C., a popular place for fossil hunting in the state. Aurora is the site of a large quarry that breaks up the rocks and leaves the small pieces out for people to dig through.

“Even though I live near Aurora and have been through this presentation multiple times as a child, it is neat to go through it again with the knowledge I have from Geology class,” said Marissa Smith, a sophomore middle grades education major. “It was also fun

helping people look for sharks’ teeth.”

This event was a great way to get students, staff, and faculty out for an interesting lesson that included something you could take home and share with others.

Above: Dolphin humerus, ulna and radius.
Below: the official NC Fossil Club logo.
photos courtesy of ncfossilclub.org.



How social media can affect college dreams



Admissions officers say college applicants should be careful about what goes on their facebook. photo courtesy of MCT.

Judy Hevrdejs

Tribune Newspapers Chicago Tribune (MCT)

You rock the whole social media thing. Facebook. Twitter. YouTube. Big deal. So do several billion others. And a lot of them are applying to college too.

What college applicants need to realize is that social media is a “living and breathing” extension of your application and resume, so it has to work for - not against - you.

“Students have grown up with the Internet, with this open forum kind of communication and I don’t think they understand that their Facebook page is now their online resume,” says Nora Ganim Barnes, director of the Center for Marketing Research at the University of Massachusetts Dartmouth. “They could include a lot of the public service that they do. Those things instead of birthday parties on their Facebook pages - I think they could get a

lot of mileage out of that.”

Halley Shefler would probably agree. “Your website, Facebook is your new resume. It’s the living and breathing resume,” says Shefler, who heads The Arts Edge, an educational consultancy for students in the visual and performing arts with offices in Boston and New York. Students, she says, should “post art portfolios online or links to videos or photo galleries from their performances. I like students to consider creating their own websites on which to showcase what they do. Help your case. Show schools who you are.” “

Students need to think a little bit more strategically about their online presence and take control of it,” says Ganim Barnes, who tracks college admissions’ use of social media. “It really makes it easier for the person on the other end to go there, rather than to snoop around and see what they can find out about you.”

Don’t think they do? Guess again. Colleges aren’t scrutinizing every applicant’s Facebook page, but when it comes down to scarce resources and scholarships, financial aid or the last availability in a popular program, well:

“(Admissions directors) continue to say they’ll use any publicly available source of information to make a good decision,” says Ganim Barnes.

“When they have to make a decision that’s important to the school, they certainly want to make sure that they’re not on the front page of the paper the next day with some bad publicity.” Adds Shefler, who was dean of admissions at Boston Conservatory before starting The Arts Edge, “We all expect kids to be kids, and posting summer vacation photos and having fun is fine, but there’s a certain presence that you want to portray out there.

“Social media can enable students to give admissions staff a valuable perspective on themselves,” Shefler says. “Use it!”



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"A Day in the Life": Student project shows the beauty in everyday life



Above: Weaver residents join in a "trip" on the train with RC Nan Fiebig and her daughter, Elliott. Right: Jose Pablo Salas Rojas and Mica Patron join other students for a break in the Quad between classes. Photos by Aryn Hicks.



Aryn Hicks
Editor-in-Chief

Wed. March 16 was an average day at Methodist. Students sat in class, hung out and lived their average, everyday lives. The most atypical thing about that day was a group of students walking around the campus taking pictures of what appeared to be nothing but people doing what they do every day. Each student photographer was a part of a project that shows that everyday life at Methodist is anything but ordinary.

Several students in the Mass Communication program took part in a project call A Day in the Life. The project was an idea suggested by the Mass Communications professor, Daniel Trigoboff, and taken on by his students, who were led by senior Adriana Wilson. Several students, including some non-Mass Communications majors, took part in the project by taking pictures around campus.

"The purpose of the project was to capture a typical day in the life here at MU," said Wilson. "People really don't understand what all happens or is going on in the course of a day. So we thought it would be cool to show people that there's a lot more going on at MU than some would expect."

What many students fail to see at MU is the fact that the things they take for granted are sometimes the most valuable aspect of the university. While some see people two students in a chapel hitting and missing pitches or notes, others may see two dedicated students rehearsing for their senior recitals. Students see a few people down at the track warming up. What is really there are students practicing

to continue winning metals and awards for being the fastest and most agile students in their track & field conference. Some may see a man lecturing in a classroom, not realizing he is a retired federal agent giving students accounts of his first hand experience in dealing with terrorists.

