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Methodist College Comes Of Age

By Mike Carpentier
Staff Writer

With students and special guests in attendance, Methodist College commemorated the 40th anniversary of the first day of classes held on September 19, 1960.

Student Government Association (SGA) President Jessica Kupper and College President Dr. Elton Hendricks highlighted the differences between then and now.

In the beginning, there were only four buildings, 86 students (two of which were out-of-state), and the campus was part peach orchard and part cotton field. The college was six miles from town, located on a two-lane road. The first convocation took place in the student center.

While the 2000 plus students and over 20 buildings emphasize the tangible changes of the college, Dr. Hendricks was quick to point out that the spirit and mission of the college has stayed true to form from the very start.

"Good colleges," stated Dr. Hendricks, "help to make good communities."

SGA President Jessica Kupper summed up the message of the entire event with a quote from Buzz Aldrin. "No dream is too high for those that have their eyes in the sky."

There were several special guests in the crowd. The first Methodist graduate, Louis Spillman, was there. The Benediction was given by Dr. Wolmac, the original college Chaplain and head of the Philosophy and Religion departments. Later, he became an Academic Dean. A number of original staff members were also present.

The event also included the presentation of athletic awards. Heather Hugus won the 1999/2000 Female Scholar Award and the Sykes Cup for the most outstanding athlete. Justin Fowler won the Male Scholar Athlete Award. The Methodist Lady's Golf team received the Sears National Championship Trophy.

The conclusion to the occasion was the singing of the school Alma Mater with the assistance of the Methodist College Concert Choir.



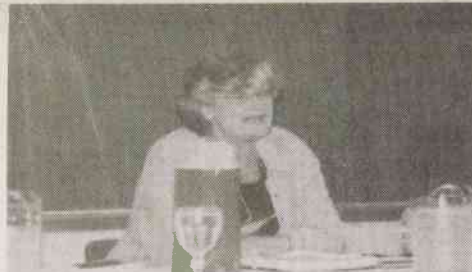
Dr. Hendricks takes the stage.

Photo by Amber Moser



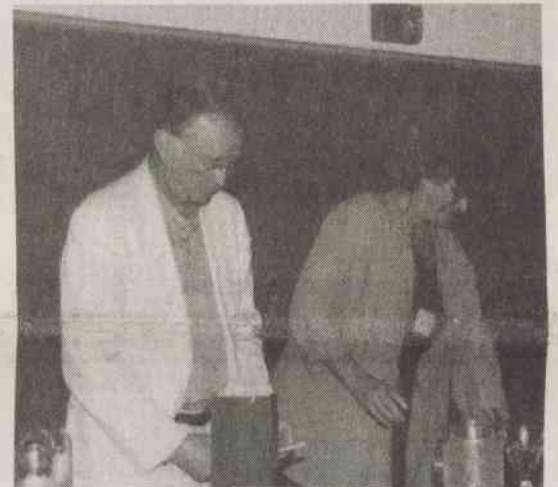
Reverend Carl King and Dr. Hendricks await the start of the Convocation ceremonies.

Photo by Amber Moser



Florence Nash reads poetry.

Photo by Carrie Adcox



Florence Nash and Shelby Stephenson prepare for audience questioning.

Photo by Carrie Adcox

From the SGA President's Pen...

By Jessica Kupper
SGA President

Greetings. I hope everyone is doing well and enjoying Methodist now that we are well into the first semester.

There have been a lot of activities going on around campus day in and day out.

Have you attended MC Latenight Express? Have you gone to any sporting events? How about the Mystery Theater dinner?

Those are just some of the wonderful happenings around campus and there will be many more activities for you soon.

In particular, the Student Government Association will be holding a mock election on Monday, October 30.

The polls will be open from 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Our goal is to get a large turnout from the Methodist College community, so we are inviting everyone to vote.

All staff, faculty, and students will be eligible. We will have posters and fliers up soon, so keep an eye out for them.

Most of all, we would like to encourage people to vote in the real Presidential election the following week as well.

The mock election is just one of the many things that we have planned for this year. We are currently revising several proposals that were passed in the Senate last year such as the alcohol policy and the campus-wide list serve.

We are also investigating new ideas such as graduation speakers campus improvements, Union renovations, and community service projects.

The most recent project that we would like you to take part in is the United Way campaign. We, the Student Government, are joining

goes on-line.

Not all the results are in yet, but things do seem to be going good.

One change that may be recommended is to go from an ten week course to a sixteen week course.

"The emphasis is on the quality of the program. Ten week courses make it hard to cover all the information and material needed in," said Dr. Darl Champion, the chairperson for the Distance Learning committee, which developed the on-line course.

He also mentioned that the courses allow for non-traditional students to take classes offered by Methodist College. The CRJ-402 course had a Ph.D. student from Arizona State, a crime analyst from the Austin Police Department, and a detective from California.

