

Author and child expert speaks at Meredith

Levine speaks about teaching methods for dealing with exceptional children.

JENNA AUSTIN
Staff Reporter

Dr. Mel Levine, pediatrician and author, was the distinguished speaker at Meredith on April 1 in Jones Auditorium. Levine spoke about his program called "All Kinds of Minds," his work with children with certain writing and learning problems, and his new book, *The Myth of Laziness*.

"The children are very bright, but they often have trouble putting their ideas on paper," Levine said as he began his lecture on the seven different pathways of output and dysfunctions some students experience.

One example of an out-

put disjunction that Levine gave was of an 11-year-old boy who won first place in the state on a geography exam but was failing social studies. When interviewed by Levine, the boy explained that it was like the message you sometimes get on your computer screen saying, "Printer is not connected." He simply did not have enough wires running from his hand to his brain, so he could not write out his ideas. This child, explained Levine, was an example of one with graphical motor disjunction, and a simple solution for this type of problem was having the student adjust his grip on the pencil. The other six pathways of output are memory, language, pre-frontal lobes, mental energy, organization and idealization.

Levine is a summa cum

laude graduate of Brown University, as well as a Rhodes Scholar in Oxford, England. Later he graduated from Harvard Medical School but completed his degree at the Children's Hospital in Boston, Mass. Before becoming a resident of North Carolina, he worked at the Children's Hospital and at Harvard. He is the founder of "All Kinds of Minds" and has written nine books over the last 25 years.

For more information about Levine and his teaching methods, visit www.allkindsofminds.org.

World News Brief: The war in Iraq

ANDREA GILLIKIN
Staff Reporter

- On Monday, U.S. troops took control of the main presidential palace in Baghdad. Three battalions of the U.S. Army's 3rd Infantry Division plan to remain in Baghdad.
- An Iraqi missile hit the U.S. Army's 2nd Brigade, 3rd Infantry Division Tactical Operations Center. The bombing killed two soldiers and two journalists and left 15 others wounded.
- Two Marines from the 3rd Battalion of the 4th Marine Regiment were killed while the battalion was working to secure a bridge over the Tigris River. By seizing the bridge, they gain another path into Baghdad.
- British forces have moved into Basra, Iraq's second largest city, and have set up a base there. Three soldiers were killed

during the operation.

- Saddam Hussein's cousin Ali Hassan al-Majeed, known as "Chemical Ali," is dead. British military reported that his body had been found in Basra.
- Iraq's Information Minister, Mohammed Saeed al-Sahaf, stood in Baghdad amid a U.S. raid of the capital saying that coalition forces have not advanced. He said, "the soldiers of Saddam Hussein have given them a lesson they [coalition forces] will never forget".
- A U.S. Marine platoon was attacked in Diwaniyah, but no U.S. troops were injured during the battle.
- Iraqi opposition troops are moving in toward Nasiriyah. The deployment unit is called the 1st Battalion Free Iraqi Forces and is made up of about 700 troops.

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sadlerc@meredith.edu

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