

# MU *today*

M A G A Z I N E

Volume 48, Number 2

Summer 2007



*The Magazine for Alumni & Friends of Methodist University*

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Volume 48, Number 2 Summer 2007

## CONTENTS

### 1 MU NEWS

- \* Methodist Welcomes New Dean
- \* MU Welcomes New Trustee
- \* Methodist Selected to Receive Three Projects for Peace Awards
- \* Monarchs in D.C.
- \* New Faces
- \* Making Tax Free Deductions

### 8 COVER STORY

- \* An Expectation of Excellence  
Do National Championships Become Commonplace in a Culture of Golf Excellence? *by Kirbie Britt, Sports Information Director*

### 10 MONARCH ATHLETICS

- \* Winter-Spring Sports Wrap-Up

### 12 FAMILY & FRIENDS

- \* GET CONNECTED!  
New "Monarch Connections" Online Alumni Directory Goes Live in August
- \* Saying Goodbye to Methodist College, now University
- \* \* NEW \* The Good Old Days

### 13 ALUMNI NEWS

- \* Loyal MU Alumnus Provides Opportunities for Current Students
- \* Class Notes

### 17 2007 HOMECOMING CONTACTS

**On the Cover:** The Monarchs shot a tournament low 300 to win their tenth consecutive National Championship May 11. The Monarchs' tournament total of 1215 (303-309-303-300) led second place De Pauw University by 88 strokes. Katie Dick, featured on the cover, won the individual championship with a 296 (76-73-72-75). Photo by Hugh Harling.

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**Dr. Delmas S. Crisp**

# MU Community Welcomes New Dean

**Dr. Delmas S. Crisp, Jr.** has been named vice president for Academic Affairs and dean of the University, succeeding

Dr. Philip C. Williams, who resigned in the summer of 2006 to become the president of the University of Montevallo, Ala. During the past year, the position was filled on an interim basis by the late Dr. Wenda D. Johnson and Jane Weeks Gardiner. Dr. Crisp was one of three finalists selected from a field of 75 applicants.

Dr. Crisp comes to Methodist University having served in the same capacity for six years at Wesleyan College in Macon, Georgia. His tenure at Wesleyan College began in 1988 as the chair of the Division of Humanities. He was named Fuller E. Callaway Professor of English in 2001. Prior to his time at Wesleyan, Dr. Crisp taught at Southeastern Louisiana from 1968-1988, rising from the rank of instructor of English to associate professor of English and department head.

Dr. Crisp received his B.A., M.A., and Ph.D. from the University of Southern Mississippi, where he specialized in linguistics and British Medieval and Renaissance literature. As a graduate teaching assistant, Dr. Crisp edited the *Record*, the national publication for the education honor society Kappa Delta Pi. Dr. Crisp officially assumed his duties at Methodist University on June 1.

**Jane Weeks Gardiner** has been named associate vice president for Academic Affairs, succeeding Dr. Wenda D. Johnson, who passed away in March. During the 2006-2007 academic year, Gardiner served as dean of the School of Arts and Humanities, a role she retained during her two months as interim vice president for Academic Affairs.

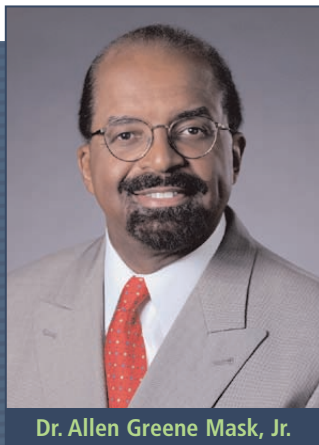
Prior to her appointment as school dean, Gardiner held the position of chair of the Music Department since the retirement of Professor Alan Porter in 1998. An accomplished pianist, she has been a faculty member at Methodist University since 1985, and was promoted to the rank of associate professor of music in 1992. She received her Bachelor of Music from Salem College in Winston-Salem and her Master of Music from the New England Conservatory in Boston.

In her new position, Gardiner said that she assists Dr. Crisp by sharing the duties of the Office of the Vice President for Academic Affairs. She also confirmed that she will no longer be teaching music courses, including private piano lessons, and that she had resigned her position as dean of the School of Arts and Humanities.

Gardiner officially assumed her new duties on June 1.



**Jane Weeks Gardiner**



**Dr. Allen Greene Mask, Jr.**

The Methodist University Board of Trustees welcomed Dr. Allen Greene Mask, Jr. as its newest member in February of 2007. Dr. Mask's connection with the area was established during the 1980s when he served as an emergency room physician at Cape Fear Valley Medical Center. Dr. Mask received a Bachelor of Arts in English from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and a Doctor of Medicine from UNC-CH School of Medicine. He completed an internship and residency in Internal Medicine at Massachusetts General Hospital and Harvard Medical School and an Anesthesiology Residency from UNC-CH School of Medicine. A resident of Chapel Hill, Dr. Mask owns and

operates Raleigh Urgent Care Center in Raleigh, N.C. He also serves as the health team physician for WRAL-TV5 based in Raleigh.

MU Welcomes  
*New  
Trustee*



# Kathryn Wasserman Davis 100 Projects for Peace Awards Funding To Students from 66 Colleges & Universities

**\$1 Million to Fund 100 Projects  
as Davis Turns 100 Years Old**

The Kathryn Wasserman Davis (KWD) 100 Projects for Peace program has announced that students from 66 colleges and universities will receive funding to undertake their proposed projects. Philanthropist Kathryn Wasserman Davis, on the occasion of her 100th birthday, established the new program with a donation of \$1 million so that each of the projects will receive \$10,000. The objective of the program is to encourage and support motivated youth to create and implement their ideas for building peace throughout the world in the 21st century.

Three projects were selected from Methodist University. Sana Sabri, 23, a rising senior from India majoring in financial economics, will open a vocational center for women in Sahrarnapur—a small city in northern India. The center will help teach young to middle-aged women skills such as sewing and handicrafts. Sabri hopes these projects will empower women through education and prevent crime and prostitution that is an ever-growing problem in her home country.

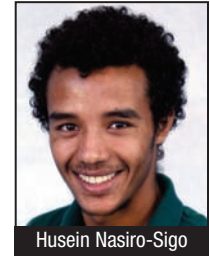
Rahila Muhibi, 22, a rising junior from Afghanistan majoring in global studies, is establishing “The Youth



Sana Sabri



Rahila Muhibi



Husein Nasiro-Sigo

Leadership for Peace”—an organization that will host activities such as summer camps, offer community services and family picnics that promote international understanding among many individuals and ethnic groups. The organization will be headquartered in Neckpay, Baghlan, and will accept 20 youths ranging from 11 to 13 years of age.

The third project chosen from Methodist University was submitted by Husein Nasiro-Sigo, 21, a rising senior from Ethiopia majoring in business administration and computer science. His project will make quality drinking water available in his hometown. A 30 meter deep bore well will be constructed in Arsi province in the Oromia region of Ethiopia. Nasiro-Sigo believes this will help deter the fighting for scarce resources among his people.

A complete list of the winning schools and projects, as well as a video interview with Davis from 2006, is available on the program's Web site at [www.kwd100projectsforpeace.org](http://www.kwd100projectsforpeace.org).



## Methodist University Purchases King's Grant Golf Course

By a unanimous vote Dec. 19, 2006, the Executive Committee of the Board of Trustees authorized Methodist University to purchase a controlling interest in the King's Grant Golf Course. Methodist University closed the sale on Jan. 18, 2007. The University now holds ownership of 51 percent of the course and the members of King's Grant hold the other 49 percent. The course will be run by King's Grant Golf Management, an LLC wholly owned by Methodist University.

Methodist University currently houses one of the premier Professional Golf Management programs in the country. This year, the PGA of America approved an enrollment increase from 300 to 400 for all PGM programs. Of the more than 20 PGA-approved schools, Methodist University is one of the few in a position to take advantage of this opportunity.

“These additional students will require additional laboratory (golf course) and practice facilities. Fortunately, just as this opportunity for growth in the PGM program arose, the golf course at King's Grant became available for purchase,” said Dr. Elton Hendricks, president of Methodist University.





