

# Grading from Page 1

**Small Talk** interviewed students across the campus to find out their opinions about the new grading policy.

Dawn Thompson was one of the first **Small Talk** interviewed. Thompson, Kimberly Ratliff, and Tammy Murphy have been circulating a petition to dismantle the new policy.

Miss Thompson said that "the new policy was never explained to the students." She also said that the new policy is not in upperclassmen's handbooks and should not be used for the upperclassmen. She said that it will "affect upperclassmen's G.P.A.'s." Thompson said that it would be logical for the administration to apply the new policy only to incoming students. She also said that it would make a difference in applying for a job because the employer would see a 'B+' for a 3.2 G.P.A. whereas before that employer would have seen a 'A' for the same score. Thompson also said that she, Ratliff and Murphy usually keep the petitions with them, and they would like for everybody to sign them.

Gretchen Averitte, a Senior, said "that all she sees are disadvantages," to the new grading policy. Averitte said that a person works hard enough to get an "A" and that to differentiate between the "A" score is "too picky." She also said

that it is "almost impossible to get that 'A+' score to begin with." Averitte said that it is redundant to score students on the new scale, because the "A", "B", "C", and "D" students are already separated by the old grading policy.

Mrs. Averitte said "that if they [the administration] were going to change it, they should change it only for the new students coming in. It is not fair because they say to follow the handbook that you come in on, and in my handbook it mentions nothing about an "A+" or "A-" grading scale."

Averitte said that it would affect her more than a freshman because "it makes what you've already got look bad." She also said that when her employers look at her transcript they would wonder "what happened during [her] last year," at Methodist.

Jolie Kurtz, senior, said that "it's like if you're playing a ball-game, and you're winning, and they change the rules in the middle of a ball-game so you tend to lose." Kurtz also said that "it is obviously going to hurt some of us, because you cannot achieve an 'A+' on the new scale." Kurtz said that the new policy may hurt her chances to graduate with honors, and that the twelve-point scale "is not a viable alternative."

Pam Phillips, senior, said that "no grading policy is fair," and that "no letter grade represents what one has learned." Phillips also said that the administration changes policies and the students cannot do a thing about it. Phillips said "that they [the administration] are doing it to keep the students here, because the student that is getting an "F" is going to get kicked out of school. Now they have an opportunity to get a "D-" which is going to keep them on the roster."

Pauline Blehi, senior, said that an employer would look at the transcript and see that "for three semesters you've gotten 'A's' and 'B's' and for the last semester you've gotten 'A-'s' and 'B+'s'." Blehi also said that the twelve point scale "will mess-up my G.P.A. because it is not retroactive."

Mark Carver, senior, said that "all the other schools are going back to the [twelve-point scale]." Carver endorses the new policy, because it aligns Methodist with other colleges and universities across the U.S.

Patrick Barry, freshman, said that "the way it was explained to [him] the catalog [he received] when [he] came in is the book [he'll] go by," until he leaves Methodist.

Mark Hoppy, freshman, said that "an

'A+' or an 'A-' isn't really going to matter unless you go to a medical school or if you want to move on to a masters degree." Hoppy also said, "that when you leave Methodist College, they [the employers] will quickly look at your transcripts."

Many students who **Small Talk** interviewed wished to be quoted anonymously. One said that "that the administration is so bored that they must think up things [the twelve point scale] to keep themselves busy." Another anonymous student said that "there is no room in the system for the student." Another anonymous said "that this private college works more by money than any college he/she has ever seen." Another anonymous student said "that they [the administration] wonder why student body is so apathetic, because even if we do want to change something, there is nothing we can do about it." Another student, who wished to remain anonymous said, "they wonder why students transfer." Another anonymous said that the new grading policy is "a pet project for a professor who wants to make a name for himself within this administration, and the students have no say in the change. They force these changes on us and the students have no say in the policy."

## HOME COMING 1991

### Friday, October 11

11:45 a.m.	The Runaway's Musical Entertainment	Lion's Den
2:30 p.m.	Men's and Women's Tennis Match	Tennis Courts
	METHODIST COLLEGE -vs- BARTON COLLEGE	
8:00 p.m.	Drama- <u>Hopscotch</u> Circuit Players and Monarch Playmakers Free Admission	Reeves Auditorium

### Saturday, October 12

9:30 a.m.	Methodist College Alumni Association Board of Directors	Eubanks Conference Room
10:45 a.m.	Naming Ceremony	Berns Student Center
11:00 a.m.	Women's Soccer Game	Soccer Field
	METHODIST COLLEGE -vs- FERRUM	
11:00 a.m.	Babysitting available for Alumni	Alumni Dining Room
11:00 a.m.	Alumni Luncheon Methodist College Chorus will sing	Methodist Cafeteria
11:30 a.m.	Picnic Luncheon Faculty, Staff, Students, and Students	Mall Area

1:00 p.m.	Football Game	Football Field
	METHODIST COLLEGE -vs- BRIDGEWATER	
	Halftime Entertainment Cheerleaders Presentation of Homecoming Court	
	Golf Presentations	
	Alumni will present Most Valuable Player Award following the football game	
4:00 p.m.	Men's Soccer Game	Soccer Field
	METHODIST COLLEGE -vs- MARYVILLE	
	Alumni will present Most Valuable Player Award for Men's and Women's Games following the Men's Soccer Game	
9:00 p.m.	Homecoming Dance	Berns Student Center
	"PUTTIN' ON THE RITZ" Dress Appropriately	
	"Boomers" Live Band for Your Dancing Pleasure	
	Crowning of Homecoming King and Queen	
9:00 p.m.	Alumni Party	Bordeaux Holiday Inn
	Sunday, October 13	
11:00 a.m.	Worship Service Alumni Speaker Rev. Jerry Cribb Special Music by Alumni	Hensdale Chapel
12:00 noon	Lunch Guests \$3.75 per person	Methodist Cafeteria
1:00 p.m.	Faculty, Staff, Alumni, and Student Tennis Tournament	Tennis Courts