As of now there has not been any full-scale official advertising of the program. If the on-line courses are approved and the advertising follows, Dr. Champion is confident of its success.

There are currently two options for registering for these classes.

The courses are listed under the Evening College catalog. You can go the traditional route and register with the registrar's office on campus. Or you can go on-line and download an application form. Once you fill out the form you fax it to Methodist College and payment can be arranged via credit card.



Lady Golfers receive Tiffany cup.

Photo by Amber Moser

MC Pilots On-line Courses

By Amanda Garcia
College News Co-Editor

It should not come as a surprise that Methodist College is now testing out on-line courses.

Many colleges throughout the country are already offering on-line courses as part of their curriculum. In the computer information world it has become a necessity to keep up with the rest of the world.

That necessity does not come easily. Several staff members have put in countless hours of research, training, and work. The goal is to make distance learning a reality here at Methodist College.

Among the many people that have been involved in the effort are two individuals currently piloting the second rotation of the on-line courses: Larry Marshall and Frank Beck.

Marshall is teaching CRJ 399- Terrorism: a Police Prospective.

Beck is teaching EDU 251- Intro to Education.

These courses began September 25 and will run for eight weeks.

The first trial of the on-line classes began on June 25 and ran for ten weeks. EDU 251 (taught by Beck) and CRJ 402-Medicolegal Investigation (taught by Marshall) were the only two courses offered. Sixteen students were enrolled in the EDU course and ten in the CRJ course.

After the ten week period, a report was compiled. It will be reviewed by the President, as well as the report from the ongoing courses. President Hendricks will make the final decision as to whether or not Methodist College

Southern Writer's Symposium Returns

By Carrie Adcox
Editor-in-Chief

Each year, Methodist College swings wide its doors and invites writers and professors of Southern Literature.

This year, Methodist College hosted its 15th annual Southern Writers Symposium.

Guest included Bland Simpson, author of *The Mystery of Beautiful Nell Cropsey, A Nonfiction Novel*, and several other Carolina based books; Judy Goldman, author of *The Slow Way Back*; and Robert Morgan, author of Oprah Book Club pick, *Gap Creek*.

Additional guest speakers included professors from various colleges.

Two days of discussions and dinners intrigued local members of the community to pay the small fee.

Discussions consisted of professors reading from their literary essays on the decided

topics.

After explaining their ideas, the floor is open to questions and additional insight.

Lunches and special readings from the highlighted authors held many surprises.

Bland Simpson jumped on the piano in the Alumni Dining Room, entertaining listeners with his musical compositions. Jaunty, up-tempo strands of music had toes tapping and heads nodding.

Shelby Stephenson grabbed his wife and miniature guitar, singing and playing old folk songs after reading from his chapbook. Many in the audience sang quietly to the familiar tunes.

Such surprises sprang regularly from the readers.

Students were admitted free of charge. Though many chose not to attend, those who did were seen smiling and laughing at the unexpected antics of the readers.

Hidy Ochiai's Washin-Ryu Karate at Methodist College

By Jen Colletti
College News Co-Editor

Starting Tuesday Oct. 3, Karate will be taught at Methodist College.

Washin-Ryu Karate is a traditional Japanese martial art as taught by Grand-Master Hidy Ochiai.

Hidy Ochiai is a world renowned Martial Artist with national headquarters in Vestal, New York.

Grand Master Ochiai has been inducted into the Black Belt Hall of Fame twice and has demonstrated and competed worldwide. He holds unduplicated records in national competition and is also the author of several books on martial arts. These include *Hidy Ochiai's Complete Book of Self-Defense* and a translation and commentary of *A Way to Victory, Miyamoto Mushashi's Book of the Five Rings*.

The club will be conducted by certified black belt Tom Colletti, who has studied under Master Ochiai for more than five years. Mr. Colletti is an ACE-certified personal trainer and Hidy Ochiai certified cardio-kickboxing

trainer. Mr. Colletti is the Assistant Director of the Methodist College PA Program.

The purpose of the Methodist College Karate Club is to cultivate physical, mental, and spiritual strength in its practitioners through martial arts training. The club will introduce its members to self-defense techniques and cultivate nonviolence.

The training is designed to help the members increase their self-discipline, concentration, confidence, and respect for themselves and others.

Classes will be held on Tuesday and Thursday evenings from 7-8 p.m. in the Riddle Center Dance Room. Cost of instruction is \$10 per month.

Enrollment is open, so students may start any time during the month. Classes are open to all Methodist College students, staff, faculty and their families. The first class is free as a trial. Visitors are always welcome to stop by and observe.

For more information call Tom Colletti at 480-1472 or 630-7615.

Get ready for Homecoming
2000! Nov. 3-4

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