The photos depict everyday interactions between students, faculty, staff and administration. Wilson found the most memorable moments of the project to be photographing President Ben Hancock during a Student Development meeting. The photos show the transition of a typical day at MU – from early morning arrivals to the late night emptiness of the campus.

"There's a lot more going on here on campus than we ever really expected," said Wilson. "Methodist is so full of life and excitement and we should really appreciate it."

It is small details like this that students miss when they talk about their everyday experience. The Day in the Life project required planning, organization and commitment by students like Wilson and Aaron Franklin, as well as professors such as Trigoboff. All of the photographs taken are to be compiled into a video that is expected to be complete by mid-April.

Wilson discovered the extraordinary while working on the project. She realized that while working on the project that MU was nothing short of incredible, despite its often mundane feel.

"Through this project, I gained even more respect for the university, its faculty and staff, and my peers," said Wilson. "[Students] should really take the time out and appreciate all that Methodist has to offer us on a daily basis."



SAC recognized as one of the best student activity committees in the nation

From wild foam pits, beauty pageants, comedy shows, bonfire pep rallies and outdoor concerts, SAC has kept us entertained for years. Now our SAC has received the recognition it deserves.

College life is exciting and varied. However, this doesn't happen by itself. All campus activities at some level run through the student activities committee, or SAC. SAC has hosted nearly every event on campus and provides students with a plethora of activities to choose from.

In a nationwide survey Methodist University's student activities committee ranked third in the nation and campus program of the year for the second time.

"There is no doubt that I am working with the greatest group of students on campus. I am encouraged by the fact that they love what they do, their willingness to volunteer, and their passion for fun." said Jackson in a press release in March.

Congratulations to Doris Jackson, director of student activities, and to everyone in SAC for serving the Methodist community.

Above: Behind all of the fun is a lot of planning and hard work. SAC Director Doris Jackson and SAC member Dylan Pussey discuss plans in Jackson's office. Photo by Aryn Hicks.



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Students' fire for Christ burns at WinterJam 2011



Alisha Hunt
Staff Writer

WinterJam, one of the biggest contemporary Christian concerts of the year, got people pumped up for worship on Saturday, March 19, at the Crown Coliseum. The concert featured 10 Christian artists and bands, including Francesca Battistelli, Newsboys, Red, and Kutless. Many Methodist students took advantage of the \$10 tickets and attended the concert.

"It was an awesome concert," said Oriana Clayton, a freshman biology major. "[WinterJam was a] great place to worship with people that are on fire for God as much as I am."

Holt International Adoption Agency was featured at the Concert and Holt spokesperson Tony Nolan served as the keynote speaker. The agency was founded shortly after the Korean War, and is known for adopting children from places such as Korea and other nations. The Holt International Adoption Agency finds homes for children in countries around the world, including the United States.

Thousands of people packed the Crown Coliseum to attend the massive concert. Those who performed

enhanced the already energetic mood in the arena. Each band or speaker had only 15 minutes to perform. Despite the short performance time of each band, audience members were excited and prepared to worship.

"The whole experience was phenomenal," said one MU student. "This is my first year attending and I loved how Newsboys entertained in a comical sense and at the same time were able to brag about how their new album was number four on Billboard and one spot above Justin Bieber. That in itself made my night, but I loved the spiritual sense of this. I will definitely be in attendance next year."

At the end of the concert, many of the performers set up booths to sell CD's, sign autographs, answer questions and take pictures with fans. Most of the memorabilia sold by the bands, singers, and speakers were sold at lower rates. Many of the albums available were reduced from the in-store price to around five dollars for the concert goers.

"I highly recommend anyone who didn't get to go this year [to] go because it is awesome experience," said Clayton.

Left: Kutless performs at WinterJam 2011 at the Crown Coliseum. Photo by Alisha Hunt.