## *Kappa Delta Pi, Grant Make Possible* **“Reading is Fun Day”** *at Local School*

The Tau Xi chapter of Kappa Delta Pi (KDP), the national honor society for education, sponsored “Reading is Fun Day” at Hillsborough Street Elementary School in Fayetteville May 9. In the two-hour event, children in grades K-5 were treated to free books, hands-on activities, the experience of reading with MU teacher education students, and even a juggling act.

“Our goal was to get students excited about reading as well as science,” said Abigail Boone, the graduating senior and outgoing chapter president, who just days earlier was the recipient of this year’s Lucius Stacy Weaver Award.

In order to fund Reading is Fun Day, Boone wrote a grant proposal to the national headquarters of Kappa Delta Pi, a proposal that was one of about 100 that the honor society accepted nationwide. She used the money to purchase a book for each of the 40 students, plus an additional copy for the school library’s permanent collection. She worked with her sister, Anna Boone, the incoming chapter president, to plan and organize the event.

Eight Kappa Delta Pi students and the chapter advisor, Dr. Elizabeth Belford Horan, participated. The volunteers spent one hour with each group (grades K-2, grades 3-5), which included 30 minutes reading with students and 30 minutes assisting the children with building mobiles to get them excited about the concepts of balance and motion. KDP volunteers Jessica Peeken and Anna Boone performed a juggling act, entertaining the students through their



**Kappa Delta Pi volunteers pictured above (L-R):** Dr. Elizabeth Belford Horan, Mindy Price, Abigail Boone, Sarah Merritt, Jackie Ruiz, Anna Boone, Marcy Zacherl, Jason Tovar, and Jessica Peeken

application of concepts from the books.

The highlight of all for the students was learning that they could keep the book. “Many children hugged our necks and told us, ‘Thank you.’ Children in the older group said [that] as soon as they got home, they were going to do the experiments,” said incoming KDP vice president Jackie Ruiz.

“It was a very rewarding experience to be able to work with the students,” Abigail Boone said. She said that the chapter selected the school for Reading is Fun Day because it is an alternative school and does not get the attention of mainstream schools.

Calling it a “powerful” experience, Peeken, who intends to graduate in December, was re-thinking her future plans: “Due to that experience in that school, I am reconsidering where I will be of the most use upon graduation.”

## **2007 LOYALTY DAY: Together, We Made a Difference!**



**Danny Highsmith on the left is presented with the “Loyalty Day Supporter of the Year Award” by President Hendricks.**

Loyalty Day 2007 was marked by tremendous commitment on the part of 130 volunteers and Foundation Board members to making a difference for Methodist University students. It says so much to businesses and individuals in our community that their peers are willing to spend a day being ambassadors for Methodist. That is why Loyalty Day, which brings a broad cross-section of our community together to support the University and its students, continues to be such a strong tradition.

Altogether, 130 volunteers and Foundation Board members contributed their time and resources to make calls on 705 businesses and individuals. Their theme was “Together We Can Make a Difference: For Our Students, Our Community, Our University.”

Over 100 attended the Kick-off Breakfast Feb. 13 to hear 2007 Loyalty Day Chair, Rep. Rick Glazier, give a thought-provoking talk about the importance of higher education in our community and society at large. Rep. Glazier, who served on the Cumberland County Education Board for six years prior to being elected to the state House, expressed admiration for volunteers who gave of their time to support the cause of ensuring that future generations are well educated.

President Hendricks presented Danny Highsmith with the “Loyalty Day Volunteer of the Year Award” for his many years of dedicated support as a volunteer, Foundation Board member, and contributor. Fayetteville Mayor Tony Chavonne proclaimed Feb. 13 as Methodist University Loyalty Day in Fayetteville, a 51-year tradition since the establishment of the Foundation Board.

*Up & Coming Weekly* served as the Drop-off Location for volunteers who completed all of their calls on their assigned businesses and individuals. Altogether, through the 2007 Loyalty Day campaign, our volunteers and Foundation Board members raised \$71,474 for student scholarships!

***Loyalty Day 2008 is Tuesday, Feb. 12, 2008!***



**Pictured above (L-R):** Rep. Rick Glazier with Foundation Board members Bishop Ken Hill and Greg Klein.



## Political Science Students Participate In "Monarchs in D.C. Legislative Tour 2007"

Four political science majors and one history major participated in the Department of Government Studies' "Monarchs in D.C. Legislative Tour 2007" held March 25-27. The two-day intensive tour, scheduled to take advantage of the congressional calendar, included meetings with U.S. House Representative Bob Etheridge and legislative staff; attendance of live House and Senate floor debate; tours of the White House, Supreme Court and U.S. Capitol buildings; and sight-seeing throughout the Capitol area. Participants were lodged at American University's Tenley campus and used the Metro for transportation.

Co-sponsored by Pi Sigma Alpha, the political science honor society, the annual event-filled tour provides students the opportunity to experience national politics first-hand as well as gain basic street knowledge of the Capitol area. Students nearing graduation may also explore internship or full-time employment opportunities.

"The best by-product of this tour is students learning their way around the Capitol area and experiencing the Metro," said Dr. Jennifer Purvis, director of the Tour and faculty advisor for Pi



Pictured above (L-R): Rhyan Breen, Spencer Martin, Drew Dempster, Randy Crabtree, and Brett Walden in Washington, D.C.

Sigma Alpha. "Anything that helps prepare our students for future work in D.C. is an asset, and they really seem to appreciate getting into the political climate." A highlight of the 2007 tour was students having the opportunity to sit in on portions of the Senate debate on the Iraq

spending bill and House debate on extended Hurricane Katrina disaster relief measures.

While students are encouraged to visit the offices of legislators on both sides of the partisan aisle, the group has taken advantage of Congressman Etheridge's office as an unofficial host in the Capitol complex. Etheridge represents NC District 2, which includes the Methodist University campus.

"Congressman Etheridge's staffers have been extremely helpful in offering us staff-led tours for the past two years, and they are a pleasure to work with. It's terrific to be welcomed to the capital by North Carolinians," said Purvis.

"Together, we've got quite a collection of business cards," said Purvis, whose own collection includes that of at least one current presidential candidate.

The D.C. Legislative Tour is a win-win program for students and the University, according to Political Science Program Director Dr. Frank Trapp and Department of Government Studies Chair Dr. Drew Ziegler.

The Tour was funded in part by participant fees, grants to Pi Sigma Alpha awarded by the Student Government Association, and support from the School of Public Affairs and Office of Academic Affairs.

## Methodist University Celebrates the Dedication of Armstrong-Shelley Field

Methodist University celebrated the dedication of Armstrong-Shelley Field Tuesday, March 27, 2007. The field's name now honors not only Bruce Shelley, but George H. Armstrong, a 1968 graduate, and his wife, Carolyn Riddle Armstrong. The celebration honored their most recent gift, stadium lights for the field. The Armstrongs have supported the Methodist baseball team for over 15 years, making possible a new press box and concession stand.

Bruce Shelley came to Methodist in 1966 as a physical education instructor, cross country and junior varsity basketball coach. He began the Methodist baseball program in 1969, and designed and built

Shelley Field, which was first dedicated in his honor April 20, 1974.

Shelley guided the Monarchs to their first winning season, 15-10, in 1972. He coached from 1969 to 1977, winning 153 games, four conference titles and two NCAA Division III tournament berths (1976, 1977). At the time of his death in 1997, a newspaper article stated: "Bruce Shelley and Methodist College baseball are not just linked. They are laced like a shortstop's glove, stitched like a gleaming white baseball, and as intertwined as the roots of lush outfield grass."





Pictured above (L-R): Dr. Philip O. Geier, executive director of the Davis United World College (UWC) Scholars Program; Salek Maouloud Lebaibi, a freshman from Algeria; Amy Geier, Dr. Geier's wife; and Husein Nasiro-Sigo, a rising senior from Ethiopia

# MU Celebrates *Spring Commencement*

Addressing Methodist University's spring graduating class May 5, the Rev. Carol Goehring

acknowledged the state of "information intoxication" that occurs at graduation and reminded MU graduates that the important matter now is formation. "We are all works in progress," noted Goehring, who serves as superintendent of the Fayetteville district of The United Methodist Church's North Carolina Conference. In 2006, she was elected to serve on the Methodist University Board of Trustees.

