

MU *today*

M A G A Z I N E

Volume 48, Number 3

Autumn 2007



Projects for Peace
MU Students Excel
in the Grace of Giving



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PGM Program Celebrates
Two Decades of Success
Under Jerry Hogge's Leadership



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The Magazine for Alumni & Friends of Methodist University

EVENTS

NOVEMBER 2007

- 3** Fayetteville Symphony Orchestra
Reeves Auditorium, 8:00 p.m.
Contact: (910) 433-4690
Methodist Students admitted free with MU ID
www.fayettevillesymphony.org
-
- 15-17** Methodist University Theatre Department presents
Talking with... ..and Moving On
Reeves Auditorium, 7:00 p.m.
Tickets: \$7 for Adults, \$4 for Students and Seniors
Free with MU ID
Contact: Dr. Paul Wilson
E-mail: pwilson@methodist.edu
(910) 630-7483
-
- 27** Music Department Holiday Gala Concert
Reeves Auditorium, 7:00 p.m.
Contact: Pam Ellis-Phipps
E-mail: pellis@methodist.edu
(910) 630-7100
-
- 30** The Nutcracker by the Dance Theatre of Fayetteville
Reeves Auditorium, 7:00 p.m.
Contact: Leslie Dumas (910) 424-7841

DECEMBER 2007

- 1-2** The Nutcracker by the Dance Theatre of Fayetteville
Reeves Auditorium, 7:00 p.m. (Sat.); 3:00 p.m. (Sun.)
Contact: Leslie Dumas
(910) 424-7841
-
- 4** North Carolina Symphony: Cumberland County
Series Holiday Pop Concert
Reeves Auditorium, 8:00 p.m.
Contact: 1 (877) 627-6724
-
- 14** Fayetteville Community Band Concert
Reeves Auditorium, 8:00 p.m.
Contact: Dr. Larry Wells
E-mail: lwells@methodist.edu
(910) 630-7602



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On the Cover: The left cover photo was taken near the end of a camp session by Faridon Muhibi (Rahila Muhibi's brother). The photo of three girls (from Dan-e-Lali and Kabul, Afghanistan) was taken as a way to remember new friendships made possible by Projects for Peace. This is the view seen from the schoolhouse in Dan-e-Lali, where campers met daily. The right cover photo is of MU students in front of the Richard L. Player Center on the Methodist University campus. Photo by Bill Parish.

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Editor

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Rhonda Forbes
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Mark Menscer
Rahila Muhibi
Husein Nasiro-Sigo
Bill Parish
Sana Sabri
Photo Contributors

Michael Safley
Vice President of Church and Community Relations

M. Elton Hendricks
President

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Local Family Commissions Sculpture

Dr. Gerald and Mrs. Naoma Ellison, long-time supporters of the arts in Cumberland County, have commissioned a sculpture for Methodist University, the installation ceremony for which took place on Sept. 6, 2007 in front of MU's Reeves Auditorium. Naoma Ellison said, speaking for herself and her husband, "We feel that Methodist University is the gateway to the city from the north, and as the city grows and expands, we would like Methodist to be a venue for sculptures and other visual arts."

The sculpture, titled "Elevated Visions," is the first piece of external art to be installed on the Methodist University campus. The stainless steel abstract, weighing approximately 350 lbs., stands over 10 feet tall and is five feet wide. Michael Baker, a nationally-recognized North Carolina sculptor, took four months to complete the piece.

The Ellisons were first introduced to Baker through Silvana Foti, chair of Methodist University's Art Department, and Keith Dippre, chair of the Music Department. Naoma Ellison said, "We saw examples of his work and we were very impressed. My husband and I felt that Baker's sculpture would be an ideal start to what we hope will become the first of many visual art pieces on campus."

Michael Baker, a self-taught artist, has been working in sculpture for over 20 years. He first became aware of the visual arts while teaching tennis at a resort in Santa Fe, N.M., where there was a particular sculpture yard of large and monument pieces. A move to Loveland, Colo., another artistic community, led him to pursue his interest first-hand. He began by taking a technical course on welding techniques. For two years, Baker worked with the well-respected Colorado sculptor, George Tate, whom he feels laid the foundation for his career as a professional artist. Baker now lives in Salisbury, N.C., where he and his wife Connie have converted a former bakery into both a studio and home.

Speaking of the Ellisons, Baker said, "Fayetteville and, in particular, Methodist University, are fortunate to have two individuals who have a love of art and who give so freely so that others may enjoy art in public spaces."

Baker's process is what he terms "additive" sculpture. This process consists of constructing various shapes and forms in metal by using both cutting and welding techniques similar to those used in metal fabrication. These elements are then arranged according to a preliminary drawing leaving room for "artistic license." From this point, grinding and texturing are completed, and the final welding takes place to create the sculpture.

"My intention with the sculpture," Baker said, "was to depict our visions with the curved triangles and the cubes as both our challenges and achievements. I hope that the students and faculty of the University, as they look up to the focal point of the piece, think of their own visions, having personal challenges but also seeing their personal accomplishments and achievements realized. I hope you feel a little of the soul behind my piece."



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Restoring the Classics

Vintage cars, historic homes, generations of family portraits. All are things of value, perhaps in need of a touch up or a fresh coat of paint, but they are a part of our past, and worth holding on. They are classics.

Methodist University has its own classics. They are Cumberland, Weaver, Sanford, and Garber Halls, Methodist's first dormitories. Completed in 1963 and 1964, these served as the only on-campus residential housing for traditional students for 30 years, until Pearce Hall was constructed in 1994. Though five additional residence halls have been added since that time, these four halls still provide housing to almost 85 percent of all residential freshmen at Methodist University, as well as an additional 170 upperclassmen.

History has been made on this campus, and in these residence halls. Moving in, meeting and learning to live with a new roommate, getting ready for the big game and celebrating, whether you won or lost. Having to get up for an 8:00 a.m. class on your own because your mom wasn't there to tell you to get out of bed. Making lifelong friends and, in the process, learning more about yourself and what you wanted to do with your life.

The **Restoring the Classics** campaign will raise \$2.2 million for needed renovations in these four classic buildings, the most important of which are new heating and air-conditioning systems. These residence halls were originally built with air conditioning, somewhat uncommon for dormitory construction in the early 1960s. While an effective solution for over 40 years, these systems have outlived their useful life. An efficient and cost-effective solution is to install individual heating and air conditioning units in each residence hall room. Of additional benefit to students is that, with this change, they will have the capability of controlling the temperature settings in their rooms. Individual units were installed in Cumberland Hall over the summer, and returning students are thrilled with the temperature and humidity difference the new air conditioning systems have made.



If you or your child lived in Cumberland, Weaver, Garber, or Sanford Hall as a student, visited during one of the many summer camps, are connected via the United Methodist's Annual North Carolina Conference, or just want to make a difference in students' lives, we need your help. This campaign will allow Methodist University to preserve these buildings which hold so many wonderful memories,

and provide its freshman students with the kind of residential experience they should expect from an institution of Methodist's quality and reputation.

Other planned renovations include completing the restoration of the 12 bathrooms in Cumberland and Sanford Halls, needed bathroom repairs in Weaver and Garber Halls, and upgrading the lobbies and common areas of all four buildings, to include new furniture.

The University will be asking its alumni, current parents, and faculty and staff to assist with this effort, but there is another group of individuals with a strong connection with these buildings—those United Methodists who attended Annual Conference on the Methodist College campus for over 25 years. Many of these individuals lived in Cumberland, Garber, Weaver, and Sanford Halls for that one week period, often requesting and staying in the same room from year to year.

