

# THE DECREE

“Of, by, and for the Wesleyan Community”

*President's Cup and Scholar-Athlete*

## Senior Alison Kirch honored for four years of scholarship, leadership, and service to college

By Renny Taylor, SID

Senior Alison Kirch continues to reap the benefits of her dedication and hard work over the last four years at North Carolina Wesleyan College. On Thursday evening, May 2, Alison was awarded the Female Student-Athlete of the Year at the athletic banquet.

This marks the seventh time that a player from the women's soccer team has received this honor. She currently carries a

cumulative GPA of 3.76 and is graduating on May 11th with a Bachelor of Arts in English. Alison will also graduate with Honors as she successfully defended her Honors Thesis last week.

Every year NC Wesleyan College awards one graduating senior with the President's Cup, and Alison was chosen for that distinct honor in 2001-02. The criteria for this award include "a high standard of academic performance, leadership and ser-

vice, and participation in the ideas and aims of the College."

Alison is the third women's soccer player to receive this high honor. Past awardees include Julie Duerler and Danyel Thomson.

"Our entire team is very excited and proud of Alison for her accomplishments," commented Head Women's Soc-

cer Coach Kelly Walters. "She has been a tremendous asset to our program and she is truly deserving of these honors bestowed upon her. She embodies the meaning of a serious student-athlete."

Alison juggled her challenging academic schedule with an equally demanding soccer career at NC Wesleyan. She

was a 4-year starter for the defensive unit and played a large role in the team's success. In 2001, Alison played the sweeper position and helped direct the team to 8 shutouts, only 21 goals against, and a 1.12 goals against average. She was part of three NCAA Tournament appearances, four Dixie Conference Regular Season Championships, 1 Dixie Conference Tournament Championship, and the 1999 NCAA Southeast Regional Championship squad.

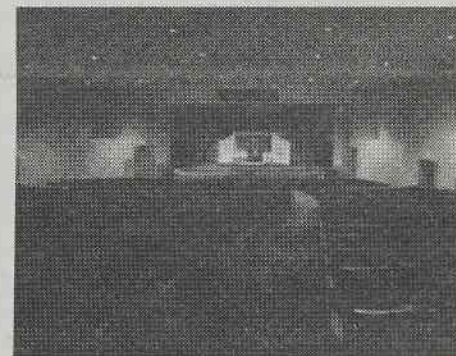


### Schedule of Commencement Events

9:00 AM Baccalaureate Service  
Leon Russell Chapel  
Speaker: David Jones,  
Professor Emeritus  
10-11:30 AM Reception  
President's Home  
10 AM - 12 PM Ticket Distribution  
Bellemonte House

10 AM - 12 PM Alumni Association Event  
Bellemonte House  
11:30 AM - 12:30 PM Lunch Buffet  
\$7.95/person  
Cafeteria, Hardee's Building  
By 12:15 PM Graduating seniors assemble  
South side Dunn Center,  
Powers Recital Hall

1:30 PM Commencement  
Minges Auditorium,  
Dunn Center



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### Dr. John Hope Franklin to speak at Commencement this year

The speaker for the 2002 Commencement Ceremony is Dr. John Hope Franklin, Professor Emeritus of History at Duke University.

For seven years, Dr. Franklin was Professor of Legal History in the Law School at Duke. A native of Oklahoma and a graduate of Fisk University, he received the A.M. and Ph.D. degrees in history from Harvard University. He has taught at a number of institutions, including Fisk University, St. Augustine's College, North Carolina Central University, and Howard University.



One of the most significant American historians of the 20th century, he is the author or editor of books, essays, and articles, notably "From Slavery to Freedom," first published in 1947 and now in its eighth edition.

Professor Franklin is the recipient of many awards and honors, including more than 100 honorary degrees from institutions all over the world, and the Presidential Medal of Freedom, awarded by President Clinton in 1995.

Named for Dr. Franklin, the John Hope Franklin Collection of African and African-American Documentation at Duke Univer-

sity was begun to collect, preserve, and promote the use of library materials bearing on the history of Africa and people of African descent.

Dr. Franklin's Jefferson Lecture in the Humanities for 1976 was published in 1985 and received the Clarence L. Holte Literary Prize for that year. In 1990, a collection of essays covering a teaching and writing career of fifty years was published under the title "Race and History: Selected Essays, 1938-1988."

In 1993, he published "The Color Line: Legacy for the Twenty-first Century." Professor Franklin's most recent book, "My Life and an Era: The Autobiography of Buck Colbert Franklin," is an autobiography of his father that he edited with his son, John Whittington Franklin.

His current research deals with "Dissidents on the Plantation: Runaway Slaves."

Professor Franklin is the author of many other publications, including "The Emancipation Proclamation," "The Militant South," "The Free Negro in North Carolina," "Reconstruction After the Civil War," and "A Southern Odyssey: Travelers in the Antebellum North".

Pearsall Library contains 11 of Dr. Franklin's works, including the 1988 edition of "From Freedom to Slavery."

For this and other information on Dr. Franklin, see <http://scriptorium.lib.duke.edu/franklin/bio.html> -and- <http://www.amazon.com>