

Fourth Methodist University President Inaugurated

By Erik Alegria
Layout Editor

On March 23, the MU Chorale started off the Presidential Inauguration by singing and afterward, the band played as all the professors walked in and found their seats. As soon as every professor on campus was in the auditorium, it was time for everyone to greet the new president. The greetings were all given with a hefty speech

by a representative. The representatives ranged from students to congressmen.

Once the greetings were out of the way, Dr. Hancock's very own son, Mr. Ben E. Hancock III, came up to the podium in order to give his own speech about his father and what he and his family think about everything that has happened, and how proud they were of him.

It wasn't until after half way through the event that Dr. Ben Hancock was officially made the

fourth President of Methodist University after swearing on his family Bible. After this ceremony, he was presented with the University charter and the Presidential Medallion.

Finally, the highlight of the inauguration had arrived. Dr. Hancock finally had his chance to speak and to tell Methodist of his Master Plan.

It was during his speech that he revealed that Methodist will now officially have a school of Health Science and Community Center at MU. He also told everyone about the master plan, which he has been planning since he came to Methodist last year.

The first part of the master plan is to expand the student center to further accommodate all of the new students at Methodist. The second part of the master plan is to expand upon Reeves auditorium, adding a recital hall for the Music department to hold concerts in, and a worship center for students to have more than just the chapel to go to for more worship activities.

In addition to the expansion, the new Nursing building behind Clark and the new residence hall on the outskirts of Coach Sink Field are also a part of the master plan. The new residency hall will house 100 new students, allowing those off campus to move back onto campus and be more involved in campus life.

Ending his speech with some even better news, Hancock excitedly told everyone that Harvey and Mary Wright, Chair of the Board of trustees, have donated five million dollars for student scholarships.



Dr. Ben Hancock and his wife Debbie at the Inauguration on Mar. 23. Photo by Tria Detz

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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 located in Chris's House 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 Tuesday at 4:30 p.m. in Chris's house.

Initial copies of smalltalk are free. Additional copies are 50 cents each.



Nursing Admin Plan Backfires

Cecilia Bode
Staff Writer

The first Friday of Spring Break was less than enjoyable for some of our fellow students. Some Nursing majors were informed that a terrible mistake had occurred and that they were no longer on the right track for their major.

A decision was made that since the Anatomy and Physiology courses that were offered at Methodist were more advanced than what is needed to pass the nursing certificate exam, the students would be able to take Chemistry or Earth Science class and a specific Nursing Anatomy class to fulfill their requirements to get into the Nursing program.

This plan was approved by the Nursing committee, so they assumed the Science department would also approve it. Having assumed this, Nursing students were placed in classes for this semester that went along with the new plan. Now that it is mid-semester, Nursing students are finding out that our Science department declined the amendment to the Nursing program requirements. These students and their advisors were led to believe that the plans would be approved, there would be no problems and that the students would have no problem getting into the program. Now that there is a snag in the plan, the school is frantically searching for a way to repair the mess that was made.

When the students who were affected by this mistake found out about it, they or their parents promptly contacted the school. They went for days without getting any legit response other than the President requesting that they call his secretary to schedule an appointment. Having this arise over spring break was very convenient because the students were not on campus to person-

ally speak to any school personnel who may be able to answer the questions.

Mary Hall, head of the nursing department, was quick to reply to the students and parents. She took her time during break to help solve the crisis that these students had been placed in.

"Dr. Hall is a dedicated, caring leader for our Nursing program who, no matter what obstacles arise, pushes forward to continue the success of the nursing program," said a pre-nursing student who wishes to stay anonymous. The few students who were affected the most by this mistake have been fervently trying to find new schools to transfer to, find out about summer classes and the costs so that they can stay or have considered changing majors.

However, after weeks of frustrating emails, phone calls and meetings, a solution has finally been formulated. The school will pay for the mistake they made by covering the costs of the summer classes

and housing that is necessary for the students to get back on the correct path.

While it great that the school is taking responsibility for jumping the gun with the requirement changes, they should not have guided the students to take these courses before they were approved. These students are now faced with little summer vacation because they will be stuck at school for most of it. Any hopes of a summer job have been squashed, thoughts of days at the beach are now turning to those of sitting in a classroom, but the students are grateful that the president has been so gracious and helpful in this endeavor so that they may continue their education at Methodist University.