F.A.M.E: Chris Brown shows fans his versatility on new album

Aryn Hicks
Editor-in-Chief

After a year of relationship drama, anger management and scandalous photos, Chris Brown shows his fans that he is still all about the music. Brown's fourth album, "F.A.M.E", shows that the artist has expanded into a versatile, multi-dimensional artist.

The album, "F.A.M.E", also known as "Forgiving All My Enemies" and "Fans Are My Everything," features a variety of artists including Hip-Hop artists Ludacris, Busta Rhymes, Wiz Khalifa and Lil Wayne; Techno maven Benny Benassi; and that Justin Beiber kid.

At first glance of the F.A.M.E album, one may find shocking similarities to Michael Jackson's "Michael" album. The album covers are nearly identical in artistic design. Brown also samples off of Jackson's "Human Nature" for one of the more enjoyable songs on the album, "She Ain't You." The element of old school pop adds a different dimension to Brown's blossoming new style.

Despite the upbeat tempos and beats of songs like "Yeah 3x" and "Beautiful People," most of the album

has an aggressive undertone. "Look at Me Now" is probably the most aggressive song on the album. The song is pretty much a hit to all of his naysayers, telling them that he is successful, despite what they say. Brown's lyrics are far more edgy and graphic than his past three albums.

Several of the songs on the "F.A.M.E" album are not for the younger audience that he once appealed to. Songs like "No Bulls**t," "Wet the Bed" and "Beg for It" show the more sexual and graphic side of Brown. These songs definitely tell you what's on the artist's mind – sex. The songs show Brown's progression into mainstream music, as well as his growth from a teen idol into an adult entertainer...no pun intended.

Overall, "F.A.M.E" is a decent album. The deluxe edition of the album, which contains four additional songs, is a worthwhile investment. If you're currently a Chris Brown fan, you might enjoy his new sound, depending on your other music tastes. If you aren't a fan, you may still enjoy the album because of his gradual transition out of the Teen Pop genre and into the Hip-Hop/Dance/R&B genres.



Homefront: Home is where the war is

Aaron Bressler
Staff Writer

Nothing says home like invading tanks and oppressive Korean martial law. In Homefront, North Korea has taken most of Asia and has entirely conquered the United States. This post-apocalyptic world is the setting, backstory and motivation of the entire game. The strongest parts of this game were the story and gunplay, while the weakest points were the physics, AI, and graphics.

One of the game's best decisions was to silence the protagonist. The other characters are far from original, but despite this, the characters are solid. They show a wide range of inflection, with surprisingly good voice acting. The voices were better than any other shooter on the market, however, the characters are a little predictable and tend to repeat themselves. The designers use some excellent staging to create certain visual effects with the player's camera. Unlike other games, Homefront doesn't force the player to choose one specific path or style. Instead the levels are designed to provide that effect from several angles. They make the sentry towers seem intimidating by staging the level appropriately.

