

Thoughts on building bridges

By Mike McDermott
Editor

It has been almost nine months since I first began my work as the editor for *Pride*. I think that the knowledge and experience that I have attained through this endeavor will prove to be invaluable at some point in my future.

I have been accused of being too conservative, too school gung-ho, too opinionated, and too thin and too that. I am pretty thick-skinned, so I can handle the name-calling. In fact, I encourage the name-calling, as it proves to me that the students are actually reading the publication that we have provided this year.

It took me several days to decide a topic for my final editorial. I had several topics in mind. This could be my platform to level an attack against school policies that I disagree with, or school offices that I feel could be more efficiently run, or personnel with whom I have had differences in the past 3 1/2 years at MC. I thought about discussing the graduation ceremony, but a wise person reminded me that I am not the only person graduating and that I should not ruin this time with our words, as this day will only happen once. All of these subjects prompted me to come up with a subject that I think may apply to everyone in some way, while conveying my personal message at the same time. The subject is bridges.

I have been attacked and accused and accosted by many people in my life, just as most of us are at some point or another. My reaction at one time was to lash out and attack verbally and sometimes physically when I was younger. I am not sure at what point I realized that discussion is a better vehicle for problem solving than fighting or arguing. I am human, so I still do it now and then. I have even put flames to several bridges here at MC. Of these, some have been rebuilt, some are going to be rebuilt, and some will remain piles of cinder and ash.

Getting caught up in school work and activities, it is easy to unconsciously neglect personal relationships and friendships. Though this is understandable at times, it is not really acceptable to overlook your support networks for any great length of time.

I would like to thank my parents and my family for supporting and counseling me through some rough times, as well as celebrating my achievements with me. I could not have done anything without the love and acceptance of my entire clan.

Support from faculty and staff is always important, and I appreciate all of the praise that I have received for my work with *Pride*. There are a handful of faculty and staff members who have had a great impact on my life. Dr. Robert S. Christian decided that I had the aptitude to be an English major and plucked me off of my path toward a criminal justice degree. He has taught me, by challenging me, that I can accomplish just about anything that I put my mind to doing.

Head football coach Jim Sypult has a sign over his desk that asks the question, "If I am honest with you, will we still be friends?" Coach Sypult, through his honesty, has showed me the importance of being honest with myself, and for this I am thankful.

Upon arriving here in 1994, Leon Clark was the only person I knew. Over the past several years, I have developed many friendships while maintaining one with Leon, of course. Besides always having someone to work out with, I am grateful for having people who are willing to listen to my problems or just hang out, even if the jokes never stop coming.

I would be remiss if I failed to mention the staff of *Pride* for all of their work throughout this academic year. To take on a responsibility such as working on a student publication, with no form of

recompense other than seeing people read their work and receiving positive feedback now and then, is admirable. I wish to thank everyone on staff for continued patience and dedication. And though he is not officially on staff, I am grateful to John Lynch for his technical support.

Returning to school last August, I thought that I was the only candidate for the position of editor. I soon found out that I was mistaken. Though I had no prior journalistic experience, the Student Media Advisor, Jamee Lynch, took a chance on me. For supporting and advising my decisions and work, patience in doing the layouts, as well as showing praise for the accomplishments of the entire staff, I am grateful to Jamee. I am also thankful for Jamee, as *Pride's* success would not have been possible without her.

Without a student body, a student news publication would be useless. I would like to thank the students of Methodist College for allowing us the opportunity to display our work. All feedback, whether positive or negative, proves that our work is not in vain.

Last, but certainly not least, I would like to thank Lisa Rogers for her patience, understanding, support, and chocolate chips over the past year and a half. I am indebted to you.

Maintaining bonds with others over time and distance can be very difficult. Often times it is easier to let a friendship slip away than it is to put the effort into keeping in touch. It is important, however, to at least leave a bridge for communication open, because once it is burned, it is very difficult to rebuild. I will end my last editorial, as I did my first, with words of advice. You should never forget where you came from, because you never know when you may have to go back.

Farewell to the faculty, staff, and my fellow students. Good luck and live well.



Cloning: Will humans be next?

By Whitney Larrimore
Assistant Editor

The lives of people today are very hectic; schedules are often jammed with meetings, work, running errands and trying to keep up with family life. Wouldn't it be nice if you could be in more than one place at once? One "you" could go to the job, one to the meeting, one could pick up the kids, and the real "you" could relax at the beach. Of course this could never be possible unless there were cloning; but what if there were cloning? Well, more than likely it would never be that extreme, but it could result in an exact genetic copy of you.

