



# The Decree

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

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## Guest speaker presents first Staley Lecture

By SANDY MITCHELL

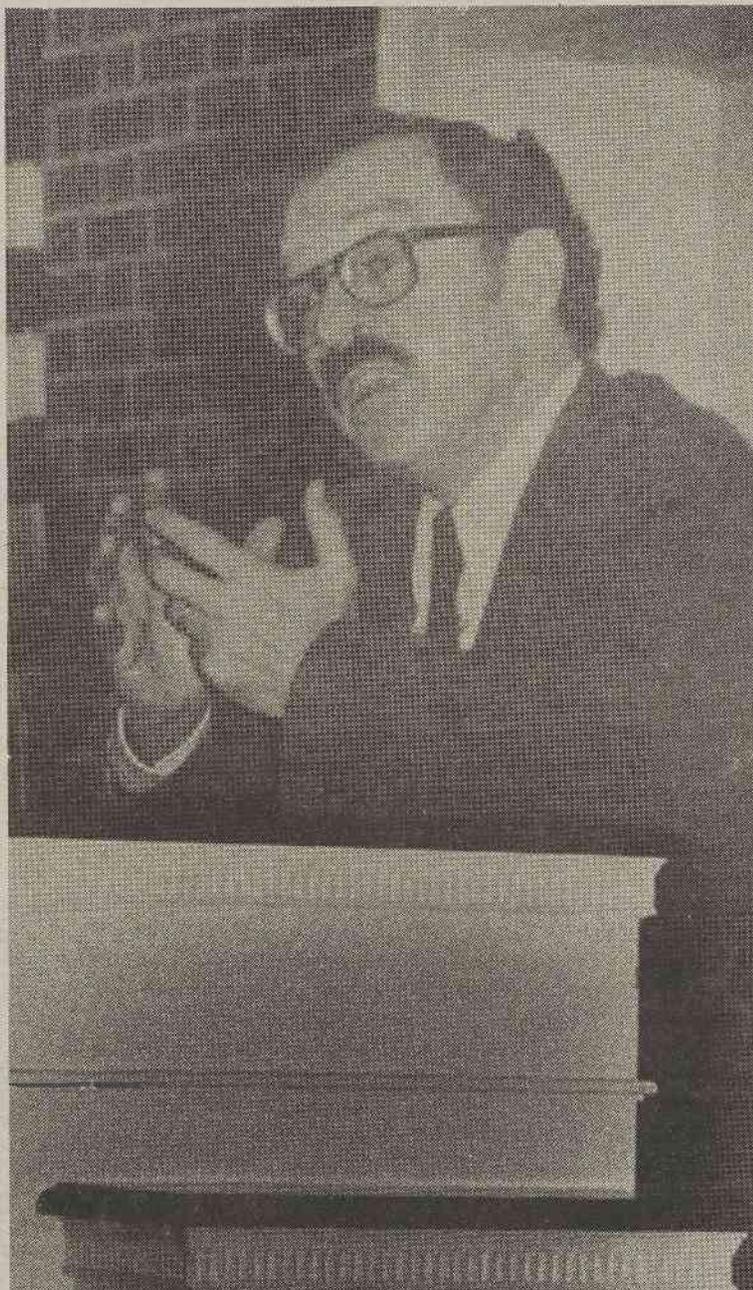
On November 3, North Carolina Wesleyan College, in association with the Thomas F. Staley Foundation, presented the first of the annual Staley Lectures, entitled, "God's Invitation to Shalom." This year the speaker was Dr. Ronald F. Sider.

Dr. Ronald F. Sider explained, "the title of my message means, God's invitation to the people of the world for peace, happiness, and to live in the land of milk and honey. The problem is that most people have rejected His invitation. This is why we have war and poverty in the world today."

Dr. Sider put it in these terms, "the world is a beautiful gift, but we have tragically broken it." He said that the very presence of God's people prevents hunger, poverty, and war, and we should strive for the absence of these things. Dr. Sider experienced this in South America, when the presence of his group gave the citizens of a small town a night free from gun fire.

