

small TALK

April 11, 2011
Volume 50, Issue 12

THE STUDENT VOICE OF METHODIST UNIVERSITY
WWW.SMALLTALKMU.COM

Methodist University
Fayetteville, NC

Spring Fling



smallTALK

Editors-in-Chief
Jessie Heath
Aryn Hicks

News Editor
Ashley Young

Opinions Editor
Austin Bordeaux

Graphics Editor
Erik Alegria

Sports Editor
Matt Snowberger

Staff Writers
Aaron Bressler
Alisha Hunt

Photographers
Lakeisha Story
Fernando Tevez-
Rosales

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.

“The Unpredictable Journey” opens at the David McCune International Art Gallery

Ashley Young
News Editor

Bright colors, self-interpret portraits and scrap wood will line the inside of the David McCune International Art Gallery for Justin Gray's Senior Exhibition, 'The Unpredictable Journey,' from April 6-18.

Gray is an art major with a concentration in painting. His display will officially open on Sunday.

Gray's artwork combines a number of hand-painted self portraits, with a Picasso sort of twist; portraits of Obama, painted right after his election in 2008; a painted collage of Obama and his family, made from newspaper clippings; scrap and ply wood exhibits; as well as other interpretations of famous places, artwork and people.

“Most of my stuff has realistic qualities with an abstract self-expression,” said Gray.

Gray's pieces include a 'Vincent Van Gogh Vision'; 'The Grand Canyon'; 'Self Portrait after Picasso'; 'Self Portrait 2'; 'Self Portrait 3'; 'Jackson Pollock Influence'; 'Rollercoaster'; 'No Escape'; 'The Valley'; 'Self-Portrait'; 'Innocents'; 'Locked Up'; 'Social Fighters'; 'Obama the New Age'; 'America'; 'Still Life Study'; 'Chaos'; 'Volcano'; 'The water fall' and 'My Dream.'

All of the pieces will be on sale, with prices ranging from \$100 to \$200. Gray said that the majority of his canvas artwork can be created within two weeks, working on two

pieces at a time, while his physical artwork, takes him about a month to create.

In other artwork, like 'Chaos,' Gray combined various colors together to create rounding swirls that draws the observer in.

“When you look at 'Chaos,' you see a bunch of bold lines like you're looking into a maze,” said Gray.

All of Gray's artworks are signed 'J. Gray' and are on display during regular business hours in the art building.

Camilo Gomez, a senior and art major will also be exhibiting a display opening on Sunday, April 10.

Part of Gray's exhibition is this display, 'Obama in the New Age'. Photo by Jessie Heath.



Upcoming *Around* Campus

April 11 6 p.m.

MBA Open house

The MBA program is holding a question and answer session. They will discuss prerequisites, minimum GPA and other details.
Yarborough Auditorium

April 15 7:30 p.m.

All Choirs concert

Come join the choirs of Methodist as they end the year with a rousing finale.

Reeves Auditorium

Admission is free

April 16 9 a.m. - until

March of Dimes walk

Methodist will be hosting a March of Dimes event! Registration is at 9 a.m. and the walk starts at 10 a.m. Come support this charity with your money and time to help the less fortunate.

Football stadium

April 26 11 a.m.

Building Dedication: Physician Assistant Medical Lecture Hall and Human Anatomy Lab

The growing physician program at Methodist will be adding two new buildings to expand what is becoming our most contested and competitive program. The lecture hall will expand the range of classrooms. The human anatomy lab will feature human autopsy and other new programs.

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

Events On the Town

April 14-28 7 p.m.

The Bob Lockey Jazz Speaker Series
Dr. Neal Finn, Dr. John Brown, Ray Codrington and Reggie Condington will speak about famous Jazz player Bob Lockey. Lockey Music will donate a musical instrument at each event. Rosenthal Choir Room at Fayetteville State University.
Admission is free

April 16-17 9 a.m.- 10 p.m.

7th Annual Civil War Living History Event

This living history event will feature demonstrations from the Civil War infantry, artillery and surgeons. You will also see the cannons firing over Cape Fear river and what camp life was really like.
Campbellton Landing
Admission is \$5

April 21-23 7:30 p.m.

A Slice of Saturday Night: The 60's Musical

This musical celebrates the pop stars of the late 50's and early 60's with over forty different songs. Artists include Louis Prima, Keely Smith, Dean Martin and Frank Sinatra. Come experience the glory of a bygone musical era brought back to life once more. Music available on rental and is performed by a live band.
Butler Theatre at Fayetteville State University
\$10 for adults, \$8 Staff, faculty and senior citizens, \$3 for children and \$2 for students with a valid ID

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.

Awards Day Convocation shines light on outstanding students

Staff Report

Each spring at Methodist University, students and staff members gather in the Reeves Auditorium for a special convocation.

This convocation is unlike the ones that happen at the beginning of each semester. There are no inspirational speakers or choirs ready to celebrate with cultural music. At this convocation, students are celebrated more than anything else.

At the 2011 Awards Convocation, held last Monday, 38 awards were presented to students who have exemplified hard work in their college careers. In addition to the student awards, four awards were presented to professors who exemplified the best that Methodist has to offer.

