

Wesleyan baseball

Wallows in the attitude doldrums

The Wesleyan baseball team had another bad season this year. It was one of their worst records ever in Dixie Conference play. A 2-10 mark in the conference and a dismal 6-18 record over all made the Bishop's season more disappointing than most. There were high hopes for this year's team, but these hopes soon faded away for a number of reasons.

At the beginning of the year, the team was plagued with several injuries. David Read, second baseman, was lost for most of the season when he had to have an operation for appendicitis. Right fielder Dave Eubanks was injured when he jammed his finger while diving back to second base on a pick-off attempt. An operation was needed, and Dave was out for about 3 weeks. Center fielder Dana Wade dislocated his shoulder while making a diving catch for a fly ball; he too had an operation and was ultimately lost for the season. Even though first baseman Joe Shearin played, he had a wrist

injury which bothered him for most of the season. Freshman John Faddis could not play during some games because of a bothersome jammed thumb. These injuries, however, did not stop the team from putting out an effort to win baseball games.

Nonetheless, playing bad baseball will destroy any high hopes or good intentions. For example, it seemed that many times Wesleyan pitchers had forgotten where the strike zone was located and there were some games when Wesleyan made more errors than hits.

The team also had a bad habit of not getting hits when someone was on base or of hitting the ball hard and clean but right into the waiting glove of the opposition. Also Bishop games attract very few fans, and this is to be expected for a losing team, but fans did not even come to the first games of the season to determine if the team was worth supporting. Any sports team needs fan support.

Wesleyan's baseball team could offer more excuses, but no excuse can cover up or gloss over the players' attitudes. The

attitude of the team as a whole was disgraceful and to call these individuals a team is to discard the definition of the word. Players mentally harassed each other and there were individuals who pouted and caused ill-feelings because they were not getting much playing time. Wesleyan's baseball efforts were mainly hampered by a poor attitude problem.

Nonetheless, this situation could change for next year. The entire team will return except for one hard-throwing pitcher and with this past year as experience, the 1978 season could be an improvement. Also

they could turn themselves around with a good recruiting year for positions as pitcher, catcher and utility infielder. The coaches will have to improve their methodology and especially regain control and exert the discipline that is necessary to insure that a group of individuals will function cohesively. If the Wesleyan players would play baseball instead of other games on the field and change their individual attitude into a team attitude, the baseball team might become a winner.

John Faddis



VOLUME XVII, NUMBER 6

The Decree

N. C. WESLEYAN COLLEGE, ROCKY MOUNT, N. C.

MONDAY, MAY 16, 1977

Billy Medlin on the SGA

Billy Medlin, this year's SGA President, and a graduating senior took time out from his demanding schedule to share a few thoughts with me about his experiences during his tenure. As we are all aware, Billy has been one of the most outstanding and effective Presidents in many years, and it is hoped that the spirit with which he led the student body will continue to be felt and be expanded in the future.

Decree: What inspired you to run for President?

Billy: I decided to stop bitching about things as they were and make a constructive effort to change them. The campus needed a little excitement, and I figured I could win as easily as anyone else.

Decree: What difficulties did you encounter as you first entered office?

Billy: The SGA was a dead institution with departments that were no longer in operation. I found that files were dated back to 1960.

Decree: What talents do you have that are vital to being an effective President?

Billy: I think my organizational abilities helped a lot. I was able to get people to work together.

Decree: What personal characteristics were allowed to expand during your tenure?

Billy: The job has served to make me stronger, more assertive.

Decree: What do you think was the most important contribution you made to Wesleyans' student body?

Billy: I was accessible.

Everyone knew who I was, and knew who to come to for problems. I think that, insofar as activities go, the ARS concert was a success in terms of getting everybody involved in something exciting. I must say, however, that the music itself wasn't so hot. "So Into You" sounded better on the radio. The most important thing is that it got everybody together for a night.

Decree: Let me ask your personal evaluation of your Convocation address?

Billy: The convocation was a satirical view of Wesleyan. I wanted it to be a positive presentation, though, and I think it was.

Decree: What did you most dislike about the Presidency?

Billy: Lack of real student help. It was a real pain sometimes trying to get people motivated and active.

Decree: How do you think you changed Wesleyans' lifestyle?

Billy: Well, as an example, there were twenty students directly involved in student government, rather than just a handful, as in the past. I think, perhaps, that I helped to initiate more student involvement.

Decree: How do you rate the potential of next year's SGA?

Billy: I believe they are very competent. They will need help from the students, in the form of trust and support. I would like to see a Supreme Court, and a Finance Committee.

Decree: What was fun for you as President?

Billy: Going to Faculty

meetings. Watching professors antics as they tried to settle things civilly, eventually. I was able to see them as real people.

Decree: Any last thoughts before we sign off?

Billy: Well, I've really enjoyed these four years, especially this last one. I hope it's a real smash for students next year. Euphoria, total euphoria.

Decree: With more like you, we'll see.

Jan Wilson

Admissions outlook

Next year, North Carolina Wesleyan College is expecting one of the largest enrollments the school has had in recent years. Our Admissions Office has done a fine job recruiting new students for next year.

Last year at this time, the Admissions Office had received 181 applications; as of May 1 this year, they have an astounding 254. Also at this time last year, 111 students had been accepted; already this year, 175 students are thinking of becoming members of Wes-

leyan's Class of 1981. Enrollment for non-resident students is also slightly up. Last year there were 40 non-resident students accepted; this year it is already 46, with more applications to come.

Among the applicants are several very good soccer and baseball players. There will also be a number of individuals who were academically outstanding in high school and have been offered academic scholarships.

Mike Haskins



From left to right; 1st row—Coach Jean Edge, Faye Pridgen, Frances Harrison, Cathy Lynch, Kyle Baldwin, Denise Castillo; 2nd row—Val Holland, Martha Peel, Madeline Alston, Nona Cook, Mary Hathaway, Carleen Goodwin, 3rd row—Barbara Slater, Cindy Alston, Martha Edwards, Bev Stoner, Daphne Branch, Elenor Perry. Not pictured is Ellen Hessey. [Jan Wilson Photo.]