Smalltalk in the Big City

Tria Detz
Gabbie Isaac
Staff Writer

The Smalltalk student media staff went to a conference, sponsored by the College Media Association or CMA, which was held in New York City. The conference took place from Sunday, March 18 to Tuesday, March 20.

An array of different workshops were offered so that students would increase their knowledge of journalistic writing, photography and yearbook.

As well as attending workshops, the students also had the opportunity to view the city, most of them for the first time. The students saw the Metropolitan Museum of Art, China Town, the Statue of Liberty, Grand Central Station and Time Square. A pair of students had the experience of viewing the Broadway musical Chicago.

The students learned a lot and hope to apply the knowledge that they aquired to the newspaper as well as the yearbook.



Erik Alegria, Leigh Ann Philbee, Tria Detz, Emory Jacobs, and Gabbie Isaac in Time Square on March 17th. Saint Patrick Day in New York for the small-talk staff.

Bollywood beats Hollywood

Sachin Gaikwad
Contributing Writer

We all know Hollywood and we all know that Hollywood has benefitted from the film and entertainment industry for years. But the situation has started to change as Bollywood, the Indian film industry, started to attract many viewers to their productions. Hollywood produced their first drama around 1907, whereas Bollywood was born in 1899 but started gaining popularity around the 1930's. However, unlike Hollywood, Bollywood is not a physical place; it is just a combination of Bombay (formal name of Mumbai) and Hollywood.

The Indian media always publishes reports of how Bollywood is trying to catch up with Hollywood. Let us look at some facts. On average, Hollywood produces 500 films per year whereas Bollywood produces more than 1,000 films, making it the world's largest film industry. In terms of audience, Bollywood has worldwide audience of around 3 billion (India alone has a population of 1.2 billion) whereas Hollywood worldwide is around 2.6 billion. Currently, Bollywood holds the record for having the highest number of viewers in the world.

Bollywood is mostly known for its rich language and the portrayal of Indian culture. Most of the Bollywood films contain catchy music, star-crossed

lovers, angry parents and love triangles. Sometimes only songs of the movie count for 20% of the narrative and a film's success often depends on the number of songs and its quality. Romance has always been the key feature of Bollywood movies, but now it seems to have changed and viewers can see all sorts of movies being produced. Large Indian relocation in English speaking countries, and westernized ways of doing things, have put Bollywood a little closer to Hollywood.

Looking at all these facts, one might question why Hollywood has more popularity amongst people than Bollywood. There are three main reasons for this: Language restriction, Budget and Technology and Originality. Most of the Bollywood movies use Hindi as their primary language, which is not as widely spoken in the world as English. Hollywood is technically the best and spends 10 times more money on their budgets than Bollywood. Finally, the Bollywood industry has always been criticized for plagiarizing; but in recent years it seems to be improving.

Besides all these facts, Bollywood is still the largest film industry in the world and some actors in Bollywood productions have become more popular than Hollywood actors. For example, Bollywood actor Shah Rukh Khan has more fans than Hollywood actor Tom Cruise.



Interview with an Afghan Student

Hamidullah Wafakaish interviewed by
Dhondup Tashi Rekjong
Staff Writer

Q.What is happening in Afghanistan these days?

A.Nowadays, the situation in Afghanistan is severe due to the interferences of International Security Assistance Forces (ISAF) and North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) into the national affairs of Afghanistan. A country would be better off if it can control and monitor its national interests and security by its own, but Afghanistan unfortunately does not have or not been given this opportunity to make its own political decisions.

Q.How do people in Afghanistan react towards this issue?

A.There have been many political, religious and social issues happening in Afghanistan during the past couple of months such as; burning of holy Quran by American soldiers, killing of civilians and urinating on dead bodies. As far as these issues concern, Afghan people go on strikes and demonstrations to show their care and avoid the further occurrences.

Q.As an Afghan student studying in United State, how do you feel about it?

A.As an Afghan student studying in the United States, I feel not that bad. Sometimes, when I hear that something has gone wrong in Afghanistan because of American "political and social" interferences, I really feel bad to be far from my people and not being able to share their sorrows.

Q.Do you see any solution for those kinds of problems? Why?

A.Political issues can only be solved politically. At the beginning (2001) when ISAF and NATO forces took over the control of Afghanistan from the dark regime of extremist (Taliban), I was thinking that there is still hope to rebuild Afghanistan. At the moment (2012), I see less of a hope but more of a social anarchy happening in Afghanistan. As of now, Afghanistan hopefully would be in peace if ISAF and NATO forces would leave the country because all the recent issues and problems are being created by these troops. Once, these troops leave, those angry Afghans would feel better and hopefully will think of rebuilding their war torn country.

