

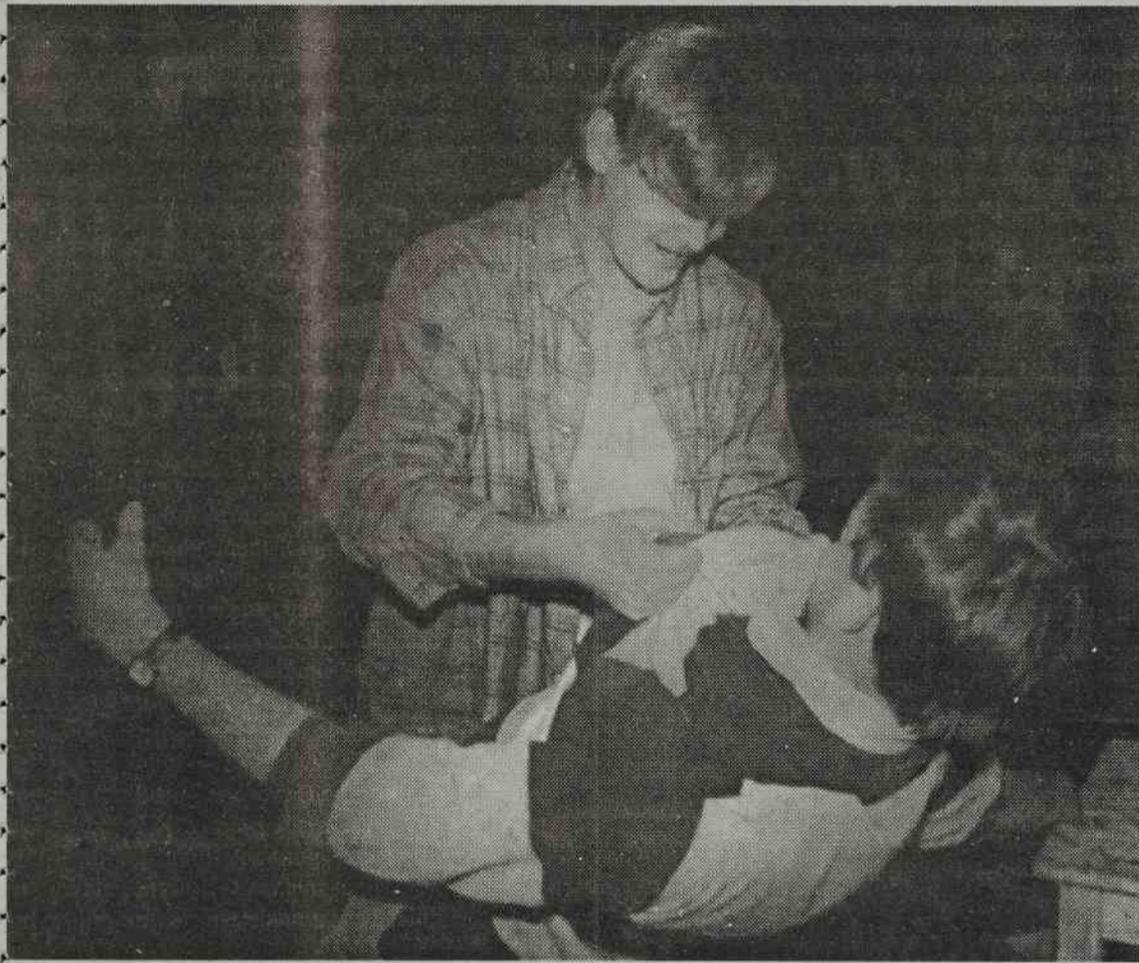
# The Decree

"The truth is out there..."

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PREPARING FOR "WILDERNESS" — Greg Purcell and Joe Bratcher rehearse a scene from Eugene O'Neill's "Ah, Wilderness" which is currently on stage in N.C. Wesleyan's Coltrane Theatre. The play will be performed Oct. 21-22 and Oct. 27-29. For review, see page 6.