"Renovation campaigns are often difficult because it's hard for people to get excited about an old building," said Robin Davenport, vice president for Development. "Yet, because these buildings hold so many special memories, people seem very interested and want to make a difference. We've put this campaign on the Web site, and are encouraging people to share their memories, whether it's a parent leaving their child for the first time, a fond memory of Annual Conference, or one of what must be a thousand stories from a graduate's four years here. We're also letting people designate which dorm they want to give to, and stirring up a little competition by reporting the results on the Web site." Rooms can be "adopted" for gifts of \$1,000 and above, with plaques listing the donor's name and the years they resided there, if appropriate.



To learn more about the "Restoring the Classics" campaign, contact the Development Office at (910) 630-7200, toll free at 1-800-488-7110, via e-mail at restoreclassics@methodist.edu, or go online to view the campaign at www.methodist.edu/classics.



MU Students Excel in the Grace of Giving

By Melissa Jameson, Director of University Relations

“Just as you excel in everything—in faith, in speech, in knowledge, in complete earnestness and in your love for us—see that you also excel in this grace of giving.”

- II Corinthians 8:7, 13-14

Three Methodist University students—**Sana Sabri**, 23, **Rahila Muhibi**, 22, and **Husein Nasiro-Sigo**, 21—excelled in the grace of giving this summer as they completed projects for the Kathryn Wasserman Davis 100 Projects for Peace program.

The program selected 100 projects from 65 schools participating in the Davis United World College (UWC) Scholars Program. Each student was given a \$10,000 grant to implement a project that would encourage and support peace throughout the world in the 21st century. Here are their stories:

On May 1, 2007, **Sana Sabri** returned to Saharanpur, India, to begin preparation for the Women’s Vocational Center (www.wvcindia.org). Saharanpur is home to over 500,000 residents and is considered one of the most densely populated cities in northern India. The purpose of Sabri’s project was to teach underprivileged, under-skilled women trades such as hairdressing, tailoring, machine embroidering, and offer classes typically part of elementary education in the United States.

The Center opened for its first session June 1. Eighty women attended. “We capped the age at 18 for attendees,” Sabri explained, noting that a strict attendance policy was in place to maintain a high level of participation. “We had some students commuting daily from nearby villages; some had to travel more than 35 miles to attend,” said Sabri.

The second session began July 1 and enrolled 64 women. At the end of both sessions, an exposition was held for students to present their work. Products included clothes for children, women’s suits, napkins, candles, and embroidery designs.

In order to graduate from the Women’s Vocational Center, each student had to attend at least 90 percent of the training sessions, pass exams, enter into the professional field they studied during the program, and find a minimum of 10 customers to purchase their products. Graduation certificates were presented to students who fulfilled all graduation requirements, and special recognition was given to those who exhibited outstanding performance.

“The whole project was so rewarding,” said Sabri. “I am sure at least 80 percent of these women can now support their families financially.” She expressed the personal importance of the project. “I really believe a small effort can make big change...I want to see other students at Methodist take that challenge.”

Rahila Muhibi formed Youth Leadership for Peace—an organization developed to make social and educational activities available in developing countries. Muhibi implemented the first summer youth camp for 40 children from Kabul and Dar-Eskar, Baghla, in Afghanistan. The camp took place in the small village of Dan-e-Lali from July 24 - Aug. 1.

“At home, villagers are not respected. They tend to be viewed as old-fashioned,” said Muhibi. The villagers of Dan-e-Lali lead a unique agricultural life in which they rely on animals not only for food, but for transport, plowing, and home furnishing. Growing up in Kabul, but still having much of her extended family living in Dan-e-Lali, Muhibi wanted others to learn how to respect cultural

projects for peace

and ethnic differences among people in Afghanistan. She felt this could be achieved through community service, village tours, career planning, storytelling, and socializing activities.

The project was made possible through collaboration with His Highness Prince Aga Khan, who sent members from the National Council of Afghanistan to evaluate the camp. “It was their first time to visit,” said Muhibi. “After the project, they sent books and other learning materials to the village kids, and they are now considering the kids in their upcoming projects.”

Muhibi is hopeful that the project will continue. If the opportunity presents itself, she would like her next project to be a permanent school for the village of Dan-e-Lali.

Husein Nasiro-Sigo hoped to build a deep bore well in his hometown in the Arsi province in the Oromia region of Ethiopia. However, the cost to construct the well exceeded the allotted grant money. *Save the Children USA* offered to help cover the additional expenses, but the well would

have been moved to another location, in another village. Orphaned by the age of 15, he explained that his village had helped raise him. For that reason, Nasiro-Sigo could not bring himself to move the project.

“They collected money to help send me and my brothers to school and now I had the opportunity to repay them,” said Nasiro-Sigo. “People in my village spend most of their summer searching for water. Some of them have to travel more than 30 miles by foot. Some move to different villages in hopes of finding enough water

during the summer, which causes tension between newcomers and locals,” noted Nasiro-Sigo.

Not to be deterred, he spent several weeks investigating alternatives and settled on constructing two surface water wells that were each 120 feet deep. The project began June 10, and after two months of grueling physical labor, 1,000 villagers had access to clean drinking water.

In a village where fighting for scarce resources is commonplace, Nasiro-Sigo hopes that the wells will bring peace to his hometown. When asked about the most valuable lesson Nasiro-Sigo learned from his experience, he replied: “Enthusiasm. Have the enthusiasm. I knew nothing about water. I am not a geologist, but if you have the enthusiasm to make a difference, you will be surprised how many people you can benefit.”



McLean Foundation Endows Second Professorship

On Aug. 15, 2007, Methodist University received a gift of \$100,000 from the Thomas R. and Elizabeth E. McLean Foundation to establish the Thomas R. McLean Endowed Professorship. This is the McLean Foundation's second professorship, the first having been established in 2006 in honor of Elizabeth E. McLean, which focused on the area of English and writing.

The Professorship, honoring Thomas R. McLean, targets the discipline of history. History is one of the foundations of a liberal arts education because a basic knowledge of the past is a prerequisite for engaged participation in the present. Students majoring in history are endowed with critical and analytical skills required for understanding the problems posed by a rapidly changing world.

The first recipient of this professorship is Dr. Peter Murray, who has been a member of the Methodist University faculty since 1988. Dr. Murray has a Bachelor of Arts from Wofford College, and an M.A. and Ph.D. from Indiana University. His areas of teaching include U.S. history, Civil Rights Movement; Civil War and Reconstruction; American Slavery; and North Carolina History. He has been published on numerous occasions, the most recent being "Methodists and the Crucible of Race, 1930-1975," published in 2004. "I am greatly honored to be the first recipient of the Thomas R. McLean Professorship," said Dr. Murray. "I am very grateful to my colleagues and students over the years who have contributed to my growth as a teacher and a historian. I am also delighted that Methodist University has secured more resources for those teaching in the traditional liberal arts.



May these professorships bloom across the disciplines."

President M. Elton Hendricks said, "Faculty are the heart and soul of any university. Methodist University has been blessed with dedicated, talented, and effective faculty. The McLean Foundation is committed to encouraging excellence in the academic programs at Methodist University, and the endowed professorships are a means to recognize and support such excellence. Peter Murray is a published scholar, an effective teacher, and a respected leader in the Methodist University community. He embodies that which the McLean Foundation seeks to encourage."

If you are interested in learning more about endowment opportunities at Methodist University, please contact Robin Davenport at (800) 488-7110 ext. 7200 or via e-mail at rdavenport@methodist.edu.