“Hunger Games” Overfeeds Box Office

Gabbie Isaac and Tria Detz
Staff Writer

After a huge rebellion between the Capital and all 13 Districts, the 13th District was destroyed and the Capital decided that the Districts should be punished. As a result, each of the 12 Districts were expected to offer up two tributes, one male and one female, for the Hunger Games. 24 Tributes between the ages of 12 to 18 are chosen at random from a lottery bowl and taken to the Capitol. From there, they are put inside of an arena and forced to kill one another until only one prevails. The more food that the Capital supplies to specific citizens of the Districts, the more often those members will have their names entered into the lottery bowl, thus increasing their chances of being chosen as a tribute. Once a year, members of each District are forced to gather to see what boy and girl will be taken to the Capital as Tributes. This event is called the Reaping. From then on, citizens of the Capitol watch the games on television with glee, while all members of the district are forced to watch the Hunger Games from a television, viewing the brutal events that happen to their families and friends.

Katniss Everdeen, played by Jennifer Lawrence, tries to watch out for her broken family. When she was younger, her father was killed, leaving her to take care of herself as well as her sister and mother. She promises

her sister, Primrose, who has just entered the age for the Reaping, that she will be fine. However, the Reaping takes an unfortunate turn when Primrose is called to be the Tribute for District 12. Katniss, in desperation, volunteers in her sister's place. Shortly after she volunteers, Peeta Mallark, played by Josh Hutcherson, is picked as the male Tribute.

Fighting her emotions, cold-blooded killers and being stuck in a possible love triangle, Katniss must take on the other Tributes in order to return home and be with her family. This bold movie is oddly realistic and had me sitting on the edge of my seat wondering what would happen next.

In my opinion, the directors of this movie did a great job of amplifying the intensity of the games. I saw symbolism in the clothes worn by each District, the dark colors of the cloth representing their anger and depression. On the other hand, the bright colors worn by the Capitol citizens demonstrated the happy-go-lucky feel of its members.

This movie, however, is not for the faint of heart. Viewers must remember that the Hunger Games are a series of battles where District members must kill each other in order to become a victor. Parents might want to consider leaving the younger kids at home. Because the Tributes can be children, they will still have to kill (or be killed,) regardless of age.



Fighting for Freedom: “When Heaven and Earth Changed Places”

Gabbie Isaac
Staff Writer

When Americans think about the Vietnam War, they see it as just another fight. However, Le Ly Hayslip experienced a whole different war when she lived as a farm girl in Ky La.

During the Vietnam War, the Republic, or the government, fought against the Viet Cong, the government of the people. The Viet Cong wanted their traditions and cultures to remain the same and they were willing to fight for it.

“When Heaven and Earth Changed Places” recounts Le Ly's life before, during and after the war.

Le Ly was just a young girl in her pre-teen years when she began doing spy work for the Viet Cong. Her parents, also strong supporters of the Viet Cong, were happy and worried about their daughter's new occupation.

In order to show her dedication to the Viet Cong, Le Ly spied for the soldiers. Although she eventually became a legend with-

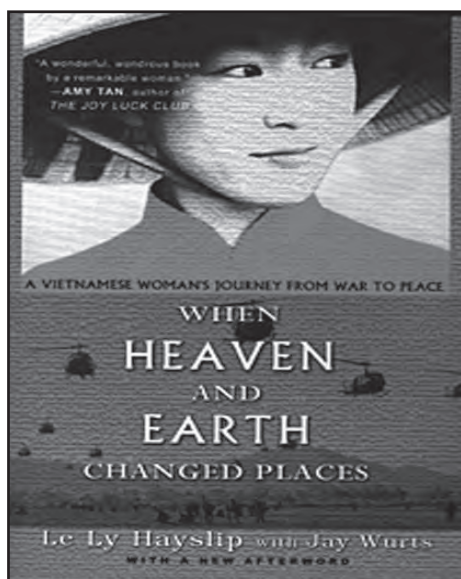
in the Viet Cong, trouble found its way into her life.

Le Ly was caught after hours in a bunker on the side of the road. She was taken by the Republic to a camp where she was beaten and questioned every day until she was released three days later. Although she was released because her sister's husband was a Republican officer, the Viet Cong thought the worst.

