

# The Decree

OFFICIAL STUDENT NEWSPAPER OF  
NORTH CAROLINA WESLEYAN COLLEGE

Editor-in-Chief — Don Rhodes  
Arts and Entertainment — Mike Trubey  
Contributing Editor — Dell Lewis  
Photographer — Margaret Culver

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## Maybe Japanese could fill wish list

Well, well, well! Now the Japanese want to buy us. That's amazing considering the college was about to close its doors just a few years ago.

Les Garner adamantly denies that we will be sold, but why did Chairman of the Board, J. Phil Carlton, state that the board would listen to any offer? I wonder if President Les has been told everything.

Garner did say that we would consider a Japanese/American exchange, but how much money would that bring the college? I suggest that we work out some sort of deal whereby the Japanese get to send 400 to 500 students and have some control over the curriculum, and in return, they give us some new facilities.

First on our wish list has to

be a pool, and the next thing should be a golf course. The Japanese love the sport so much that they will spend their lunch hours shagging balls from the top of their office buildings.

Of course we would need some new dormitories, and these should be spectacular, indeed. We might as well request a fraternity row, also. And, what the hell, give Daisy her museum, and stock it with oriental pieces.

We can even construct a new administration building, complete with an office for the Pres, thereby allowing us to convert Bellemonte into a clubhouse for the golf course.

In the meantime, we suggest that students consider developing a taste for sushi, sake, and haiku.



*Energy fills their pages*

## Books probe new worlds

By STEVE FEREBEE

I like receiving one of those little pink package slips in my mail box because I know Christine has books for me. I tell her I want a big box of money, but actually I buzz over to my office to see what books have come. I wait until I'm home to open the books, so I have time to examine them. Feeling and hearing the endpapers give a bit when I randomly open the book a few times to limber the back, I am enveloped in the sound and smell and sight and feel of an unexplored book.

Recently I bought this over-sized art book with hundreds of paintings by Edgar Degas. This is a book you hold on your lap, bathing in Degas' shimmering aquamarines and stark lights as dancers glide in and out of shadows and ordinary women stretch and lean across canvases. Degas' vigorous handling of color and line



seems more obvious in this collection than in other reproductions. Degas paints for adults; his dancers are sometimes lumpish and his approach is mercilessly realistic. I buy picture books such as this one when I can; the worlds within are essential to my education.

In a catalogue of discounted books I found *Weird Tales*, a collection of horror short stories reprinted from 32 years of *Weird*, a pulp periodical pandering to the glistening-slime-and-creeping-monsters fans. In these stories people fall into black orifices and feel cold hands on their necks and confront gigantic fears

from their closets. "As I suspected," he said gravely, "They were soulless."

"In the last year of publication, 1954, in Everil Worrell's "Call Not Their Names," Shalimar, Merlin, Uncle Byron, and Madame Margoli wallow in a mishmash of evil beings lurking about in a Philip Marlowe scene. Readers delight in the fun of horror, in being the incredulous cynic overcome by primordial fears, and in chuckling at an unexpected twist in an old plot line. The binding is cheap, the paper is thin, the illustrations are spotty; but this is a book begging to be read for the sensory roller coaster effects.

Then, just this week, arrives a book I've been expecting for months. *Hours in a Library* by the Victorian writer Sir Leslie Stephen is actually a blue-green, four-volume 1984 fas-

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## Decree's quality of journalism criticized

**Editors Note:** This letter arrived on Oct. 26. We were unable to run it in the last issue.

Dear Editor:

In the Oct. 14 issue of *The Decree*, there appeared on the front page an article captioned "Students begin using activity center." In the article, I am not only misquoted, but given credit for statements about a subject that the reporter and I never even discussed. Let me first point out the misquotes.

First misquote:

"The primary purpose of this activity building is to fulfill the needs of the college community."

My statement to the reporter was that the activities building was intended to serve the needs of the stu-

### Letters to the Editor

dents, including providing office space for the Student Government Association, work and meeting space for student organizations, and office space for the Student Life staff. By using the word "community" in the article, it implies that the building was not constructed to meet the needs of the students, but to serve equally all segments of the college. This is not true, nor is it correct that I made that statement.

Second misquote:

Following this sentence in the ar-

ticle, "Some students and professors say the activity building should have opened by the beginning of this school year," I am credited with (Ray Kirkland, however, said) "that Oct. 3 was the designated date for the student activity building to open." As I indicated in the interview, the original construction schedule did call for the building to be ready for occupancy prior to the beginning of the Fall Term as "some students and professors" said; however, the delay in the completion date resulted primar-

ily from increasing the size of the building.

Now the most disturbing part of the article. I am credited with saying "the building was built because there were no places for noncompetitive student activities; that many students who are not involved in sports complain that they are frequently "kicked out" of the gymnasium by the basketball or volleyball teams; that this shall no longer be the case with the new facility."

Mr. Rhodes, availability of the gymnasium was not discussed in my interview. If it had been discussed, and if I had commented on the gym not being available for "noncompetitive student activities," I can assure you that I would not have said stu-

dents were "kicked out" of the gymnasium.

I would appreciate having these errors acknowledged in the next issue of *The Decree*.

Ray Kirkland

### Poor English, attitude discredit publication

Dear Editor:

In the editorial on page two of our last issue, Vol. 4, No. 4 (Friday, Oct. 28, 1988), you urge people who have "a problem" with something in the paper to "write a letter to the editor." I respond herewith.

First, I am struck by the poor quality of the English in many of the articles in all of the issues I have

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