

The Decree

OFFICIAL STUDENT NEWSPAPER OF
NORTH CAROLINA WESLEYAN COLLEGE

Editor-in-Chief — Patrick Brannan

Copy Editor — Alan Felton

Advertising Manager — John Morgan

Staff — Cecilia Lynn Casey, Kimberly Curseen,
Winona Price, Greg Purcell, Scott Rolfe, Julie Scalzo,
Kevin Corbett, Amy Lynn Brayton

Contributing Writers — Dr. Steve Ferebee, Ben Hamrick

Advisor — Chris LaLonde

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Wesleyan not good at communication

Communication is a key in any relationship. At Wesleyan lack of communication is a big problem across campus. Communication between the administration and students is one of the biggest problems.

The students lack an understanding of the administration. They see them as a group of people that sit behind their desks and make life hard for the students. At a school that prides itself in the fact that students have opportunities to start their own organizations and get involved in many learning experiences outside the classroom, this lack of communication is an odd response.

The school recently dropped the slogan, "Where the student comes first." Rightfully so.

The school is currently in the process of searching for a new president, the head of the school. How many students know who is on the committee that is conducting the search? How many students are even involved on this committee?

Recently the firm that is conducting the search was on campus and there was a meeting open to all students. Yet this meeting was not advertised to students and attendance was poor. In fact, the newspaper only learned of the meeting when we asked about the agenda for the search committee.

Why was that? Was there a reason the students were not informed of this meeting? How come students aren't informed

that they can go and read the consulting firm's report in the library?

Also the school is currently in the process of changing the mission statement. Again another meeting, open to all students, was held on this subject. The only way it was passed on to the students was at an SGA meeting. Two students attended this community meeting.

Does the college's definition of community include students? If a student is paying close to \$13,000 a year to attend this college, shouldn't they be involved or at least informed of the college's actions?

It appears that the administration has no desire to work with the students. The school says that *The Decree* and Student Radio need to pay for their own phones and phone lines. At a cost of \$75 for installation of a phone line, \$35 a month, and from the school's records \$800 for a display type phone, there is no way a student organization can pay that sum. SGA is stretched to the limit in funding organizations now and new organizations continue to come before SGA for approval.

The administration's lack of communication with the students only leads to trouble. It creates a negative attitude in the student body as a whole. If the administration would open lines of communication with the students, including using *The Decree*, Wesleyan can become a better place for everyone.



Procrastination doesn't help

Problems don't go away

By DR. STEVE FEREBEE

I have a phone call to make this weekend, and because I have to give a friend some bad news, I do not want to make the call. I hate giving people bad news. So I did what any self-respecting, conscientious friend would do. I procrastinated, I bargained with myself, I cleaned the bathroom, and I worried.

What would happen if we had the freedom to avoid all unpleasant tasks? One of my students said to me the other day that he hadn't done his revision because he didn't want to. He was worried that he wouldn't do a good enough job. Well, of course, I think he should have wanted to make the attempt to see what would happen, but I think I understood what he meant.

I mean, does *anyone* really like to do housework? I like my house to be clean and neat, but people assume that I therefore like doing the cleaning and tidying. No way. I grit my teeth once a week and push the vacuum and the mop to the rhythms of the loudest, rauciest rock and roll I can stand.

And does anyone like moving? Packing up every glass, every fork, every towel, every book, and every unidentifiable bunch of papers that someday-I-swear I'll go through? What about doing laundry? Or sharpening the lawnmower blade? Cleaning the windows? Washing the car? And how about getting up on dark, cold winter mornings?

Sometimes I think life is full of these seemingly irrelevant irritants which irradiate our lives. Sometimes I wonder what life

Dr. Steve Muses

would be like if we had no ambition, no willpower, no self-respect. We could just float through our days without rippling our complacency.

Now, I know what you're saying. You're saying that you know someone just like that, someone who doesn't ever do any of these little jobs. Well, maybe not the ones you wish he or she would do, but no one can move through life without some of them. Maybe rich people have someone else clean the windows and maybe they don't have to arise when the sun isn't up yet; but everyone thinks of some activities as meaningless and others as tedious and others as painful, but do them anyway.

But we are odd creatures. I have a dogwood tree which is dying. I like this tree, and I have put off for two years now the inevitable. Maybe it'll spring back to

life? Maybe if I take those branches the others will find renewal? Maybe if I fertilize? Maybe if I take a nap? And so the tree goes on dying and I go on worrying.

We all have some degree of this tendency to push problems away, hoping that they will somehow disappear. And we have different degrees about different problems. Some of my gardening friends actually like to weed; I wait until weeds trip me as I walk by. Some of my students write those revisions when and how they are assigned to do so; others show up for class a day after they were assigned blissfully unaware that their grades are going down.

I guess we all have to learn what our limitations are and what other people's expectations of us are. We have to balance that desire to escape tedium or pain with the need to survive, to be a part of the human community.

And yes, in case you haven't figured it out, I have been writing this column instead of calling my friend with my bad news. And after "a hundred indecisions, / And . . . a hundred visions and revisions," I'll make that call.

Blood was appreciated

Dear Editor:

I would like to thank everyone who donated at the Red Cross Bloodmobile on Tuesday, Oct. 4, in the Student Activities Center.

We collected 53 pints, which was only seven less than our goal of 60. I would like to thank Nu Gamma Phi for having the most members donate and my college

101 class for signing people up and advertising the bloodmobile.

Keep in mind that the next bloodmobile here on campus will be in April. If you missed the opportunity to donate at our bloodmobile, there will be a public bloodmobile at the Moose Lodge in December.

Barbara A. Hollandsworth