

The Decree

OFFICIAL STUDENT NEWSPAPER OF
NORTH CAROLINA WESLEYAN COLLEGE

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Letters welcomed

The editor of *The Decree* looks profusely around the room for some ideas for discussion in the next editorial masterpiece that will roll out of his Smith Corona. On his desk, he sees a stack of past newspapers. He flips through the pile reviewing past editorial topics. They range from date rape, student drinking, security with guns, the great condom debate, security without guns, to the infamous question "Why?"

The Decree's major intent is to provide information on these various topics in hope that the students of this institution will take this awareness and work to solve these problems. If the student body

continues to read the newspaper and say "Someone should do something about that," then how are the problems ever going to be solved?

The purpose of a newspaper is to inspire change in the world. Sometimes changes are slow to get started. Just remember, if the Berlin Wall can be knocked down, then the students of a small southern college can fight to transform their school to their own standards. The newspaper is a place to begin discussions. Letters to the editor are rarely rejected in order to allow all opinions known, but without the involvement of readers in such a way, *The Decree* can not achieve that function.



But it's often a pain in the back

Gardening fun in abstract

By STEVE FEREBEE

To me, owning a home means having a garden, so one of the happiest moments of my life happened the day I dug the first hole in my yard.

Almost two years later I am still digging holes, suffering for days afterward with an aching back. Since I've come to hate mowing, this spring I'm digging

**Dr. Steve
Muses**

out grass and planting bushes in the back. Saturday was a cool blue day, so I gathered my tools, put some rousing rock and roll on the portable, and surveyed my

grounds. I looked first at the area I dug out last spring to reassure myself the back pain would be worth it. I pushed my shovel in to the rhythm of an old Mitch Ryder song.

I like the feel and sound of a shovel cutting through mats of grass and then sinking into damp earth. The foot and a good tool make sweet combination. I began

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Editorial slights fine arts on campus

Dear Editor:

I am writing to challenge the editorial "Not-so-fine arts" of March 30. The editorial states, "The quest is to discover why we are called a liberal arts college when there are few fine arts taking place on this campus."

The term "liberal arts" is defined as "the course of instruction at a modern college granting an academic (as distinguished from an engineering or other technical) degree, comprising the arts, natural sciences, social sciences, and humanities" (The American College Dictionary.) According to the college catalogue, "... the College requires each student to complete a number of courses in each of the divisions of humanities, sciences, and social sciences." Thus, Wesleyan is a liberal arts college because this is the type of education the school offers.

Letters to the Editor

Yes, it would be wonderful if Wesleyan were thriving with fine arts. It would be great if Wesleyan had an art studio, for example. But while Wesleyan does not profess to be a fine arts school, students here have more opportunities for "hands-on experience" in fine arts than the editorial recognizes. Despite the theatre's "minute budget," many students have been involved in the three productions this year: "House of Blue Leaves," the Traveling Show, and "Getting Out."

Many more people this year than last year have been involved in theatre. This year Wesleyan

had the first Traveling Show it has ever had. The show consisted of about 12 students dancing, singing, and acting. The music department offers students private voice and piano lessons, as well as instruction on various musical instruments. The Wesleyan Chorus gives students a chance to perform.

Despite the "hands-on experience" students are getting at Wesleyan, the editorial suggests that Wesleyan is a fine arts drought.

Wesleyan offers a broad variety of cultural events to the students; however, the editorial barely mentions such "readings,

concerts, and seminars." We are fortunate to have writers such as Alan Gurganus, Reynolds Price, and Kaye Gibbons to come to speak to us. The NEW Arts Series and the free film series are also available to students.

Last year's Spring Symposium on the culture of Eastern North Carolina and this year's Symposium on the culture of Eastern North Carolina and this year's Symposium on the environment were valuable contributions to our liberal arts college. These are just a few of the cultural events Wesleyan offers.

But perhaps the greatest fault I find with the editorial is its failure to acknowledge the auditorium/fine arts center that the college is planning to build. Four million dollars of the \$8.3 million currently being raised will be used for the fine arts center. The proposed fine arts center facility will

include a 300-seat theatre, a 1200-seat auditorium, gallery and rehearsal space, and classrooms.

Wesleyan deserves more credit than "Not-so-fine arts" grants it. As we try to improve upon Wesleyan, it is important not only to be aware of what is wrong with Wesleyan, but to be aware of what is right with Wesleyan.

Elizabeth Cooper

Students can help

Dear Editor:

A reply to the letter from John Hearne, in part concerned with the Wesleyan Symposium, by the organizers of the 1991 Symposium, seem appropriate.

The Wesleyan Symposium is intended as a forum in which students, faculty, and residents of the region participate. The

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