



ROTC Spotlight

By Amanda Garcia
College News Co-Editor

Family life in the military presents many challenges and frequent hardships. Few people can attest to this as well as Ronald and Monica Rigaud. This married couple is not only in Methodist's ROTC program, but they have also spent a large part of their previous military careers together.

Ronald started his career in the Army reserves in February of 1992. He came in as a behavioral science specialist, but later became an air traffic controller when he went to the full-time Army.

Monica Crandall, now Rigaud, began her military career in September of 1993. She started out as a mechanic, then worked in supply, and eventually specialized in finance in the Texas Army National Guard.

They met in Fort Hood, Texas in March of 1994. They found themselves together on a regular basis in the motor pool performing maintenance on their vehicles.

"We just started talking and figured out that we had a lot of interest and similar backgrounds," Ronald remarked.

They started dating and then married on July 11, 1995.

They expected to be separated, and they were. They often found themselves apart for many

months. When they came to Fort Bragg, Ronald was sent to numerous training schools, including Pathfinder school.

"We counted up the days," said Monica.

They did get to go through Airborne school together in September of 1996. Ronald made his E-6 rank about a year before deciding to go green-to-gold and becoming an officer. In the 1999 fall semester, they both began Methodist college as ROTC cadets.

"I had a hard time starting out," said Ronald. "You know, you take the stripes off and you go from being a leader to nothing all the sudden. But, it was a learning process. I learned a few things about myself and I drove on."

Monica added, "ROTC is very different than active duty. But it is a training environment where we are always learning."

Last summer, they spent their fifth anniversary at the ROTC Advanced Camp in Fort Lewis, WA.

"Nice way to celebrate our anniversary," they joked.

Both performed exceptionally well. Monica achieved the highest female Army physical fitness test score for her unit with a 3/21/300.

ROTC Fall Awards Ceremony



Ronald and Monica Rigaud.

Photo by Amanda Garcia



Retiring of the colors.

Photo by Amanda Garcia



Award Receivers.

Photo by Amanda Garcia

Record Methodist College Enrollment

By Jen Colletti
College News Co-Editor

Feeling overwhelmed by those masses of students on your way to class?

Maybe you're feeling the weight of the almost 200 additional students in attendance this semester. Methodist College saw an enrollment increase of 11.5% this year, bringing us to a record 1,970 students.

College officials expect another 100-200 students to enroll in Fall Term II of Evening College, which begins Oct. 16. Evening/weekend enrollment has been growing most rapidly, up 40 percent over Fall 1999 figures.

These additions would

To All Those Wishing to Graduate!

By Stephanie Hein
Staff Writer

New freshmen and all other incoming students at Methodist College have a new requirement placed on them to be completed by their 60th semester hour in order to graduate, but can still be taken by upper classmen as an elective. This requirement will allow students to be exposed to the "computing essentials" that will be required in any field that they decide to pursue.

According to the 2000-2001 academic handbook, "All students must satisfy the computer competency requirement prior to completing 60 semester hours at Methodist College or must be currently enrolled in the CSC 100 (Introduction to Computers and Information Technology) course. The passing score is a minimum "85" on a 100 point scale. If a student passes the computer competency examination the score will be recorded on his/her transcript. Any student who does not score a minimum of "85"

bring fall semester enrollment over the 2000 mark for the first time in the history of the College.

The large number of international students has also contributed to the increased enrollment this year. There are now 64 international students in attendance, up from last year's 46. A total of 35 countries are now represented.

To accommodate the growing on-campus population, Methodist opened an eighth residence hall this August - The Cape Fear Commons. This makes the housing accommodations total 798 on-campus students. One wonders what other new facilities will be necessary in the future to cater to our growing school's needs.

on the examination will be required to take CSC100 course and earn a minimum of "C" in the course to have the computer competency recorded on his/her transcript (effective August 2000)."

The course includes exposure to the components of the computer, computer programs, networking, databases, word-processing, spreadsheets, and other computer related skills.

"The faculty voted last spring at the faculty meeting to require the CSC 100 course for the entire campus out of recognition of the reality of the world needing computer literate people," said head of the computer science department Gary Hinson.

There are four sections being offered this semester and all are full.

"I foresee the program growing quite rapidly here because of the demand of computer literate workers on the job," commented CSC 100 instructor Jeff Murray.

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The *Monarch Messenger* is the triweekly student newspaper of Methodist College. The ideas and opinions expressed herein do not necessarily reflect the views and positions of the faculty, staff, and administration of the college.

The *Monarch Messenger* welcomes letters to the editors. All letters must be signed and must include the author's address and phone number. Address any correspondence to the Director of Student Media, 5400 Ramsey Street, Fayetteville, NC, 28311, or via campus mail. Questions or information concerning stories should be directed to the Director of Student Media at 630-7292.

Methodist College Reach Out Program

Use your work study hours to REACH OUT and help the community!

Volunteer off-campus and get paid for it!

Already have a work study job? Don't worry, exceptions have been made for the Reach Out Program which will allow you to work above and beyond your 20 hour limit.

Several organizations throughout the community need your help...

Homeless shelters

Boys and Girls club

Cumberland County Partnership for Children

Habitat for Humanity

Salvation Army

Rape Crisis Center Many more opportunities available!

Contact William Walker, assistant dean of students

Berns Student Center, Student Life Office

Telephone: 630-7030

Attention Students!!

Correct your calendars as follows:

Classes begin next semester on

January 9

Registration will be held on

January 8

Please use this correct information when making your holiday travel plans!