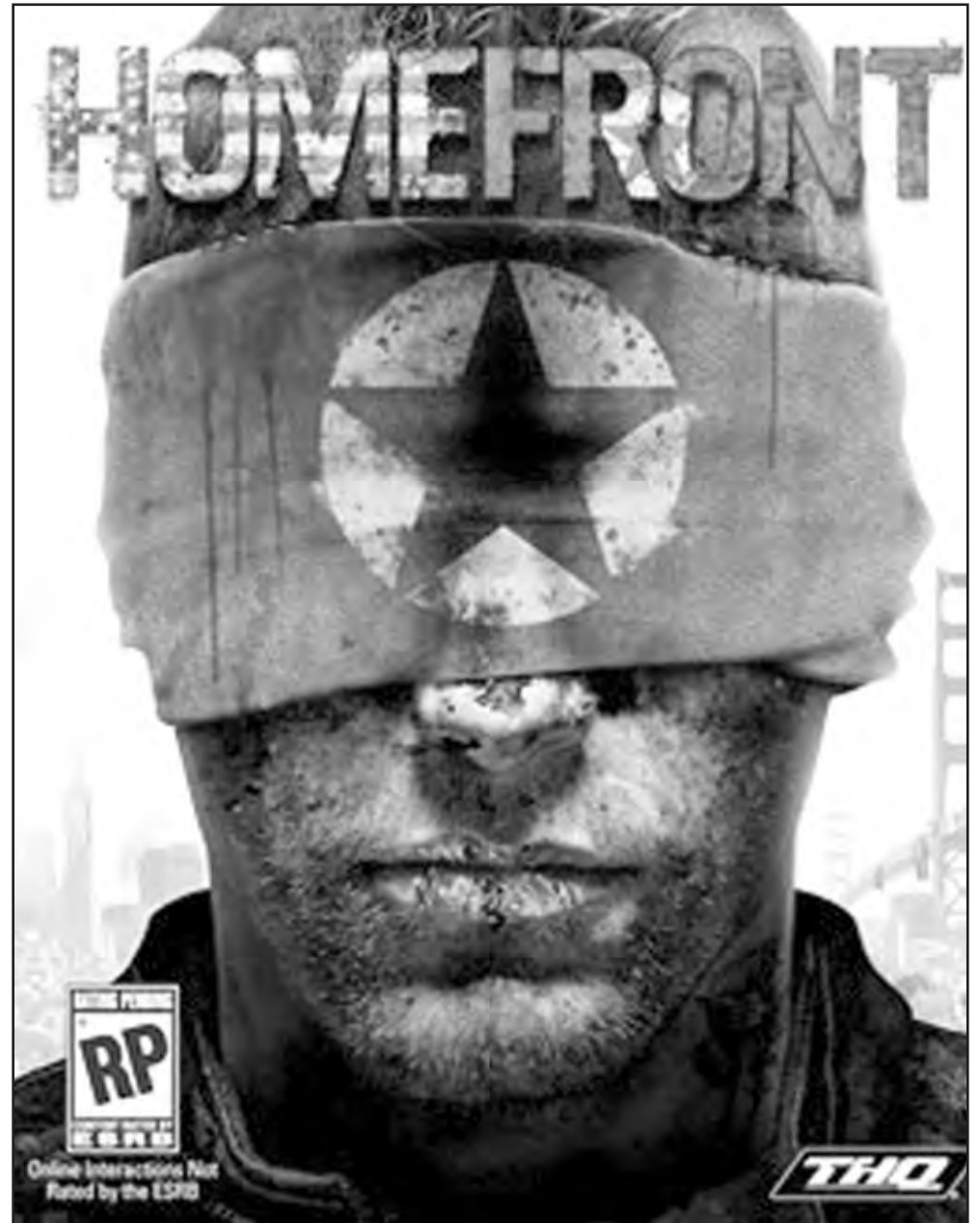
The game uses strong overtones from Nazi Germany. In the work camp level, the game uses subtle visual and thematic elements to refer to the Nazis, which occasionally becomes a little too obvious. The game's plot deliberately questions the typical American's view of war, because in Homefront, the good guys lose and die (a lot) and the Koreans retaliate not only against you, but against the civilians as well. Mortars and explosives hurt both the innocent and guilty and the character's questioning, when resisting, becomes as wrong as oppressing. The game itself has good pacing, with the story and action moving quickly. The slower parts of the game break up the action and sometimes seem added on.

The physics of Homefront are good for the most part, however, you occasionally find yourself being hit by an enemy you can't find, or the bullets you're shooting are rebounding off your cover that you're nowhere near. These problems were rare in the game, but frustrating. Another frustrating element was that the guns and characters seem to have some weight, but not enough. The characters move a little too freely and the guns all move the same whether they're a SMG or a light machine gun. The game clips and jumps every now and then, which disturbs the otherwise excellent atmosphere, and the physics were obviously a lower priority than the story and mechanics. While this was a refreshing change of pace, some more attention needed to be paid to the physics.

The AI was a mixed blessing. Challenging even on normal difficulty, the AI is accurate and you are just as vulnerable as they are; meaning you have to be more skilled than them in order to succeed. Homefront also has a tendency to kill you unfairly. It's one thing to die from a mistake or because you were surprised, but it's another thing entirely when you die from unexplainable explosions, or because there are dozens of enemies and no cover to hide behind.

The graphics, despite showing the player incredible things, are sub-par. The details tend to be disappointing under close examination and there aren't enough variations in the objects in the levels. You hide behind the same 20 cars and Connor will push over the same cabinet every time the game opens a new area.

