

## SGA Reports: Students Could Lose Financial Aid

Information compiled by Todd Lyden & Jason Williams, SGA VP

With the rise of the Republicans and their agenda in the Congress, many social programs may see the ax. Of particular interest to Methodist College, student aid has been eyed by the Republicans to be cut by \$20 billion over the next five years, according to the Alliance to Save Student Aid

What does this mean to Methodist students? According to Bonnie Adamson, director of financial aid, if the Stafford and PLUS (parent) loans are eliminated, over 85% of the student population could lose up to six million dollars total. Approximately three-fourths of the day students could lose a regular check because the federal work study program is facing the ax. Also, nearly half of the full enrollment receives the Pell Grant. If it is cut, the students could lose about a million dollars. According to KRC Research for the Alliance to Save Student Aid, a hypothetical student attending a four year college and six years of graduate school would incur about \$33,000 in interest during school, on top of \$68,000 in loans to repay. The total debt would be more than \$100,000 and the student's monthly repayment would increase from \$800 to about \$1,200.

Adamson is especially concerned for Methodist with its high percentage of students who receive some form of federal aid. She wants each student who receives aid to let their representatives know what they think about the possible cuts. She believes that phone calls, individual thank you letters, and mass student concern will alert the Congress and stop the cuts. She says a hotline has been established to take opinions on the federal aid cuts. The phone number is 1-800-574-4AID and is \$3.65 a charge on a major credit card.

## **Leadership Center A Go!**

## by LG Flanary

On January 17, local business leades, state legislators, Methodist faculty, students, and local prominents gathered on campus in the Alumni dining room to celebrate the official establishment of the Lura S. Tally Center for Leadership Development.

Dr. Suzan D. Cheek, coordinator of the Tally Center Programs, conceived the idea three years ago when she realized that extractive, heirarchical leadership practices would no longer work. Cheek states in an overview statement about the center that "our country urgently needs abler and more ethical leaders in all walks of life." Through much planning, meeting, and tenacious prodding, cheek founded a pragmatic method to help meet that need.

The center will provide leadership studies and brief training workshops for MC students and the community. Its primary function, however, is to plan and implement an interdiscinplinary program for students who work toward an academic minor in leadership.

There is a misconception that the term "leader" means "politician." Cheek reports, "It's not a program exclusively for political science majors. Anyone, in any major, can take advantage of this opportunity--the program is tailored to the student's area of specialization."

The minor program consists of elective and required courses, campus and community service programs, a seminar, and an internship. Leadership classes begin in the fall of the 1995-96 school year.

The leadership center is named in honor of Lura Tally's ongoing friendship with Methodist College and in recognition of her dedicated public service. Before her political career began, Tally was a teacher and a

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## Dr.Bill Lowdermilk Honored by Church

by Staff

Dr. Bill Lowdermilk, vice president church/ community relations was recently selected as the jurisdictional winner of the Francis Asbury Award for Fostering United Methodist Ministries in Higher Education.

Dr. Lowdermilk received thenominatation from the North Carolina Annual Conference last June and was added to list of five from the Annual Conference for consideration.



Dr. Lowdermilk

The award recognizes individuals "offering outstanding leadership, above and beyond basic responsibilities, to help bring heightened awareness to the signifigance of the church's higher education ministries" and comes from Francis Asbury's adomition to the church to provide higher education near each church.

Bill Lowdermilk is completing his 32nd year at Methodist, where his has served as assistant director and director of public relations, assistant to the president, and vice-president. He holds an A.B. degree from Emory University, an M. Div. degree from Duke Divinity school, and a Doctor of Divinity degree from North Carolina Wesleyan College.

This marks the first issue of **Pride** under our new advisors in Student Life. Sections have now been implemented, so the top of each page will indicate which section you are reading. This should eliminate the confusion reported by students and faculty members who could not tell what was satire and what was news. Hope you can read the paper now!