Generous Gift Continues Legacy of Support

Methodist University received a \$50,000 gift from the estate of Mrs. Flora Cornelia "Neill" Wilkins in August 2007. This gift will increase the Flora Cornelia Wilkins and Dr. Samuel B. Wilkins Jr. Scholarship that was established 30 years ago through the estate of Dr. Samuel B. Wilkins. Dr. and Mrs. Wilkins were involved in the local community and attended numerous functions at Reeves Auditorium. They supported education during their lives and established an endowed scholarship after Dr. Wilkins' death in 1977. Throughout the remainder of her life, Mrs. Wilkins continued to support Methodist and attend various on-campus events. She greatly enjoyed meeting the students who were recipients of their scholarship.

Family, Friends Celebrate the Life of Parker Wilson

By Bill Billings '68



Parker Wilson
1934-2007

R. Parker Wilson, 73, retired distinguished service professor of history, died Sunday, July 22, 2007, in Fayetteville after suffering a heart attack. Wilson taught 32 years at Methodist, from 1963-95.

A native of Granite Falls, N.C., he was the son of the late Martin and Dovie Parker Wilson and was

preceded in death by his sister, Sara Wilson Hodgkins of Southern Pines, N.C. He is survived by eight nieces and a nephew, Tina McRary, Judy Moody, Rebecca Teague, Gaye Williams, Caroline Eddy, Beth Elledge, Celeste Marr, Grace Hodgkins and Marty Wilson; a brother-in-law, Norris Hodgkins; a sister-in-law, Lowe Wilson; and a cousin, Peggy Lowe.

Wilson's funeral was held July 26 at Powell Funeral Home in Southern Pines, N.C. In accordance with his wishes, the service affirmed the importance of faith in God and family and offered thanks for the gifts he received and gave during his life. The Rev. David Helms, pastor of First Baptist Church in Southern Pines, opened the service by reading Psalm 90. Alan Porter, a retired professor of music at Methodist who came the same year as Wilson, sang the Twenty-third Psalm and led the congregation in the singing of the Methodist College and Wake Forest alma maters. Jane Weeks Gardiner, associate dean at Methodist, provided piano accompaniment. Parker was remembered fondly by three nieces, MU President Elton Hendricks, and Bo Thorpe, artistic director of the Cape Fear Regional Theatre. The Rev. Carrie Parrish, former chaplain at Methodist, delivered the eulogy, filled with humorous anecdotes about Wilson.

Wilson was highly regarded by his students and peers at Methodist. He held degrees from Wake Forest and Vanderbilt universities and did additional postgraduate work at UNC-Chapel Hill. He also had a passion for drama. As the first advisor to Methodist's drama club, Green and Gold Masque Keys, he directed

and appeared in many productions on campus. He also appeared in 80 productions of the Fayetteville Little Theatre (FLT, now Cape Fear Regional Theatre) and served four terms as FLT president. Wilson enjoyed traveling, gardening, singing, telling jokes, and attending cultural events. In the 12 years following his retirement, Wilson often returned to Methodist for commencements, cultural events, and homecomings.

On the eve of his retirement from Methodist, Wilson gave his one and only "sermon" in Hensdale Chapel April 19, 1995. In "The Last Lesson," he said life is meaningful if one remembers three things: place, people, and purpose. He offered these words of advice under each heading:

Place – Remember your roots.

People – Associate with creative people.

Purpose – Find out what you can do and go for it."

In 2003, Wilson donated a ceremonial mace to Methodist, a symbol of authority to be carried at commencement exercises and on other important occasions. Designed by Linda Anderson and Mary Grace Cain and built by Robert Bricker of Charlottesville, Va., the mace was first carried at Methodist's 2003 commencement. Made of pewter and walnut, it features the United Methodist cross and flame at the top, a globe bearing the Methodist College seal, an eight-ribbed wooden shaft with a hand-carved cotton blossom at the end, and a pair of green and gold streamers bearing two lines from the Methodist College Alma Mater. Wilson gave the mace in memory of his father.

He was a man of great intelligence, compassion, and artistic talent. Wilson was devoted to his students, family, and friends. He will be remembered as affirming and upbeat. If we could add to his "Last Lesson," we would add "Party." By the way he lived his life, he showed a whole generation of MC students how to enjoy life and to make a real difference in the lives of others—he was "the life of the party."



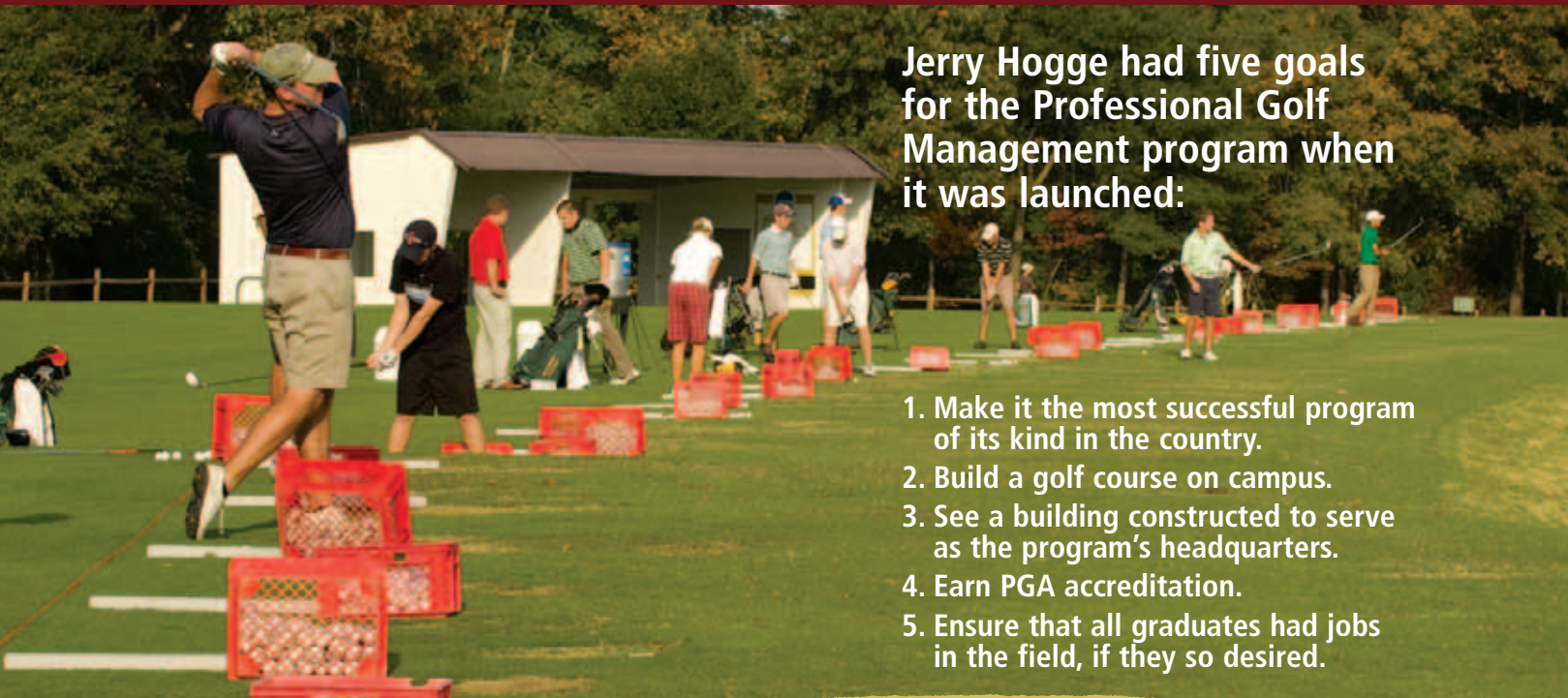
Rhyan Breen '07 carries the ceremonial mace donated to MU by Parker Wilson.

