

The Decree

OFFICIAL STUDENT NEWSPAPER OF
NORTH CAROLINA WESLEYAN COLLEGE

Editor-in-Chief — Patrick Brannan

Staff — Cecelia Lynn Casey, Alan Felton, Mike Nolin,
Kimberly Curseon, Matt Hartwiger, Marie Lenane,
Scott Rolfe, Jimmilyn Kossen

Advisor — Chris LaLonde

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Don't just gripe, run for an office

The time has come again for the students to choose their leaders for the Student Government Association. Elections for the SGA executive board, class officers, J-Board, and other elected offices will be held in March. Yet the time to start thinking about them is now.

Petitions for elections come out next Wednesday. The opportunity to get involved is once again offered to the students. The cries that there is nothing to do at Wesleyan can be heard in the halls. Well, here's your chance to do something about it.

SGA is doing its part by holding elections and encouraging people to participate. This year students will see a change in the election format in that SGA is going

to set up tables in new areas and at different times — all to give the students the best opportunity to vote.

Now it's up to the students to do their part by getting involved. The positions are available and all that is needed is the students to run for them. The executive members of SGA: the president, vice-president, treasurer, secretary, are all available. These people hold enormous power on campus. Along with the positions for class officers there are many other opportunities to get involved.

The opportunity is there to get involved. If you really think there is nothing to do at Wesleyan, run for a position and make a difference.

The opportunity is yours. Make your move.



Kafka would have loved it

Harding center of morality tale

By DR. STEVE FEREBEE

I tried to ignore Tonya Harding, but I failed because I have been reading Franz Kafka's 1925 novel *The Trial*.

Kafka's Joseph K. is accused of an unnamed crime by an omnipotent legal system. Everywhere he goes, he confronts new conspirators — a painter, his lawyer, children playing in the streets. Everyone plays a part in the plan to convict him.

Like Kafka's legal spider web, the entertainment industry's hold over us has now become complete. Nancy Kerrigan, Tonya Harding, Jeff Gillooly, and, for that matter, Lorena and John Wayne Bobbitt, the Menendez brothers — these are not "people;" they are actors in a life-long play. "News" stories are now part of a fictional conspiracy to make us buy the latest soup.

Nancy stars as the ice virgin

Dr. Steve Muses

with the supportive family cast; Tonya plays the greedy tobacco addict with her abusive slime-ball ex-husband. Both dress in skimpy, revealing outfits, but one is a "good" woman and one is a "bad" girl. They are the archetypes of television movies. The only plot twist is that the good one is dark and the bad one is a (bleached) blonde.

Nancy even healed as quickly as did the boy on *Picket Fences* who was shot and healed within two weeks. Both ethereal Nancy and earthy Tonya twirl and flash for adoring crowds. Commercial break. (Tonya for pain killers.) Snow melting in her hair, Nancy clings to her brother's hand; snow

melting in her hair, Tonya plucks at her *No Comment* sweatshirt. Commercial break. (Nancy for Campbell's Soup.)

Nancy sends her supporting cast to the TV tabloid shows; Tonya's ex-ex-husband Jeff accuses Tonya of seeking public support. Commercial break. (Magic Johnson for condoms.)

Nancy smiles with her perfect white teeth and blushing says she hopes she skates well; Tonya tries to keep her truck from being towed and says she is going to kick some butt and put a gold medal on her mantle. Commercial break. (Hillary for health care.)

Meanwhile the various integrity panels keep up the docudrama publicity by teasing the public with possible ramifications for Tonya's behavior. Tonya admits lying to the FBI, and everyone

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'Philadelphia' less flawed than review

Dear Editor:

In the recent issue of *The Decree*, I think Dr. Steve Ferebee missed a crucial point. He said that the movie "Philadelphia" was flawed.

I saw the movie and it had a tremendous impact. Maybe he missed the fact that the person with AIDS is Tom Hanks, the 90's answer to Shirley Temple. Everyone who remembers him from "Big" will be incredibly shocked to see that he is portray-

ing someone dying from AIDS. It doesn't even look like Tom Hanks at the end.

I think the movie will have a tremendous social impact, not only because of Hank's portrayal of Andrew, but quite simply because it is a film that needed to be made. Everyone involved with the film, and it contained a number of HIV-positive actors, should be congratulated.

"Philadelphia" is the first movie to deal with AIDS, and I

Letters to the Editor

really don't think it was too preachy. In the courtroom scene, Andrew is subjected to withering cross-examination which showed that Demme and Nyswander are not too sympathetic to Andrew. They point out that he was pro-

miscuous, that he realized the risks he was taking. The cross-examination was not sugary and patting Andrew on the back. It was realistic, and I think, very skillfully done.

Maybe the fundamental point that is missed, Dr. Ferebee, is that with all your emphasis on the heterosexual/homosexual aspect of the movie, the true purpose of the movie is to show inhumanity. Inhumanity that personal conviction and justice may overcome.

Also, Dr. Ferebee was concerned with the fact that the movie showed many different aspects about gays and AIDS. Well, if Andrew wasn't a good lawyer there wouldn't be any need to make a movie. If he was a bad lawyer, it would make the firing seem justified. I don't think Demme was trying to make a movie glorifying homosexuals, I think he was merely trying to make a movie that had some per-

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