As the winner of each award was announced, Reeves Auditorium filled with shouts from friends and family members who attended the convocation. Award winners



Dr. Keith Dipree presents Brandon Barry, a freshman, the Willis C. Gates Music Award for Excellence in Performance. Photo by Jessie Heath.

were greeted on the stage by their presenter and given a hug or a handshake, as well as a plaque, trophy or certificate stating their accomplishments.

Congratulations to all the award winners from this year's Awards Ceremony.

Group meets to explore the teachings of the Buddha

Aaron Bressler Staff Writer

Of all of the major religions, Buddhism is one of the most prolific. Even those who do not practice the religion know the quotes of the Buddha and follow his wisdom. In a corner of the David Memorial library, a group of professors and staff gather together once a month and discuss the world's problems.

"We're here to solve the world's problems in thirty minutes or less," joked Spencer Davis, a professor of economics.

Davis explained that the purpose of the group was to study

and discuss daily life through the wisdom and advice of the Buddha.

The group is informal and meets once a month for approximately an hour. Members do not have to be Buddhist to attend. The purpose of the group is to learn about Buddhism and use it to understand the world around us. They meet in the reading café in the library and hope to have more people join, including students.

Interested students and staff members should contact professor Davis.

Disability access at Methodist improving

Ashley Young
News Editor

Many positive changes for the disabled have come to Methodist University since its opening 55 years ago, but the journey in making Methodist fully accessible to the disabled is not over yet.

With more than 125 disabled students at Methodist University and growing opportunities for more students to attend, equal disability access throughout Methodist's campus is very important.

Since 2008, Methodist has seen the addition of an elevator in the Trustees Building, a sidewalk leading to Disability Services in the Center for Personal Development, a ramp leading up to the Public Safety office, automatically opening doors in Trustees and by the ramp outside Reeve's Auditorium and paint added to the ends of some staircases on campus. However, additional changes are still needed.

"The elevator was a big improvement, but there are still a lot of changes that need to be made," said Patricia Hurley, a senior and social work major, who is a disabled student. "Examples are the gates in front of Trustees; they are too narrow."

Other improvements include the remodeling of the Disability Testing Center, located in the Center for Personal Development, which had its walls soundproofed and had additional desks, lamps and computers added.

"We have requested an additional computer for the exam room and the construction of an additional space to be used for counseling and exam room overflow during final exams," said Linda Szulc, Director of disability services.

"I know the computer is being purchased and hope the new space will be available this coming fall," said Szulc.

When the new science building, Nimock's Fitness Center and the new medical buildings were constructed, all were built without automatic doors. While Nimock's does have a ramp inside leading from the upstairs fitness area down to the basketball courts, and the new science building has an elevator inside, the buildings are still

not completely accessible because they lack the automatic doors.

While all of the pull open doors on Methodist's campus are in need of being upgraded, priorities start with the door by the ramp leading into the Horner Administration building, the outer doors to Clark Hall and Yarborough Auditorium, the downstairs door to Reeves Auditorium, one or more of the doors leading into the Berns Student Center and downstairs into the cafeteria, the doors to Allison Hall and both the old and the new science building doors.



New automatic doors outside the Trustees building are just the beginning of a long list of changes that still need to be made to Methodist in order to accommodate disabled students. Photo by Jessie Heath.

"The most pressing need is the Horner building. The doors open out, leaving too little space for a wheelchair. Students have reported nearly rolling down the stairs trying to get into the building. Automatic sliding doors on at least one of the entrances would solve the problem," said Szulc.

All students are met with some sort of requirement to enter all of these buildings at least once in their career at Methodist, and students in wheel or power chairs are left completely reliant on others for assistance.

Other doors needing upgrades include the doors leading into the Center for Personal Development, Student Health Center and Medical Buildings, Nimock's Fitness Center, Public Safety and all hall and apartment doors.

"I have seen big improvements in disabled students' enrollment at Methodist, but I have not seen a big improvement in the disability access, which leaves Methodist a little bit out of date," said Hurley.

