

STUDENT LIFE

Alex Langley Appointed Intramural Director

By Jenna Davis
Decree Staff Writer

"A memorable experience is the best marketing tool," stated new Intramural Director Alex Langley when asked how he's spreading the word on intramurals this year. "If a few people have a great time then they'll tell others about it."

This is the kind of upbeat attitude Langley has for this year's program, and it sounds like there is a lot in store for Wesleyan students. He's NC Wesleyan College's first full-time intramural director. Mike Fernandez, a Wesleyan student, took on the role of organizing the sports in previous years. This year, however, Dr. Bob Perkins, the new Dean of Students, decided he "wanted that [job] done full time."

When asked about the new position, Athletic Director John Thompson said he is pleased with the change. "I think it's great to have a full time position for intramurals and recreation," he said. "It will enhance offerings to all of our students."

There are plenty of activities already up and running. Langley has organized a weekly NFL pick, in which students select the teams they think will win each professional football game of the weekend. Flag football, tennis tournaments, and kickball and dodge ball tournaments are also on the list of sports. But that's not the only sports available, according to Langley; he's also got some new sports to add to intramurals this year. In the fall, the intramural program will offer volleyball and 4-on-4 basketball, and in the spring slow pitch softball will be added.

Langley added that he would like to organize outside trips like paintball or white water rafting. He also intends to involve some of Wesleyan's intramural teams in regional tournaments.

The intramural director hopes to promote campus-wide participation, but according to Trevor Seibert, an intramural participant in past years, students just aren't interested. "I think [Langley's] doing a great job, but people here just don't participate."

Langley has many goals in mind for Wesleyan's intramural program, and its facilities as well. He is very passionate about the program, and wants to quash any negative attitude about intramural sports. He said, "Intramural sports can be just as competitive and organized as regular sports." Langley discussed how with intramurals one can learn organization skills and sportsmanship, and build character.

Langley also wants to promote more female involvement in intramurals. Historically, the intramural population has been mostly male, and Langley plans to change that by integrating more female and co-ed sports this year. With enough interest, just about any sport could be a co-ed sport, he said.

All of the intramural sports are played on one of the school's two open fields (Edgecombe or South Field) and

the gymnasiums. One of Langley's long-term goals is to update the equipment in the Taylor Center as a way to upgrade the exercise area. Also he hopes to implement group fitness programs and increase overall campus recreation.

Langley is a native of Tarboro, and is a graduate of East Carolina University with degrees in history and philosophy. He received his Masters of Science from ECU with a concentration in Recreational Sports Management.

Langley has spent several years officiating for the NCHSAA (North Carolina High School Athletic Association). His experience includes seven years of basketball, three years of football, and two years of baseball. He has also umpired in Little League



Alex Langley.
Photo by Jenna Davis

baseball and fast pitch softball. Most importantly, though, he has officiated for National Tournaments in baseball and flag football.

Langley stated that he is very excited to be a part of the program at NC Wesleyan, and plans to add a lot of new opportunities for participants in intramural sports.

Students, Alums Enjoy Homecoming Festivities



Professor Gail Stafford's College 101 class and friends sing the alma mater during homecoming week. Decree Photo by Kathleen Penrod

By Kelleigh Jackson
Decree Staff Writer

The fragrance of homecoming is lingering in the air. Filled with fun, excitement, and returning alumni, the school has taken on an attitude of pride and support for our fairly new football team. On September 24-29, the homecoming for the 2007 school year seemed a bit too early for some, but it was nonetheless an enjoyable event for those in attendance.

With plenty of things to do, this year's homecoming was a definite success. But this year's carnival stood out. Jennifer Evans, the coordinator of Student Activities said, "this year the carnival really felt like a real carnival. All the booths of activities made it a lot of fun." Whether it was the games,

Theater Group To Stage 'The Last Five Years'

Senior theater students Stuart Briscar and Rachel Radford will star in "The Last Five Years" on Oct. 24-26 at Powers Recital Hall in the Dunn Center. Curtain time is 8 on each night.

The performance, presented by the college's Theatre Program and Wesleyan Players, represents their senior project. The play, written by Jason Robert Brown, is a musical that premiered in 2001. "It's essentially a two-person opera," said Roger Drake, associate professor of theater.

The play tells the story of a young couple in the first five years of their marriage. He is an aspiring writer; she is an aspiring actress. Tension develops as one spouse begins to find professional success.

"She feels he's not supportive of her career, and he feels the same way about her," Drake said. "Then tensions arise in their relationship."

Local musician Joel Gay will serve as accompanist for the three nights performances.

food, or just the company of those you miss it was "much better this year than last," she said.

Wesleyan students found the comedy show and laser tag (150 students participated) to be more their speed. Evans said "the comedian and laser tag were the biggest hits." The activities this year also featured "Glow in the Dark Water-balloon Dodgeball," a Hip Hop Dance class, a pep rally, and a "Jamaican Jump-Off!" block party.

Though Homecoming is created to "encourage school spirit and school pride," Evans said, it is also a chance to introduce the winners of the Homecoming king and queen. Originally, the college was not going to present a court, but student interest prompted a last-minute return of the tradition. Evans said the Campus Activities Board made it possible. "Jessica Daniels got it organized and I'm glad that it went through so well," said Evans. "It was so beautiful."

The winners of Homecoming King and Queen were seniors Shelly King and Kevin Murphy.



