

# The Decree

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## New North RD enjoys Wesleyan

By GREG PURCELL

Marc Gainey, the new resident director of North Hall and the advisor of the Greeks and Campus Activities Board, comes to Wesleyan from East Carolina University with a degree in Physiology and a minor in percussion.

Gainey said that he was involved in student life at ECU and enjoyed it. Gainey added that he wanted the opportunity to be involved with C.A.B. and the Greeks here at Wesleyan. He heard of the job opening from fellow resident director Sigrid Bonner after a class they have together at ECU.

Gainey said his favorite thing about Wesleyan so far is "the students seem to be friendly and helpful. Quick with ideas and even more they seem to be receptive to what I have to say. They seem open to new ideas."

He is originally from Tarboro. Before coming to Wesleyan he spent a year at Edgecombe-Nash



**NEW RD** — Marc Gainey is the new Resident Director in North Hall. (Photo by Karolyn Braun.)

Mental Health Center as a substance abuse counselor. He is currently the regional advisor to Delta Chi fraternity.

Gainey's future plans are "to continue graduate work at ECU (one and a half years left for his degree in counselor education) and to further develop my skills as a student life person."

He added that "I plan to be here a while, I like it a lot."

## Students complain search improper

By MARCY STOVER

On Nov. 21, Michael Rouse, resident director of South Hall, while closing down the building for Thanksgiving break, opened each resident's refrigerator.

According to a Student Life memo given students, refrigerators were one of the appliances specifically mentioned as being acceptable for them to leave plugged in over the five-day break. In the same memo, resident were not told their rooms would be entered to check that these steps were followed or that their refrigerators would be opened.

South Hall residents, all freshmen, were told that they were to unplug appliances, turn off their heaters, lock their windows, remove all food that would spoil, and take out all of their trash.

According to Pamela Gourley,

assistant dean of student life, "I think Michael misunderstood that memo — that memo wasn't clear and that's something that we need to make sure we clarify in the future. Typically, at Thanksgiving that is not something that we do."

Rouse acknowledged that he "did not believe I thought about it too carefully." He expressed that although "it does not explicitly state that we would be entering rooms, it does say that students would be fined for failure to complete one of the four prescribed steps outlined in the memo. How would we find for this if we did not enter the rooms and check that everything was done?" He went on to say that "in hindsight, it was a mistake not to explain the procedures more clearly."

"We are sorry," he apologized. "There was no intention to vio-

late students rights."

John White, college president, said, "It's unfortunate that the college didn't give them (the residents of South Hall) an indication that we were going to look through refrigerators." President White went on to comment that "our policy ought to be that when we go into a room, students ought to know about it in advance."

President White declined to comment on whether Rouse was correct in doing as he did. He did, however, say that "there has to be a balance between students' rights to privacy and the college's responsibility to make sure that people are safe and certain guidelines are being followed."

He added that he did not "think it is the role of the college to go around being an enforcer to all the laws of North Carolina."

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## White following plan for improvements

By JESSICA BROWN

North Carolina Wesleyan's president, Dr. John White, has a mission to fulfill: he wants to make Wesleyan a better place.

To do this, he wants to hear the student's opinions, find out what areas need improvement, and work to make them better. This process began with a survey given to the students during their 1 to 2 p.m. classes on Monday, Nov. 13.

"If we are going to be serious about improving the college, we've got to have good information, and that's why we did the survey," said White.

The survey asked the students' opinion about college life in the areas of academics, campus life, sports, faculty-student relationships, and other subjects. The stu-

dents were asked to give their opinion on the importance of these topics in life at any college, and were then asked how these situations were perceived here at Wesleyan.

White first learned about the survey from a colleague at DePauw University in Indiana, where he worked before coming to Wesleyan. The survey came from Nowell Levits, an educational firm that works in advising academic retention. According to White, by taking this particular survey, Wesleyan will be able to compare its students' responses with those around the nation.

"We might find some results that startle us, and if there are, then those are the particular things we need to be sitting down and talking to people about," White said. This survey will allow the

college to see what the student body is thinking and feeling about Wesleyan programs and quality of life, along with academic standards and other important factors.

"We looked for a good time that had a good variety of people in terms of first year students and upperclassmen. We wanted to represent the entire study body," White said in explaining why he chose the in-class approach. He said this particular class time had a good mix of commuters and non-commuters and had the largest number of students. In all, 291 students were surveyed.

The results are currently being processed and will be made available to everyone once they are returned. Once people have had the opportunity to see these results, focus groups will be able to meet and reflect on them. These

groups will be made up of students as well as faculty and staff and they will have the opportunity to discuss options for improving what needs upgrading.

"If we are going to attract more students and retain the students we currently have, we've got to have a recreational facility," White said firmly, leading to his next important project dealing with retention. He recently took a walk through Wesleyan's gym, and said, "It is amazing to me that we have been able to attract as many good athletes to this campus as we have given what our indoor facilities are like."

White said he will be meeting with architects in December to discuss his options with building a new recreational center. At the same time, he wants to upgrade Wesleyan's existing facilities,

such as the student activities center.

Among the new facilities White wants to include in the new center are racquetball and basketball courts, a weight-training room, and an aerobics and dance room. He is also looking into the possibility of installing a swimming pool.

Dr. White admitted he is not yet sure how much money the recreational center will cost, or where the money will come from. His first concern is to finish paying off the \$1.5 million debt left from the Dunn Center. He has formed a committee to plan fundraisers to raise the money, including advertising the building's use to the region.

Where will this new facility (Continued on Back Page)