Milestones at MU

MU's Orchestra professor, Fouad Fakhouri, had a successful season. After completing his dissertation to finish his doctoral degree in musical arts from the University of North Texas in December, he went on to conduct the Amman Symphony Orchestra in Jordan. Maestro Fakhouri was invited by Jordan's Queen Noor, who visited with Methodist's international students last fall. The concert consisted of a performance of Beethoven's Coriolan Overture, Symphony No. 8 and Mozart's first flute concerto featuring the renowned flute soloist Ines Abdel Daiem.

In June, Maestro Fakhouri was invited to London, England, to attend a performance by the London Chamber Orchestra. The concert was a private show attended by British and foreign dignitaries and ambassadors. His newest piece "Heron" will be premiered this season by the Fayetteville Symphony Orchestra. Currently, Methodist University has two students that play with the Fayetteville Symphony Orchestra.

The symphony will host two of their five performances of the 2007-2008 season at Reeves Auditorium. For season tickets, call (910) 433-4690.



Jerry Hogge had five goals for the Professional Golf Management program when it was launched:

1. Make it the most successful program of its kind in the country.
2. Build a golf course on campus.
3. See a building constructed to serve as the program's headquarters.
4. Earn PGA accreditation.
5. Ensure that all graduates had jobs in the field, if they so desired.

PGM Program Celebrates Two Decades of Success Under the Leadership of Jerry Hogge

Twenty years later, he and his staff of nine (including six PGA professionals) have undoubtedly hit a hole-in-one.

Methodist PGM graduates are employed at some of the most prestigious golf courses in America, including five of this year's *Golf Digest* top eight. Graduates such as Chad Collins '01 and Kelly Cap '95 make their living on professional tours, and others, such as Joy Bonhurst Smith '89, are among the country's top teaching pros.

Dozens work as sales representatives for all of the major golf equipment manufacturers, while others have parlayed their education, experience and training into positions as lawyers, professors, and stock brokers. In addition to its private, on-campus, 18-hole golf course, the University this year acquired controlling interest in nearby King's Grant Golf Club, which is headed by PGM grad Rob Pilewski '92.

"I don't think it's an exaggeration to call it the Harvard of the golf management industry. I don't mind if we can help Harvard like that," said Gene Clayton, Methodist's vice-president of Business Affairs and former men's golf coach. "We've done it well enough and long enough that it's created a lot of job opportunities for our graduates."

The program, which is under the umbrella of the Reeves School of Business, operates at capacity at 300. The PGA of America has given Methodist and other schools with PGM programs permission to expand that number by 100, and MU will have no problem reaching that limit.

"We usually get 200-some applications a year," Hogge said, adding that his goal is to see two-thirds of each freshman class earn diplomas four years later. Applicants are chosen based on three criteria: high school grade-point average, SAT or ACT score, and their golf handicap—because, as Hogge noted, "they have to pass a playing-ability test to become a PGA member."

According to the PGA's Web site, there are 18 colleges and universities—most of them NCAA Division I schools such as Clemson and N.C. State—offering accredited programs. Methodist sets itself apart from the rest not just in the classroom and in job placement, but on the golf course itself. Under Steve Conley, the Monarch men's teams have captured nine NCAA Division III championships. In 21 years, Methodist's women's squads have won 20 national titles; the last five under the tutelage of Vici Pate.

"We did some things differently than others because we didn't know better," Hogge said. "After my first year here, we went out and visited our students where they were interning that summer. This past summer, we probably visited 95 percent of 260 interns. It's really hard work, but we visited the pros from get-go and created relationships. Now, people call us. They come and recruit our graduates to go to work for them."

The PGM students learn all facets of the business, from retail operations to turf management to accounting to club fitting and beyond. It all comes together in the real world.

So says Graham Gilmore '02 and other PGM grads.

"From the first day of college until the day I graduated four years later, I was always coached for what would happen after graduation by Mr. Hogge and his staff," Gilmore said. "All the courses provided information that has been applied in the golf business. The work experience internships that were required proved to be the most helpful in preparing me to be a golf professional."

Gilmore's last internship was at Pine Needles Lodge & Golf Club in Southern Pines, N.C. He was hired there after graduation, and five years later, barely a month after the course hosted the U.S. Women's Open, Gilmore was promoted to Director of Golf at the resort.

His is a common story. There are PGM grads in key positions at ultra-prestigious clubs such as *Golf Digest's* No. 1 course for 22 of the past 23 years, Pine Valley in New Jersey. They're at Oakmont Country Club in Pennsylvania, Winged Foot on Long Island, Pinehurst, Shinnecock Hills and Pebble Beach.

"Not only do most grads work in the business, but at quality facilities," said Nathan Presnal '03. "It's obvious that the product that Methodist produces in young PGA professionals is some of the best, and it shows in the positions the grads take."

Likewise, for those who pursue the upper-echelon positions in business, the sky's the limit.

"The jobs our PGM graduates have give them the opportunity every day to meet the people that run America," Hogge said. "We're not just club pros, we're executive directors, tournament officials, sales reps and more. We've got some guys that in five or ten years are going to be presidents and vice-presidents of the major golf companies of America."

For more information on the PGM Program, contact J.T. Rimbey, PGM director of recruiting, at (800) 488-7110, ext. 7278, or jrimbey@methodist.edu.



"Where Are They Now?"

GRAHAM GILMORE '02, DIRECTOR OF GOLF, PINE NEEDLES LODGE & GOLF CLUB, SOUTHERN PINES, N.C.

Being able to work with other Methodist alumni has been very helpful to my career because of the training you are entitled to, as well as the friendships you make with each other. The networking opportunities that have been available to me as a Methodist University alum have been one of the most helpful tools in my career.

DARRELL BOCK '88, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, COLORADO SECTION PGA

Though not a graduate of the Professional Golf Management program, for over four years I had the opportunity to work as the assistant director/recruiter. During this time, I began to build professional traits I still hold firmly today: A strong sense of right and wrong; a work ethic with a great desire to advance my employer as well as myself; the ability to create and work toward a vision, and the idea that learning never ends are all traits that were uncovered and developed through this experience with the PGM Program and Methodist University.

NATHAN PRESNAL '03, FIRST ASSISTANT, CHEVY CHASE (MD.) CLUB

I was always impressed when an upperclassmen took the time to talk to me and share some of what they were doing. I think this is what makes the program special; the graduates and upper-class students helping out those younger than them and helping them to get to a higher level instead of being competitive with each other. I certainly owe what successes I have had to Methodist and the PGM Program.

MELISSA ARNETT '04, ASSISTANT PRO AT MEDALIST GOLF CLUB, HOBE SOUND, FLA. (WINTER), AND EAST HAMPTON (N.Y.) GOLF CLUB (SUMMER)

Methodist has a very large PGM student body, but each member of the department really knows how to treat you like you are the only one.

RICH PARKER '95, HEAD PRO, BENVENUE COUNTRY CLUB, ROCKY MOUNT, N.C.

I would not be where I am today without the PGM Program. I feel it's the best program in the country and the support staff is second to none.

JIM PERCHERKE '90, FOOTJOY FIELD SALES REPRESENTATIVE

[Jerry] Hogge was excellent in helping me identify where exactly I wanted to work in the golf industry, and he guided me and helped to provide the opportunity to interview for this great company. Coach [Steve Conley] was a man of honor, and his personal character and guidance made a huge impact in my life. He, too, cared so much about each player, and he was more concerned about me as a person than how well I played golf.

ROB PILEWSKI '92, HEAD PRO, KING'S GRANT GOLF & COUNTRY CLUB, FAYETTEVILLE, N.C.

