

# The Decree

OFFICIAL STUDENT NEWSPAPER OF  
NORTH CAROLINA WESLEYAN COLLEGE

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## College education more than classes

Fellow students, you have probably heard this speech many times. But for some of you it has not sunk in. You've heard the saying, "What you get is what you give." This is very true in the college environment and especially true about society in general.

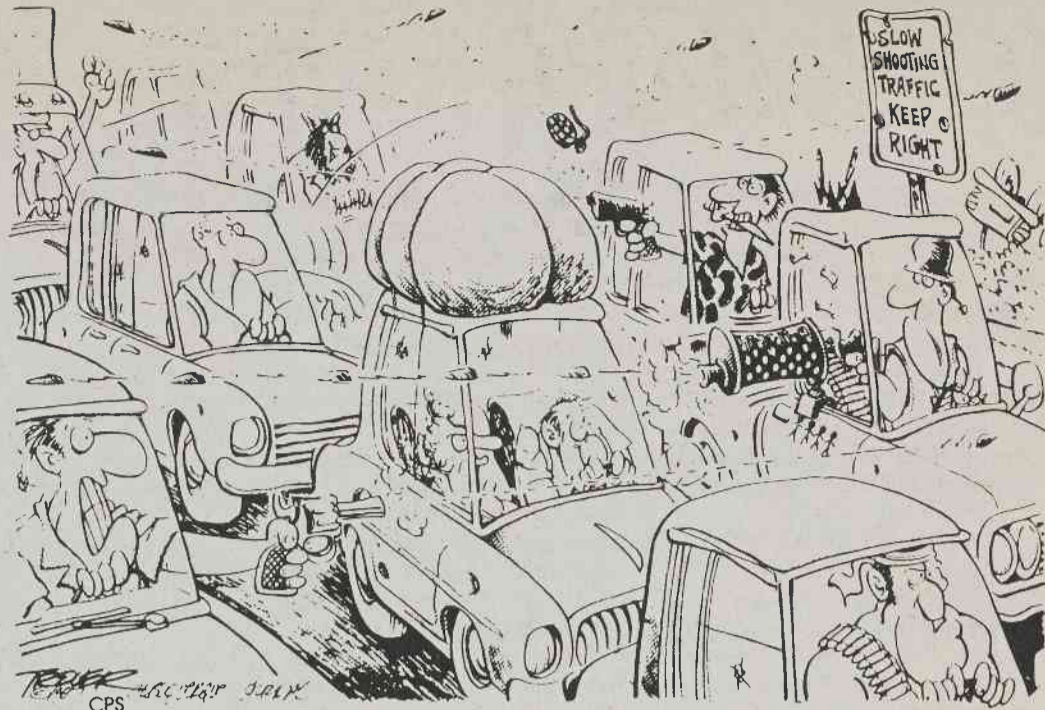
So many times people say, "There's nothing to do around here." This statement could not be further from the truth. There are organizations that need and want student support and ideas. This may mean giving up some of your free time, but it's well worth the time. Not only can you meet new people and make new friends, but this will also help you get used to what you will probably do the rest of your life.

Most of you will work in teams to solve problems, and

this experience will help tremendously. The business world looks very favorably upon people who have participated in groups. In a world of competition for jobs, you need every advantage you can grasp.

What we are trying to convey is the importance of getting involved in extra-curricular events. Sports are not the only extra-curricular activities on campus. There's the Student Activities Committee, Wesleyan Christian Fellowship, and the Wesleyan Singers. These groups are just a few of the many groups on and off campus that want your support.

So what are you waiting for? There is much more to receive from college than an education in the classroom. Get involved!



"LET'S FLY, I SAID... DON'T BE CRAZY, YOU SAID... WITH ALL THOSE NEAR-MISSES AND PILOT ERRORS?! LET'S PLAY IT SAFE, YOU SAID, WE'LL DRIVE...!"

