

New Writing Center Offers Remedies

By Cindy Hawkins
Editor

Term paper anxiety, writer's block, proofreading disorder, revision blues—whatever the complaint, the Writing Center is in the business of helping students find the remedy for their writing woes. Staffed by trained professional tutors with a minimum of a bachelor's degree, the Writing Center offers a positive approach to writing.

Tutors Shannon Bailey-Bloodworth and Carol Ralston are eager to assist students in overcoming their writing difficulties. Tutors provide individual instruction free of charge in 45 minute sessions that begin at the top of the hour. While a tutor cannot write, revise, or proofread students' papers, they can assist students in the various processes involved in writing. Students are encouraged to bring a copy of the writing assignment guidelines, and any rough draft or outline of the paper.

Methodist College recognizes the importance of good writing skills as necessary for success in any career. With the implementation of the "Writing Across the Curriculum" program in 1990, students in every curriculum face the certainty of taking at least one writing enrichment course.

One of the stipulations of the program was the development of a writing center. Last year, Dr. M. Elton Hendricks, president of Methodist College, and Dr. Anthony DeLapa, Academic Dean, decided that a writing center would be a good investment for the college. Dr. James Ward, Professor of English, visited several North Carolina colleges including UNC Pembroke, UNC Chapel Hill and Meredith College in Raleigh to observe writing centers in operation. With the goal of providing a positive atmosphere in which to work on writing assignments, Room 101 of the Trustees' Building was transformed into Methodist College's first Writing Center.

The Writing Center does not propose to be an alternative to the Academic Development Center. If students need help with accounting, business, economics, mathematics, English literature, biology, chemistry, earth science, or physical science, the ADC continues to offer tutoring in all of those subjects. The Writing Center is unique in that it is dedicated to individual instruction in one specific area—writing.

The Writing Center offers a wealth of instruction and resources for students, fac-

Continued on page 4



Tutor Carol Ralston assists Brian O'Neal in the Writing Center.

Registration Up 5%

Methodist College began its 39th year on August 24 with a 5% increase over last year's enrollment.

"It's always exciting for us when students return to the campus for a new school year," commented college president, Dr. M. Elton Hendricks. "Our faculty and staff have been working hard to prepare for a reaffirmation visit for Southern Association accreditation and to ensure that our students have a successful

and enjoyable school year."

Figures from the registrar's office show that 1332 students have registered for the 1998 fall semester—41 more than last year.

As of Sep. 8, new student enrollment stood at 586, a record 399 of which are freshmen.

In addition to the largest freshmen class ever enrolled at MC, this year's residential population has reached a record high.

Hurricane Bonnie Strikes Land In North Carolina

By Guy Clavel
AFP News Service

WILMINGTON, N.C. (AFP) - Hurricane Bonnie struck land just south of here Wednesday, Aug. 26, knocking out power to 160,000 people as authorities worried the storm's slow pace would cause greater damage.

Bonnie made landfall at Cape Fear, just 20 miles due south of here, at 3 p.m., Jim Jones, assistant information officer in the emergency operation center, told AFP by telephone.

By Thursday, hurricane Bonnie had been downgraded to a tropical storm but still continued dumping heavy rain on a wide stretch of North Carolina.

Residents escaped lightly from a storm billed as big and dangerous, waking up to find their homes and towns mostly intact.

"I slept very well. It was not so terrible," said Diane Holbrook of Wilmington.

Though damage has been minimal, President Clinton declared North Carolina a federal disaster area, a necessary step to free up federal money to aid the hurricane-stricken southeastern state.

Originally a class 3 hurricane when it hit coastal regions Tuesday, Aug. 25, Bonnie was downgraded Thursday morning to a tropical storm.

The hurricane was far less destructive than Fran, which struck the same coastline two years ago, said David Paynter, a spokesman for the emergency center in Wilmington.

"The preliminary estimates are very light (for damage)," he said, estimating a figure of one million dollars against the 3.2 billion for Fran, and describing Bonnie as "a relatively minor event." AFP News Service, 1998



The bridge in front of the Player Golf and Tennis Learning Center received damage from a tree blown down by Bonnie's high winds.