I owe a huge debt to the PGM Program for helping me to gain experience and supporting me at outstanding golf facilities such as Woodlake Country Club, Pine Needles Lodge & Golf Club and Mid Pines Inn & Golf Club. The PGM Alumni provides an outstanding network for ideas, job placement, best practices and fellowship. The PGM Program provided me a great foundation of job skills to be successful in my work today.

SCOTT ELLENDER '95, DIRECTOR OF GOLF, PINEHURST RESORT AND COUNTRY CLUB

I don't think I would have had as much of an opportunity here if I had not graduated from Methodist.



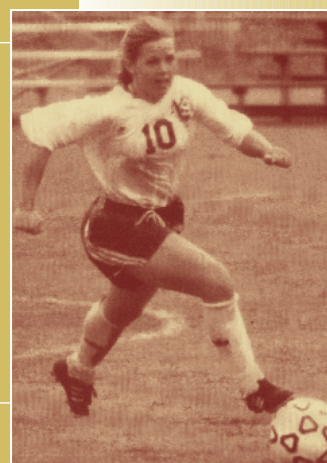
HALL OF FAME INDUCTEES

The Methodist University Athletic Hall of Fame inducted its tenth class Oct. 19, 2007. Inductees become eligible for the prestigious honor five years after completing their eligibility. The selection committee chose three nominees to join the 39 members already inducted into of the Hall of Fame. The selections include TRAYFER MONROE, REBECCA MORTON JARMAN, and MICHAEL SCOBEE.



TRAYFER MONROE has been called the best defensive player in the history of Methodist football. A member of the football team from 1995-1998, Monroe led the team in tackles for three straight seasons. He holds the Methodist career record for tackles with 373 and game tackles with 21. In 1997, Monroe was chosen as a first team All-American by Don Hansen's National Football Weekly Gazette and a third team All-American by USA-III Football. During his senior season, Monroe was again honored by both organizations with All-American honors.

REBECCA MORTON JARMAN was a four-year starter on the Methodist women's soccer team from 1991-1994. During her tenure, the Monarchs won three Dixie Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (DIAC) Championships and advanced to the NCAA Division III Tournament on two occasions. Jarman was a first team All-American selection in 1993 and 1994. Also a two-time DIAC Player of the Year, Jarman was a four-time first team All-Conference honoree. She ranks second in the Monarch record book for season goals and points with 30 goals and 68 points in 1993.



MICHAEL SCOBEE played for the Monarchs men's soccer team from 1992-1995. A two-time DIAC Player of the Year, Scobee was named a second team All-American in 1994. He was a member of four consecutive DIAC championships and NCAA Division III Tournament appearances before co-captaining the 1995 team to National Finalist honors. Scobee holds the Methodist career records in points (139) and goals (60) as well as the season records for points (45) and goals (19).



ENGAGEMENTS / WEDDINGS / ANNIVERSARIES

CLASS OF 1970



Robert L. Giannini '70 and wife Patricia of Philadelphia, Pa., announce the marriage of their daughter, Kathleen Amanda Giannini, to David William Bradbury, son of William and Margaret Bradbury of Yardley, Pa. The wedding took place June 30 at St. Dominic R.C. Church in

northeast Philadelphia. The Rev. Michael Heim officiated. Kathleen is an elementary school teacher in Abington, Pa., and Dave is a mortgage lender in Norristown, Pa. Husband and wife both graduated from Pennsylvania State University at State College, Pa. The newlyweds honeymooned in St. Lucia, W.I.

CLASS OF 1971

Michael Alloway '71 and his wife Sherry are pleased to announce the marriage of their daughter, Kathryn Michelle, to Jeffrey Page of Willow Grove, Pa. The bride and groom are both 2005 graduates of Indiana Wesleyan University in Marion, Ind. The couple will reside in Fort Lauderdale, Fla.

CLASS OF 1991



Pauline (Carter) Kearse '91 married Troy Kearse Aug. 1 in Aruba. They now live in Urbana, Md., where Troy works as an NFL referee and software engineer at Telelogic North America. Pauline is the President/CEO of Headhunters, LLC.

CLASS OF 1997

Kelli (Davis) and Dan Garrison '97, '98 were married in March 2006. Kelli recently accepted a position as a manager of Medication Use Policy & Informatics at the Medical University of S.C., and Dan is a realtor with Century 21 Properties Plus. The couple currently resides in Charleston, S.C.

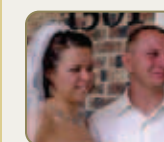
CLASS OF 1999

Christy King '99 announces her engagement to Tom Berry. The couple plans to marry May 17, 2008, in Pleasant Garden, N.C. Christy currently works as a senior budget and policy analyst for the Virginia Department of Planning and Budget. Tom is the Division 1 Chief for the Virginia Department of Fire Programs and volunteers at Wagstaff Circle Volunteer Fire Department. Christy and Tom currently reside in Richmond, Va.

CLASS OF 2002

Lesley Marshburn '02 was married to Christopher Rackley July 14 in Garner, N.C. The wedding was held outdoors at The Hall at Landmark. For their honeymoon, the couple took a 15-night cruise to Hawaii and Mexico. They are currently living in Zebulon, N.C., where Lesley teaches a TMD class at East Wake High School.

CLASS OF 2003



Victoria Cleverley '03 announces her marriage to Joey Wiseman. The two were married July 12. Victoria is a teacher for Cumberland County Schools (Stedman Elementary). Joey is a paratrooper for the 82nd Airborne and is currently stationed in Afghanistan. Victoria is eagerly awaiting his return home next year. The two are planning a second wedding for June, so Joey's family from Wisconsin can attend.

Tara Nestopoulos '03 became engaged to Charlie Brandt in Jamaica. They live in Absecon, N.J., where Tara is a high school business teacher and Charlie is the director of communications for the United Way of Atlantic County. A 2008 wedding is planned.

JT Rimbey '03 and his new wife Summer were married June 22. They honeymooned in Mazatlan, Mexico. The couple met through the Fellowship of Christian Athletes at Methodist.

CLASS OF 2006

Rachael Favinger '06 and Christian Swift '04 have announced their engagement! The pair met at Methodist, where Chris graduated from the PGM program and Rachael earned a Bachelor of Science degree in business. The wedding is planned for spring 2008 in Maryland.

BIRTHS

CLASS OF 1972

Virginia Teachey '72 and her husband Gary are grandparents! Avery Dillon was born to Shelley and Dayton Kiger on Aug. 23, 2006. Avery and her parents live in Apex, NC. Avery was baptized at Wesleyan Chapel UMC in Wilmington, N.C.

CLASS OF 1977

Morris and Rebecca (Stephens) Strickland '77 proudly announce the birth of their granddaughter, Kendra Lynn Strickland, July 9. Kendra's parents both serve in the U.S. Navy and are presently stationed in Virginia.

CLASS OF 1990

Matt Boucher '90 and his wife Dawn announce the birth of their second baby girl, Marlie Elise Boucher. Marlie weighed 8 lbs., 9 oz. Matt jokes, "Two girls—who would have guessed?"

CLASS OF 1993

Tracy (Maness) Huber '93 and her husband Darren greeted their second child, Addison Lindsey, March 2. Four-year-old brother Hayden is thrilled as well! Tracy and her family reside in a suburb of Dallas, Texas.



BIRTHS (CONT'D.)

CLASS OF 1995

Simone and Kevin Dennison '95, '95 welcomed Kodie, their second son, on Jan. 11. Brother Kalil is now three years old. Kevin is still coaching women's basketball and volleyball at The Fayetteville Academy, and Simone is an administrator with Cumberland County Schools. Classmates can reach Simone at sdennison@nc.rr.com.