The Thomas F. Staley Foundation is an independent, non-profit organization that funds programs in colleges all over the country to spread the word of Jesus Christ. In order to receive the grant for the lectures, the college must apply for the grant and also request a speaker, who must be

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RONALD SIDER MAKES POINT DURING LECTURE

## Professors set up tour of Indonesia for next summer

By LINDA SMITH

Pending the reception of a Full-bright Grant, Dr. Allen Johnson, professor of history and geography, and Dr. Marvin Weber, associate professor of criminal justice, are planning a trip to Indonesia for college and university faculty members from North Carolina and other southern states. Twenty applicants will be selected from the Humanities and Social Sciences fields and will spend six weeks during the summer of 1987 in Southeast Asia.

Their objectives are to acquaint participants first-hand with the major symbols of cultural heritage and to create in them an awareness for the history, language, culture, ethics, and contemporary situation in Indonesia.

They will observe, study, and examine the pattern of education in the development and modernization of Indonesia by exposing faculty to the opinions of native scholars, government officials, businessmen, politicians, educators, and artists who are concerned with the effects of change on culture.

They want to help participants in understanding the regional nuances and the cultural norms and enable them to comprehend the difference

between Western and Southeast Asian culture.

The main purposes of the Indonesia visit are to widen the base of teaching about Southeast Asia in general and Indonesia in particular on the college and university level in North Carolina institutions by developing materials for new courses; to lay ground work for developing a series of interdisciplinary curriculum modules; and to prepare participants to act as leaders in a service workshop at the college and grade level and for community organization.

Dr. Johnson says, "80 percent of the money will come from the Full-bright Grant and 20 percent will come from the participants themselves in order to go to Indonesia."

## Program aids top students

By PAM HIGGINS

The North Carolina Wesleyan Honors Program is directed at the college's most promising academic students. Students in the program, which have been at Wesleyan for two years, take specially designed honors courses in each of the eight semesters that they are here.

Director of the honors program, Dr. Steven Ferebee, says that the program's purpose is to "create a community of academically enrolled students within the greater Wesleyan community." In order to participate in the Honors program, students must have a high SAT score, a high grade point average, and leadership qualities.

There are presently twelve to fifteen students in the program. Dr. Ferebee stated that this is the number of students he likes to work with each year because the smaller classes provide the students with a better sense of Wesleyan and because the students get to know their professors better in the program.

Honors students are able to choose any major offered by Wes-

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## Students give reasons for leaving

By TERESA WATKINS

Once again, as with every other year, North Carolina Wesleyan College faces the problem of students not returning for the second semester of school. Why are these students not returning? Are there financial problems, is the academic degree not sufficient, or are these students just not happy here?

Jodi Crawford, a sophomore from Palisades Park, N.J., is not planning to complete this first semester. Crawford bluntly stated, "I don't like school, and this place doesn't help." She will be leaving campus Nov. 7. Crawford is going back home to enroll in beauty school. She is pursuing her goal in life and has concluded that attending Wesleyan is not

assisting her ambition.

Pamela Miller, a sophomore at Gerge Mason College in Fredericksburg, Va., did not return to Wesleyan this year. She said "the college tuition is outrageous. I had to take out several loans to attend last year, and I could not afford to owe \$20,000 when I graduated. (The current tuition and fees are \$7,430 — higher than most major universities.) One can attend UNC-CH cheaper than they can Wesleyan, and a degree from UNC-CH would be much more impressive on a resume, when you are trying to get a job in the future."

Okadaya is a transfer student from Japan. Miwa is indecisive about whether or not she will be coming back next semester. "The college is rather secluded, therefore since I have

no transportation it is difficult to go off campus." She comes from a large city and is planning to attend school in a metropolis, maybe Boston, if she does not come back next semester.

Marshall Brooks, the academic dean, said "the name of the institution is not important, it's the quality of the education that counts. We here at Wesleyan pride ourselves with our teaching staff." Sixty to 65 percent of the faculty have Ph.D. degrees in their fields. "The average class size is 10 to 20 students, compared to a class of several hundred at UNC-CH." At this student-teacher ratio, the students here are known by name and not number. The students also have the opportunity to have individualized counseling.

"The college is very concerned about having to raise tuition. We are trying to get more students to enroll, so tuition can be kept to a minimum, because 70 percent of our budget is based on tuition alone," Brooks said. "Financial Aid is always available, and 90 percent of the students receive some type of aid."

Brooks said "50 percent of our freshman class, last year, did not return. The college holds a special emphasis to better serve the students, and hopefully they will pursue a four year degree here." Students say that anyone gets into Wesleyan if they can not attend elsewhere. Brooks disagrees: "Wesleyan is not an open-door college, admission standards will be raised according to SAT scores and class rank."