Jason Scott, Stuart Briscar and Amanda Landi rock out during the Homecoming festival and picnic that preceded the Bishops football game. The three were joined by Hannah Smith, class of 07, (second from right), in performing a range of songs that included "Girl All the Bad Guys Want" by Bowling for Soup; "Lights" by Journey; and "San Dimas High School Football Rules" by The Ataris. Smith's and Scott's solos highlighted the two-hour performance. Photo by Decree Staff

'Face the Book' Program Introduced on Campus

By Sean Riccio
Decree Staff Writer

In a move to improve student GPAs, Nash Hall has introduced a study program, dubbed "Face the Book," across the dormitory. A play on words meant to parody the popular Facebook networking website, the initiative is a period of quiet hours set up between 3 and 5 p.m. every Monday through Thursday.

The initiative, started at the beginning of the semester, is the brainchild of now resigned Residence Director Travis Anderson, who oversaw the Nash, Centura and Boddie Halls. It came to him last year near the end of the term. "Last year at about 3:30 in the morning I came into the lobby and saw a student studying in the lobby and I thought that was strange and I went to talk to him."

The student explained that because of pressure from his fellow students, he had taken to studying exclusively at night, using time during the day to hang out with his friends. After brainstorming with RAs, Anderson and his staff devised Face the Book to provide an environment where students in the dorm are encouraged to focus on academic endeavors, and even come to the lobby to receive tutoring. All students in the building must be doing something academic related, or at least quiet and non-disruptive.

According to Anderson, prior to his resignation, the program had met with success. "Those students who have come to receive help with their class assignments have appreciated the assistance and the fact that we are available for those two hours while they're doing their homework to come down and give them some help fairly quickly." Likewise, most students in the hall have given positive reviews. "I think it's a good thing, because everybody gets a chance to study and do all the things they need to do," says sophomore John Booth.

The plan from the beginning had been to bring Face the Book, if proven successful, to the other residence halls. With its engineer, Anderson, leaving Wesleyan, though, the program's future is in jeopardy. Castonoble Hooks, Anderson's student assistant, has taken on the Face the Book program and he seemed doubtful as to how long it can be sustained. "It probably won't go on if nobody is here to enforce it," he said. "If Anderson isn't here to enforce it, it's like people trying to police themselves. It ain't going to happen." When asked if Face the Book might be picked up by other dorms, he said simply "I doubt it will spread."

Upcoming Activities October

Friday, October 12, 8 p.m.:
Movie—"Evan Almighty" (location TBA)

Friday, October 26, 5 to 6:30 p.m.:
Student Cook-Off (Blue and Gold Cafe)

Friday, October 26, 7 to 9 p.m.:
Haunted Trail (Beside north parking lot of Dunn Center)

Friday, October 26, 10 p.m. to 2 a.m.:
Costume Party (Hartness Center)

Saturday, October 27:
Movie—"1408" (location TBA)

November

Saturday, November 3, 8 p.m.:
Money Tree Game (Hartness Center)

Friday, November 9, 8 p.m.:
Movie—"Bourne Ultimatum" (location: TBA)

Friday, November 16, 8 p.m.:
Movie—"Rush Hour 3" (location TBA)

Tuesday, November 27, (time TBA):
Lighting of Wesleyan (Dunn Center)

New Record Set on Day for Wesleyan

By Ken Kornegay
Decree Staff Writer

The 26th Annual "A Day for Wesleyan" was once again successful. The Nash and Edgecombe communities came together and increased donations by nearly \$40,000 over last year's total. This year's total accumulated to \$552,940.

Although a new record was reached, it was done in a different manner. In past years, student volunteers played a major role in going out into the community to receive contributions for the college. This year the Future Alumni Association provided all the student volunteers.

The FAA, headed by Charles Vester, is a new organization on campus and A Day for Wesleyan was their debut. "The club performed very well on its first project of the year," Vester said, noting that several students from the

club volunteered to help sell doughnuts as their contribution to the total for the fund-raiser.

Vester added, "Next year's day for Wesleyan will be much better just as this year was much better than last year's. We will help out and do our best next year to surpass the numbers that we all achieved this year."

According to Kristen Ward, the FAA was created this semester as a division of the Development Office. Its purpose is to help bridge the gap between current students and alumni, through volunteering, fundraising, and assisting at alumni events. The organization creates several leadership and networking opportunities for its members.

"I am extremely pleased with the organization's performance," Ward said. "This was their first fundraiser, and they were able to donate \$175 to DFW. That's impressive."

Doug Starr, co-chair for the Day for Wesleyan Committee and Senior Vice President of Wachovia Securities in Rocky Mount, said it best when he made the comment, "Participating in A Day for Wesleyan is like being a cheerleader for Wesleyan." He's right. Those volunteers are cheerleaders in sense that they believe in the college. Better yet, it shows that they believe in the students.

Some of the monies obtained during the record-setting event will be used for scholarships to help students pay tuition. Without this funding, many students would fall short of the money that's needed to get a Wesleyan education.

In the words of senior Kelvin Clark when he addressed the volunteers at the breakfast, "Thank you for all of your time and efforts."



Artist Eric McRay discusses his work with students in the Mims Gallery at the Dunn Center for the Performing Arts. McRay was on campus during a public reception for his exhibit, "Southern Elegance." His landscapes were displayed through the end of September in the campus gallery. Decree Photo by Kathleen Penrod