Cassandra (Gross) Paugh '95 and her husband Bret welcomed their son Wade in June 2005. The couple has been married since 1995, and they now live in suburban Atlanta, Ga. Cassandra says, "Hello everyone! Hope everyone is doing well. We'd love to hear from you!"

Troy Pennington '95 and wife Tyra are the proud parents of their baby boy weighing 8 lbs., 11 oz. Reed Patrick Pennington, born Dec. 14, 2006, is a future Monarch basketball star!

CLASS OF 1996



Jodie Bullard '96 and her husband Doug recently welcomed another addition to their family! Maguire Douglas was born Jan. 25. He joins his sisters Madison (8), Megan (6), and Malorie (4). Jodie continues to enjoy being a full-time wife and mother. The family now resides in Sanford, N.C.



Ana and Andy Hertz '96, '95 celebrated the birth of their triplets, Ana Mercedes (3 lbs., 8 oz.), Andres Robert (2 lbs., 9 oz.), and Cristina Maria (1 lb., 13 oz.) Nov. 3, 2006.

CLASS OF 1997

Cari (Hare) Green '97 and Bill Green welcomed their second child, Mason Wesley Green, to the world July 5, 2006. Big sister Lauren is now three years old.

Candace (Croal) and Sean McConnell '97, '97 celebrated the birth of their second son, Austin Erich, Jan. 29. Older brother Samuel is five years old. The family resides in Pennsylvania.

CLASS OF 1998

Kendra (Gottzman) and David Clark '98, '97 welcomed their first child, Mackenzie Louise, on Jan. 17. Mackenzie weighed 7 lbs., 14 oz. The family currently resides in New Jersey.

CLASS OF 1999

Andrew Derbyshire '99 and his wife Heather announce the birth of their first daughter, Hannah, April 24.

Sharmis (Oulton) Powell '99 and her husband James are thrilled to announce the birth of their first daughter May 20. Alaina Grace Powell weighed 9 lbs., 3 oz., and was 20 inches long. She joins her two big brothers, Bennett and Conlen.

CLASS OF 2001



Julia (Best) Emery '01 and her husband Richard welcomed their "first but hopefully not last" child Aug. 24 at 1:36 p.m. Born in Greensboro, Alexis Marie Emery weighed 7 lbs., 8 oz., and was 19 3/4 inches long.

CLASS OF 2002



Shannon (McMillan) Isek '02 and husband Christopher welcomed their second son, Andrew Thomas, Nov. 11, 2006. Their first son, Anthony Joseph, will turn three in October. Christopher is serving in Iraq, and Shannon and the children live at Fort Carson, Colo., where Shannon is working toward her master's degree in elementary education.

CLASS NOTES

CLASS OF 1964

Amos McLamb '64 continues to reside on his historic farm in Sampson County, N.C. He says, "Everything here is at least 100 years old except me. I am getting there, but I certainly don't act like it." The last Saturday night of each month, Amos opens the county store and holds what he calls an "old-timey bluegrass pickin'." He invites everyone to stop by and enjoy the music.

CLASS OF 1965



John Hamilton '65 serves as lead and backup vocalist, percussionist, and booking manager for The Homegrown Band, a versatile seven-member band that plays traditional

hymns, southern gospel, and contemporary praise songs. The band also plays 50s-70s rock & country upon request. Their Web site is www.thehomegrownband07.com.

CLASS OF 1968

Gwen Holtsclaw '68 has been selected by her industry colleagues for induction into the national Spirit Industry Hall of Fame. This is the inaugural year of the Spirit Industry Hall of Fame and Gwen was one of seven industry icons inducted in the first class. The induction took place during the SITA National Meeting and Awards Banquet in New Orleans in September. Gwen is the president of Cheer Ltd., Inc., and a former cheer coach for the Monarchs. Gwen and her husband Tim recently celebrated their 18th wedding anniversary. They reside in Fayetteville.

CLASS OF 1969

Ron Fischer '69 recently celebrated the 13th anniversary of his coupon services company, Redemption Processing Reps., Inc. The company is located in Blairstown, N.J.



CLASS NOTES (CONT'D.)

Robert "Dusty" Rhodes '69 retired in 2000 from teaching and is working with special education students. Since then he has worked during the school year as a substitute in Waycross, Ga. In the summertime, Robert travels all over North America, fishing and photographing wild animals. He spent 1966-68 with the U.S. Navy as a medical specialist overseas. He says, "So for any veterans still out there, take care!"

CLASS OF 1970

Henry Farrell '70 now lives in Pilot Mount, N.C.

Robert Flynn '70 and Jeannine (Faulkner) Flynn '71, the first couple to marry on the MU campus back in 1968, have now been married for 39 years and have five children. Four of their children are married, and Robert and Jeannine have three granddaughters. Robert serves as senior pastor of Swansboro UMC in Swansboro, N.C. Jeannine is the office manager and administrative assistant to the principal of Croatan Senior High School near Morehead City, N.C.

CLASS OF 1971

Michael J. Alloway '71 retired from Wachovia Securities/Wealth Management after 20 years. He now enjoys travel, church work, and visits from his grandson.

Angela Vurnakes '71 is an area manager for AT&T Mobility for eastern North Carolina in indirect sales distribution. Prior to joining AT&T, she was the consumer marketing manager to the southeast U.S. for Verizon. She has been in wireless communications since 1984. She currently lives with her son, James Buxton McKimmon, who is pursuing an associate's degree in criminal justice at Wake Technical Community College. Angela lost her mother, Mary Davis Vurnakes, in March after several years of declining health.

CLASS OF 1972

After teaching in the elementary schools of Cumberland County for 31 years, Dory (Kestner) Anderson '72 retired in 2003. She has returned to the teaching profession as a first and second grade multi-age teacher at Lake Rim Elementary School for the 2007-2008 school year. Dory and her husband Bob (NCSU '72) are the proud parents of daughter Ashley, who is a senior at North Carolina State University, where she is a member of Phi Beta Kappa and maintains a 4.0 grade point average.

CLASS OF 1975

Suzanne (Grubb) Fisher '75, president of Weaver Hall in 1975, now lives in St. Petersburg, Fla. Her husband of 23 years, Brent, and their 16-year-old son live with her. She is the director of the National League of Junior Cotillions, teaching etiquette and ballroom dancing to middle school students. She is also a personal shopper, wardrobe consultant, and seller of the Worth Collection through private trunk shows. After a long career in retail as a buyer and store manager, Fisher decided to work for herself, and she loves it.

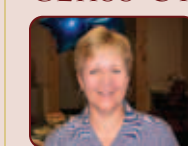
The Rev. Dr. Jerry A. Jackson '75 became the senior pastor at Belmont UMC in Burlington, N.C. July 1. His daughter, Doris Jackson '06, is the director of student activities at Methodist University and is working on a master's degree in teaching and physical education at the University of North Carolina at Pembroke. His daughter Jerianne is a sophomore at Methodist University, majoring in history. Jackson's wife Annette works in Swansboro. The two celebrated their 25th wedding anniversary July 10 in Florida with the girls.

Bill Krumpter '75 attended Methodist from 1974-75 through the Army's Degree Completion Program. His family moved its mobile home to Fayetteville from Bowling Green, Va., so he could attend Methodist. He says, "I might well have been the only Yankee Catholic, bluegrass banjo player in the MC Stage Band." Krumpter adds, "'Twas a really great year for me! I thoroughly enjoyed everything about Methodist and have very fond memories of my time there."