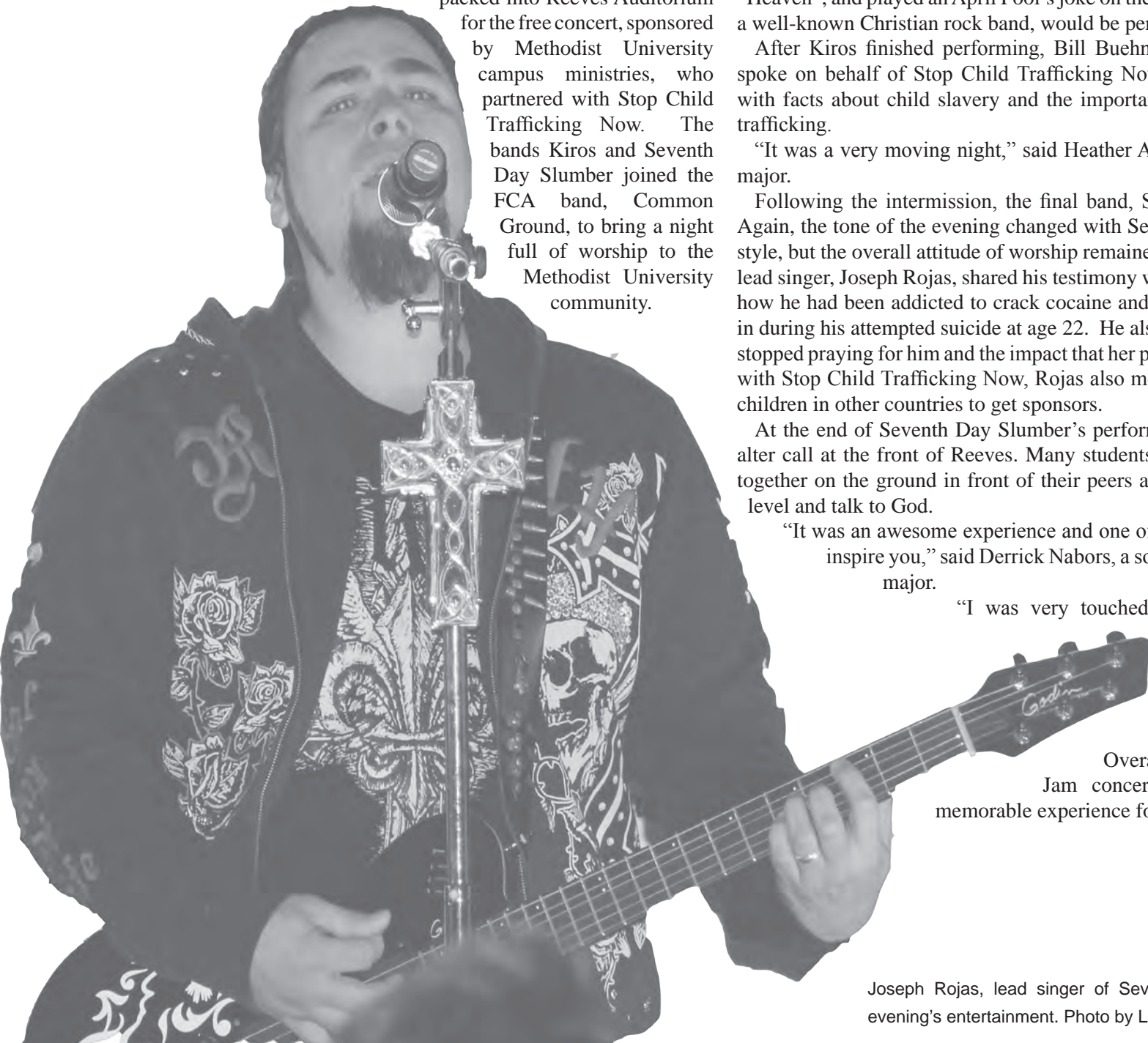
Methodist could also benefit from having evacuation chairs that people with difficulty walking could be transferred into quickly and moved to another location, in the event of an emergency. Other benefits include having ramps repaired or replaced, like the one leading to the parking lot near Allison Hall, behind Reeves Auditorium and the steep brick ramp just below the old science building.

"We need to continue giving students with special needs individual attention and also expand access through technology," said Szulc.

Easter Jam draws Fayetteville community

*Alisha Hunt
Staff Writer*

On April 1, Methodist University hosted its 3rd annual Easter Jam concert. Approximately 1,100 students, faculty and members of the Fayetteville community packed into Reeves Auditorium for the free concert, sponsored by Methodist University campus ministries, who partnered with Stop Child Trafficking Now. The bands Kiros and Seventh Day Slumber joined the FCA band, Common Ground, to bring a night full of worship to the Methodist University community.



Doors did not open until 6 p.m., but volunteers started handing out seating passes at 4:30 p.m. The concert began at 7:30 p.m., with Common Ground, who kicked off the night of worship and got the audience pumped up for the other two bands.

After Common Ground, the Canadian band, Kiros, changed the tone with their alternative Christian rock style. They sang a few of their number one hits, including “Heaven”, and played an April Fool’s joke on the crowd by telling them that Skillet, a well-known Christian rock band, would be performing as a special surprise.

After Kiros finished performing, Bill Buehner, a member of Manna Church, spoke on behalf of Stop Child Trafficking Now. Buehner presented the crowd with facts about child slavery and the importance of taking action to stop child trafficking.

“It was a very moving night,” said Heather Anderson, a junior athletic training major.

Following the intermission, the final band, Seventh Day Slumber, performed. Again, the tone of the evening changed with Seventh Day Slumber’s heavy metal style, but the overall attitude of worship remained present. Seventh Day Slumber’s lead singer, Joseph Rojas, shared his testimony with the crowd. Rojas talked about how he had been addicted to crack cocaine and how his mother had once walked in during his attempted suicide at age 22. He also discussed how his mother never stopped praying for him and the impact that her prayers made on his life. In keeping with Stop Child Trafficking Now, Rojas also mentioned how important it was for children in other countries to get sponsors.

At the end of Seventh Day Slumber’s performance, Rojas opened up a special alter call at the front of Reeves. Many students and community members joined together on the ground in front of their peers and neighbors to get on a personal level and talk to God.

“It was an awesome experience and one of the life changing ones that really inspire you,” said Derrick Nabors, a sophomore Business Administration major.