When she returned from her captivity, Le Ly realized that the village began shunning her as well as her whole family because they thought she was helping the enemy. Eventually, two of her friends, who just happened to be Viet Cong soldiers, take her to a village meeting. She is sentenced to death and the two soldiers take her into the woods to shoot her.

It was nice to be able to understand all of the opinions of those that were involved in the War.

This was, to me, an excellent book that displayed both the aftermath of the war physically as well as psychologically. In my opinion, this book is best for college students as well as adults because of the strong themes therein.



New Dorms Are a Questionable Addition

Contributing Writer

Many have passed by the incomplete sophomore dormitories. Construction workers work tirelessly during the day on the outskirts of the Coach Sink Field as they create a new dormitory that will be able to hold approximately 100 students.

However, there may be future problems with this. For one, no new parking will be added to the area, and it can be assumed that future residents will prefer to park near their new home in the current Village parking area.

Currently, the total limit per house is around 25 people. On the all-women's side, there are 3 houses: The Non-Greek Village house, the Beta Sigma Phi house and the Alpha Delta Pi house. There are also 2 fraternity houses, for Kappa Sigma and Lambda Kai respectively. There is one parking area with approximately 50 total available spaces per side.

This means there are 50 parking spaces for an area that could potentially have 75 students with cars currently near the Village, although the fraternity side has an equal amount of people for its parking spaces.

We must remember that not everyone owns a car.

However, add the 100+ students from the dormitories, who will likely park in the same parking spaces. That means there will be 100 total spaces for 225 students. This can become problematic later. Compare this to the Weaver parking lot, which students have complained about due to the unavailability of parking space. Also, remember that there will be the occasional visitor coming to the area needing a place to park their car.

Another possible issue is that the 100+ students in the dormitories will want to use the Coach Sink Field for recreational reasons. Granted, not all of them will, but the Coach Sink field is used for the Marching Band, Ultimate Frisbee, ROTC and several intramural sports. The field can become crowded and these groups could come into conflict with students who simply want to enjoy the day.

Currently, for these reasons, I am unsure of the sophomore dorm placement. With no new parking and possible problems with established groups, what is a quiet section of the campus become overcrowded.

Resident Advisors Get The Boot

Contributing writer

Cecilia Bode

Have you ever lost a job? Have you ever been asked to not return?

As a former Resident Advisor, RA, I was intrigued to find out about the new process by which the RAs were chosen. This year, the housing staff decided to change it up a little bit. Instead of the usual route where the current RAs were usually asked to return unless they did not meet the GPA requirements or did not fulfill their duties. This year, many RAs, who were hoping to return to the job, were not asked back onto the staff. These were RAs who had performed many programs for their residence halls, followed the rules and regulations set by the school and have good

relationships with their residents. While other RAs, who were not so great at the job, were asked back as staff for next school year. It has been said that some of the RAs returning have violated school policies but still have been allowed to return while the other RAs who have done their jobs correctly have been let go. There have been so many current RAs who are not being asked back that the number of new RAs may outnumber the returners. I cannot imagine the effects that this will have on the staff as a whole. The returning RAs will have their knowledge and abilities stretched to the max to make up for the lack of experience that the new RAs have. With such a large population coming on to campus in the fall, this will test the abilities of all the housing staff.



BEN-anza

On Thursday night, Mar. 22, the students rallied at the BEN-anza to welcome the president to Methodist. BEN-anza is a play on the president's name, Dr. Ben Hancock and bonanza. The president and his family were escorted by the Methodist University Drum line through a makeshift tunnel made by students. Several groups decided to give him gifts to welcome him officially to MU. For example, Resident Hall Association, or RHA, gave him a golden key to all the resident dorms. In addition to the appearance of the fourth president of the university, there were rides, free food and exotic animals that students could pet or hold such as a monkey, spotted cat and tarantula. As well as animals, they had live bands, one being Methodist University's own Common Ground. The marching band performed for the president throughout the presentation of gifts. The step team even performed a rhythmic routine to welcome the new president into the Methodist community.



When Pigs Fly: Part 6

By Emory Jacobs



Riddle in the Box

- 1) What kind of room has no windows or doors?
- 2) Clara Clatter was born on December 27th, yet her birthday is always in the summer. How is this possible?
- 3) What goes around the world but stays in a corner?
- 4) What goes up and down the stairs without moving?
- 5) I went into the woods and got it. I sat down to seek it. I brought it home with me because I couldn't find it. What is it?

