

*Career Counseling and Placement offers variety of services*

# It's not too soon for career planning

By Sonya Sparks Murdock  
Staff Writer

If you think Methodist's Career Services office is just for seniors who need some resume-writing tips, guess again. Whether you're a freshman or a senior or something in between, you should stop by and make an appointment with the new Director of Career Services Eva Bell. Bell encourages all students to register with her for entrance interviews to assess each person's career choices based on his/her personality, interests and strengths. This will ensure that students don't waste time and money in the wrong major. "I like to see (students) their freshman year," says Bell, so that she can better assist them in making decisions throughout their college careers.

Students should start looking for summer internships now, since some jobs, such as those with the state government and in Washington, DC, are highly competitive. Bell encourages students to do internships. "I'm big on internships because (students) may think, 'this is my major,' but then when they get (to the internships), they think, 'I really hate this' and end up changing their majors." She also stresses that internships can often lead to career opportunities for students who are nearing graduation. For in-

**UPCOMING JOB FAIRS FOR SENIORS**

September 30  
**Fayetteville State University...Graduate and Professional Schools Fair**

October 14-15  
**Charlie Rose Agri-Expo Center...2nd Annual Cape Fear Job Fair**

November 11  
**McKimmon Center, NCSU...Eastern NC Career Alliance Job Fair**

November 24  
**Methodist College...Teacher's Job Fair**  
(For December and May teaching graduates)

**\*\* Eva Bell at the Career Services office needs students' resumes by Sept. 24 for those interested in attending the job fair at NCSU on Nov. 11, since employers participating at this job fair will screen resumes beforehand. If there are enough students interested in attending this job fair, Bell may be able to provide transportation to Raleigh for this event.**

formation on internships, see Eva Bell in the Career Services office.

Volunteer work, work studies, cooperative education programs and fellowships are other effective methods to not only test the waters in your chosen field, but to get valuable job experience. In fact, Bell suggests participating in "anything that shows any activity, like social groups, athletics, volunteering, work studies, SGA and other clubs" to make yourself more competi-

tive in the job market. For instance, Bell recalls, "I had an employer once tell me he'd much rather (hire) a student with a 2.7 GPA and a lot of activities than a 3.8 GPA and all they did was study."

Thinking of continuing your education in graduate school, instead of entering the work force immediately after graduation? Better keep those grades up around a 3.0, then, Bell advises. And juniors

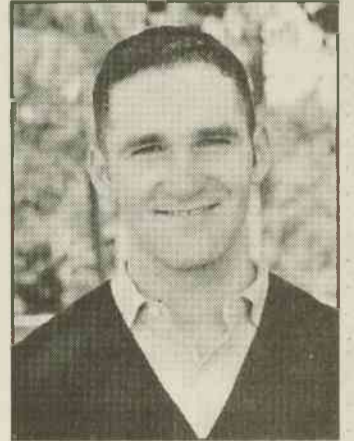
should already start researching their options to determine which schools offer which programs. The Career Services office can assist students by searching the Internet for school information, and some schools, according to Bell, will even visually walk students through their campuses on free CD ROMs available through the Internet.

Admissions deadlines for most graduate programs are from November to April, so Seniors should take entrance exams as early as possible, Bell recommends. For instance, the deadline to register for the GRE is September 24. Applications are available at the Career Services office, Room #7 in the Student Union near the bookstore. Office hours are from 8:00 am until 5:00 pm and Bell requests that students make appointments for counseling. The phone number is 630-7279.

Many other services are offered, including: One-on-one assistance with resume writing and interviewing skills, job search sites listings on the Internet, local summer job listings and job fairs throughout the school year.

Eva Bell replaces last year's director, Paula Miller, who is now working in Poland with the Peace Corps. Bell comes to Methodist from Germany, where she worked as a Field Coordinator for the University of Oklahoma on a military installation.

## New SGA president willing to address questions, complaints



By Dawn Melvin  
Staff Writer

Methodist College has a new Student Government Association President this year, and his name is Brett Davis.

Davis, a junior and Professional Golf Management major, knows that he will have the tasks of assisting students with problems and showing leadership. He replaces Leon Clark who headed the organization last year.