## Promises from the President

By LESLIE H. GARNER, JR.  
Wesleyan College President

Two weeks ago, I attended the Presidential Candidates Forum in Chapel Hill. I felt a certain sympathy with the candidates as they recited their litany of promises. As your new President, I, too, am in the business of making promises. Unlike the candidates, though, I hope you'll take my promises seriously. Here are six.

Promise 1: Wesleyan's obligation is to help you prepare a meaningful, productive life in a complex world. In return for your diligence in study and service to colleagues, you will take from this place knowledge you can use to achieve economic independence, personal integrity, and spiritual peace.

Promise 2: We're all in this together. Nobody here will do it to or for you. We are all in the business of learning, which is much easier if we work together. I'm already aware of some challenges we face. Improving facilities for student activities, adding computers, and developing extra-curricular activities are among them. I trust you will alert me to more. I look forward to learning about them. I won't fix them for you. I'll face them with you.

Promise 3: This is going to be fun. I realize that a guy who cares about litter may seem dull. I'm not really. Building our community at Wesleyan will be fun. We're going to try new ideas. We'll hit some home runs, and we'll strike out some. As Mike Fox can tell you, you can miss six out of ten in baseball and be a hero.

Promise 4: It won't be all fun. Some of our work will be tough, some frustrating, some maddening. We should celebrate the successes but be prepared to discuss the frustrations in an open, constructive way.

Promise 5: The cracked door. For a President to promise an open door is foolishness. There are too many demands on my time for me to be

available instantly, sometimes even to my family. Yet, if you can wait a day or so, we can almost always find time. Within a few weeks, I plan to schedule regular conversations with groups of students, faculty, and staff. I'll try to do most of the listening.

Promise 6: I like you. I think the world of students. You have the chance to straighten out the things that old folks like me have messed up. Your future is what keeps the faculty and staff in education. What-

ever we do is motivated by a sincere interest in you, no matter how bone-headed it may appear at the time. Promise.

And if these aren't enough, feel free to choose from the following promises: A new deal, a fair deal, a chicken in every pot, and a government as honest as the American people. If you do, simply remember they all came from candidates before they became Presidents.

## Boxer-gym shorts a sign of changing fashion here

By ANGELA MARTIN

My eyes must have played a trick on me, I thought. Surely the guy who just passed me in the hall wasn't wearing his boxer shorts under his gym shorts!

I stole a second look and with shocked resignation realized that Wesleyan was once again undergoing a fashion craze.

First it was the Kojak look, minus the lollipop. I can understand some of the trials students undergo during the fraternities' initiation week. I swallowed that craze, for hair grows back rather rapidly.

Then it was the "preppie bum" look — "hole-y" jeans with Fox shirts. It was rather neat looking, if I had to say something positive about the attire. The jeans weren't ragged, just neatly ripped in some very conspicuous places, like the knees or the pockets on the backside.

Now it's the boxer-and-gym shorts combination, which seems to be almost as popular as bacon and eggs.

"Jams" are another story. The brightly colored, mid-thigh length shorts with the abstract designs are also popular at Wesleyan, as both guys and girls can wear them. The

"jams" come with "matching tops, which can either be worn separately or with the jams."

There are students who do not wish to make as bold a statement as do those who wear the jams or the boxer-gym shorts combination. These conservatively dressed students wear a more watered-down version of the jams. The colors are soft pastel yellows or blues, with the tops to match. And for the students who are even more conservative, there's the common shirt and jeans outfit.

Why the sudden change in fashion at Wesleyan? Could it be that this is just a phase, a fad that will die out when something else comes along? Or is it possible that some freshmen, not familiar with the area climate, came ill-prepared, as far as having only one particular type of clothing to wear? One student, who asked not to be identified, believes that Wesleyan's new wave of fashion is just a fad.

"Every college has its own style. I've been to East Carolina and North Carolina Central, and each of them has its own style," she said. "Wesleyan's going through a phase. It'll die out."

