

The Decree

OFFICIAL STUDENT NEWSPAPER OF
NORTH CAROLINA WESLEYAN COLLEGE

Editors — Terrie Roberts and Diane Jensen

Staff — Dhana Chesson, Mark Brett, D.A. Lentz,
John "Cy" Moriarty, John Pernel

The Decree is located in the Student Union, North Carolina Wesleyan College, Wesleyan College Station, Rocky Mount, NC 27801. Policy is determined by the Editorial Board of *The Decree*. Republication of any matter herein without the express consent of the Editorial Board is strictly forbidden. *The Decree* is composed and printed by *The Spring Hope Enterprise*.

Opinions published do not necessarily reflect those of North Carolina Wesleyan College.

Condoms are needed

Condoms are needed on the N.C. Wesleyan College campus, and should be made available by the college.

As of Nov. 2, there were six confirmed cases of sexually transmitted diseases among NCWC students. Also eight pregnancy test were given at the Spruill Health Center by Nurse Janice Stump, who said these statistics are high compared to past years. She believes the numbers will continue to rise.

It is obvious students are having unprotected sex on this campus. While we do not mean to suggest that the availability of condoms on campus would stop unprotected sex, their availability would increase the likelihood that students would think about and, let us hope, decide to use condoms when they engage in sexual relations.

Several students were informally asked if condoms were available on campus, would they use them. One-hundred percent of the responses were yes. Although people could just be saying this and would not practice safe sex if condoms were

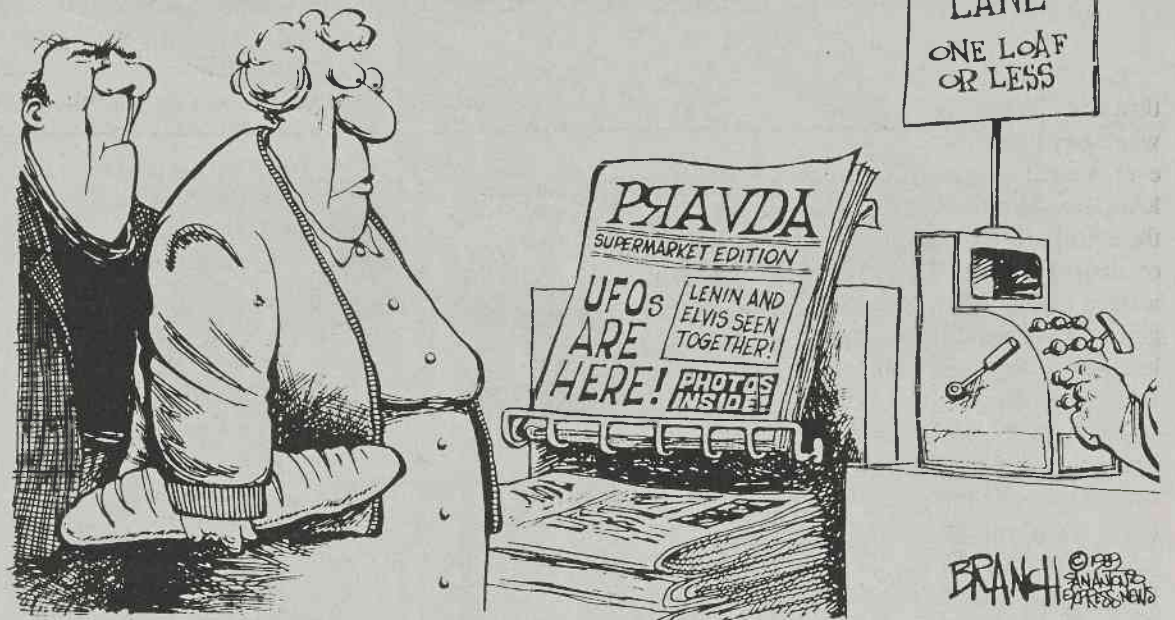
available, we believe if they were available, at least a few more people would use them.

While Nurse Stump's figures of STD's are high, they do not necessarily represent the extent of the diseases on this campus. Several students may be walking around infected with a variety of STD's and not even realize it. These students may infect others unknowingly and the potentially fatal cycle will continue.

In an article printed in an issue of *The Decree* last year, Dean Marron said that condoms would not be dispensed on campus due to the legal liability North Carolina Wesleyan has to its students. With the growing concern over AIDS and other STD's, we believe it is vital that students have easy access to condoms to try to reduce diseases and possibly save lives from the deadly AIDS virus.

The use of condoms is the only known protection, besides complete abstinence, from diseases such as AIDS. Therefore, we hope that North Carolina Wesleyan will one day allow condoms to be dispensed on campus.

Yet another Western Idea
is Introduced in the U.S.S.R...



Players deserve reward

Team requests free rings

Dear Editor:

This institution has taken a lot of my parents and my money over the last several years. I don't think my parents have minded a whole lot paying for my tuition, meals, room and books because I am going to receive something extremely valuable for all that money which is a diploma. However, my parents as well as myself are having an extremely difficult time understanding why we have to pay \$295 for a national championship ring.

After winning the national championship in baseball last June, Coach Fox asked each of us right there on the field if we wanted rings. Of course we all answered yes with no hesitation. I guess in all the excitement no one stopped to think that the college would not even consider paying for these rings. Coach Fox did write each team member during the summer and tell us the cost of the rings and that we

Letters to the Editor

would have to pay for all of it.

Being a national champion means being the best and of course we wanted the best possible ring to signify our accomplishment. That cost came to \$295 for a 10k gold national championship ring which I will wear with pride. But will someone please tell me after all that the baseball team has done for the national recognition of this institution why I, along with 22 of my teammates, must pay for these rings?

Coach Fox indicated to each of us when we returned that the college would not pay for any portion of the rings. I felt sorry for Coach Fox when he was giving us this news because he knew we would not understand and

that some of us would not have the money. The college apparently sees no benefit of us having accomplished this feat. It seems that the college feels no responsibility for helping us to buy the rings. For a student athlete here who spends time, energy and money to represent N.C. Wesleyan this attitude is extremely unfortunate. Is this the reason we are having to pay for our rings or does the college really not have the money?

Beside paying tuition, fees, room, board and books last year, I also spent \$55 for a pair of baseball shoes, \$37 for a pull-over jacket, \$45 for a quilt jacket, \$26 for baseball sweats, and \$100 for a new baseball glove. This is a total of \$263. Now I am being asked to pay another \$295 for our championship rings which means playing baseball here last year cost me \$560.

I do not mind paying for shoes, jackets, and gloves because I understand from Coach Fox that the department does not pay for these items for any student athlete here. But would someone please tell me why I have to pay for a national championship ring that myself and my teammates worked so hard for?

(Continued on Page 3)