## NCWC may make changes to its mission

By ALAN P. FELTON

North Carolina Wesleyan College administration officials are currently reviewing possible changes in the College's mission statement.

A draft of a new mission statement was completed by the President's Council on Sept. 29 and a decision on whether or not to accept the new statement is expected to be made by Oct. 27, when President of Wesleyan College Herman Collier will present a proposal to the Board of Trustees.

President Collier, speaking at a community meeting on Oct. 5, said "it is not unusual for institutions to revisit their mission. Changes do happen." Collier continued by saying that Wesleyan's current mission statement could be "a bit more descriptive in order to align itself more closely with the college's activities."

Robert S. Bussom, academic dean for Wesleyan College, said that the mission statement should "serve as a foundation for strategic decision making. Periodic reviews should be done to see how the statement fits current and future plans. The mission statement should also be specific enough to set priorities. Maybe our current

statement is too broad."

Bussom stressed that any new mission statement "ought to identify our uniqueness."

The proposed changes are in response to concerns that the current mission statement may not meet the guidelines set out by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS), Wesleyan's accrediting agency. Bussom said that SACS looks for a "systematic, formal planning process." The mission statement is the beginning of that planning, he said.

The Committee Advisory on Planning and Priorities will aid President Collier in writing and proposing a mission statement to the Board of Trustees. This committee consists of the President's Council and four additional faculty members. Dean Bussom said that in addition to this committee "any member of the Wesleyan community is welcome to make suggestions, including students."

A draft of the proposed change was given to members of the Student Government Association. Dean of Student Life Nancy VanKuren said that "Students should respond to SGA with suggestions concerning the mission statement. The sooner the better

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## Statistics show retention problem not black/white issue at Wesleyan

By KIMBERLY CURSEEN

North Carolina Wesleyan College has been plagued with the problem of student retention, but minority retention did not appear to differ from Caucasian retention rates in a statistical analysis conducted by Chris Carsten, Associate Professor of Psychology

at Wesleyan.

Cliff Sullivan, Assistant to the Dean, said about 18 percent of the Wesleyan student body is made up of minority students.

For the spring of 1991 to the fall of 1991 Wesleyan was able to retain 78 percent of its African-American students and 72 percent of its Caucasian students.

The next year, Wesleyan retained 71 percent of its African-American students and 68 percent of its Caucasian students. In the fall of 1992 to the spring of 1993, Wesleyan retained 84 percent of its African-American students and 83 percent of its Caucasian students.

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## Recycling efforts increase on campus

By ALAN P. FELTON

North Carolina Wesleyan College, along with the Student Government Association, has recently taken steps to increase the amount of recycling being done on campus.

Currently, all aluminum cans and cardboard are being collected for recycling. White paper is col-

lected in the Braswell administration building and in the Hardee's Student Union, but not in the dormitories.

Student Government President Chris Brandt said the implementation of the recycling policy has gone well. The next step in the policy will be to place white paper recycling bins inside the residence halls. Brandt said he would

work through the hall councils of each dormitory to pay for the white paper bins.

Brandt said no current plans were under way to recycle glass on campus due to safety concerns.

"We believe that recycling bottles is a safety risk. The risk of broken glass in the dorm hallways and certain difficulties in transporting full glass bins have

caused us not to add glass to our list of recycled materials. I would, however, encourage students to individually recycle their glass bottles," Brandt said.

Brandt said the administration has been very helpful in implementing the recycling policy. The college paid for the new aluminum can collection bins on campus. In addition, Brandt said that,

"Cheryl McKenzie, Steve Sparks, Belinda Faulkner, and Kim Sparks have been especially helpful. Also it didn't hurt to have a new recycling law passed for the state."

On July 1, North Carolina instituted State Law G.S. 130A-309.10 (f) which prohibits aluminum cans from being deposited in landfills and incinerators.