



The Decree

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Data Processing Comes to N.C. Wesleyan

by Phil Prager

With increasing frequency, it is recognized that an understanding of the computer, how it works, and how it influences the daily lives of every citizen, is a necessary part of the general education of all students. Finally, N.C. Wesleyan has moved into the computer era with the installation of an IBM System 34, Model 5340 computer, and the establishment of a data processing department.

During this spring semester, the business department group study course, "Introduction to Computers," has attempted to explain how computers operate and are used in the worlds of business and science. Priority in taking the course was given to seniors in order to give them some exposure to data processing before they enter the job market. Predictably, the class is composed mainly of business majors - but - it is important for all majors to familiarize themselves with computer concepts.

Course coverage has included the evolution of the computer industry, computer hardware (machines that input data to or receive output

data from a computer), and how computers are programmed to process data correctly. Main emphasis has been placed on understanding what a computer is, and is not

capable of. Even the most sophisticated computer can perform only a relatively few number of operations.

Contrary to popular belief, computers cannot think

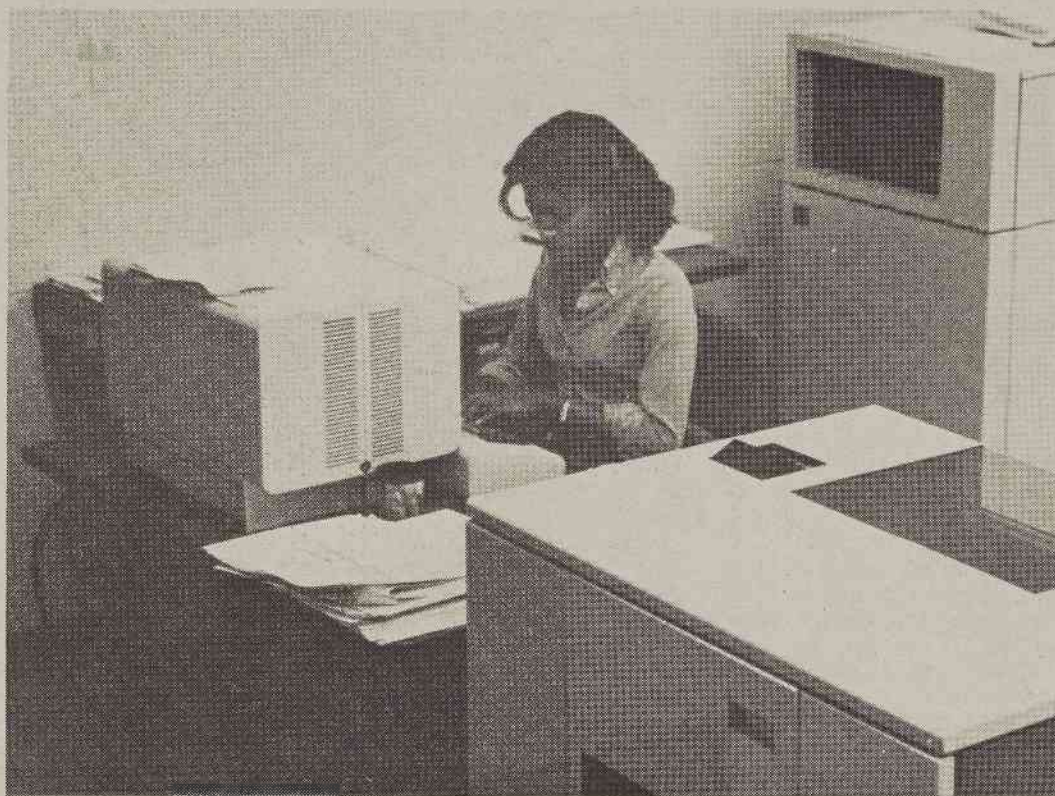
for themselves. They must first be "programmed" with instructions to perform even the simplest job. Much of the class time has been devoted to having the students prepare

logic program flowcharts which illustrate how to program a computer to accomplish various jobs now performed manually.

This course has been just an introduction to the computer world. No field as complex and fast moving as data processing can be mastered in a single semester. But hopefully, an awareness of the importance today and the promise of tomorrow that computers offer society has been sparked.

Just consider ... if every computer in the world were suddenly to go dead, planes would not fly, trains would not run, traffic lights would not change, banks would have to close, space projects would be aborted, and department stores would not be able to sell. If computers were suddenly silenced, the world would be thrown into instant chaos.

Postscript: I might mention that career opportunities in data processing are numerous, growing, and lucrative. In the fall, Wesleyan will offer both Introduction to Computers and a course in Basic computer programming language.



Monica Best operates Wesleyan's new computer.

CRIMINAL JUSTICE CAREER DAY

On April 3, 1981, the Criminal Justice Department held its third annual Criminal Justice Career Day. Bob DeCatsye, Director of the program, felt that the day was a success as it was attended by approximately 350 students from colleges in North Carolina.

Thirty-two Criminal Justice agencies participated in the event by sending recruiting representatives to the campus to discuss career opportunities with students.

Don Murray, Director of North Carolina Alcohol and Law Enforcement, was the key speaker. He spoke of the need for qualified, dedicated young people to enter the field of Criminal Justice.

One of the highlights of the day was a demonstration on the use of patrol dogs in Law Enforcement. This was put on by Security Police from Pope Air Force Base.

Mr. DeCatsye advised that programs of this type play an important role in helping students find employment in their chosen field.

The Criminal Justice Department also sponsored another event in April. On Monday, April 27, Mr. Thomas G. P. Garner, Commissioner of Prisons in Hong Kong, presented a lecture on prison life in that country.

Mr. Garner has a long and varied career in Penology, and has been commended by the United Nations for his work on drug rehabilitation. He was personally decorated by Queen Elizabeth in 1977 for his outstanding contributions to the field of corrections.



Class of 1981

Mills and Fulcher cut debut single

by John Mills

On April 11 and 12, we went to Granite City Recording Studio in Mount Airy, North Carolina, my home town. We worked for three hours laying down the tracks for two songs--"Only You" and "Mariners Chant." We wrote, arranged and produced both songs. We aren't going to wait for the market to find us, we're taking the first step ourselves.

We ordered 1,000 singles. 200 of those will be distributed

to radio stations across the country, and the rest we will sell. I'm sure this won't be our last record. If we personally have to produce every record after this one, it will still be worth it.

Our artistic ability has grown threefold since we met each other, and we owe it all to Wesleyan. We have got the perfect chemistry flowing between us, and I am very confident about our songwriting future.

PRE-GRADUATION FESTIVITIES

Wednesday, May 6

Picnic on the Patio

4:45 - 6:30 p.m.

Bring Your Frisbee
- and Have a
Good Time

Thursday, May 7

The Last Bash

To be Held at
Hardee's Cabin

8:00 p.m. -
1:00 a.m.

Bring Your Own
Own Beverage
Everyone is Invited
To Attend

\$.50 COVER CHARGE
SET-UPS WILL BE PROVIDED

Friday, May 8

Reception at the
President's House

5:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.

Buffet Dinner in
Cafeteria 6:30 p.m.

Cocktail Party at
Ramada Inn

9:00 p.m. - 1:00 a.m.

COCKTAILS AND HORS-D'OEUVRES
WILL BE SERVED

\$.50 COVER CHARGE PER PERSON
EVERYONE IS INVITED TO ATTEND