

Be on the look out for Tri Sigma car wash tickets! The carwash will be held in March. Come get your car washed and get a chance to win in a drawing! Look for the purple shirts for more information!

**Check out Silly Jokes on Page 6!**

Vol. 40, Issue 8

Monday, February 25, 2002

# Monarch Messenger

Methodist College, Fayetteville, NC

Established 1961

## Mayor Pitts Speaks of History

By Amanda Garcia  
Sports Editor

Fayetteville mayor, Marshall Pitts Jr., was the key speaker for the February 4, 2001 Convocation held in Reeves auditorium. His topic was "Contributions of African Americans to our Country."

His speech was the beginning for a month of African

of Fayetteville. He is now a part of Fayetteville's history by being the first African-American mayor of this city.

The speech given by Pitts was fitting to his history making. He remarked on several accomplished African-Americans who are not a part of our traditional history.. He touched on the first African-American woman to become a millionaire. He talked about George Washington Carver. He also mentioned the African-American who invented the electric traffic light, Garrett Morgan.

"I made a remark to another staff member about the irony of Mayor Pitts citing remarkable African-Americans in history from a book he had, when



Photo by Amanda Garcia

he himself is history in the making," said Webmaster, Mike Molten.

Pitts spoke to a crowd of approximately 150 students and staff.

Student Government Association (SGA) President, Lindsey Spitzer introduced

Mayor Pitts to the audience. She highlighted that despite his limited experience in politics with only two years on the city council, Pitts was elected mayor. Pitts is also a local attorney in the area.

Dr. Peter Murray was responsible for much of the coordination that went into scheduling Pitts as the speaker. He was also the one who suggested that the school ask Mayor Pitts to speak to the students.

"He [Pitts] is still a new face in the community due to his short time on city council," said Murray. "I thought that it would be a good chance to allow the campus community to see and hear from him."

So, what did the students get out of the Convocation and the message?

"I think that the students were grateful and they now understand the importance of learning about other cultures



Photo by Amanda Garcia

and other pasts," said Murray. In addition to Mayor Pitts speaking, Murray also coordinated with the music department in an effort to have One Spirit open the Convocation with a song.

"They sounded great," said Katrina Fletcher, a junior. "The song they sang really helped set the mood."

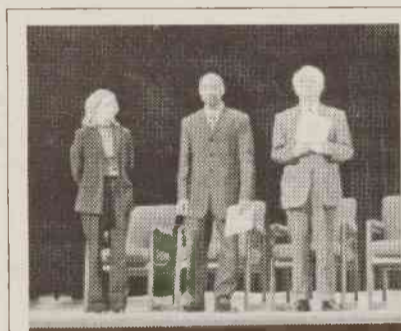


Photo by Amanda Garcia

American History Month for Methodist.

Pitts is not only the mayor

## Lowdermilk Award

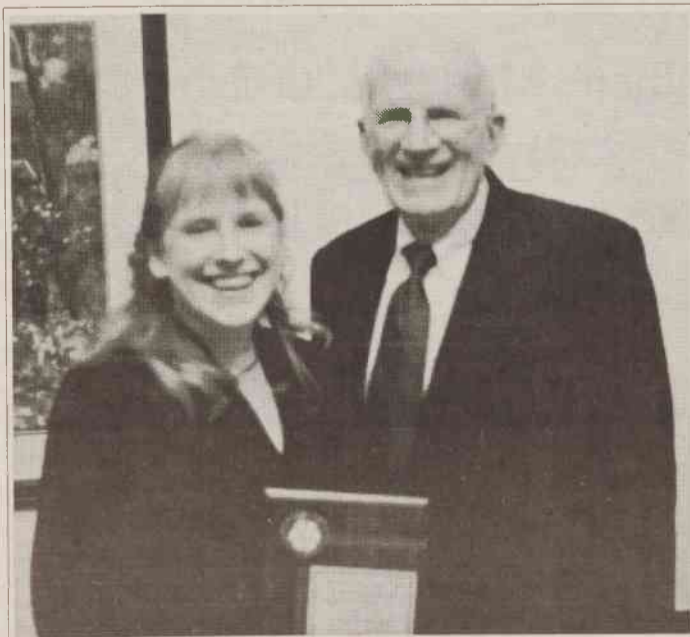


Photo taken by Amanda Garcia  
Award winner, Leigh Stevens, stands with Reverend Lowdermilk. Finalists were Rachel Bealieu, Amanda Garcia, Jennifer Packard, and Justin Rimbey. Congrats to all!

By Ashleigh Radford  
Editor-in-Chief

Dr. Hendricks held a discussion forum on Tuesday, February 19 to discuss the possibility of taking back Martin Luther King, Jr. day as a school recognized holiday.

For the first time in Methodist College history students and staff were given MLK day off in order to commemorate the meaning it carries with it.

Dr. Hendricks called the forum in response to his feelings that a mistake was made by giving the day off. He expressed concern that the day's true meaning was lost while students enjoyed a day of recreation instead of a day of

remembrance. "It bothers me when we flow right through that day as it is nothing," Dr. Hendricks said.



Photo taken by Amanda Garcia

Approximately 75 concerned students and staff showed up to the discussion to make their agreements and hear what Dr. Hendricks had to say.

The concerns that were expressed were mostly against the President's plan. "I think we should have this day off. Dr. King is very

important to our history and I feel that it would be racist if we did not have that day off," junior Kleida Pani said.

Dr. Hendricks discussed his idea of having that day as a special classroom time, and having a large convocation in memory of MLK. However some did not agree with the president that we can remember MLK in just one day.

"Dr. King told us how to live our lives, that is something you can not do in one day, but all the time," Dr. Carl Dyke said.

The very argumentative discussion was not resolved. However, many students and staff got a chance to give their point of view on the subject of keeping MLK day as a holiday or not.

## Do away with MLK day holiday?