“I was very touched by the concert,” agreed Aaron Fournier, a freshman with an undeclared major.

“We loved being at Methodist,” said Kiros. “We hope we can come again.”

Overall, Methodist’s 3rd annual Easter Jam concert appeared to be a hit and a memorable experience for all who attended.

Joseph Rojas, lead singer of Seventh Day Slumber, was part of the evening’s entertainment. Photo by LaKeisha Story.

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Cold Subs ORIGINALS

2 JERSEY SHORE'S FAVORITE

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3 THE AMERICAN CLASSIC

Ham and provolone

14 THE VEGGIE

Swiss, provolone, green leaf pepperoni

5 THE SUPER SUB

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10 ALBACORE TUNA FISH

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13 THE ORIGINAL ITALIAN

Provolone, ham, provolone, pepperoni, salami and pepperoni

8 CLUB SUB

Turkey, ham, provolone, layers, mayo, of course! **Mike's Way!**

9 CLUB SUPREME

Roast beef, turkey, ham, layers, mayo, of course! **Mike's Way!**

Hot Subs CHEESE STEAKS (STEAK, MILD CHEDDAR)

17 JERSEY MIKE'S FAMOUS PHILLY

Grilled steaks and peppers

43 CHIPOTLE CHEESE STEAK

Grilled steaks, peppers, chipotle mayo — Wow!

You gotta love eat!

56 BIG KAHUNA CHEESE STEAK

Grilled steaks and peppers plus mushrooms, peppers, and extra cheddar.

15 MEATBALL AND CHEESE

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18 CHICKEN PARM

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Northwestern accuses professor of doctoring project documents, lying

Dan Hinkel and Matthew Walberg
(MCT)

Northwestern University officials blasted a heralded journalism professor Wednesday, accusing him of doctoring records and repeatedly lying to his department's dean and the school's lawyers.

Star professor David Protesse has been at odds with his own university for months, but school officials launched their strongest offensive yet, saying his conduct could "undermine the integrity" of the university, its students and the news media. The university made the accusations as Medill School of Journalism faculty members left a two-hour, closed-door meeting with journalism school Dean, John Lavine. University officials said Lavine detailed how a review of Protesse's conduct led to his removal from teaching for the ongoing spring quarter. The move has roiled alumni and students who revere Protesse, founder of a project that investigates potential wrongful convictions and has helped exonerate more than 10 inmates.

"Medill makes clear its values on its website, with the first value to 'be respectful of the school, yourself and others - which includes personal and professional integrity,'" university spokesman Alan Cabbage wrote in a statement. "Protesse has not maintained that value, a value that is essential in teaching our students."

The controversy began nearly two years ago when Cook County, Ill., prosecutors subpoenaed notes, grades and recordings from Protesse's students, who had challenged inmate Anthony McKinney's conviction for a 1978 shotgun slaying in Harvey, Ill. Protesse and the university accused prosecutors of overreaching and sought to block their access to some student materials, claiming those records were covered by journalistic privilege. But a lawyer hired by the university said in court that Northwestern did not seek to block access to records, including student memos that had been given to McKinney's legal team to try to win his freedom. The lawyer hired by the university to represent the school and the professor abruptly quit representing Protesse last fall, alleging Protesse gave him inaccurate information about what materials had been shared with McKinney's lawyers.

Northwestern officials then hired a former federal prosecutor to review Protesse's conduct. On Wednesday, university officials said the review found that in late 2009, the professor sent his lawyer an email that contained what Protesse said was a copy of a 2007 email to his assistant about what materials had been shared. But Protesse altered the 2007 email to "hide the fact that the student memos had been shared with McKinney's lawyers," Cabbage said.

"The email copy he provided stated that: 'My position about memos, as you know, is that we don't keep copies,'" Cabbage said. "However, examination of the original 2007 email ... revealed that the original wording actually was: 'My position about memos, as you know, is that we share everything with the legal team, and don't keep copies.'"

Protesse said he changed the 2007 email because the statement that his program's policy was to "share everything" was not strictly accurate. Protesse has denied misleading the university and blamed a faulty memory for any inaccurate information he might have provided. He said university officials are using him as a scapegoat and trying to shift responsibility from McKinney's attorneys at the law school's Center on Wrongful Convictions. A lawyer from the center admitted in court she lost or destroyed documents given to her by Protesse's project.

On leave for the spring, Protesse is setting up a non-profit group to do work similar to that of the Medill Innocence Project, enlisting students from area colleges to investigate possible wrongful convictions. Protesse said he has no plans for a court fight with Northwestern.

"I set up the Chicago Innocence Project because I wanted to move on with my life and do something constructive with student reporters from universities all over Chicago," he said.

As they streamed from their meeting with Lavine, Protesse's journalism school colleagues declined to talk with reporters gathered at Northwestern's Fisk Hall to ask what the dean had said.

"I'll definitely get fired if I talk to you," said one meeting attendee as he hurried into an office.



David Protesse has been a favorite professor by many students at Northwestern. Photo contributed by northwestern.edu.

The Last Will and Testaments of Aryn Hicks and Jessie Heath

To The Staff,

In keeping with the tradition begun by Alicia Secord, We leave you our scholarly possessions, which do not amount to much. We hope you find them useful and helpful in the issues to come.

