

## Methodist Crowns King and Queen



1990 Homecoming King and Queen: Heather Owens and Jay Kirkpatrick.

### Methodist College Hosts Special Olympics

by Sherry L. Overton

"Let me win ... But if I cannot win ... Let me be brave in the attempt." This was the oath taken by participants in the Fayetteville/Cumberland County Special Olympics 1990 Soccer Competition which Methodist College hosted on Friday, Oct. 12. This was the second year that the college has been involved in these activities.

Participating in this year's events were all of the Cumberland County Schools. There were approximately 230 children involved. Their disabilities ranged from minor learning problems to severe physical problems. Nevertheless, this was a day for all 230 kids to focus on their abilities rather than their inabilities.

The purpose of the Special Olympics is to give children the opportunity to participate in and receive recognition for strengths which they need reinforced. This one day gives them a taste of success and shows them they can strive to

overcome their handicaps.

Led by Joe Pereira, a Methodist College Physical Education instructor and the women's soccer coach, students as well as some staff members pitched in as volunteers assisting in the days' events. Both the men's and women's soccer teams took time out of their schedules to ensure that things went smoothly throughout the day. Other volunteers included the Adaptive Physical Education Class and various other Physical Education classes. The standard ratio of volunteers to participants should be 1 to 5. The number of volunteers who turned out this year surpassed the number that were there to help last year and greatly improved upon the 1 to 5 ratio. The increase in the number of volunteers helped make the day's events proceed smoothly.

Pereira, who has become a local organizer for the Special Olympics, stated that this was one of those projects people

(see OLYMPICS next page)

by David Leach

One of the more prestigious homecoming events is the crowning of the King and Queen. This year's Homecoming King and Queen, Jay Kirkpatrick and Heather Owens, were announced at the dance.

Homecoming Queen, Heather Owens, represented Cumberland dorm. She is a sophomore pursuing a pre-law, political science degree. Heather desires to be involved in the law field after college. She is undecided as to where she would like to go for graduate school.

Heather's activities on campus include an interest in tennis. She has played tennis for Methodist College for two semesters and is looking forward to the spring season. She is also involved with the Student Judicial Court, and she has been an active participant in community activities such as Show-You-Care-Day. She also assisted with Special Olympics on campus.

Jay Kirkpatrick, a senior from Tallahassee Florida, is this year's Homecom-

ing King. Jay is a physical education major who hopes to someday coach college ball, and hopefully, he says, "to play professional ball." His more immediate goals are to graduate in the spring and pursue a masters degree.

Jay has been an active participant in many areas of college life over the past four years. He has been a resident advisor in Sanford dorm for one year and in Garber for two years. He is also a justice on the Student Judicial Court.

His involvement with the baseball team has been extensive. An important player for the past three years, he is the captain of this year's team.

His academic performance has been outstanding and last year he was voted Student Athlete of the Year.

Both Heather and Jay, when asked about the honor of being elected king and queen, stated that they were very happy about being elected. They explained that being named King and Queen made them realize what a close group of friends they have at school.

## Fall Break Eliminated

by Melissa Rogers

This year, for the first time in many years, there will not be a fall break at Methodist College. During the summer, the Calendar Committee, the faculty committee in charge of scheduling class holidays, decided to eliminate this year's fall break. This decision was reached after several parents complained that trying to bring their son or daughter home for all three breaks--fall, Thanksgiving, and Christmas--was causing a financial strain. Walter M. Swing, Assistant Academic Dean, explained, "Back in the olden days, there was no such thing as a fall break. We always went until Thanksgiving before our first break."

But, times have changed. Students have gotten used to having a break to take off some of the stress of almost four months of seemingly never-ending classes. Mike Safley, Dean of Students, said, "I think getting rid of the break was a mistake. It's too long to go from the start of school to Thanksgiving without a break." Even the faculty will miss the traditional fall break. As Mr. Swing said, "As a teacher, I was looking forward to fall break....as a time to catch up."

The fall break days were not completely lost. One and a half days were added to Thanksgiving break in order to give the students an extended vacation. The dorms will close at 5 p.m. on Tuesday, Nov. 20, and will reopen at 2 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 25.

One of the most asked questions about the switch of days to Thanksgiving is: Why didn't we just get the whole week off? The answer is simple. If the entire week were given off for Thanksgiving, the date of winter graduation would need to be put off until Monday, Dec. 17 instead of Friday, Dec. 14. "Many students would rather get home early for Christmas than have a week off at Thanksgiving," Mr. Swing said.

Even though classes are scheduled for the Monday and Tuesday before Thanksgiving break, the general consensus is that many students will cut classes to lengthen their vacation. Sophomore, Barb Frye plans to begin her Thanksgiving holiday one day early. She said, "I couldn't go home for fall break anyway, but I think Thanksgiving break should be for a whole week."

Dean Safley said he would suggest that we go back to having a fall break next year."