



The Decree

VOL. 3, NO. 9

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

FRIDAY, MARCH 18, 1988

PepsiCo head to keynote symposium

D. Wayne Calloway, Chairman of the Board and Chief Executive Officer of PepsiCo, Inc., will be the keynote speaker at a symposium on "Eastern North Carolina in a Global Economy" at North Carolina Wesleyan College Wednesday, April 6.

William C. Friday, President Emeritus of the University of North Carolina and President of the William R. Kenan Jr. Fund, will lead a discussion of strategies for regional

development titled "Education, North Carolina Wesleyan and the Future of Eastern North Carolina." The symposium will be held from 9 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. April 16 in cafeteria on the Wesleyan campus.

The symposium is part of the two days of activities being held in conjunction with the Inauguration of the college's new President, Dr. Leslie H. Garner Jr.

Gene Lewis, chairman of the inaugural committee stated, "Eastern

North Carolina is going through a time of great social and economic change, and North Carolina Wesleyan College is dedicated to making a positive contribution to that transformation under Dr. Garner's leadership. This symposium will examine the impact of that change on our region and the challenges and opportunities that it presents to Wesleyan Colleges."

He added, "Wayne Calloway, William Friday and the other distin-

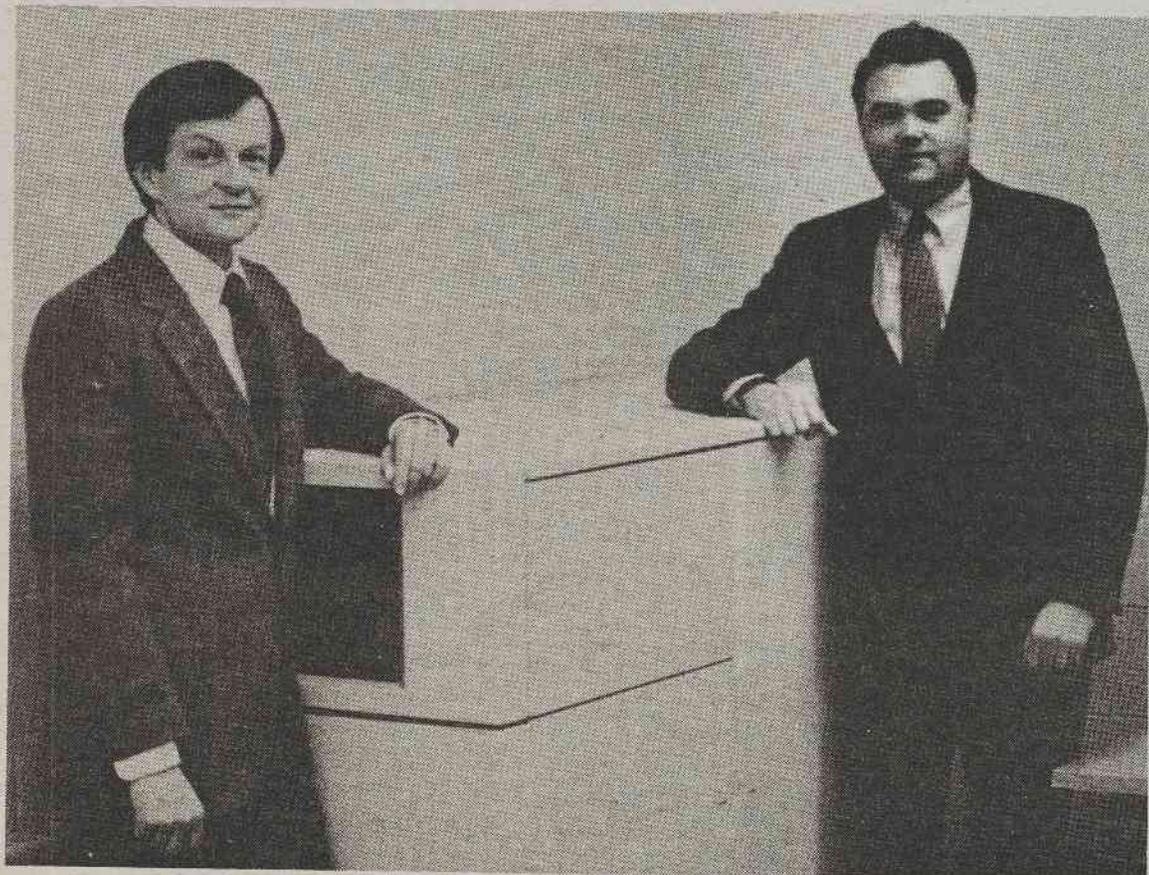
guished speakers at our symposium will provide a valuable perspective on the future of the college and our region in a changing world economy."

