

# The Decree

VOL. 6, NO. 1

North Carolina Wesleyan College, Rocky Mount, N.C.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 21, 1990

## Freshmen enrollment largest in 20 years

By DHANA CHESSON

While other colleges have reported a significant decline in freshmen enrollment this year, North Carolina Wesleyan College recruited the biggest class it has had in 20 years.

The class total stands at about 210, which makes it the second

largest class in Wesleyan history. Doug Clark, director of Admissions and Financial Aid, said the admissions officers "recruited without compromising admissions standards."

An increased prospect base, mailings, high school visits, and the help of the Wesleyan Ambassadors helped in getting the num-

ber of new students Wesleyan wanted, he said.

Since the college has boosted up their enrollment, the college community now has to deal and work with the advantages and disadvantages of having a large influx of new freshmen.

The sheer numbers of new students can be seen as the main

advantage. With so many more students on campus, it is expected to enrich student activities and involvement.

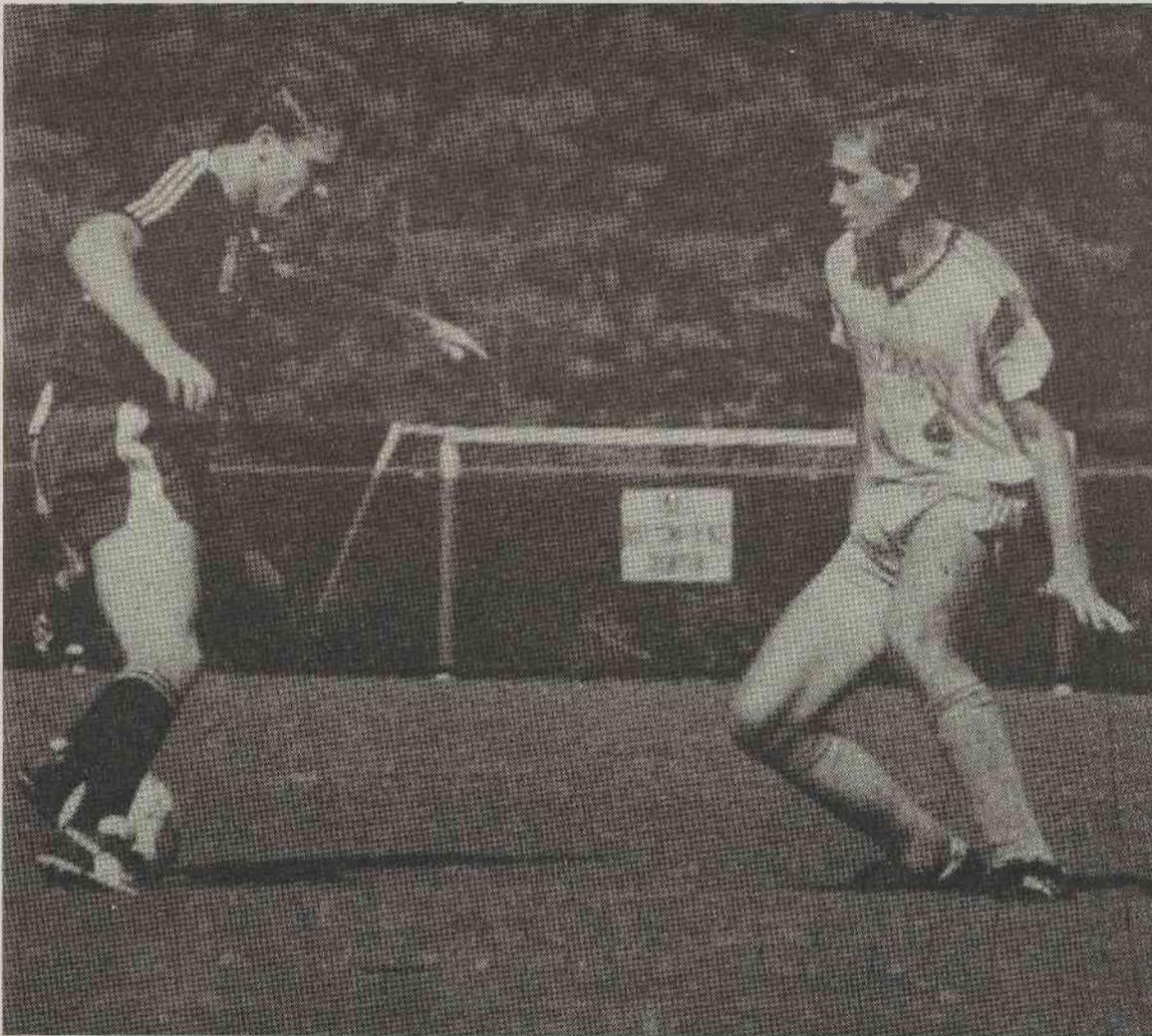
Chris Watson, a freshman residing in South Hall, feels "our class has a lot to offer both academically and socially."