To Emily: We leave you the ability to say random things at random times. You already excel in this department and we believe that with some coaching, you will soar to new heights.

To Aaron: We leave you the power of time, that all of your articles might make it to the inbox in a timely manner.

To Matthew: We hereby present to you the knowledge of the AP Stylebook, especially when it comes to numbers and capitalization. Ex. Meet me at 51st and Mendooza.

To Scotty: We leave with you our love for busting out a random dance move in the office every now and then. Dance on, Scotty, dance on.

To Philip: We leave you permission (for what it's worth) to record Scotty's random dance moves on your phone... We also leave you the permission to download said recordings on Facebook for the world to see.

To Alisha: We leave you a stack of quotation marks to put around your quotes. We also leave you the years and majors of all your sources.

To Kika: We leave you the world's best imaginary camera, lens set and tripod.

To Cecilia: We leave you the scissors with which we threatened to cut up many a Magic Card, in the hopes that if you ever find yourself in the same predicament with yearbook staff members as we so often found ourselves with smallTALK staff members, you can use put the scissors to good use.

To Erik: We leave you the ability to laugh when the computers crash and multiple trips to Roxana's office when the pages won't export.

To Lakeisha: We leave with you a supply of attack hugs, with the hope that when people need them the most, you will share them.

To all of you who will be graduating with us in May, We leave you these final words. May you find them inspirational and amusing.

To Ashley: We leave you with this knowledge – one good whack in the knees with a cane will take down even the most obstinate of foes.

To Austin: We leave you a magic knife. Always remember that when you get a fever, the only cure for it is more magic knife.

And finally, on a more solemn note, we leave the last of our possessions to the person without whom we would not have made it through the year.

To Roxana: We give you all our thanks and gratitude for teaching us most of what we know about writing. Thank you for your constant guidance in both the yearbook and smallTALK. We also present to you a whole play list of funny YouTube videos to enjoy when the minions stress you out. Finally, we leave you with the promise that even though we are graduating, we still plan to fill your office with things that begin with "B" and tape Lakeisha to the ceiling. That's not going too far, is it?

With love,

Jessie and Aryn <3

To Each Other

To Aryn: We did it. Now that it's over, I leave you my eternal friendship and many thank you's for being my sounding board for the last 4 years. I also leave you a lifetime supply of dance moves to the Sound of Music's 'Lonely Goatherd' song, in the hopes that when things seem most grim you will remember nights full of pizza, flat sodas and YouTube videos.

To Jessie: It's the end of a legacy. I leave you my undying loyalty and sisterly love for being the greatest friend a girl could ever ask for. I leave to you

an endless supply of sassy attitude to use against those who tell you that you can't do something that you know to be possible. I also leave you videos of our candid dances to 'Proud Mary' and 'Fireworks,' to remind you that you can have fun even when times get rough, especially when doughnuts are involved.



Thanks for the memories, smallTALK staff of 2010-2011. Photo by Roxana Ross.

CLASS OF 2011

Don't forget to vote for the student you want to hear speak at graduation!

Abhishek Kansakar

Kristyn Zeiler

Lynda Strock

Stephen Fox

Place your vote at:

www.methodist.edu/academics/distinguished.htm

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10 Things I hate about MU

One graduating senior's reflection on her college experience



Aryn Hicks

After four years at Methodist, I believe it is past due for a good tangent. As a graduating senior, I feel that too much has gone unsaid. It is time for a call-out.

The one thing I hate most about MU is the lack of cohesion between the Business Office and Financial Aid. Too many students have lost their sanity running between the two buildings. Too many students have spent unnecessary money to clear the business office, after receiving the “pay or get dropped” letters, only to realize some financial aid had yet to be entered into the computer. Both offices need updated, unified systems to save time, money and mental stability.

Another thing that is irksome to me about MU is the professors who act high and mighty towards students. Allow me to give you a ladder so you can get off of your high horse. Just because you have “Dr.” In front of your name does not give you the right to treat students like garbage. Last

time I checked, you did not exit the womb with a Ph.D -- you were a student once too. Rudeness, favoritism and prejudice are traits of ignorant people and should not be reflected by educators. If you want to be treated with dignity and respect, treat your students that way.

Grievance number three: Meatless Mondays in the cafeteria. Sodexo, I paid my money for a balanced variety of meals. Meatless Mondays wouldn't be so bad if all of the food options were healthy and tasted decent; however, the food is bland day after day. If I was a student next year and Meatless Mondays continue, I would opt out of a meal plan. Sorry Sodexo, but a BBQ tray from Cookout beats fruity fried rice any day. If the food doesn't improve, students can/will/should take their money to different dining establishments.

Another point of contempt - administrators not keeping their promises. On my campus tour in 2007, I was told that weaver would be getting new AC units. Guess what Weaver is “getting” this summer, almost 5 years later? When administrators tell student that they are going to do something, they need to follow through. Plans that are not followed through with are equivalent with lies. After enough lies, students stop believing in the administration, get angry, and transfer to different schools. Administrators, do what you say you're going to do.