The spring commencement speaker was Dr. Philip O. Geier, executive director of the Davis United World College (UWC) Scholars Program. Dr. Geier admitted that he had prepared a questionnaire to "find out about you... the graduates of 2007."

**Question #1: In three words or less, describe yourself.**

**Answers** from MU graduates: Ambitious, determined, motivated, energetic, organized, focused, fun, funny, spontaneous, friendly, easy-going, driven, shy, sexy, and both shy and sexy.

**Question #2: In three words or less, describe your MU experience.**

**Answers** from MU graduates: Challenging, discipline, enlightenment, enriching, fast, frustrating, unforgettable, and worthwhile.

**Question #3: In three words or less, describe your feelings about today.**

**Answers** from MU graduates: Ecstatic, elated, excited, scared, sad, relieved, happy, thankful, and "finally!" Dr. Geier's personal favorites were hard-earned, blessed, unbelievable, and "wow!"

To put things in perspective for the graduates and their families, Dr. Geier went on to present some numbers about the world they are entering. He scaled down the world population of over six billion to a manageable 100. Of those 100, 67 would be unable to read, only seven would have access to the Internet, and only one of those 100 would have a college education. "You, graduates, are extremely fortunate and privileged," he said.

There were 132 degrees awarded to 130 candidates. Four graduates were commissioned into the United States Army. A graduate listing is available on the Web site at [www.methodist.edu](http://www.methodist.edu) under "News."

*"Life is a series of gifts,  
not acquisitions."*

## MU Honors Retiring Faculty & Staff

Five faculty members and two staff members retired in 2006-2007.

Dr. Linda Sue Barnes, professor of biology, retired after 28 years of service. Her greatest legacy to MU may be the Pauline Longest Nature Trail, which she and a team of volunteers carved out of the woods surrounding a creek bed from 1985-1986. In 1990, she received Methodist's first Teaching Excellence and Campus Leadership Award.

Dr. John Sill, professor of sociology, also retired with 28 years of service. He was a prolific scholar, giving papers and writing articles about utopian studies, communal societies, and the sociology of religion. He is also an ordained minister and a former Army Reserve chaplain. Dr. Sill served as director of guidance and placement and testing, director of the Social Science Division, assistant academic dean, and dean of the School of Arts and Humanities. He also chaired the SACS self-study team for Methodist in 1998-1999.

Betty Neill Guy Parsons, associate professor of music and chair of the Music Department, retired after 11 years of service. A graduate of MU's inaugural Class of 1964, she directed the concert choir, "One Spirit" and the show choir. A former public school choral music teacher, she doubled the size of the concert choir. She was an avid believer in "tough love" and had zero tolerance

for lazy students. Parsons took "One Spirit" to United Methodist churches throughout eastern North Carolina. A long-time officer of the MU Alumni Association, Parsons declared at the April 15 reception, "I will be back. You can count on that."

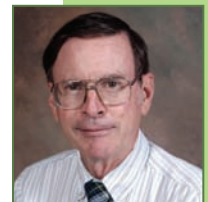
The Board of Trustees named Dr. Linda Sue Barnes, Dr. John Sill, and Betty Neill Guy Parsons faculty emeriti, bringing to 25 the number of former faculty members accorded this honor.

Three other faculty members retired in 2006-2007. Dr. James X. Ward, professor of English and director of the MU Writing Center, retired last December with 19 and a half years of service. Edgar French, assistant professor of chemistry, retired with nine years of service. Dr. Mark Smith, associate professor of marketing and director of the Professional MBA at Pinehurst program, retired with four years of service.

Members of the MU support staff retiring this year were: John Dixon, college printer, after 13½ years of service, and Matthew Perkinson, custodial supervisor/director of housekeeping, after 10 years.



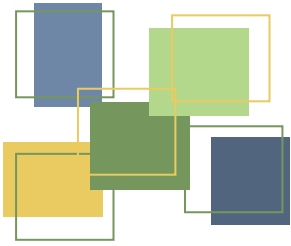
Dr. Linda Sue Barnes



Dr. John Sills



Betty Neill Guy Parsons '64



# New Faces at MU

## Business Affairs

**Michael Harrison** has been appointed University printer, replacing John Dixon, who retired after 13½ years of service. He most recently managed Alphagraphics, now called International Minute Press, in Fayetteville. The Business Office has named **Julie Strickland** accounts receivable specialist. **Mary Tew** has joined the accounting staff as accounts payable specialist, succeeding Rhonda Harris, who was promoted to payroll administrator. **Warren Goodman** was appointed director of housekeeping, succeeding Matthew Perkinson, who retired.

## Davis Memorial Library

Two new librarians joined Methodist University during the spring semester. **Laura Bagwell**, technical services librarian, comes to Methodist following her graduate study at the University of South Carolina. **Niyati Kinyon**, electronic services librarian, graduated recently with her M.L.I.S. from the University of Hawaii at Manoa. Methodist alumnus **Darnell Artis '00** has joined the library staff, assisting at the circulation desk.

## Methodist Alumnus Endows Scholarship for Teacher Education

G. Gordon Dixon, a 1966 graduate of Methodist College (now Methodist University), has endowed the G. Gordon Dixon '66 Endowed Education Scholarship, which will recognize the student enrolled in the teacher education program with the highest cumulative grade point average.

Dixon, who served as the institution's second registrar from 1974 through 1983, established the scholarship in memory of his parents, Jasper and Jacqueline Dixon, and in honor of Margaret Hyde Dixon '81 and Beverly Dixon Cleverley '79. All have served as educators. Jasper and Jacqueline Dixon spent 15 and 25 years, respectively, as teachers. Gordon Dixon '66 invested 38 years in area public schools. Margaret Dixon '81 and Beverly D. Cleverley '79 are also veteran educators who are now in their 26th and 28th years of teaching, respectively.

"We are deeply grateful for Mr. Dixon's generosity with this scholarship and hope that it will be an enduring incentive for students to consider education as a career, especially in light of teacher shortages in our state," said Dr. M. Elton Hendricks, president of Methodist University. "We are also pleased that Mr. Dixon's award will encourage students in teacher education to excel in their studies."

## The Professional MBA at Pinehurst

**Sherri Coultrup** has been named program director, succeeding Dr. R. Mark Smith, who retired. The former Sherri Schmidt returns to Methodist University after a leave of absence to complete her doctorate. Before her leave, she taught in the marketing program of the Reeves School of Business. Joining her in The Professional MBA at Pinehurst program is **Anne Way**. In her new position as program coordinator, she assists with recruitment, registration, and other administrative duties. Way most recently served as the administrative assistant to the Reeves School of Business.

## Registrar's Office

**Jasmin Brown**, the former assistant registrar, was promoted to registrar following the resignation of Dawn Congleton '99 in December. Near the end of the spring semester, the assistant registrar position was filled by **Nicky Howard**, who comes to Methodist University from Fort Bragg, where she held an administrative position with a government contractor.

## Student Development and Services

**Roxana Ross** has been named director of student media/university photographer; she will advise the students on the *small TALK* and *Carillon* staffs. **Dawn Hamerla**, formerly a police officer on the Methodist University force, was promoted to the position of director of public safety, succeeding longtime director Wilford Saunders, who retired. **Katrina Stanley-Blue** has joined the staff of the Office of Career Services as assistant director of career services. She is responsible for employer relations and managing internships and career fairs. **Doris Jackson '06** has been promoted to director of student activities after the resignation of Duane Grooms. Another alum, **Kenny Tien '02**, has been named assistant director of campus recreation and intramurals to assist Coach Mike Sinkovitz with programs and management of the new Nimocks Fitness Center.



