

# The Decree

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## Fires set in Nash

By JAMIE TEACHEY

Two weeks ago, early on a Saturday morning, a poster was set on fire — the first of two fires in Nash Hall.

The poster, a warning that "All guests in Nash Hall must be escorted," burned to the ceiling, causing damage, then fell to the rug, leaving burns.

Jamie Whiting, resident assis-

tant in Nash, said, "Whoever is starting these fires is out of their minds. They are putting 94 people's lives in jeopardy."

Several days after the first fire, a second fire was set in Nash. A firecracker was lit and exploded in a toilet paper dispenser. Anna Acerra, housing director, estimated "at least \$1,200 in total damage."

Acerra recollects a fire at

nearby Chapel Hill. "The smoke is what kills people," Acerra said.

The Fire Marshall was contacted and is now investigating.

"The bottom line is that the fires have to stop," Acerra said, noting that the person(s) responsible will be prosecuted.

"Arson is a federal offense. This simple prank could cost someone 10 to 50 years in prison," she said.

### Arson/Unlawful Burning Laws



#### First Degree Arson

- Burning an occupied dwelling (residence hall). Occupied means someone is actually inside.
- Class C Felony — 50 years imprisonment.

#### Second Degree Arson

- Burning unoccupied dwelling (residence hall). Unoccupied means no one is actually in the dwelling when the fire occurs.

(Continued on Back Page)



OFFERING HELP — Newly named interim admissions director Cal Wynkoop (left) talks with student at Parents' Day. (Contributed by Courtney Rubes.)

## Wyncoop named interim Director of Admissions

By GRANT LONG

Jan. 24 was the last day that Pat Cerjan was in employment as Director of Admissions.

Cerjan has worked with the college since 1985. She is one of the numerous people who have seen Wesleyan grow during the last ten years, and she looks forward to seeing Wesleyan expand ever more, despite her absence.

Cerjan came to Wesleyan with the goal of making Wesleyan a better college. She first did this by increasing the potential student base.

"When I first came here, Wesleyan only looked for students in North Carolina and Virginia," she said. Soon after she came, the student base was extended to the Northeastern sec-

tion of the United States. Cerjan was also partly responsible for the creation of Tutor Crossing, which was set up to serve the academic needs of the students. Another one of its goals was to provide career guidance for all Wesleyan students.

Cerjan has accomplished quite a few things during her tenure at Wesleyan, but her biggest accomplishment could be the rise in attendance.

The reason for Cerjan's departure is because she wanted to pursue her dream of consulting with local high school students and helping them choose a college they want to attend.

Cerjan says that "there is nothing I regret about my time spent at Wesleyan," and that she is looking forward to her future. Cerjan

also went on to mention that "under the guidance of John White, Wesleyan could be one of the best private colleges in North Carolina."

Cal Wynkoop will be replacing her temporarily. Wynkoop was asked by Dr. White to replace Cerjan because of his background in business and information systems. Wynkoop feels he is very qualified for the job because he "can bring a fresh look at the marketing prospective of Wesleyan."

He also said, "The admissions staff is very eager and willing to market Wesleyan."

The future goals to help improve the admissions process are to have more alumni, faculty, and student support in the recruiting process.

## Colleges experiment with 'J-Terms'

By COLLEEN DEBAISE

At Western Maryland College, students in the popular January-term course "Sex, Death and Flyfishing" spend each morning learning how to tie "flies," or lures made of feather, fur, and nylon.

Then, it's off to the gym for an afternoon practice session of casting.

For most students, it's a chance

### Courses offer students 'something different'

to enjoy a favorite pastime while taking a few weeks off from required courses, such as macroeconomics or general biology.

"January terms allow students a break to learn something different," said Don Schumaker, a Western Maryland spokesperson.

"During the year, students are concerned about fulfilling their curriculum requirements, as well as their major requirements."

That's why a number of colleges, such as Western Maryland, offer snazzy, non-traditional courses during January term. The

term usually lasts about three or four weeks and falls between the fall and spring semesters.

Luther College offers "Murder, Magic and Medicine," a study on the hallucinogenic effects of certain plants. Oberlin College students can learn the Japanese

martial art of Aikido, or how to handweave baskets or bake French bread and pastries.

Although J-terms are popular with students, many colleges have eliminated them because an excessive amount of partying seems to coincide with the lighter course load.

But at campuses where J-terms

(Continued on Back Page)