Calloway is a native of Elkin, N.C. and a graduate of Wake Forest University, where he presently serves on the Board of Trustees. He has been with PepsiCo, which is headquartered in Purchase, N.Y., since 1967 and has played a major role in its becoming one of the largest and most

successful consumer products companies in the world. At the symposium, Calloway will speak on "Linking Eastern North Carolina into the Global Economy."

Since 1983, he has served successively as PepsiCo's Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer. He orchestrated a major restructuring of the corporation's operations that won both him and the company

(Continued on Page 3)



COMPUTER DONATION — Standing alongside the System/34 in Wesleyan's computer lab are Dr. Leslie H. Garner Jr. (left), president of Wesleyan, and Sam Johnson, a partner in the firm of Poyner & Spruill, which donated the computer for instructional use.

Law firm donates computer

The Raleigh and Rocky Mount legal firm of Poyner & Spruill has donated an IBM System/34 mainframe computer to North Carolina Wesleyan College, Wesleyan President Dr. Leslie H. Garner Jr. said.

"This donation does more than provide Wesleyan with more computer equipment," Garner said. "It will enable us to enrich our educational offerings and meet the needs of the surrounding community business. By their gift, Poyner and Spruill have conveyed confidence in Wesleyan's ability to meet these

needs and we are delighted to respond."

The arrival of the System/34 coincided with a community survey initiated by the Computer Information Services Department. The survey results showed that RPG II was a popular computer language in the Rocky Mount area and that Wesleyan should offer such a course. "Our priority is to establish the RPG program and add the community to our service agenda," said Leo Bishop, director of the college's data processing department. "This satis-

fies one of the missions of our college, which is to be cognizant of the community's needs and expand the computer arena for our students to work and operate in. Everyone benefits."

The System/34 mainframe will be used primarily for teaching the RPG II programming language, said Bob Lewis, chairman of Wesleyan's Computer Information Systems Department, though its capabilities will be expanded later to teach other

(Continued on Page 4)

Success rate up among students who took WPE

By RHONDA SHARPE

On March 25, 63 of the 88 students passed the Writing Proficiency Exam (WPE), a 72 percent success rate.

The Goldsboro extension had the highest passage rate with 88 percent. Rocky Mount followed with 65 percent, Raleigh with 64 percent, and New Bern with 62 percent. This was the fifth time the exam has been given since Wesleyan established the policy of acquiring and administering the WPE.

The first time the exam was given this academic year, on Nov. 3, 52 percent of the students passed. Dr. Emily Meredith, chairperson of the Writing Proficiency Exam Committee, attributes the increased success rate to the quality of the question and the fact that students are taking the exam more seriously.

The question asked on Nov. 3 was, "Should personal characteristics be considered when choosing a president? IF so, which ones and why? Or do you feel that such issues are not important, that only the professional qualifications matter/ Or do you have some other view? Support your position, whatever it is, with clear examples and details."

The March 25 question was, "If you could choose the ideal community in which to live, what qualities would be most important to you? Choose at least three qualities and

give specific reasons for each."

Meredith cited the following criteria for judging an exam paper: Did the student answer the question? Did the student state clearly at the outset what his/her position was and support it with examples? Did the student write with an understanding of the convention of the English language, ie. use of grammar, punctuation, and sentence structure? Did the student write clearly?

Meredith added that students who pass the test usually plan their time carefully before they write.

Before each reading session of the exam papers, the committee goes through a three-hour training session to make sure all standards are clear and that each member of the committee uses the same criteria to judge an exam paper. Meredith added that with the assistance of Dr. Chris Carstens, the committee constantly checks the validity and reliability of the reading standards.

Carstens uses a comparison of the scores of at least two independent readers to check the level of reliability. He also compares the obtained score with the chance score to check agreement. Carstens added that if there is no variance in the two scores something could be wrong with the judgment of the reader. However, he stressed that his function was to make sure the exam tests for things

(Continued on Page 4)