

The Decree

OFFICIAL STUDENT NEWSPAPER OF
NORTH CAROLINA WESLEYAN COLLEGE

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Introducing new editor of Decree

Hello. My name is John Pernell. I am the new editor of this paper. If this is good or bad, I have not yet discovered. I hope to give *The Decree* a new look. I want to reflect, in the writing, the opinion of the student body, but to achieve this I am going to need to hear what the opinion of the student body is. I would also like help from the faculty of Wesleyan. Let me know what you would like to see.

When I agreed to become editor, I realized that there would be a lot of work involved; my interest in writing pushed me forward. Having never worked on any type of newspaper staff, I am, with this issue, still learning. I would also like to let everyone know that I am by choice a creative writer. Please bear with me as I learn the news paper prose and cons (joke.)

On my first day as editor I learned that I have to supply an editorial every issue. Oh no! I guess no job is as slack as I would like it.

First, I would like to commend the freshman class. They are a tight group. They

are a class in the way a class should be. The freshmen, for the most part, have not formed cliques. This is good. Hint. Hint. There needs to be more of this type of fellowship on the Wesleyan campus.

Second, the number of people who get involved in school events stinks. Do not spend your college years in your rooms! I am tired of people saying that they hate this school because there is nothing to do. To have something to do you have to do it. 'Nuff said? I know that Steve Ferebee hates for people to use the word "something," but I think "something" is a good word.

In the future of North Carolina Wesleyan College, I want to see the students stand up and start yelling for everything that they believe in. I encourage everyone to make their voices be heard.

People, we have just entered the 90s. This is the last decade of this century, and the first decade of the future. You are holding that future in your hands. Make your voice the voice of Wesleyan's future.



"Sir" George and the Dragon.

Decade in review

80's bands were 'whacky'

By MARK BRETT

Here we sit on the edge of a new decade, our recent memories saturated with ream upon ream of tiresome "80's in Review" pieces from all the various media. Well, here's another one. Never let it be said that *The Decree* doesn't keep in step with all the most up-to-date journalistic practices available (don't miss the startling expose' of Wesleyan's Midget Nudist Satan-Worshipping community in our next thrilling edition).

At any rate, this is indeed an 80's in Review article, but one with a slight difference. Whereas most of these things concern themselves with the popular, this one deals with the obscure. Sort of "the music that time forgot," shall we say; the ten that escaped the public eye.

Given this theme, there can be no better place to start than with Devo. Though just about everyone remembers Devo, very few people remember them for what they were: an innovative bunch

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of musicians. Their name conjures up images of flower-pot hats and the infamous Devo Leisure Suit.

In truth, they only wore those outfits, flower pots included, for one album, "Freedom of Choice." This was an album centered, for the most part, around the theme of individuality and the lack of it in modern society, and the suits merely reinforced that theme in an appropriately bizarre way. The album was also one hell of a lot of fun, proving once and for all that pop can tackle serious ideas without sounding completely pompous in the attempt. It's a shame so few have been able to accomplish it.

Another pop-type band that managed to achieve that precarious balance was Hanoi Rocks. Coming out of L.A.'s club scene at the same time as Motley Crue, this band pioneered the "glam"

look that so many current heavy metal bands use (Poison especially seems to have copied Hanoi's look; that is, until they started copying Guns N' Roses' look).

Hanoi Rocks' appeal went far beyond mere image, however. Their songs had a raw, powerful edge that permeated both music and lyrics; the group was just as likely to play straight blues or cover Hoyt Axton tunes as they were to play syrupy sweet ballads or kick out the jams on blistering semi-punk numbers.

Hanoi Rocks' career was cut short when their drummer was killed in a drunk driving accident that landed Motley Crue's Nikki Sixx in jail for a while. After five albums, Hanoi Rocks disbanded, never having attained the recognition they deserved.

To change gears somewhat, some attention should be focused on 80's punk. Minnesota was home to a large concentration of punk bands in the early 80's, and the best of these were the Replacements and the Soul Asylum. The Replacements' early album spoke for a whole generation of American youth; the 'Mats sang very incisive songs of young-adult angst set to the tune of chaotic guitars and mercilessly driving drum sets.

Later albums have seen the Replacements mellow and mature a bit, learning more than two chords and slowing the pace a little. Lead vocalist Paul Westerberg has also become one of the best lyricists of the 80's, capable

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Coaches appreciate student support

Dear Editor:

Please print this letter in the next issue of *The Decree*:

Dear Student Basketball Fans and Pep Band:

I want to congratulate our students who attended the Methodist basketball game on Saturday evening, Jan. 20. Not only were you outstanding in your enthusiasm and support for our basketball

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team but your antics were funny and entertaining also. I know that the noise and support helped our teams to victory over Methodist.

Thanks also to our pep band for their music and support.

I hope that this support will continue throughout the season and that we can get more students out of the dorm and into the gym during our home basketball games.

It is nice to see that we now have a "student section" and I enjoyed your actions during the

game. Please don't forget to come out and support our women's team also in the future.

Once again congratulations for not only attendance and support but your class in doing so. Keep up the good work.

Mike Fox,
Director of Athletics
Bill Chambers,
Men Basketball Coach