Pictured above (L-R): Robin Davenport, vice-president for Development; G. Gordon Dixon '66; Dr. M. Elton Hendricks, president; and Lauren Cook Wike, director of Annual Fund and Alumni Affairs







## Contribute Tax-Free from your IRA

If you've reached age 70½, there's a new tax savings opportunity that you might be interested in if you have philanthropic inclinations. The IRA rollover provision, signed into law Aug. 17, 2006 as part of the Pension Protection Act of 2006, **created** a new tax incentive for individuals to make charitable contributions of IRA assets. The provision is a limited time opportunity, scheduled to expire at the end of 2007.

The new qualified charitable distribution rule is beneficial for taxpayers age 70½ or older if:

- You don't itemize. (Under the normal rules, only those who itemize get a tax benefit for charitable donations.)
  - Your itemized charitable donations would be **reduced** by the itemized deduction phase out rule or **delayed** by the 50 percent-of-AGI limitations.
  - You want to avoid being taxed on required minimum distributions that you are forced to take from your IRA.
  - You're looking for a quick and easy estate tax reduction strategy.
- Under the new law, a donor with a minimum age of 70½ at the time of the charitable gift, can make charitable distributions directly from an IRA of up to \$100,000 per year without having to report the IRA distributions as income. You claim no charitable deduction, but that's okay, because tax-free treatment of the distribution equates to an immediate 100 percent deduction, without having to worry about tax-law restrictions that can reduce or delay itemized write-offs.

### How Does This Work?

- You request your IRA plan administrator to transfer funds to one or more charitable organizations (which hopefully includes Methodist University).
- The IRA administrator transfers funds directly to the charity.
- This "qualified charitable distribution" is excluded from your adjusted gross income.

### Income and Estate Tax Benefits of the IRA Rollover:

- If you own an IRA and are age 70½ or over, you are subject to an annual required minimum distribution. This distribution may increase your adjusted gross income and increase the percentage of Social Security payments on which you have to pay tax. A qualified charitable distribution from a traditional IRA **counts as a payout** for the purpose of the required minimum distribution rules. Therefore, you can arrange to donate all or part of your 2007 required minimum distribution amount (up to the \$100,000 annual limit) that you would otherwise be forced to receive and pay income tax on.
- Qualified charitable distributions are **not** included in your adjusted gross income (AGI). This lowers the odds that you'll be affected by unfavorable AGI-based phase out rules that can cause you to lose out on your itemized deductions.
- You don't have to worry about the 50 percent-of-AGI limitation that can delay your itemized deductions for cash donations to public charities.

- It is not uncommon for traditional IRAs to contain **both** taxable amounts (which come from deductible contributions and account earnings) **and** nontaxable amounts (which come from nondeductible contributions). The "normal" rule says that IRA distributions are treated as being partly taxable amounts and partly nontaxable returns of your nondeductible contributions. **In this situation, however, qualified charitable distributions are treated as coming from the taxable amounts first.** Being allowed to pull your taxable amounts first for qualified charitable distributions works to your **advantage** because it allows you to completely avoid taxes and otherwise taxable amounts that are distributed from your IRA to charity, while leaving nontaxable amounts in your account that you can withdraw tax-free later on.
- The IRA rollover allows donors who **do not** itemize deductions to contribute IRA assets to charities and enjoy tax benefits similar to those derived from claiming itemized charitable deductions.
- Qualified charitable distributions can be a way to reduce your taxable estate.

### Please Bear in Mind:

- Qualified charitable distributions **cannot** be paid to account holders. Distribution checks **must** be payable directly to the charity to be excluded from your income.
- You must be at least age 70½ on the date of the distribution to the charity.
- The \$100,000 annual limit is based on the **aggregate** amount of a taxpayer's qualified charitable distributions in a year. This can include one or more distributions from one or more IRAs to one or more charitable organizations, as long as the total does not exceed \$100,000.
- IRA rollovers can not be used to fund split interest or life income gifts such as charitable gift annuities or charitable remainder trusts.
- Donors may not receive any quid pro quo benefits. If you receive any benefits that would typically reduce your charitable deduction (such as football tickets), no portion of the IRA distribution may be excluded from income.
- You can't take advantage of the qualified charitable distribution rule for payouts from a SEP, SIMPLE IRA, or any other tax-favored retirement plan account.

If you're interested in taking advantage of this strategy for 2007, you need to plan with your tax advisor to arrange for the money to be paid out from your IRA trustee to qualifying charities by the end of the year. As always, we encourage all donors to consult their legal and tax advisors prior to making a gift. For more information on making a gift to Methodist University from your IRA, please contact Robin Davenport at 1-800-488-7110, ext. 7609 or by e-mail at [rdavenport@methodist.edu](mailto:rdavenport@methodist.edu).

Every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of the above, however, this should not be construed as legal, accounting, tax, or other professional advice.



surrounding their trip that practically assumes another national championship is on the horizon.

In order to stay dominant in Division III women's golf, Head Coach Vici Pate must continue to bring in top recruits. When junior Katie Dick was choosing a college, she narrowed her selection to schools which offered a Professional Golf Management program. Limited to only 14 programs in the United States accredited by The PGA of America (in 2004), Dick set her sights on Methodist. "On finding out about the women's team and their tradition of winning, I knew that it would be a great experience and somewhere I could grow my game," Dick said.

After winning the 2006 national championship, Pate had almost four months to prepare for another season. She acknowledges, "Methodist is not an incredibly tough sale. We have an unbelievable history in terms of Division III golf." When students are making their final decisions, Pate is appreciative of the top facilities along with quality staff, faculty and administration, but knows, "It takes a certain type of person to want to attend Methodist, and thankfully, we end up with talented, intelligent, and personable young people in a small-school environment."

The team started its season in the fall with four tournaments against primarily Division I competition. It returned in January for the second semester with five tournaments in March and April to prepare for the impending national championship tournament in May. Finishing second at William & Mary, the team shot a low round 293 on the way to shaving 33 strokes from the score and jumping four places in the standings. Pate is thankful for the season's tough schedule, recognizing that, "all of the tournaments we compete in during the regular season

## An Expectation of Excellence

# Do National Championships Become Commonplace in a Culture of Golf Excellence?

by Kirbie Britt, Sports Information Director

In Methodist University's 44 years of athletic competition, the Monarchs have accumulated 29 national championships. Only one other school in the USA South Athletic Conference has won more than two national championships, and yet Methodist continues to add to the trophy case year after year. To hold 29 championships is rare, particularly when all 29 are compliments of Methodist golf teams. The trophies are more remarkable in that 20 of the 29 belong to women's golf. Methodist has sponsored 22 women's golf teams and 20 of them have brought home national championship trophies sponsored either by the National Golf Coaches' Association (NGCA) or the NCAA. One begins to question if national championships can become commonplace in a culture of golf excellence. Year after year, the team departs from Fayetteville in May with little fanfare. There has become a certain expectation

“You can't take anything for granted. No one wants to be the team that loses it.”

help prepare us for our ultimate goal, winning the national championship.”

Pate, along with the five team members, Katie Dick,





Heather Martin, Susan Martin, Emily Ranney, and Charlotte Williams, left campus May 5 in search of another national championship. While other students were moving home for the summer or preparing for graduation, the women's golf team was headed to the Mission Inn Golf Resort in Howey-In-The-Hills, Fla. The Mission Inn touts itself as a "secluded oasis" and "a golfer's paradise" and for 111 women they could only hope it would become their paradise. Heading into the tournament, all eyes were on two-time individual champion Charlotte Williams as she would seek a historic third title to cap off her storied career.

Numerous athletes have been a part of NCAA streaks over the years, the longest coming out of Kenyon College with 28 men's swimming and diving titles. When asked about seeking the tenth consecutive championship, Methodist's Dick was reminded, "You can't take anything for

granted. No one wants to be the team that loses it."

Pate tries to keep her team focused on the ultimate prize by setting goals. "I think we have found that by staying in the present and setting goals for the team and each individual, we find it easier not to think about the overwhelming accomplishments of the Methodist golf program. Each of these young ladies works to improve themselves, which ultimately increases the success of the team," she said.