The best part of the game is the multiplayer. The unique feature of Homefront's



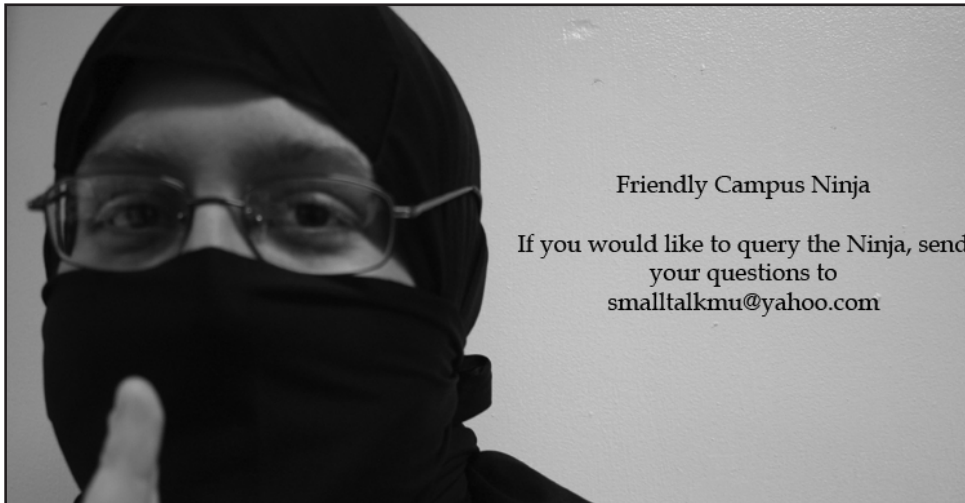
multiplayer is the Battle Commander. The AI tracks your progress and rewards you for doing well by assigning missions and higher rank. It also tracks the enemy players and assigns you to take out players who are doing well. Whenever you kill an opponent, take an objective, or complete a mission you gain battle points which you can spend on equipment or vehicles.

Overall, Homefront is a great game and definitely worth buying when it comes out.

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

WWW.SMALLTALKMU.COM

Questionable queries of a Campus Ninja



Dear Campus Ninja,

I have this sweet girl that I am interested in, yet I find myself unable to ask her into a committed relationship with me. Whenever I think about doing so, my tongue swells up. I almost die from suffocation. I've actually had to be revived a total of four times now. Let me tell you, being known as the "Living Dead" is seriously hurting my reputation with this young lady. I just can't summon up the courage to ask her out. All I want is to spend time with her and possibly indulge in the occasional date night gallivanting. How do you ask a girl out O, Venerable Ninja?

From,
Zonked Zombie

Dear Zombie,

I think I may have answered this question a few times over the years, but allow me to refresh your memory. As a ninja, my naturally trained charm renders all regular women vulnerable to my ninja ways. The only real challenges for me are kunoichi, female ninja, due to the fact that they can dispel my illusions. Kunoichi are often adept enough in poisons to counter any kind of love potion. In these cases, I have to rely on my own knowledge and game to get a date with them. To make things better, whole time we are on edge from the tension of not knowing if the other is on a mission to kill you. For the regular people, I advise a combination of confidence and kindness; it's a good mix for getting that initial date.

Dear Campus Ninja,

I have been here for awhile now, due to the fact that I decided to become a career student. You too have been in college for awhile, and I was wondering if you are the ever present guardian of the school. If not, do you graduate, and if so, when?

From,
Curious in Cumberland

Dear Curious,

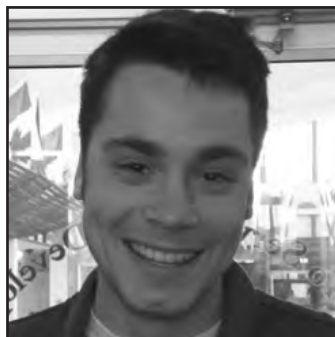
As it turns out, I will indeed graduate at the end of this semester. I have enjoyed my time here, but all good things must come to an end. However, this advice article is not one of those things. I am currently training one of my low level lackeys to take up my place once I leave. If you or anyone else has any questions before I am gone, make sure to send them in. There will only be one more chance for me to answer them.