CLASS OF 1976

(Charles) James Nash '76 has, for the second time, had a poem selected for display in the Montgomery County (Maryland) Executive Office Building's "Poetry Gallery." The poem, titled "Postlude: A House Call," is an homage to T.S. Eliot.

CLASS OF 1977



Patricia "Tric" Douthit '77 celebrated her 30th anniversary of employment with Methodist University in July. Tric is the associate director of financial aid.

Maria (Castanes) Kresho '77 currently lives in Harrisburg, Pa., with her wonderful husband, Mark. They are extremely proud of their four children, Kimberly, Nicole, Renee, and Nicholas. All three girls are flight attendants with Continental Airlines. Their son Nicholas and his wife Katie are graduate students at Duquesne University in Pittsburgh.

CLASS OF 1978

Sarah (Cooper) Williams '78 is the music minister at St. Andrews UMC in Fayetteville. She is proud to announce the relocation of her arts school for performing and visual arts from Fayetteville Academy to Northwood Temple. Their first production is "Godspell." The arts school is for children and youth ages 5-18. Contact Sarah by e-mail at sarahloulou@aol.com.

CLASS OF 1983

Allen Borgardt '83 retired from the U.S. Army in July 2006. He completed a year in business development and program management for The Triple-I Corporation. He recently started a new position as a Department of the Army civilian program manager at Fort Leavenworth, Kan., where he manages Army Battle Command Combat Development activities. He resides in Kansas City with his wife Rosalie and three children, Alex, Kelsey, and Joshua. He can be reached at aborgardt@sbcglobal.net.





CLASS NOTES (CONT'D.)

The Rev. Gil Wise '83 is the founding pastor of Solid Rock UMC, which was chartered on March 25. The church's charter was presented at Annual Conference, and Solid Rock was highlighted by the bishop in his State of the Church address. Solid Rock currently worships in two services, and ministers to over 3,000 individuals weekly through over 50 ministries based in the church. Linda Trudeau Wise '83 has been instrumental in leading the children's ministry of the church, playing piano for services and sharing her voice in song for services.

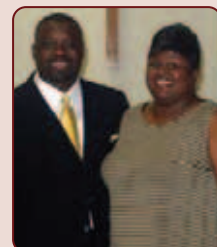
CLASS OF 1988



Chris Perry '98 is a senior writer for 80108 Media (www.80108.com), covering all things baseball. He is also a stay-at-home father of quadruplets!

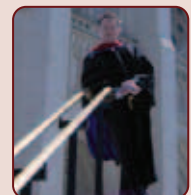
Kathleen Woolrich '88 authored a book titled "Algerian Suns: A Contemporary American Literary and Artistic Analysis of the Algerian Colonialist History." The book is available worldwide through many online bookstores, such as Amazon and Barnes and Noble. Woolrich is a poet, freelance writer, and author of the children's book "Nikki's Diner."

CLASS OF 1989



Everette McDonald '89 and Tracie (Grimes) McDonald '89 celebrated their 16th wedding anniversary Sept. 21. Tracie is the residential supervisor for Life Solutions in Lumberton, N.C. Everette teaches art, music, and physical education at Flora Macdonald Academy in Red Springs, N.C. He is also an assistant minister at Love and Joy Christian Center in Lumberton, N.C.

CLASS OF 1991



Timothy D. Belflowers '91 was awarded a doctorate of arts and theology degree from Wesley Theological Seminary in Washington, D.C. in May. Timothy resides in Charlotte, N.C., and is the organist and director of music for the historic parish of Steele Creek Presbyterian Church, founded in 1760.

Cheryl Bueck '91 completed an education specialist degree in curriculum and instruction from Lincoln Memorial University in Harrogate, Tenn.

CLASS OF 1992

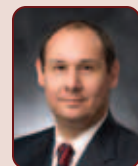
Matt Dempster '92 has returned to Fayetteville and now serves as a social worker in the Community Alternatives Program at Cape Fear Valley Medical Center. He would like to hear from classmates at mdempster@capefearvalley.com.



Lorie (Sanuita) Stump '92 says, "Did I really graduate 15 years ago? What happened to all that time?" Stump now resides in the Florida panhandle. She has been married for almost 11 years and has two beautiful children, Michael (16 months) and Kaitlyn (5 years). Stump works for a real estate developer during the week, on top of her work as an Air Force reservist. She adds, "For all my long-lost friends and teammates, write soon!"

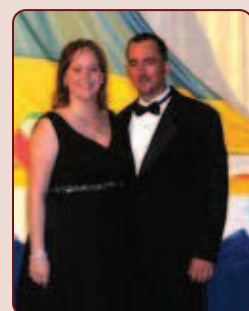
Dawn Thompson '92 is now a school administrator in Fayetteville, and she loves every minute of it. In addition, she serves as the coordinator for the board of directors of a Preschool Academy. She is also a part-time fashion advisor for Lia Sophia Jewelry. Dawn would love to hear from friends at dawneduc8s@nc.rr.com!

CLASS OF 1993



Michael C. Jordan '93 was reappointed by Governor Michael F. Easley to the North Carolina State Board of Certified Public Accountant Examiners. Jordan is a manager of the Goldsboro office of the CPA firm, Pittard Perry and Crone, Inc. Jordan audits, reviews, and compiles financial statements for corporations, not-for-profit organizations, local governments, and individuals.

Chris Laning '93, his wife Jennifer, and their two kids recently moved to Newark, Del. Laning works for Nemours, a pediatric health organization, as the senior web developer for PedsEducation.org, a Web site for online pediatric continuing medical education. Jennifer works for Pennoni as a structural engineer. Laning is also producer and co-host of "Your Neighborhood Stage" (www.Neighborhoodstage.com), the only national weekly podcast on school, religious, and community theatre. Laning would love to hear from former classmates and Lambda Chi Alpha brothers at chris@neighborhoodstage.com.



LeCarla (Gardner) Royal '93 has been a stay-at-home mom for the last 12 years, after teaching for two years at Alger B. Wilkins Elementary School. Her youngest daughter attends Beaver Dam Elementary School, and her oldest is in sixth grade at Mac Williams Middle School. LeCarla has been involved in direct sales for the last nine years, currently as a Tastefully Simple Consultant. Her husband Keith works for the North Carolina Department of

Transportation. LeCarla serves her church as the assistant organist, pianist, and choir director; the children's choir director; and the director of its Kids of the King puppet ministry. LeCarla would love to hear from former classmates at lroyal10900@intrstar.net.

CLASS NOTES (CONT'D.)

Allen McWhorter '93 was recently named general manager of Marketfair 15 Carmike Cinemas in Fayetteville. His wife Jessica, who is active duty in the National Guard, gave birth to their second child, Connor Allen, in November. Their first child, Erin MacKenzie, turned three years old in May. Allen welcomes e-mails from old classmates at allenmcw@earthlink.net.

CLASS OF 1994

Leslie Williams '94 is the director of clinical education for respiratory education at Sandhills Community College and is working toward a master of science degree at Troy University. Friends and classmates may e-mail her at lew59@earthlink.net.

CLASS OF 1995

Camisha M. Bell '94, who earned her Master of Education in counselor education in secondary school counseling seven years ago, is going back to school! She is in the process of gathering paperwork to go back to school to become an "S" level counselor. She is a school counselor in Sanford, N.C., and aspires to become an assistant principal. Camisha would love to hear from old friends at mishma99@yahoo.com.

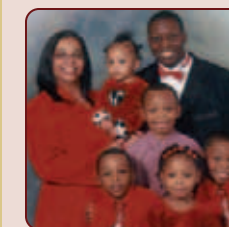


Kelly Cap '95 of Palm Beach Gardens, Fla., shot 76 to finish 7th at the local qualifying for the 2007 U.S. Women's Open, which was held at Pine Needles in Pinehurst, N.C.