One of the most annoying things about MU is dealing with the Registrar's office. It's too much of a hassle adding, dropping and registering for classes. It's even more difficult to deal with when some of the individuals in the office have bad attitudes. Operations in the Registrar's office need to be more timely and efficient. Get students out of your office by helping us the first time; that way, we don't have to come back over and over for the same issues.

I have made this complaint before, but allow me to address this issue again. Admissions, stop accepting more students than the university can hold. Students pay way too much to be shoved into the residence halls like sardines. It's too stressful for the students and staff. Quit sacrificing the quality of students for the sake of quantity.

Greek Life... JUST KIDDING. Put down the pitchforks and torches.

I don't think I'm alone in the hatred of tuition increases every semester. I've watched too many great students and friends have to leave because of the unforeseen tuition increase. It wouldn't be as bad if the services at MU improved with the increase, but that is not the case. If tuition continues to rise, facilities need to dramatically improve, scholarship funding needs to increase and students need to be informed.

I hate that MU is so far behind in the times. MU needs some policy updates to fit this era-- especially regarding class attendance, alcohol, and visitation. Students are adults in a new decade. When the Trustees and administrators realize this fact and start treating students like grown-ups, students will be more open to new policies and act more responsibly.

The most disturbing thing that I hate about MU is the fact that it has taken four years for someone (i.e. me) to stand up and speak out. Students, if you don't like something, speak up and voice your concerns. It takes pride to call out the negative points because showing concern is how to promote change. If you stand in silence, you will be ignored. Students, you must be the change if you want to see change.

This editorial is the opinion of one student and does not reflect the views of smallTALK as a whole.

Questionable queries of a Campus Ninja



Dear Campus Ninja,

I have been reading you for a while and I personally believe that you are the sole reason the school paper succeeds. I was devastated when you announced that you would only be writing one more time, due to your impending graduation. If it is not too much to ask, can you tell me who you are and what will happen to my beloved column?

From,
Fancy Fan

Dear Fancy,

I would be happy to answer that. I mean, all anyone had to do was ask and I would have revealed my masked identity before now. I am William Austin Bordeaux and I know a number of you know me personally. For those who don't know me, I am a Mass Communications major, planning to graduate this May.

In addition to writing the ninja column, I have also written most of the video game reviews over the past three years, as well as other articles as needed. My hobbies include knife throwing, breaking the laws of nature, being a ninja and participating in many other geeky activities.

I appreciate the opportunity to write for all of you and thank my readers for enjoying my biweekly insanity. Fret not though, for I have trained a skillful minion to take over the article for next year. Keep sending in those questions.

From,
Austin Bordeaux (Campus Ninja)



Ashley Asks... *How do you feel about recent regulations on the substances used to make K-2 Spice?*



"I could see where that would be useful because if a school has a policy you have to stand by it because that's a regulation."—Patricia Hurley, a senior and Social Work major.



"I don't even know what it is."—Brittany Verner, a senior and business administration major.



"There are other drugs that are illegal and laws should be applied to this too so that students can't hurt other students."—Camilo Gomez, a senior and art major.



"I don't care because I don't mess with it and it doesn't affect me."—Josh Caminite, a sophomore and sports management major.

Crysis 2: Sequel fills big shoes of original game

Aaron Bressler
Staff writer

The original Crysis is a staple in the video game world. Well known for its great design and computer-melting graphics, the original Crysis had large shoes for its sequel to fill. However, judged on the original, Crysis 2 is a fantastic addition to any game collection.

Plot/Characters 7/10

The protagonist, Alcatraz, is silent throughout the game, but it is unclear why. A lot of weird stuff happens in this game, but for some reason Alcatraz never has anything to say. However, his silence allows the players to project themselves into the game without the characters interfering. The plot and characters are fairly generic, and nothing stands out from the rest. The game takes what it does have and uses it well. Despite a vague meandering plot, the action keeps the game moving. Tasked with saving New York from space squids, the game does not pull any punches when destroying landmarks and turning one of America's greatest cities into a decimated war zone.

Graphics 8/10

As with the previous Crysis game, the graphics are quite good. Technology has caught up to Crysis 2, allowing you to play the game without too much lag or glitching. The difference this time is that the graphics were designed for the console and then ported to the PC, as opposed to the other way around. The foliage is a little disappointing, looking like flat sheets of green waving in the breeze and some of the miscellaneous objects scattered around the levels were undetailed and reused way too often.

The rest of the graphics in Crysis 2 were well above average, and the large-scale destruction of New York City is done very well. The design of the Ceph (alien squid monsters) uses a unique hybrid of technological and organic design to really sell the idea that these creatures are from another world. The coral-like structures they make throughout the city, as well as the way they move and attack, puts you in the mind of predatory sea creatures. This enhances their otherworldly feeling in a dry urban environment.

Gameplay 8/10

Where this game doesn't slack is in the mechanics. All of the nuts and bolts of the game are present and well-designed. The only problem lay with the game's greatest attribute: the wide array of variables. Crysis 2 is a very nonlinear game. Every mission and fire fight is designed with an array of tactics available and is open-ended enough for the players to invent a couple of their own on the fly. The A.I. is quite good at countering your ideas; however, the computer sometimes seems to choke on the number of options it has and glitches the other characters on objects or simply has them stand around doing nothing. This

was unusual in normal gameplay, but happened enough that you couldn't help but remember it after you were done playing. I also ran into a problem where my guns would disappear during cinematics and then never come back, making me restart the whole section. The gunplay was very realistic, with a focus on brutal combat and lethal consequences. You get a small edge over the enemy, but not much.