The first round of the national tournament teed off with Williams taking the early lead. The entire team started in the top ten to take a 29 stroke lead over the second place team. Things looked like they were under control after the second day of play when the Monarchs held a 47 stroke advantage. Dick took the lead with a par 73 second round for an overall score of 149. During day three, Methodist shot a 303 to stay in first place, 69 strokes ahead of second place DePauw University. It looked like a typo, but the headlines on the final day of the tournament confirmed the women secured their tenth consecutive national championship, winning by 88 strokes. The team combined to shoot a tournament low score of 300 grabbing first, second, fourth, fifth and ninth places within the field of 111 golfers. Katie Dick finished the four rounds at +4 to win the individual title

over teammate Charlotte Williams by seven strokes. "The individual title means I accomplished my goal," Dick said. "It also means I helped my team out, because the better you play the better it is for the team."

Despite the intense competitiveness within the team, the Monarchs have instilled a deep sense of support and pride in each other. One of Pate's season highlights was watching Katie Dick showered with water as she finished her championship round.

"Charlotte, who had an opportunity to make history by winning, was the first one to douse her with water. To

me, that is a testament to their devotion to one another as teammates."

With seniors Heather Martin, Emily Ranney, and Charlotte Williams completing their college careers, the team will look to reload next season. Dick is confident the slots can be filled by teammates who have not had the opportunity to travel in the past or any of the talented recruits joining

“While it is the twentieth women's golf national championship and Methodist's 29th national championship, for this team it was their first.”

the team this fall. As a senior leader, Dick plans to help the team have fun. "When you're having fun, you play good golf. We will never be the serious team, we will always be the team that goofs off," she added. Carrying squirt guns to the national tournament this year seemed to do the trick. Dick will work hard to keep the fun and winning tradition alive next season.

After the University of Tennessee women's basketball coach Pat Summitt won her seventh national championship in April, the media repeatedly grilled her about winning number seven. Summitt responded, "This is not about winning number seven. This is about this team winning their first." Pate recognizes Summitt's philosophy as she finds the differences in each championship. "Each team has its own set of goals. Each team has its own personality," she said. Winning the last nine championships definitely puts a target on your back, and Pate helped the team to fight the tendency to struggle under everyone else's expectations.

While it is the twentieth women's golf national championship and Methodist's 29th national championship, for this team it was their first.





Winter-Spring

# Sports Wrap-Up



The Methodist Department of Athletics finished a successful year with eight teams participating in NCAA Championship competition and seven student-athletes receiving All-American recognition.



The men's and women's basketball teams concluded their seasons with disappointing USA South Tournament quarterfinal losses. The men finished 11-14 led by senior Dragan Radmanovic. The women went 13-13 this year as senior Stacy Williams became the fifth player in program history to score 1,000 points. She capped off her career by earning USA South All-Conference First Team honors.

Methodist baseball coach Tom Austin kept his 25 wins streak alive with a 30-15 season, earning a USA South Championship for the third consecutive year, a first for Monarch baseball. The team received an at-large bid to the NCAA tournament and won its first game 21-14 over Bridgewater. Five student-athletes received USA South All-Conference honors.



The men's golf team won its fifth consecutive conference championship in Burlington after sweeping All-Conference honors with Player of the Year Nick Bova, Rookie of the Year Josh Speight, and Coach of the Year Steve Conley. The entire team was named to the first or second team and four student-athletes were named All-Region selections.

Junior Katie Dick won her first Individual National Championship, leading the women's golf team to its tenth consecutive national championship. All five members of the varsity team received All-American and All-Region honors while Susan Martin was named Freshman of the Year.

Wylie Crisanti led the lacrosse team to a 6-11 record in his first season at the helm. Senior Lauren McGonagle led the team from the midfield with a record-breaking season before being named Conference Player of the Year for the second time in her career. Three other players also received All-Conference recognition.

The softball team became back-to-back USA South Conference Tournament Champions finishing 33-10 with their second consecutive bid to NCAA

Tournament play. Rebekah Kelly received All-American and All-Region honors after being named the USA South Player of the Year. Megan Huston was honored as the Conference Rookie of the Year and Emily Beck was the Rookie Pitcher of the Year.



Former player Keith Criscoe took over the men's tennis team on the way to an 11-9 season record. The Monarchs won both the USA South regular season and tournament trophies to go along with six All-Conference selections. The team received a bid to the NCAA Tournament for the first time in almost ten years.

The women's tennis team finished with a 19-5 record. After a loss to Christopher Newport in the regular season, the Monarchs came back to win the USA South Conference Tournament. Methodist defeated Principia in the first round of the NCAA Tournament to win the first NCAA match.



The track and field team competed as part of the Mason Dixon Conference for indoor and outdoor seasons. The men finished third while the women placed sixth in the Indoor Championships with 13 student-athletes receiving All-Conference honors. Transitioning to outdoor, the men's team placed fourth and the women were seventh while the team achieved 16 All-Conference performances. Sophomore Antwin Shuford qualified for the NCAA Outdoor Championships advancing to the 400-meter dash finals. Placing eighth in the race, Shuford became the eighth male to receive All-American honors for the Monarchs and the first in ten years.



Lowdermilk Award winners from the Hall of Fame Golf Tournament June 1, 2007 pictured at left (L-R): Bruce Novozinsky, Rob Pilewski '92, Dr. M. Elton Hendricks, J. T. Rimbey '03, and Sammy Hudson '96



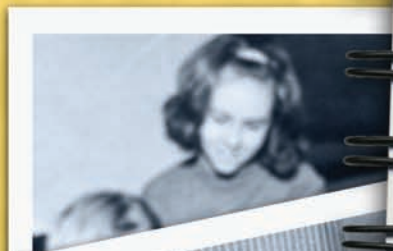


# The Good Old Days *at Methodist...*

## Relive Them and Make New Memories at Homecoming 2007!

A common thread runs through the memories of all Methodist alumni...as students they experienced a small community where they were cared for and nurtured by professors, coaches, and administrators. Students established new traditions at this new institution in the early years, both traditional, as in the Student Government Association, and fun, as in the Miss Boiler Plant Pageant.

Homecoming 2007 is Saturday, Oct. 20, and Methodist alumni from the classes ending in 7s and 2s will be celebrating reunions. The Alumni Association and student organizations will be working together to invite classes in reunion and all alumni back for a great day of fun activities, the Monarchs v. Christopher Newport, reminiscing with old friends, and meeting new ones!



*I lived in room 112 of Sanford Hall all of my four years at Methodist, which was my favorite place on campus. Many of my friends gathered there after class. The funniest thing I remember was watching men slide down the first floor of Sanford on their behinds and landing in the lobby. The food was excellent. Dr. Plyler was my favorite instructor because he challenged my way of thinking. Dean Arnold Pope tried to provide as much discipline as possible. He nurtured and disciplined. My time at Methodist was a positive, life-changing experience.*

The Rev. Dr. Michael Safley '72

*My years at Methodist were filled with great memories of fun times, making friends, and getting an education. We were small in number, but we knew each other and we became a community. I will always treasure those years.*

The Rev. Dr. Dennis Sheppard '77

*I was a freshman in August 1993 starting my first collegiate football practice. As expected, I had anxieties as it was first time away from home and I was new to the Fayetteville area. But it was here in the MC experience where I met true dear friends, alumni, and professors whom I'm fortunate and blessed to continue to be involved with. The late Chris Ryan set up my dorm accommodations.*

*The heart of the matter is there was a comforting closeness as if we were all family. We all made huge steps together as a college community and I'm proud of what Methodist University stands for and where it strives to be.*

Herman F. Dixon III '97

*I arrived at Methodist with one vantage point of the world around me. As a result of the invaluable education experience and community fellowship at Methodist, I am no longer confined to my box. Methodist helped me grow in character and integrity, created immeasurable memories, and gained me a lifelong family of friends.*

Tavares Hunter '02

*"My four years at Methodist were great and I have life-long friends because of my time there. As a matter of fact several of us are meeting in [Washington] DC next week for a mini-reunion and a couple of days of fun!"*

Betty Jo (Mitchell) Dent '77



# New "Monarch Connections" Online Alumni Directory Goes Live in August

# >>>GET CONNECTED!



Back when you were at Methodist, if we told you we had a free online network of more than 9,200 personal and professional contacts, you wouldn't have given it a thought. You will now.