Davis knew Clark well. He and Clark were Resident Advisors together for a year, and Davis was on the SGA committee while Clark was SGA president. When asked how he thought Clark did as SGA president, he said, "He handled himself like a president should."

Davis added, "A SGA president makes sure that everything is taken care of, and you have to stay on top of everything and make sure that there is action taken."

Davis enjoys helping people and says he is willing to

hear questions or complaints about the services at Methodist College. SGA's role to help accommodate students and make them feel comfortable. Students suggestions or opinions are respected and encouraged.

SGA hopes to have improvement in the cafeteria services this year. Davis and the other SGA members worked on this issue last year and even suggested that menus be printed and issued to resident students.

Davis said the reason improvements in the cafeteria are progressing slowly is that Methodist is not making much money in the cafeteria, and to see improvements, students are going to have to pay more.

Davis said he is pleased with the new Math and Computer Science Building and the upgraded computer systems which are a major improvement to Methodist. He added that he hopes in the future the college will provide Internet access from the dorms.

# Convocation addresses building trust

By Amanda Fellers  
Editor

Athletes were honored and the community of Methodist College was encouraged not to lose sight of their purpose and to have trust in one another at the opening convocation Sept. 8.

Following the Rainbow's End performance of "Build on the Rock," Athletic Director Rita Wiggs recognized three athletes for their hard work in athletics as well as academics. Brian Floyd, who graduated in May, was given the male scholar athlete of the year award for his success as the catcher on the baseball team and for his performance in the classroom. Sophomore Erin Updegrave won the same award for the females. She started for the women's basketball team and was also a member of the tennis team. The last award, the Sykes Cup honoring the athlete of the year, was given to Jason Childers, who recently signed a contract to play professional basketball in Sweden.

Student Government Association president Brett Davis addressed the audience and encouraged them to set and work for their goals. Davis told a story about Fred Smith, a man who never stopped trying to turn his ideas into reality. While in college, Smith wrote a paper about his ideas; he made a D on that paper. Today he is the founder of Federal Express. Davis said, "If Smith can break through, so can we. Don't let that D on your research paper stop you. Sometimes you just have to go for it...don't lose sight of your purpose."

President Elton Hendricks focused on improving relationships within society by developing a high level of trust. He said that trust and team spirit are crucial elements in a nation's success.

Hendricks asked an important question: "Who can you trust? The government? The FBI? A used car sales person? The college president?" He explained that in a community as diverse as ours, it's not easy to develop trust. See CONVOCATION, page 2

# New dean seeks to build team concept

By Alexandra Nulle Dummer  
Staff Writer

Learning and team focus are the themes of the new Dean of Students Kim Dowd. She is filling the shoes of Mike Safley, who was the Dean of Students at Methodist for 10 years. Safley is now CEO of the Methodist Home for Children in Raleigh.

As Dean, Dowd's job is to, "supervise areas that affect students lives outside the classroom." These areas include: residence life, health services, public safety, the dining hall, activities, career services, counseling, campus ministry, international student services, community service program, the cheerleading team, and dance team. She also manages to concentrate on all of these things despite the continuous sound of ping-pong from behind her door.

Dowd previously served as Assistant Dean for Academic Services, academic advisor for IDS 110, and supervised the new student orientation program. "I've been pleasantly surprised by the smooth transition," she said. "I think it's because of staff and student support."

Dowd has specific goals for her first year as dean. "I guess my big thing is creating a sense of team within the student life department," she said. "We all do such different things, but our overall philosophy and mission is the same. We want to provide opportunities for students to develop as whole people."

After all, learning opportunities outside the classroom include social, spiritual, and emotional ones. Wilford Saunders, Assistant Dean for Student Services, says, "She has always been one who is a strong leader. She's good at putting things together and making it work. She has gained the respect of the staff and has brought the staff even closer together."

Shawn Hartman, president of the Resident Hall Association and member of Student Government Association, says Dowd is "very caring, and dedicated. Always full of smiles."

Dowd wants students to know that "any concern of theirs is a concern of mine. I want to help them in any way I can. I feel fortunate to have the opportunity to do this."

Saunders added, "The job could not have gone to a better person."