Ashley Asks... *If you had unlimited resources, what would you do to help with disaster relief in Japan?*



I'm doing a bake sale for Japanese earthquake disaster relief. We joined the International Club at Methodist University and the Japanese community of Fayetteville together and we will donate the money raised to the Red Cross.

- Kiho Mushiga, a MBA student from Osaka, Japan.



I would get every student out of school at Methodist, to go help clean up in Japan, we'd do whatever was needed there and we'd all get A's in our classes.

- Caleb Simpson, a sophomore PTM major.



I would gather everyone that I know to go to Japan and help to the best of our abilities. When I went, I would take as many supplies as needed and set up an organization to continue to gather and send supplies over to Japan.

- Oriana Clayton, a freshman biology major



I would send them basic things they need like blankets, battery powered generators, extra clothes and other basic necessities they don't have access to because of the tsunami. Ultimately, I would volunteer my time.

- Rimoni Peniamina, a senior global studies and history major.

Taking advantage of First Amendment rights

Aryn Hicks

Recently in the news, I was disgusted to see that the Westboro Baptist Church has won the Supreme Court case defending their right to boycott military funerals.

The First Amendment gives Americans the freedom of speech, press, and assembly. Westboro Baptist Church said what they wanted, printed what they wanted, and assembled legally; however, the group is guilty of infringing on the rights of others, especially the soldiers who died defending those rights. The Supreme Court clearly defended the Constitution, but at the same time, neglected to consider the effect that this would have on society.

For those who don't know, the Westboro Baptist Church boycotts military funerals, waving signs stating that the soldiers deserve to die, and that God hates gay people, in more or less words. How could a group speak so ignorantly against those who defend their right to say what they want?

They boycott the funerals of the brave individuals who fought for their freedom of speech. It makes SO much sense.

That was me expressing my freedom of speech through the use of sarcasm.

Media outlets constantly cover the disgraceful antics of the religious sect called

Westboro. When I turn on the news, I hear about how their boycotts are offending the mourners; I see the offensive signs stating that "God hates F**s (gay people)" and "Pray for more dead soldiers." What is to say that a child of a deployed soldier doesn't see this demented act on the 5 o'clock news?

I'm still trying to understand the First Amendment. I can't yell "fire" in a crowded area. I can't say "bomb" on an airplane. I can't say "[expletive] Westboro Baptist Church!" in print without it being censored or losing my job. But, a large group can assemble and harass people who are mourning the loss of a hero by picketing with visually obscene signs and verbally offend others?

I understand not using speech or signs that can lead the endangerment of others, but are their signs not emotionally disturbing to others? Do they not disrupt the mental welfare of those who they are targeting? The Westboro Baptist Church has taken full advantage of their First Amendment rights. They boycott and picket for what they "think" is right, and the Supreme Court supports their rights.

Just because you may "think" something is right doesn't mean that you should be obnoxious or disrespectful to those who do not agree with that belief. You should stand up for what is right, but you should also be respectful. Although the media enjoys the ruckus caused by the Westboro Baptist Church, the majority of society is more likely to respect the opinions and views of people who make their views heard

in a clear, calm and respectful manner.

Just think, does your professor respect the student who adamantly boycotts their teaching styles by disrupting class by jumping up and cussing, or does that professor respond more effectively when students calmly approach them and discuss their issues? With my four years of experience at Methodist, I've found that most prefer the second option.

There are ways to get your point across and you have the right to do so; however, be wise. You have the right to free speech, free assembly and free press. This right should not be abused to make others miserable. When you express yourself in an ignorant or

disrespectful manner, you will be noticed. If you express yourself intelligently and respectfully, you will be noticed and heard.

As the members of the Westboro Baptist Church attempt to tarnish the names of the soldiers who died to defend our nation's rights (including the right to free speech), they are taking advantage of that right to demonstrate and boycott. I, however, choose to take advantage of that right to say 'thank you' to the soldiers. Because of them, I have the right to express my opinions however I please. Students, take advantage of this right, but don't "take advantage." Express yourselves, but don't be rude and obnoxious about how you go about it. Don't abuse your rights.



Spring Sports Freeze Frames



Top Left: freshman Brandi Weaver pitches at a home softball game.