Answers to last weeks riddles:

1. First, the waiter stuck the match into the lemon wedge, so that it would stand straight. Then he lit the match, and put it in the middle of the plate with the lemon. Then, he placed the glass upside-down over the match. As the flame used up the oxygen in the glass, it created a small vacuum, which sucked in the water through the space between the glass and the plate. Thus, the waiter got the water into the glass without touching or moving the plate.

2. The cook killed James. His alibi was that he was cooking breakfast in the evening, you don't cook breakfast in the evening.

Sudoku

	6	8		1				5
	7	5					2	9
3		1	4	9				
		2			6		8	
5	8		1		9		6	3
	4		3			7		
				2	4	5		6
2	9					4	3	
7				6		8	1	

Answer to last issues
Sudoku and puzzle.

7	9	8	5	6	4	1	2	3
5	1	3	2	7	8	4	6	9
4	6	2	9	1	3	5	7	8
9	2	7	8	5	6	3	4	1
8	4	1	7	3	9	6	5	2
6	3	5	1	4	2	9	8	7
1	7	9	4	8	5	2	3	6
2	5	6	3	9	7	8	1	4
3	8	4	6	2	1	7	9	5



What do you see? the hand print is usually the first think you see. Do you see the image inside the hand print?

Answers to these puzzles will be displayed in the next issue of the Smalltalk

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Monarch Scoreboard

GAME RESULTS

Women's Softball		
Date	Opponent	Result
3/4	Hiram College	W 8-5
3/6	Baldwin-Wallace College	L 2-6
3/14	Peace College (DH)	W 6-0, W 6-5
3/18	Shenandoah University (DH)	W 8-1, W 5-4
3/20	North Carolina Wesleyan College (DH)	W 5-0, W 3-2

Men's Baseball		
Date	Opponent	Result
3/3	Piedmont College	L 2-4
3/4	Montclair State University	W 11-7
3/11	Christopher Newport University	L 0-13
3/14	Virginia Wesleyan College	L 3-4
3/18	Averett University	L 2-3

Women's Tennis		
Date	Opponent	Result
3/6	Guilford College	W 9-0
3/6	Coe College	W 5-4
3/9	Bridgewater College	W 9-0
3/17	Averett University	W 9-0
3/18	Mary Baldwin College	W 9-0

Men's Tennis		
Date	Opponent	Result
3/6	Wittenberg University	L 3-6
3/9	Bridgewater College	W 6-3
3/15	Barton College	W 6-3
3/20	Connecticut College	W 6-3
3/22	Greensboro College	W 9-0



Devonne Blackshear passes the ball to Tyler Farias.
Photo By Shakeh Galstyan



T.T. Taylor blocks for Iesha Hayes. Photo by Shakeh Galstyan

UPCOMING GAMES

Men's Baseball		
Date	Opponent	Time
3/24	Shenandoah University	Postponed
3/25	Shenandoah University (DH)	12 pm
3/26	Rockingham CC (DH)	4 pm
3/27	Wake Tech CC (DH)	4 pm
3/28	Guilford College	3 pm

Women's Softball		
Date	Opponent	Time
3/25	Salem College (DH)	2 pm
3/26	Christopher Newport University (DH)	2:30 pm
3/28	Greensboro College (DH)	6 pm
3/31	Averett University (DH)	3 pm
4/1	Guilford College (DH)	1 pm

Men's Tennis		
Date	Opponent	Time
3/24	Ferrum College	1 pm
3/24	Coker College	3 pm
3/29	Hampden-Sydney College	3:30 pm
4/1	Shenandoah University	11 am
4/4	North Carolina Wesleyan College	3 pm

Women's Tennis		
Date	Opponent	Time
3/24	Ferrum College	1 pm
3/24	Coker College	3 pm
3/27	Peace College	4pm
3/27	Greensboro College	6:30pm
3/29	Meredith College	TBA

Women's Lacrosse		
Date	Opponent	Time
3/24	Christopher Newport University	3 pm

* Games in Bold are home games.



Story and Craft Hour

Wednesday, March 28, 2012

10:00am - 11:00am

At no cost, children can enjoy a craft as well as a story read by Methodist University students.



EASTER jam

Methodist University

Easter Jam Spirit Day

Thursday, March 29, 2012



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Thursday, March 29, 2012

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