# Festival provides cultural experience

Staff Report

Want to try Scotch eggs? Or souvlaki? How about bugoki? Or yakitori? Then come to the 19th Annual International Folk Festival Sept. 27 in downtown Fayetteville. The festival runs from 11 a.m. until 6 p.m. and admission is free.

This event, sponsored by Fayetteville Partnership, Inc., will give community members a chance to sample the sights, sounds, and flavors from more than 20 countries around the world.

Always a crowd pleaser,

the International Café will offer a sampling of dishes from places such as France, India, Japan, Nigeria, Greece, Trinidad & Tobago, Jamaica and the Dominican Republic. The café will be set up on the Bow Street Commons and on Green Street in front of the Old City Hall building. There, cooks will fill the air with scents of exotic dishes such as fufu with okra and jollof rice with fried plantain and beef from Nigeria, or arroz con pollo from Panama and bratwurst from Germany.

These specialties will cost will cost as little as 50 cents for pastries and up to \$6 for a complete plate. Some will offer ala carte items ranging in price from \$1 to \$4.

While ordering food, take a minute to visit with the groups' members who eagerly welcome the opportunity to talk about their native cultures. According to Roger Vogel, the volunteer café coordinator, this year's café will include a sit-down eating area

sheltered by canopies. This should help create a better pedestrian flow in the popular area.

After a quick bite, it will be time to shop. Vendors are coming from as far as Massachusetts. Take a look at their art, wooden giraffes, lions and banana fiber drawings. Maybe the glass-blowing demonstration will catch your eye, or maybe you'll have your face painted. To satisfy that sweet tooth, indulge in funnel cake, cotton candy or ice cream.

See FOLK FESTIVAL, page 2

# Guys' tips to creating "dorm beautiful"

By Colleen De Baise  
College Press Service

Lava lamps. Hanging beads. Colored lightbulbs. With a few accessories that stark cramped space can be transformed into The Dorm Beautiful.

Just like choosing the right outfit--say a polyester bowling shirt over a buttoned-down Oxford--can define your personal style, so can some well-chosen items in your dorm room, say students.

"I'd say the way to go is tapestries," offers Greg Niebur, an Ohio State University senior, referring to large sheets of colorfully tie-dyed fabric that add a touch of class to any dorm room. "And you've got to have a welcome mat, inside or outside your door--like a little mat to wipe your feet on."

Watch out, Martha Stewart. "Lava lamps," he continues. "They're very popular. And big oriental rugs for dorms without carpeting. If there's a spot for it, then hanging beads maybe."

Niebur, a former dorm dweller who now lives in an apartment, says he favors decorative touches that serve a purpose, like functional art. "Change your light bulb from normal white to something different [like] bright red or yellow," he suggests. Why? "It gives [your room] something different from anyone else on the floor, and if you open the windows bugs won't come in."

While Niebur is just an ordinary college guy, the experts agree functional art is a good thing, especially for college students. Magnetic Poetry, for instance, is THE rage on college campuses, according to its makers.

Magnetic Poetry, as anyone

who looked closely at Mel Gibson's apartment in "Conspiracy Theory" knows, consists of tons of little words stuck on magnets, handy for decorating refrigerators. Dorm dwellers often string together words, particularly provocative ones like "waxing," "sausage" and "drooling," to leave risqué messages for roommates or friends.

New drinking games also have been inspired by "Mag Po," the company says.

"In the absence of fridges, students use file cabinets, lockers, dry erase boards, metal doorways, metal bookshelves and any other metal or magnet-friendly surface," says John Larson, a company spokesperson. "We even have an unconfirmed report of people sticking them to their braces and a metal plate in one wrestler's head."

Others choose to adorn their room with some hot signs--and yes, that's hot as in stolen, a few students readily admit. As far as good decorating tips are concerned, "I think most revolves around stuff that you steal," says Matt Grace, a junior at the University of California-Los Angeles.

At UCLA, a popular addition to the dorm room is a large convex traffic mirror that normally lines Los Angeles streets. They look like giant contact lens, and they're really easy to steal," says Grace, adding that one adorns his wall. "You look at it and it distorts everything."

Also good, he says, are banners that you get from sporting events" and posters from surf shops, neither of which have to be stolen, necessarily.

Though his weekend agenda See DORM, page 2

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