Welcome to the next generation of Methodist University's alumni directory – online! You'll find 9,200 alumni contacts at your fingertips and you can start using this impressive network today. The password-protected site goes beyond old friendships to new possibilities for your personal and professional future.

"Our alumni are successful and are accomplishing amazing things in their careers and personal lives," said Lauren Cook Wike, director of Annual Fund and Alumni Affairs. "**Monarch Connections** will give our alumni, faculty, and staff the ability to network and create new synergies to achieve even greater things for our students and each other in the future."

Alumni will have direct access to their records and can update and correct them online so that they will never miss receiving *MU Today* magazine and the *Alumni E-newsletter*. **Monarch Connections** is also an online alumni community, much like Myspace or Classmates.com, but it is solely for MU alumni and is provided in a completely secure environment on secure servers. **Monarch Connections** allows alumni to

protect their personal e-mail addresses and still communicate with one another.

Alumni also will be able to post online profiles, photos, and online Class Notes with photos online. Class Notes posted to your profile will automatically be picked up for publication in the subsequent *MU Today*!

MU alumni can create mentor profiles online that will foster alumni-to-alumni and alumni-to-student mentoring opportunities. Guy Stewart, director of Career Services, is excited about reaching more alumni with the message that they can become involved in providing career advice, internships, and jobs to students. "We provide College Central, a Web site (<http://www.collegecentral.com/methodistuniversity/>) for all employers to search for qualified Methodist students and graduates," said Stewart. "**Monarch Connections** will take our efforts a step further and help us connect MU alumni who are in a position to give career counseling to students in specific fields."

Logging in to **Monarch Connections** and verifying your information will ensure that you receive our improved *Alumni E-newsletter* that will keep you connected to MU events and people on a regular basis. Online event registration for Homecoming and other campus events will be made possible by the new software, along with secure online giving opportunities.

Log on at [www.methodist.edu](http://www.methodist.edu) and follow the links to Development and Alumni Affairs to create a **Monarch Connections** account, update your information, submit class notes, share photos, and start networking today!





## ENGAGEMENTS / WEDDINGS / ANNIVERSARIES

### CLASS OF 1972

On Saturday, March 31, longtime friends from Methodist reunited in Greensboro to celebrate **Janey Garrett Phillips '72** engagement to her high school sweetheart, George Kutz. Janey is from Wilmington, N.C. and Gary is from Charlotte, N.C. **Dr. William Harrison '74**, superintendent of Cumberland County Schools, along with his wife **Judy Carroll Harrison '72**, both of Fayetteville, **Susan Smith Fitch '72** of Burlington, and **Mary Beth McKnight '72** from Spring Lake Heights, N.J., celebrated Janey's exciting news. For an evening, they were all Weaver and Garber women again, with such fond memories of years past, and they made many new memories. To say that they laughed is an understatement.

### CLASS OF 1992

**Mr. Michael Haluski '92** and Mrs. Alice Haluski celebrated their 35th wedding anniversary on Jan. 22, 2007. Mr. and Mrs. Haluski are both currently employed at Ft. Bragg.

### CLASS OF 1997

**James E. Drury, III '97** and Elizabeth Marie Messer were married on May 12, 2007, in Charlottesville, Va. James, a four-year letterman (football) of Methodist College (now University), met Elizabeth at Methodist in the fall of 1997. Elizabeth is a graduate of Mary Washington College (now University) in Fredericksburg, Va. The couple both recently graduated from the Thomas M. Cooley Law School in Lansing, Mich., and will reside in Fredericksburg, Va., following their honeymoon. If you would like to get in touch with them, they can be reached at: [jdrury65@aol.com](mailto:jdrury65@aol.com) and [bmessr1@aol.com](mailto:bmessr1@aol.com).

### CLASS OF 1999

**Paul Smith '99** announces his engagement to Anslie Mitchell. The wedding will take place on Aug. 4, 2007. Currently, Paul is working for the Atlanta Silverbacks, a professional soccer club.

### CLASS OF 2000

**Mr. Scott Sirois '99** and **Mrs. Chrissy (Arriola) Sirois '99** were married in Portland Maine on Oct. 21, 2006. Currently, Chrissy is employed as a proposal manager for an IT company and Scott is a financial advisor for Merrill Lynch. Both continue to enjoy golf and are extremely competitive with each other.

### CLASS OF 2001

**Travis Evans Hibler '01** and Elizabeth Bleecker were married at the Chapel First Presbyterian Church in Fayetteville on April 14, 2007. Travis is the vice president of the Bleecker Electric Car Company in Fayetteville.

### CLASS OF 2002

**Jennifer White Martinez '02** was married to Sgt. 1st Class Raymond Martinez in Lumberton at Chesnut Street United Methodist Church on Aug. 12, 2006. The Rev. Jimmy Smith and the Rev. Stan Tatum officiated. Jennifer is teaching in the public schools of Robeson County and the couple resides in Fayetteville.

**Tim Paulin '02** and **Tabitha Rudolph '03** were married on Oct. 1, 2006 at Northstone Country Club in Huntersville, N.C. Tabitha is currently the CSM for RBC Centura in Matthews, N.C., and Tim is the sales manager/internet director for Lake Norman Hyundai.



**Leemour Banks Smith '02** married Shelton Smith at University Park Baptist Church on Saturday April 8, 2006. The couple currently resides in Charlotte, N.C.

### CLASS OF 2003

**Brandy Leigh Helm '03** of Fort Meyers, Fla., married Michael Gluski on Nov. 12, 2006 at a private beach at the Sanibel Harbour Resort in Fort Meyers.

### CLASS OF 2004

**Kirk Brown '04** married Lindsay Whitaker on Sept. 30, 2006. They reside in Durham, N.C., where Kirk works as an insurance agent at Tyson Insurance Services, Inc., and Lindsay is a project manager for family-owned Brown Brothers Plumbing.

**Jennifer Patrick '04** announces her engagement to Patrick Swift, a recent Chowan graduate.

**Stacey Sheppard '04** announces her engagement to Derek Walsh, originally of Rochester, N.Y., now of Raleigh, N.C. The two plan to marry on Oct. 27.

### CLASS OF 2005

**Richard Bamber '05** and Kimberly Parody were married on Aug. 1, 2006. Richard is currently working for the Naval Audit Service in Washington D.C.

### CLASS OF 2007

**William West '07** and Brittany Cuellar were married in Hammock's Beach State Park on May 19, 2007. The couple currently resides in Raleigh.

## BIRTHS

### CLASS OF 1967

It's a girl! **Mike Saunders '67** and **Mary (Segesky) Saunders '67** are the proud grandparents of their first grandchild. Katie Lee Culp arrived on Jan. 15, weighing 7 lbs., 4 oz. Dani and Lee Culp are the proud parents and live in Greenville, S.C. Dani is Mike and Mary's youngest daughter.

### CLASS OF 1997

**Mr. Bryan Wright '97** and **Mrs. Tracey (Gage) Wright '99** proudly announce the adoptions of Isabella Naomi, born January 13, and Jordyn Ty, born May 25, in the country of Guatemala.





BIRTHS (CONT'D.)

CLASS OF 1998

**Shelby (Hutton) Bettencourt '98** and her husband, Andy, welcomed their daughter, Bailey Allora, on Dec. 29, 2006. Bailey weighed in at 8 lbs., and was 19 1/2" long. Shelby, Andy, and Bailey are currently living in Wilmington, N.C.

CLASS OF 1999

**Frank Santora '99** and wife Davida celebrated the birth of their daughter, Mackenzie Faith, on Dec. 19, 2006. Frank may be contacted at [fdsantora@highpointnc.gov](mailto:fdsantora@highpointnc.gov).

CLASS OF 2001

**Keith Duffy '01** and wife Meredith celebrated the birth of their first child, Isabella Roselyn, on November 8, 2006. Isabella weighed 6 lbs., 14 oz., and was 18.5" long.