Design 10/10

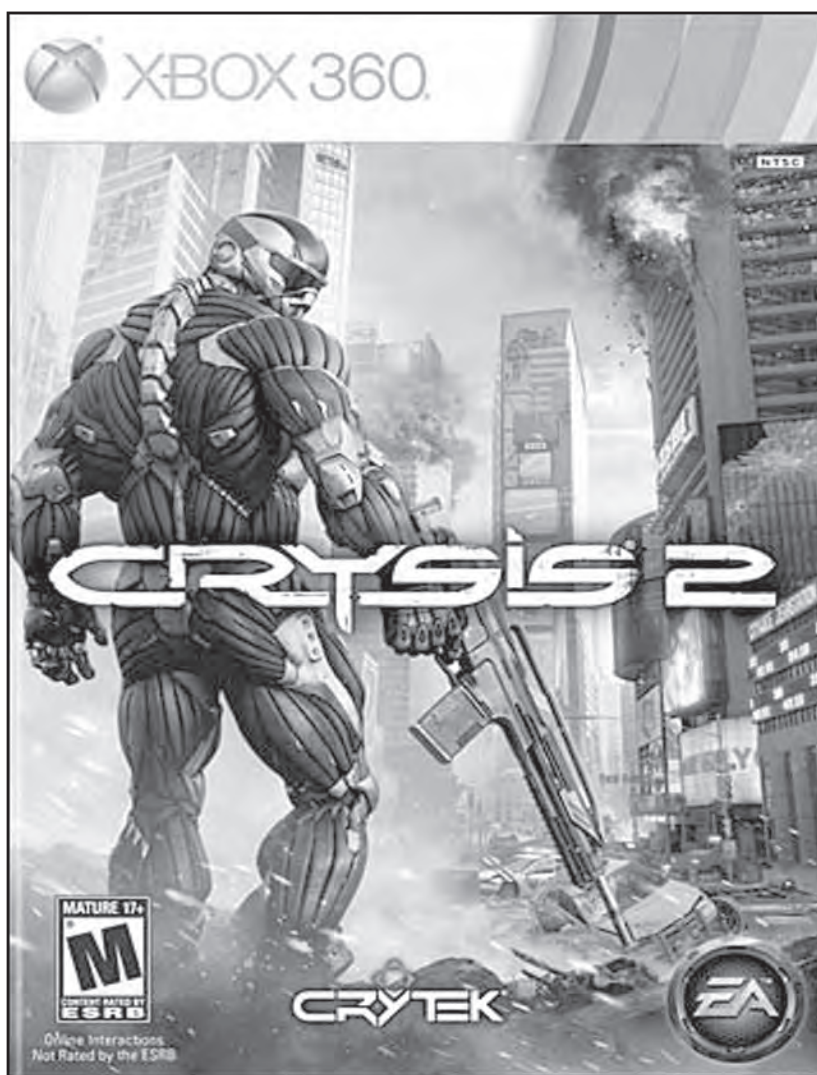
The highlight of the entire game was the level of design. Crysis 2 is in a category all its own. Every chair, vending machine and burnt-out bus was expertly placed to facilitate a wide array of options while avoiding a staged appearance. Little details are sprinkled liberally around the game to provide amusement or interest for players who take the time to explore the game. The suit's power-up system uses catalysts gathered from fallen Ceph and unlocks the power-ups depending on what mode you use and how often you use it. The levels are taken from real locations in NYC. Having been there myself, I was impressed not only by how accurate Crysis 2 was, but also by how well they managed to destroy it. The only real flaws lie in how the design was executed in gameplay. Crysis 2 has enough detail to have players coming back over and over again to find all the collectables and discover all of the hidden jokes and details.

Multiplayer 8/10

Crysis 2's multiplayer is not going to threaten other major multiplayer games. However, Crysis 2 is entertaining in its own right. The game features the realism of CoD and the superhuman powers of Halo to create an interesting hybrid. While it can sometimes be a little unusual, it never the less manages to make a well-balanced game. The modes are similar to classic multiplayer, but with changes like making the objectives randomly relocate during domination matches. The maps offer a lot of good sniper spots, but none that are too sheltered. Camping is also a little more difficult, as the cloak and armor modes provide some protection against one hit kills. Crysis 2 seems to favor tactical play over mad rushes, especially with the special powers available. What the multiplayer seems to lack is more variety in the weapons and perks available, and the only two playable factions are the Marines and the Cell soldiers. Players cannot play as the aliens.

Overview 8.5/10

Crysis 2 has managed to fill the shoes of the original, and make bigger ones for the sequel hinted at in the end of the game. While the plot and characters are little to get excited over, they work well and do not get in the way of the game. The level of design and graphics are superb, but are occasionally lost in little glitches and snags. This game would be near perfect if it weren't for the occasional mistake. Your collection is not complete without Crysis 2.

