

# 'Dissenter' debate was well handled

(Continued from Page 2)

tive of life on campus.

So who is "right?" That seems to be what people want to know or prove. I do not pretend to know.

I do think we all can learn from this event. In the years to come, this kind of controversy is likely to become even more common. That means we need ways of dealing with this kind of interaction. Should it be handled as a case for civil law? Should there be humorless politically correct standards posted? Or should we call upon our concern, creativity, and each other and find ways to "deal?"

Our culture has a system of etiquette to handle personal interactions. If someone's foot is stepped on, they say "ow." The genteel person who injured them apologizes (which Professor Anderson, both eloquently and profoundly, has done) and the injured party warily or graciously accepts the apology. Both parties are more watchful and respectful, afterward. In the best case, both parties learn more about each other and a more caring relationship can come out of a chance encounter.

As a college community whose mission states that "we want our students to respect themselves and each other — and to respect other cultures and human differences," we all benefit from opportunities to hear and understand each other. In this sense, I believe that the students who raised the issue have served all of us. I think that the

picture in the *Dissenter* (what an ironic name) has been even more evocative of the Wesleyan Way than its editors could have dreamed.

I am grateful to the *Decree* for offering a forum for the kind of interchange that is needed. I am impressed by all the community members who have thoughts and feelings about this issue. And I hope that we all care about each other.

Betty Anne Whisnant  
NCWC Counselor

## Cameron misguided on SGA amendment

Dear Editor:

I would like to respond to the amendment issue raised by Kelly Cameron.

To begin, I would like to comment on some of the statements made by Cameron, especially those about the executive board members of the SGA. It is my belief that Mr. Cameron believes he was forced out of the SGA Senate by the executive board.

That is untrue. Because he did not meet all SGA requirements, as stated in Article IV-B section three of the SGA Constitution, he was asked to step down. I believe Mr. Cameron is trying to place blame on the SGA executive board for his removal from the Senate.

The executive board of the SGA was following the guidelines of the SGA Constitution when Mr. Cameron was asked to

step down from his office. He was not forced by the SGA executive board to leave in any way. Unfortunately I feel that he is trying to force SGA to keep him.

In his letter to the editor, Cameron made comments to statements I made in a previous article. I told the person who interviewed me that students came to college to get an education, not sit on the Senate of the SGA. In response, Mr. Cameron stated, "I agree that education is why we came to college, but isn't it also to teach us to be leaders of tomorrow? Some students may not be gifted in the arts of education, but may be gifted in something else, such as in music, theater, or politics."

To respond to these comments we have to realize that an education is needed in the arts of music, theater, and in the realm of politics. What kind of leader can a person be if a person can't maintain the minimal requirements of an office?

If the Wesleyan community were to adopt the ideas Mr. Cameron offers, we would all agree that if the President of the United States didn't know arithmetic, that would be OK because he has financial advisors that know. Or we could say if the President couldn't read or write, that's fine, too, because he has secretaries who can read and write. Therefore if the President had no education, we would still elect him based solely on his political gifts. I think not. That would be absurd just like it would be if SGA accepted Mr. Cameron's amendment.

I give credit to Mr. Cameron for his efforts. I believe if Mr.

Cameron has an actual desire to help the Wesleyan community, does he need an office on the SGA to accomplish that? Can he not help the Wesleyan community without being the President of some organization? I believe all leaders should value education, and as a leader, I value Mr. Cameron's.

SGA is the model students should follow in learning to become a leader. Academic stability is important. Let's not lower our standards.

Andre Clanton  
Treasurer, SGA

## Wesleyan earns thanks for help on Fall Games

Dear Editor:

Thank you very much, Wesleyan students, staff, and faculty, for all of your efforts to make the 1995 North Carolina Special Olympics' Fall Games an overwhelming success. After so many months of preparation, the hard work and dedication really paid off.

Over 600 Special Olympics athletes competed in soccer, bocce, golf, tennis, roller-skating, and cycling, and on behalf of all of them, thank you! We have received numerous comments about the beautiful campus setting Wesleyan was able to provide for our soccer and bocce competitions in particular.

The contributions of Wesleyan College not only made for a successful 1995 Fall Games, but also helped our organization improve games management in general, as we seek to improve all six of our state-level competitions. I hope we can count on your continued

support as we plan to return for the 1996 Fall Games during the weekend of Oct. 25-27!

Thanks again for all of your support of Special Olympics in general, and of Fall Game in particular. Please let us know if we can make your volunteer experience even more meaningful, and don't forget that the local Special Olympics program in Rocky Mount can always use your help — contact John Battle at 972-1155 for more information.

Patton McDowell  
Program Director

## Coach appreciates support of Bishops

Dear Editor:

I want to thank all of you who were in attendance for Midnight Madness on Sunday night (Monday morning) Oct. 23, in Everett Gymnasium.

The enthusiasm was great and I believe it was just the beginning of an outstanding year.

The players and I really appreciate the support that night. This season we will need even more of that support. Everett Gymnasium can have a tremendous atmosphere with a loud, strong, enthusiastic crowd.

We want to invite you to all of our home games. We think that our fans will be the best of anywhere we play; not intent on humiliating opposing teams, but at energetically and relentlessly supporting Wesleyan.

Thanks for making Everett Gymnasium a place where we have a real home court advantage.

Coach John Thompson  
Head Men's Basketball Coach

## Talk shows still safe

(Continued from Page 2)

sitting on a stage talking about their love lives. Many people in the audience were hooting and whistling.

"This is stupid," I thought. So I turned it off. (I considered going back to Mr. Bennett but decided to read a book instead.)

Trashy talk shows are silly, but are they harmful? Who decides what good behavior is? Will censorship imposed upon a popular culture sign change the underlying reasons for its popularity? And, Mr. Bennett, will the civilization you want to "save" be called United States of Bennett's Virtues?

I don't see the harm in most talk show subjects. I think people are limited not to have better ideas for what to do with their time, but I assume they vicariously acknowledge the absurdity and

communality of the world while they watch. The behavior is not necessarily being imitated or even approved; like TV wrestling fans, the audience knows it is being silly. The interesting conversation which might actually do some good would center on why we watch, not on why we won't be allowed to watch.

America has always been nutty. We elect lousy actors as president, we destroy job creating programs while criticizing poor people for not working, and we pretend that America was somehow perverted by those dirty hippies in the 1960's.

Find a life, Mr. Bennett, and maybe even a job. Meanwhile tuning into Talk Soup occasionally might give you both a sense of humor and an idea of what those "American People" are actually like.

## Student Services Center

Nov. 20 – Dec. 14

Monday, Nov. 20

*How to Succeed In Your Job After Graduation*  
10:30 a.m. in Room 276

*Preparing for Exams*

10:30 a.m. in Room 189

Tuesday, Nov. 21

THANKSGIVING RECESS BEGINS AT 10 A.M.

Wednesday, Nov. 22

Residence Halls Close at 9 a.m.

Sunday, , Nov. 26

Residence Halls Open

Monday, Nov. 27

RECESS ENDS AND CLASSES BEGIN AT 8 A.M.

Friday, Dec. 1

GRADUATION APPLICATIONS DUE FOR MAY GRADUATES

Dec. 11-14

FINAL EXAMS

Friday, Dec. 15

PAYMENT DUE FOR SPRING TUITION AND FEES

Thursday, Dec. 21

COLLEGE CLOSED UNTIL JAN 2

Registration day for Spring '96 classes is Jan. 9.

The first day of Spring classes is Jan. 10.