Recently scientists in Scotland successfully made an exact genetic copy of a sheep through cloning. No sexual reproduction was involved with the exception of a surrogate mother to carry the new embryo. An embryo was created by taking two body cells from the animal. One cell must be larger than the other. The nucleus of the largest cell is extracted, and then the entire second cell is put in the first. Once this has occurred, the cell will begin dividing and create an embryo with the exact same traits as the original animal. This embryo will be placed in a surrogate mother to develop. When it is born, it will be exactly like the "parent"

animal. This technology is very compelling, but we must ask ourselves if we should do it.

Cloning seems to have many positive implications. It is possible that more genetically healthy animals can be produced. If more animals are produced, it is possible that areas of the world where people are starving could get more food. Endangered species that have small gene pools anyway could also make a comeback, especially when zoos have a difficult time getting them to breed in captivity. Everything could simply be done in a test tube. There is even the possibility that individual organs could be grown for human organ transplants.

Contrary to popular belief, cloning has been around for a while. Scientists have been able to clone plants for years. Most of the vegetables and produce people buy from the supermarket are from cloned plants. Cloning animals has been the problem scientists have faced over many years, and is what most people associate with cloning. The step in cloning the sheep recently was no simple matter. It was just one instance out of hundreds that the experiment happened to work.

Cloning is not the phenomenon most people think of it as. This is not the movie *Multiplicity*. Even if an exact copy of a human could

made, it would not be the same age as the "parent" individual and it would not necessarily have the same personality as the "parent." More than likely, you'll never have a clone to help you with your daily tasks.

Human cloning is also an issue which has been ethically denounced by scientists. It may be okay to clone plants (some may question the ethics of animal cloning) but it just doesn't seem right to clone people. Cloning people may seem like something out of science fiction, but according to scientists, cloning people wouldn't be much different than cloning sheep. Simply put, cloning people is just too controversial. This could go all the way to literally "raising the dead" by making a clone of them. One may say that this would never happen, but the one thing about science is that if it can be done, it usually will be done. One may question if we should even clone at all.

If kept within reasonable limitations, cloning could be beneficial to society. This issue is still one with many uncertainties except for the one certainty that there will be controversy about it. For now, though, we must all wait and see what the future holds, and who knows, maybe *Multiplicity* will become a reality.

SPORTS from page 3

Head coach Tom Austin captured his 575th career victory with the Monarchs. Austin is currently 575-213-4 (.729) for his 18-year tenure at Methodist and ranks among the top 12 winningest active Division III coaches in victory total and percentage.

Junior pitcher Chris Qually and sophomore utility player Billy Chapman were chosen to the First Team All-DIAC, while sophomore first baseman Steve Moody, freshman second baseman Pat Seccafico, and junior shortstop Neil Barwick were selected to the Second Team All-Conference.

Outdoor Track and Field

The Monarchs won the Fifth Annual Carolinas Intercollegiate Championship, outscoring all four of the Division II participants in the five-team event. Bradley Hicks (pole vault), William Ray (long jump and triple jump), the 400-meter relay team (DeCarlos West, Wilbur Christy, Slade Douglas, Hamilton Cuthrell), Jason Tremblay (discus), Cuthrell

(100- and 200-meter dashes), Dwight Grant (800-meter run) and Jon Mitchell (400-meter hurdles) won individual championships as Methodist cruised past host and runner-up UNC-Pembroke (96.5 points to 75). Ray was named MVP of the field events and Cuthrell was crowned MVP of the track events. Brian Cole was awarded Coach of Year honors for the annual event.

The Lady Monarchs were fourth of five teams at the Fifth Annual Carolinas Intercollegiate Championship with Heather Fisher tossing the shotput for the lone individual Methodist championship.

Softball

Methodist concluded its year with a 1-2 finish at the DIAC Tournament. They beat NC Wesleyan 5-3, but lost to Christopher Newport 5-2 and lost a second game to NC Wesleyan 6-1. Heather Hugas was named the DIAC Co-Rookie of the Year and to the First Team All-DIAC. Katrina Douse was picked to the Second Team All-DIAC.

Athletic Awards

The annual awards presentation which recognized MVP's for the 1996-97 year was held April 24 in Reeves Auditorium.