Top Right: Jasmine Stephens battles a Ferrum defender for the ball in a Lacrosse game. Photos by Cecilia Bode.

Left: Pierson Singleton and Josh Carlisle run during track and field practice. photo by Aryn Hicks.

MONARCH SCOREBOARD

GAME RESULTS

Men's Tennis		
Date	Opponent	Result
3/7	John Carroll University	W 9-0
3/8	Young Harris College	W 8-1
3/9	Penn State Erie- The Behrend College	W 9-0
3/9	Moravian College	W 9-0
3/19	Averett University	L 3-6
3/20	Greensboro College	W 9-0

Lacrosse		
Date	Opponent	Result
3/8	Berry College (Ga.)	L 8-19
3/12	LaGrange College	W 18-7
3/13	Agnes Scott College	W 18-9
3/17	Greensboro College	L 0-21
3/22	Frostburg State University	L 3-19

Baseball		
Date	Opponent	Result
3/8	Penn St- Abington	W 22-1
3/9	Swarthmore College	W 16-2
3/10	Keystone College	W 9-1
3/12	Averett University	W 4-0
3/13	Averett University	L 5-9
3/15	Virginia Wesleyan College	W 9-1
3/16	Arcadia University	W 5-3
3/19	Shenandoah University	L 3-5
3/20	Shenandoah University	L 5-6
3/23	Tufts University	W 12-2

Softball		
Date	Opponent	Result
3/7	Misericordia University	W 3-2
3/7	Geneva College (Pa.)	W 7-5
3/8	Trine University	L 1-4
3/8	Mount Union College	L 2-5
3/10	Catholic University of America	Canceled
3/10	Aurora University	Canceled
3/11	Lake Forest College	L 4-7
3/11	Ursinus College	W 11-0
3/16	North Carolina Wesleyan College (DH)	W 5-3, W 3-2
3/19	Christopher Newport University (DH)	L 1-3, L 0-7
3/22	Greensboro College (DH)	L 2-8, L 1-9

Women's Tennis		
Date	Opponent	Result
3/7	Swarthmore College	W 5-4
3/9	Penn State Erie - The Behrend College	W 9-0
3/9	John Carroll University	W 8-1
3/10	Moravian College	W 6-3
3/18	Hollins University	W 8-1
3/19	Averett University	W 9-0
3/20	Greensboro College	W 9-0
3/23	Meredith College	W 8-1

UPCOMING GAMES

Baseball		
Date	Opponent	Time
3/29	Purchase College	4 p.m.
3/30	Purchase College	4 p.m.
4/2	North Carolina Wesleyan College	1 p.m.
4/3	North Carolina Wesleyan College	2 p.m.
4/9	Greensboro College	5 p.m.
4/10	Greensboro College	2 p.m.

Men's Tennis		
Date	Opponent	Time
4/2	Shenandoah University	12 pm
4/6	North Carolina Wesleyan College	2 pm
4/9	Christopher Newport University	2 pm
4/10	Virginia Wesleyan College	1 pm

Lacrosse		
Date	Opponent	Time
4/6	North Carolina Wesleyan College	4:30 pm
4/11	Reinhardt College (Ga.)	3 pm

Softball		
Date	Opponent	Time
3/30	Meredith College (DH)	5 pm
4/8	Mary Baldwin College (DH)	3 pm
4/9	Shenandoah University (DH)	12 pm

Womens Tennis		
Date	Opponent	Time
3/29	Peace College	3 pm
4/6	North Carolina Wesleyan College	2 pm

THE J-TEAM
IF YOU HAVE A PROBLEM ... IF NO
ONE ELSE CAN HELP ... AND IF YOU
CAN FIND THEM ... MAYBE YOU
CAN HIRE ... THE J-TEAM



Snack Time at
Chick-fil-A



Hand-Spun Milkshakes



NEW Yogurt Parfaits



Icedream®



Waffle Potato Fries®



Chick-fil-A® Chicken Biscuit



Chick-fil-A® Chick-n-Minis™



Chicken, Egg & Cheese
On Sunflower Multigrain Bagel



Chicken Breakfast Burrito



Breakfast at
Chick-fil-A

Served until 10:30 a.m.