CLASS OF 2002

**Kenyatta "Ray" Little-Halsted '02** gave birth to a baby girl, LilyAnah Marie Halsted, on Sept. 15, 2006.

CLASS OF 2003

**Amanda Ormandy Dixon '03** and her husband, Hugh Dixon, announce the birth of their daughter, Madison Nekole Dixon. Madison was born Dec. 14, 2006 at Scotland Memorial Hospital in Laurinburg, N.C. She weighed 7 lbs., 3 oz., and was 20 3/4" long. This is the Dixons' first child.

CLASS NOTES

CLASS OF 1967

**Johnny Lipscomb '68**, of Sanford, N.C.; **Mickey Benton '67** of Kenansville, N.C.; and **John Haracivet '67** had a mini-reunion of three when they crewed on John's boat from the Virgin Islands, where John lived for 12 years, to Gloucester, Va., where he now resides. All three are enjoying retirement.

CLASS OF 1973

**Earl Leake '73** was presented with a certificate of appreciation by President M. Elton Hendricks for his service on the Methodist College (now University) Alumni Association Board of Directors from April 2001 to January 2007. Earl, who is vice president of human resources at Lance, Inc. in Charlotte, N.C., served as treasurer of the Board. He continues his service on the Methodist University Board of Trustees.



Pictured at left (L-R): John Haracivet '67, Mickey Benton '67, and Johnny Lipscomb '68 take a break from their ocean voyage at the Charleston, South Carolina Marina in February 2007.

CLASS NOTES (CONT'D.)



Pictured at left (L-R): President Hendricks presents Earl Leake '73 with a certificate of appreciation for his service to the Alumni Association Board of Directors from 2001-2007.

CLASS OF 1977

**Dr. Dennis Sheppard '77** was presented with the 2007 Hope Mills Distinguished Citizen of the Year Award at a dinner sponsored by the Boy Scouts of America, Kia Kima District of the on Friday, March 23, 2007. Approximately 100 friends, family, and Boy Scout supporters gathered to honor Dr. Sheppard for the event, which was held at Hope Mills United Methodist Church. A proclamation from the Mayor of Hope Mills congratulated Dr. Sheppard on earning this honor from the Boy Scouts and outlined his many accomplishments in ministry, his many volunteer activities, and the numerous honors that have been bestowed on him.



CLASS OF 1983

**Gil Wise '83**, founder and pastor of Solid Rock UMC, was featured along with his church on the front page of the *Christian Advocate* in the May issue. Solid Rock was recently chartered with 330 members. During the past year, over 30 individuals were baptized, a UM Men's group was chartered with 60 members, four scout troops were chartered, numerous Bible Study groups began, over 300 children enrolled in children's programs, over 1000 youth were involved in area ministries, and the prison ministry doubled its size, reaching over 180 inmates in eight prisons.

CLASS OF 1988

**Brett Kilgore '88** is a Law Enforcement Academy instructor and is teaching part-time in the Bachelor of Criminal Justice Program at ITT Tech in Knoxville, Tenn. He is also teaching part-time in western North Carolina in several law enforcement academies. Brett is running for sheriff in Hamblen County (Morristown), Tennessee, in the May 2010 race. Originally from Fayetteville, Brett still visits frequently and looks forward to moving back!

CLASS OF 1991

**Chad Huggins '91** has been named Lake View High (Lake View, S.C.) Teacher of the Year for the 2006 school year. He was also named by the Coaches Association of Women's Sports (CAWS) to the position of head coach of the South 1A/4A All-Star team for the Fastpitch All-Star Classic in Aiken, S.C., for the 2006 season.







## CLASS NOTES (CONT'D.)

## CLASS OF 1992

**Rob Foreman '92** and his family are relocating to New Jersey in June. Rob has accepted a position in Housing & Residence Life at Seton Hall University. Rob and Susan (Class of '98) are enjoying life with their two children Jason (age 8) and Caroline (age 2). The Foremans would love to hear from old friends...e-mail them at: [rob.foreman@hotmail.com](mailto:rob.foreman@hotmail.com).

## CLASS OF 1993

**Michael C. Jordan '93** has been elected vice president of the board of the North Carolina State Board of CPA Examiners. Michael is employed by the CPA firm Pittard, Perry, and Crone, Inc. of Goldsboro. In September 2006, **JoAnn (Kopp) Griffel '93** was named Omaha Archdiocesan's Special Educator of the Year.

## CLASS OF 1994

**Chris Shaw '94** has accepted the position of assistant women's soccer coach at Fresno State University in Fresno, Calif.

## CLASS OF 1995

**Zach Hambrick '95** lives in East Lansing, Mich., and is an associate professor of psychology at Michigan State University. Zach looks forward to reconnecting with his old MC roommate Scott Ellender this summer in Pinehurst, and to beating him on the golf course!

## CLASS OF 1998

**CPT Michael Crouse '98** returned from his second deployment to the Middle East in December 2006. He is serving in the U.S. Army and stationed in Atlanta, Ga.

**Tracy Wood '98**, who played MU soccer for four years, has been working as the sports director for the YMCA in Rocky Mount, N.C., for the past two and a half years.



Pictured at left (L-R):  
Jane Phipps, Tracy Wood '98,  
and Robin Davenport,  
vice-president for Development

## CLASS OF 1999

The Law Firm of **Hutchens, Senter & Britton, P.A.**, an established creditors' rights and civil litigation law firm based in Fayetteville, N.C., announced that **Cynthia D. Hawkins '99** has joined the firm as marketing director. Prior to joining Hutchens, Senter & Britton, Hawkins was a marketing and public relations coordinator for Cape Fear Valley Health System.

**Lea R. Metz '99** has been promoted to development assistant at The Children's Home where she is responsible for the marketing of the agency. She has also been named the marketing and public relations

chair of The Adam Foundation and was selected by the Forsyth Humane Society to do a life-size stained glass dog that was auctioned for the society for \$3,000. Forty-nine local artists were selected to do cats and dogs that were placed all over town as a fundraiser for the Humane Society.



**Amy Lynn Todd '99** can be found at her alma mater in the new Fitness Center, where she has joined the staff as a recreation technician.

## CLASS OF 2000

**Stephanie Oldham Mathis '00**, who previously worked in the Clinical Microbiology laboratory of Duke University Health System (October 2005-April 2006), recently started a new position in Winston-Salem at ACA Laboratories, a reference laboratory that opened a few months ago. Stephanie concurrently serves as a hematology technologist and as the technical consultant to Dr. Dimitri Pitovski, president and CEO, in establishing ACA's Microbiology Department.

**Ms. Yong Ahn '00** has earned an MBA with a concentration in management from the American InterContinental University Online in Illinois on May 5, 2007.

## CLASS OF 2001

**Jeffrey Cornwell '01** has recently been named head pro at the 400-member Hanover Country Club, assuming responsibility for golfing operations at the club's newly-renovated golf course and driving range.

**Donna Keen '01**, a teacher at Anne Chesnutt, was recently awarded the Wal-Mart "Teacher of the Year" award along with six other Cumberland County teachers.

## CLASS OF 2002

**Carole Blanc '02** was recently awarded Social Worker of the Year at Cape Fear Valley Health Center.

**Anthony Raphael '02** was recently awarded the Cumberland County Schools Social Worker of the Year.

**CPT Curtis Strong '02** was recently promoted to company commander for Bravo Company 232nd Medical Brigade located at Fort Sam Houston, Texas.

## CLASS OF 2003

**Brandon Blalock '03** recently earned a master's of education degree in physical education from Slippery Rock University in Pennsylvania.

**Jane Leechford '03** graduated from Duke University Divinity School on May 12, 2007.

## CLASS OF 2004

**Jonelle (Kimbrough) Thompson '04** is the public relations and marketing coordinator for Carolina Vision Center in Fayetteville, N.C. Jonelle and her husband, SSGT Russ Thompson, and their Siberian Huskies live in Pineview. E-mail them at: [rjthompson313@hotmail.com](mailto:rjthompson313@hotmail.com)!





CLASS NOTES (CONT'D.)