This is good, suggests Clark, who explains, "Small colleges

heavily depend on their activities."

Another advantage seen by freshman Dana Christian is that "more people feel the same way. More of us are going through the freshman experience together."

When the college learned of  
(Continued on Back Page)



**STANDING FIRM** — Soccer player Mike Bavier holds his own against a Mary Washington College forward during the Battling Bishops' recent 1-0 loss. For a look at the soccer team and more sports coverage, turn to page 4.

## Grief follows sudden death of classmate

By DHANA CHESSON

North Carolina Wesleyan College freshman James Hodges died of a self-inflicted gunshot wound at his home in Washington early in the morning of Sept. 9. He was 18.

According to Sheriff Nelson Sheppard, Hodges' body was found at 2:30 a.m. by his father. Sheppard also said that Hodges did not leave a suicide note.

College chaplain, Rev. Kirk Oldham, informed Hodges' friends of the tragedy on Sept. 9.

Mark Webel, a North Hall resident, remarked, "It's so sad to see such a good guy with such a bright future die." This seemed to be the consensus of all of his friends at

Wesleyan, who felt there was "no sign of anything."

Friends of Hodges on campus considered him "friendly, outgoing, and a welcoming kind of guy." Ten students joined Academic Dean and Vice President Marshall Brooks, Vice President of Finance Ray Kirkland, North Hall Resident Director Debbie Schroeder, Assistant Professor of Economics Mel Oliver, and Oldham at funeral services in Washington on Sept. 11.

At the North Carolina Wesleyan chapel service on Sept. 12, his friends captured the feelings of the campus when they sang a song written by Tommy Lee and Jim Slakie, "Fly Jimmy Fly!"

"I close my eyes, I see him smile and for a short time we were friends/And through the days his hand he'd lend. It's too damn bad that it had to end./Fly, Jimmy, fly, I know we'll always ask the question 'why?' Fly, Jimmy, fly, and though it brings a teardrop to the eye, fly, Jimmy, fly."

"As the clouds roll by I looked to the sky, It's hard for us all not to wonder why./Sometimes it's hard, it's so hard to try/and through the good and bad we just can't say goodbye./Fly, Jimmy, fly, and though it brings a teardrop to the eye, fly, Jimmy, fly."

## Resignations put CIS program in limbo

By JOHN FENTRESS

The summertime resignations of Dr. Alex Koohang and Dr. Mogharreban has left the Computer Information Systems program at North Carolina Wesleyan uncertain and under review.

Right now, all lower level CIS classes are being taught by Patricia Smith and Robert Bussom,

business faculty, and Kathy Winslow, CIS faculty. Adjunct faculty are instructing all upper level computer courses.

Some students in the CIS program are concerned about what is going to happen to their majors. Sophomore Chris Sharpe explained, "I want to work for a computer company and I want to

major in CIS." Bussom assured students, "The college has a responsibility to the students, and the course work will be supported."

As for now, CIS is on hold. The students will have to wait and see if the program will be deleted from the curriculum or if a revision is needed.