The Rev. Amiri B. Hooker '95 has been appointed to the Hartsville District of South Carolina Annual Conference. He has three children, Sba (4), Omri (3), and Sia (1). Hooker said, "I am really looking forward to getting in touch with all my old classmates and anyone who was on the football team from 1991-94."

The Rev. Dr. Jan Nicholson Hill '95 received a doctorate of ministry degree from Wesley Theological Seminary in Washington, D.C., on May 7. Her area of concentration was spirituality and story. Her doctoral thesis was titled "Story and Transition: An Exploration of Intentional Interim Ministry in The United Methodist Church of The North Carolina Annual Conference." Jan is an ordained elder of The United Methodist Church and is currently serving as an intentional interim in The North Carolina Conference.



Deidra Vandervort '95 and her husband, Mark Baldwin, Sr., celebrated their 10th anniversary Oct. 4. They have five beautiful children, four of whom are in school. They currently reside in Henderson, N.C. Deidra has accepted a position at The Boys and Girls Clubs of North Central North Carolina as the Vance County unit director.

CLASS OF 1996

Kellie Fernandez '96 was awarded a Community Oriented Library Recruitment Scholarship (COLRS) from East Carolina University. The COLRS scholarship covers all tuition expenses for completion of the master's degree of library science. Fernandez will be pursuing the degree with licensure to become a public school media center coordinator. She currently works as a media center coordinator at Overhill High School.

Lisa Rogers Sykes '96 has accepted the position of full-time technical writer for Universal Companies in Abingdon, Va. Universal Companies is a nationwide retailer of spa and resort products and equipment. Lisa resides in quaint Lebanon, Va., with her husband Matthew, her five-year-old son Noah, and her dog Buddy. Long lost friends can e-mail her at noahsmomster@gmail.com.

CLASS OF 1997

The Rev. Jonathan Mellette '97 was commissioned as a probationary elder of the United Methodist Church in June. He currently serves as the pastor of Frost UMC, and lives in Frost, Texas, with his wife Megan; his children, Matthew and Grace; and his stepdaughters, Sarah and Annie. Jonathan can be reached at jonathan@mellette.net.

Russ Wyatt '97 was recently hired as sports and fitness supervisor for the Town of South Kingstown in Peacedale, R.I.

CLASS OF 1998

Sarah (Rupalje) Coates '98 obtained her Licensed Professional Counselor certification and started One-Eighty Counseling, P.A., a private counseling practice located near Clayton, N.C. She holds a master's degree in counseling from Campbell University and specializes in child, adolescent, and family therapy.

Chris Qually '98 led the Pine Forest Middle School girls' softball team through a perfect season of 13 winning games. It is the first undefeated softball team in the school's history.

CLASS OF 1999

Nancy J. Novack '99 graduated from Fayetteville State University, earning a master's degree in social work.

CLASS OF 2001

Nazir German '01 graduated on June 3 with a master's degree in business administration from the University of Phoenix in Atlanta, Ga.





CLASS NOTES (CONT'D.)

Maria McCrimmon '01 has been selected as a professional dancer for the Charlotte Bobcats (NBA) dance team for the 2007-08 season. The team selected 22 out of 250 women. McCrimmon thanks MU for all the cheerleading and dance experience. She relocated to Charlotte in August.

CLASS OF 2002

Beatrice Goodson '02 says, "I just wanted to say I miss the years at Methodist with the football squad."

CLASS OF 2003

Betsey Lane '03 is the new coach of New Kent Middle School's softball team in New Kent, Va. The team is making its first appearance since 2003 in the state softball playoffs.

Nathan Stith '03 was named the director of golf operations at Doral Golf Resort and Spa in Miami, Fla. Stith has been a part of the Doral golf team since 2004.

CLASS OF 2004

Sgt. 1st Class Deron Norwood '04 earned a master's degree in physical education through the University of North Carolina at Pembroke. He was honored at a ceremony on Fort Bragg on June 13. Norwood hopes to find employment as a physical education teacher.

CLASS OF 2005

Eric Autry '05 works as a fitness specialist and personal trainer at The Center for Health and Wellness at Sampson Regional Medical Center in Clinton, N.C. He is single and resides by himself.

Millie Mitchell '05 graduated with a master's degree in social work in May. She currently works at United Hospice of the Midlands in Columbia, S.C.

CLASS OF 2006

Larry Parker '06 is currently at Campbell University in the School of Education. He is midway to attaining a Master of Education in school counseling.

Katie Smith '06 is presently working at Methodist University as one of the front line counselors for the Center for Personal Development in Pearce Hall. Her supervisor is Professor Darlene Hopkins, the director of the Center. Katie says, "I feel as if I am giving back, and that I am at home again."

CLASS OF 2007



Ashley Kotz '07 was cast as the female lead in the operetta 'H.M.S. Pinafore'. The production was performed at Seabrook Auditorium July 20-21 on the Fayetteville State University campus. Ashley played "Josephine," the captain's daughter and object of affection for "Ralph," a poor seaman.

Charles "B.J." Simpson '07 has been promoted to the position of resort head golf professional for Doral Golf Resort and Spa in Miami, Fla. Simpson previously served as an assistant golf professional at Maple Bluff Country Club in Madison, Wis.



ALUMNA APPEARS IN "I WANNA BE A SOAP STAR"

Among Methodist University's alumni are doctors, lawyers, golf professionals, and, yes, television stars! Patricia Mizen '95 now resides in Los Angeles, Calif., where she is working toward her dream of acting professionally. It is no surprise

that her talents led her to a spot among the top 10 finalists on SOAPnet's reality television show "I Wanna Be A Soap Star."

Competing for a 13-week contract role on NBC's popular soap opera "Days of our Lives," Mizen and the other nine finalists endured harsh competition. The contestants were asked to perform romantic and dramatic scenes with little time for rehearsing, all the while facing brutal criticism from the show's three judges: "Days of our Lives" star Mary Beth Evans, "Days of our Lives" head writer Hogan Sheffer, and soap opera talent manager Michael Bruno.

In the third episode of this—the show's fourth season—the contestants were called to perform a scene in which two siblings go undercover as Russian agents to discover their father's killer. Mizen and her partner delivered a less-than-perfect scene, and the judges sent them both home. Mizen says, "I sabotaged myself by focusing too much on the words. If I could do the scene over, I would have tried to be more relaxed and have more fun with it." Mizen says her experience on "I Wanna Be A Soap Star" has made her feel "stronger as an actress." She is still active in the industry, modeling and auditioning. She will continue to pursue her dream to be a soap star, and she plans to audition for the show again next season.

Mizen credits her theatre instructor, Susan Paschal, for encouraging her to try acting professionally. Recalling her final performance in her acting class, Mizen says, "I did a scene as Maggie from 'Cat on a Hot Tin Roof,' and Ms. Paschal wrote on my paper 'You should go professional,' and she drew a smiley face and a big red 'A.'" About Paschal, Mizen says, "She was awesome. She was the first person who ever said to me 'You can make money doing this.'"

Of the thousands of aspiring actors and actresses who auditioned for the show, Mizen was one of 40 people who made it to the first episode of "I Wanna Be A Soap Star." Those 40 were then narrowed down to ten, and Mizen made it into that elite group as well. In the end she may not have won the role on "Days of our Lives," but she will always be a winner to us at Methodist University!

Photo Credit: Patricia Mizen in SOAPnet's reality series, "I Wanna Be A Soap Star." (SOAPNET/CRAIG SJODIN)

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