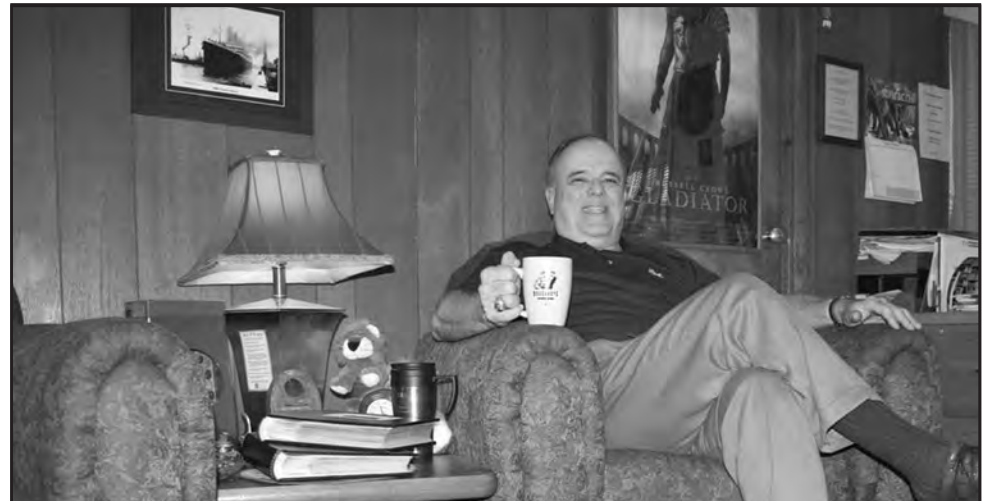




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'Maddening March Madness': UCONN defeats Butler by narrow margin

Matthew Snowberger
Sports Editor

What do you call a team with no seniors, who finishes 9th in the Big East, and shoots an abysmal 34 percent in their final game? You call them champions... obviously.

March has finally lived up to all that madness hype. Every year we hear the Cinderella story; everybody has a chance to dance the big dance. Every year, like the dutiful fans we are, we fill out our brackets call the occasional upset and pick on Gladys from down the hall, who picks teams based who has the best mascot. I think we all owe Gladys an apology.

Had anyone told me on March 1 that UCONN would be playing Butler for the National Championship, I would have laughed in their face, then made some corny joke about still wearing last year's slipper. Had that same person said that, in order to get to the last game, Butler would have to beat VCU and some guy named Shocka in the Final Four game, I would have backed away slowly and considered calling the authorities.

This was by far the greatest tournament of I've ever seen. It was necessary for the championship game to be tedious to watch, but nothing is perfect. But this tournament was so good that Brandon Knight's 15-footer to beat the top seeded Ohio State in the Sweet 16 won't even be in the Top Five. That could have been the defining game of the tournament, and it wasn't even the most exciting or biggest upset in its round.

Finally it felt like every team in the tournament belonged. All 64 teams played a high level of basketball, despite a few talent gaps. Competitiveness was the norm, yes, and there were a few blowouts, but they were isolated incidents. Just because the big teams had a few more stars next to the names of recruits (not to mention commas in their budgets) did not guarantee their passage past the teams that have typically been their lesser foes. Yes, Kansas Louisville, I'm looking at you.

Maybe it was great for all the wrong reasons, a wacky one and done rule, and a wide, some would say shallow, talent pool that gave smaller schools



Charles Okwandu, of Connecticut, soars over Butler players in NCAA Final. UCONN won 53-44. Photo contributed by MCT.

a chance. Maybe having 64 teams battle in single elimination is not the best way to pick a champion (you can't convince me UCONN is the best team in the country, or that Butler is in the Top 10). But this year's version of March madness has been the most exciting brilliantly displayed skeptical of sport since the 2008 summer Olympics. We can only hope next year will be just as maddening.

MONARCH SCOREBOARD

GAME RESULTS

Men's Tennis		
Date	Opponent	Result
4/3	Shenandoah University	W 9-0
4/6	North Carolina Wesleyan College	L 1-8

Lacrosse		
Date	Opponent	Result
4/2	Christopher Newport University	L 3-20
4/6	North Carolina Wesleyan College	W 14-4

Baseball		
Date	Opponent	Result
3/29	Purchase College (DH)	W 13-1, W 15-0
4/2	North Carolina Wesleyan College	W 16-4
4/3	North Carolina Wesleyan College	W 7-2
4/6	Virginia Wesleyan College	L 9-12

Softball		
Date	Opponent	Result
3/29	Meredith College (DH)	W 10-2, W 9-1
4/2	Ferrum College (DH)	W 4-3, W 3-2
4/5	Peace College (DH)	W 9-2, W 7-0
4/6	Virginia Wesleyan College (DH)	L 1-3, L 10-13

Women's Tennis		
Date	Opponent	Result
3/29	Peace College	W 9-0
4/3	Huntington College	W 8-1
4/6	North Carolina Wesleyan College	W 9-0

UPCOMING GAMES

Baseball		
Date	Opponent	Time
4/30	Salisbury University	1 p.m.
5/1	Salisbury University	1 p.m.

Women's Tennis		
Date	Opponent	Time
4/13	Coker College	3:30 p.m.

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April 11, 2011 (Monday)
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The "Walk" will start at THE CENTER FOR PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT and end at THE BERNIS STUDENT CENTER.

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