CLASS OF 2005

**Lakeisha A. Brown '05** graduated on May 11 with a master's of social work degree from the University of South Carolina.

**Trevor Durham '05**, an officer with the Fayetteville Police Department, was recently awarded the Department's Lifesaving Award after rescuing a woman who was trapped in her apartment.

**Amanda Kidwell '05** recently began working as the director of health and safety services for the American Red Cross in Lubbock, Texas. She will be attending Texas Tech University in spring 2008, where she will work toward her MBA.

**Antonio Slaydon '05** has recently accepted a position with DHL Express.

CLASS OF 2006

**Ross Benjamin '06** is attending graduate school at Rochester Institute of Technology in Rochester, N.Y., where he is working on his MBA with a concentration in finance. He is expected to graduate in fall 2008.

**Ronnel Todd Burney '06** is teaching physical education and health at Central Middle School in Whiteville, N.C. He is also coaching the high school football and baseball teams, and enjoys working with his students and teams every day!

**Adrienne Marie Del Do '06** was recently pinned with her First Lieutenant bar by her grandfather, retired Lt. Col. Michael Rompilla.

**Joshua Durfey '06** has joined the staff of Methodist University's new Fitness Center as a recreation technician.

**Kenyette Fowler '06** has been accepted to graduate school at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

**Larry Parker Jr. '06** is currently working as a case manager for Mental Health at Lit Candles CCS and is also enrolled in the joint-degree program at Campbell University where he is a candidate for the degrees of both a Master of Arts in Counseling and Master of Divinity.

**Sabrena C. Wells '06** was born and raised in Grenada until the age of 16. She moved to the U.S to be with her parents and attend college. After seven years of Reserve and National Guard service to include a tour in Iraq, she received U.S. citizenship on March 7, 2007 at Fort Bragg, N.C. General Austin and other military officials were present for the oath and presentation of Naturalization certificates to Sabrena and approximately 40 other service members. She plans to attend Active Duty Officer Candidate School within the next three months and medical school within the next two years.



Pictured at left: Future alumni Keva Wilson and Erin Yarborough (right and left respectively in the photo) present Betty Neill Parsons '64 with a memory book on behalf of the members of One Spirit as a token of thanks for her years of service to Methodist. She and One Spirit took a grand finale tour culminating in Greenville, N.C., on May 12, 2007.

Loyal MU Alumnus Provides Opportunities for Current Students

**Dale Schnabel, Jr. '89** is deputy comptroller for the United States Army Special Operations (USASOC) Command at Ft. Bragg, N.C. He oversees about 40 civilians (most of whom are accountants or budget analysts) as well as military comptrollers and Defense contractors in the comptroller directorate at USASOC. Schnabel describes work in the comptroller's office, which requires a security clearance, as exciting and challenging. A loyal Methodist University alumnus, Schnabel has been searching for a way to provide opportunities to MU business and accounting majors to enter Federal service careers in his area.

Recently he has been successful in using the Student Career Experience Program (SCEP), a locally-managed internship program, which may lead to full-time employment upon the student's graduation. Schnabel has met with Dr. Jeff Zimmerman, dean of the Reeves School of Business; Guy Stewart, director of Career Services; Jane Gardiner, associate vice president of Academic Affairs; and others to discuss implementing this program at Methodist.

Schnabel is planning to attend an MU Career Services Job Fair this fall as an employer to talk with students about opportunities such as SCEP. The MU student Accounting Club also plans to have him come to speak to them.

For alumni who are prospective employers, please contact the Methodist University Office of Career Services for more information on interns and prospective employees at (910) 630-7279, or visit the employers section of the Career Central Web Site at [www.collegecentral.com/methodistuniversity](http://www.collegecentral.com/methodistuniversity).



Pictured (L-R): Guy Stewart, director of the Office of Career Services; Dale Schnabel Jr. '89, deputy comptroller for USOSOC Command at Ft. Bragg, N.C.; and Dr. Jeff Zimmerman, dean of the Reeves School of Business, discuss a unique new internship-to-employment opportunity for Methodist University students.



**Class Reunion Contacts for Homecoming 2007**  
*Celebrate a Brand New Methodist U!*  
**Saturday, Oct. 20, 2007!**

**Class of 1967**

**40th Reunion Contact**

- Dale Marshall  
Uncledale2@juno.com

**Class of 1972**

**35th Reunion Contacts**

- Lynn Clark  
lclark@methodist.edu
- Charles B. Hartsell, Jr.  
Hartsellcv4@aol.com
- Don Leatherman  
dleatherman@ec.rr.com
- The Rev. Dr. Michael Safley  
msafley@methodist.edu

**Class of 1977**

**30th Reunion Contact**

- Betty Jo (Mitchell) Dent '77  
bjdent1529@msn.com
- The Rev. Dr. Dennis R. Sheppard  
Dr.dennis.sheppard@minister.com

**Class of 1982**

**25th Reunion Contacts**

- Rachelle Young  
rasport@msn.com
- Clifford Wells  
cwells@methodist.edu

- Linda Gravitt  
lgravitt@methodist.edu

**Class of 1987**

**20th Reunion Contact**

*Are you interested?  
Contact me at  
lwike@methodist.edu!*

**Class of 1992**

**15th Reunion Contacts**

- Bryan May  
maybw@yahoo.com
- Rob Pilewski  
rpilewski@pga.com

**Class of 1997**

**10th Reunion Contacts**

- Michael K. McDermott  
Michael.mcdermott@suntrust.com
- Justin Terranova  
monarchsoccer@aol.com
- Herman F. Dixon, III  
Frankie28540@yahoo.com

**Class of '02**

**5-year Reunion Contact**

- Tavares Hunter  
tavaresandcannie@yahoo.com

**Homecoming 2007**

*is Friday-Saturday,  
October 19-20!*

**Celebrate a Brand  
New Methodist U!**

**Come back to Methodist  
for the first annual  
Methodist UNIVERSITY  
Homecoming on Oct. 20, 2007!**

*Homecoming 2007  
is sure to be the best yet!*

Return to the place where so many fond memories were made, and reconnect with the classmates and friends you've lost touch with. Make new alumni connections and make new memories, too! Join us on Oct. 20 for Lunch on the Green by Carrabba's Italian Grill, Mark Moses '97 proprietor; class reunion activities for the 2s and 7s; an exciting game against Christopher Newport; and many more free and fun events! Contact the Alumni Office at (910) 630-7200/(800) 488-7110 ext. 7200, or by e-mail at [alumnioffice@methodist.edu](mailto:alumnioffice@methodist.edu) with questions, and we'll see you at Homecoming!

**8th Annual MU Alumni Association  
SILENT AUCTION**

Do you have unique art or gift items, golf, spa, or vacation packages, or perhaps dinner and tickets to the theater that you might wish to donate for a good cause? The Methodist University Alumni Association will sponsor its 8th Annual SILENT AUCTION during Homecoming 2007, and needs your help! Donations of silent auction items in most cases are fully tax-deductible.

Proceeds benefit the Alumni Endowed Scholarship Fund, which has grown to \$106,000.00 through donations and fundraisers such as the Silent Auction. For more information, contact the Office of Alumni Affairs at [alumnioffice@methodist.edu](mailto:alumnioffice@methodist.edu) or call (910) 630-7200/(800) 488-7110 ext. 7200.

*Remember CHILLIN' OUT  
in Cumberland, Sanford,  
Garber and Weaver dorms?*

*Help us install new  
air conditioning in these "classics"  
so MU students can too!*

*Stay tuned for more information  
on the upcoming Residence Hall  
renovation campaign.*



## MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

### August 17-18

Opening of School Ceremonies  
Contact: Student Development & Services  
(910) 630-7152

### September 10

Opening Convocation  
11:00 a.m.  
Reeves Auditorium

### September 21-22

Family Weekend  
Contact: Student Development & Services  
(910) 630-7152

### September 27-30

Methodist University Theatre Department's Fall Performance  
Contact: Theatre Department  
(910) 630-7100

### October 19-20

Homecoming  
Contact: Development Office  
(910) 630-7200



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[www.methodist.edu](http://www.methodist.edu)

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