

The Decree

OFFICIAL STUDENT NEWSPAPER OF
NORTH CAROLINA WESLEYAN COLLEGE

Editor-in-Chief — W. Kenneth Leonard

Assistant Editor — Tiffany Page

Staff — Jennifer Beemer, Patrick Brannan, Cecilia Lynn

Casey, Kimberly Curseen, John Fentress,

Marie Lenane, Jimmilyn Rosson

Advisor — Chris LaLonde

The Decree is located in the Sprull Building, North Carolina Wesleyan College, 3400 Wesleyan Blvd., Rocky Mount, NC 27801. Policy is determined by the Editorial Board of *The Decree*. Re-publication of any matter herein without the express consent of the Editorial Board is strictly forbidden. *The Decree* is composed and printed by the Spring Hope Enterprise. Opinions published do not necessarily reflect those of North Carolina Wesleyan College.

Library vandals nothing but selfish

There is yet another example of how many people have decided that their own selfish interests are above anyone else's — even above everyone else's.

The library of North Carolina Wesleyan College reports that a great many books and magazines have pages torn out by students who are apparently too lazy or too greedy to photocopy or use in the library the encyclopedias and other reference material.

It's certainly sad that these people have such a conscience as to be able to rest easily knowing that they are making it impossible for others to use materials. Replacing destroyed items costs money, which could

have been spent expanding the library's collection in order to give students more resources rather than replacing old ones. Such matters, though, might never occur to these people. Maybe they figure that as long as they get their papers out of the way, nothing is wrong with the world.

This might seem to be a trivial matter, but there are more and more complaints coming in about students trying to find sources and having the pages they need torn out.

The selfishness of these people is astounding, that they would be willing to destroy books so that others cannot use them. It's a shame to think about it.

U.S. has no business being in Somalia

By KEN LEONARD

Once again, the United States is sending more reinforcements into Somalia in order to restore order, according to the White House. This policy is failing, and failing quickly. It has been for some time.

The idea in intervening in Somalia was to provide relief from the drought in the area. The problem is that the nation had more than a drought — it had a war. A mere relief effort was impossible until after the U.S. secured peace in the nation.

Solving another country's civil

war so that we can then provide them with charity is ill-conceived. The U.S. military has American interests to protect, and should not be made to fight people so that we can then watch out for theirs.

Presidents Bush and Clinton have allowed this to become the disaster that it is now by subverting the U.S. command of the military in favor of the United Nations Security Council. When the U.N. sends troops, they are all too often our men and women sent into the zones of fire, without our deciding to do so.

Now, Clinton has promised to



Driving in England traumatic

Trip is a jumble of memories

By DR. STEVE FEREBEE

Fragments of time become memories of my trip to England.

At the Tower of London, a Polish couple tried four languages before they communicated with a young British woman. In Westminster Abbey, I stared at the most horrific funerary sculpture of a rotting corpse and listened to chattering Italian tourists.

A young Japanese woman asked me to snap her photo at the Holyrood Palace in Edinburgh. A friendly Scottish man on the train assured me that Glasgow was underrated as a tourist attraction and then asked me why all Americans carried guns.

Dr. Steve Muses

I hesitated at cash registers, trying to remember what the values of different coins are. I wondered why chips (french fries) are served even with lasagna. I noticed the number of newspapers still being loudly hawked all over the cities.

But driving in England! I had maps and directions from people who had preceded me. I had read the official driving manual. I had a sign for the dashboard: "To the

Left, Stupid."

I even had a navigator. I gave her the maps and directions, found the steering wheel, and took off.

Because the passenger side of the car was on my left instead of my right, I ran up the curb several times on the way out of the airport. Then I hurled into an eight-lane road and missed my exit because I couldn't adapt to exiting from the wrong side.

We wobbled off finally, trying to find a road on the map which would get us back where we wanted to be. Then suddenly I was in a roundabout. This is the U.K.'s intersection: instead of right-angle corners with traffic

(Continued on Page 3)

Opinion

pull out of the nation, but only after it can be done reasonably. He has set a date for withdrawal, meanwhile sending more soldiers into harm's way.

Here we see what happens when we have a President with utter contempt for the military. No one among his Cabinet or staff is a real expert in military policy, strategy, or methods. He declines advice from the Joint Chiefs of Staff. The result is a gradual es-

calation of force to pursue unclear objectives, a lack of public support for policies, and deaths for no gain.

Solving a foreign country's food crisis is surely a noble objective, and may even be justified at times despite my inclination to take care of Americans first. However, breaking into their war so that we can force them to take relief can only result in more and more Americans dying. Expect no real relief to come through the effort.

The U.S. should pull out of Somalia immediately. If the U.N. wants to keep some kind of pres-

ence in the quagmire, that is the business of other nations. Perhaps Greece, Italy, France, and other nations that are so quick to lay demands against the U.S. and so slow to help us might like to send their soldiers to be the main force for change. Perhaps they might even rethink what wars warrant intervention.

It has been argued that the U.S. should either step up the action and set objectives or pull out as if it makes no difference. That makes no sense. The matter at hand is that the U.S. has no inter-

(Continued on Page 3)