The winners were Jason Childers (men's basketball), Amy Todd (women's basketball), Erin Hawkins (cheerleading), Dwight Grant (men's cross-country), DeCarlos West (football/offense), Trayler Monroe (football/defense), Tony Bujega (football/special teams), Mike Adamson (men's golf), Jennifer Cieslak (women's golf), Heather Hugas (softball), Paul Smith (men's soccer), Kathleen Greene (women's soccer), Jon Bennett (men's tennis), Kristine Broadwell (women's tennis), Torrie McNair (volleyball), and Tracey Cunningham (athletic training). Childers and Cieslak were named the Methodist College Athletes of the Year. MVP of the baseball and track will be selected after the completion of those seasons.

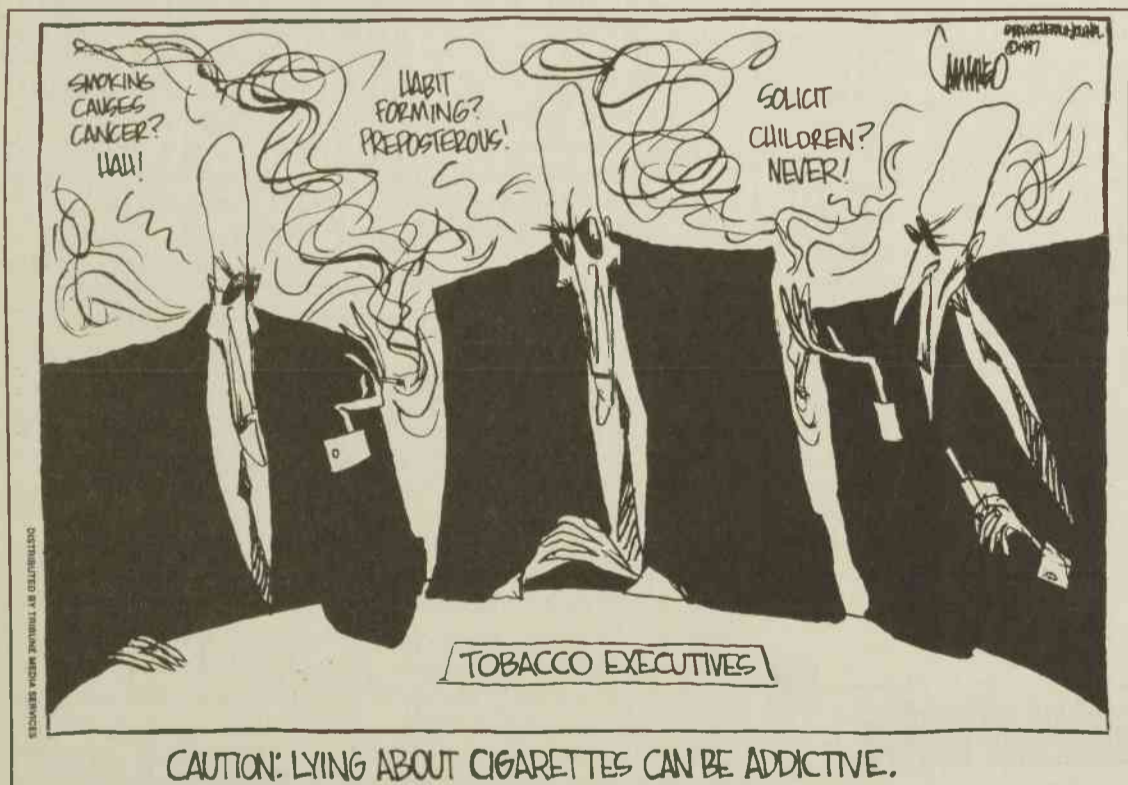
Information courtesy of SID Matt Eviston.

Editor's Note:

It is official. The staff of *Pride* has good reason to be proud. The American Scholastic Press Association has honored the Methodist College student news publication with a "First Place With Special Merit" award for in the 1997 Scholastic Newspaper Awards.

The competition involved publications from more than 1250 student publications nation-wide. Each school is grouped with other institutions of the same average enrollment.

This year's staff has grown from three members to eight members since August. Having no college newspaper experience, the staff, with the guidance and expertise of Jamee Lynch, The Director of Student Media, has churned out an average of one newspaper every two weeks. Staff members are not paid for their efforts, which means that they have won this award for work done during their spare time.



METHODIST COLLEGE PRIDE

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The *Pride* is the biweekly student newspaper of Methodist College. The ideas and opinions expressed herein do not necessarily reflect the views and positions of the faculty and administration of the college.

The *Pride* welcomes letters to the editor. 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 the editor at campus box 12032. Questions or information concerning stories should be directed to the Director of Student Media at 630-7292.