



THE DEGREE

"Wesleyan's Student Voice Since 1984"

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ENJOYING STATUE OF LIBERTY — Touring New York together were (front row, from left): Dick Stafford, Alli Dore, Megan Lancaster. Back row: Chris Caugill, Melissa Mosely, John Crews, and Monique Gill.

Students tour Big Apple

By MONIQUE GILL

Theater is like an escape from this world to one of fantasy and magic. Through that fantasy we learn a bit about ourselves as human beings and the way society works.

During the January Term, a total of 15 Wesleyan students along with Professor Dick Stafford and Jan Zarr were able to experience the development of theater in historical Broadway theaters in New York from inception to present day. These students viewed both on and off Broadway shows which included: Miss Saigon, Stomp, The Mystery of Irma Vep, Rent, Phantom of the Opera, Killer Joe, and The Country Wife.

Several of the shows reflected on how our culture functions today. Killer Joe, as an example, showed how one goes through so much emo-

tional hurt, causing the individual to result or overcome the conflict through violence.

Another example of a reflection on our society was The Mystery of Irma Vep which cast two men who were dressed as drag queens. For so long the whole idea of such an act was abhorred, yet with the applause from the crowd and each seat filled, the idea is now accepted. In viewing the plays, the students were able to develop an awareness of the theater and make critical judgments about the qualities of the theatrical productions through journal entries.

Along with going to see the shows, there was time to enjoy New York City's cultural, visual, and fine arts. Places visited included the Statue of Liberty, the World Trade Center, Wall Street, the Academy of Dramatic Arts, Central Park, and NBC Studios.



GROUP ENJOYED THE JEKYL AND HYDE RESTAURANT.

Wesleyan students enjoy January Term

NCWC students were able to take advantage of a new program this year.

Called January Term, or J-Term, students took courses that emphasized experiential education, total immersion in a topic or activity, and offered close interaction with a faculty member or a team of faculty.

This meant that both faculty members and students had an opportunity to concentrate on an exciting and special-interest topic or an area of special curiosity which they wanted to investigate creatively without the usual academic pressures of daily schedules and distractions from several different courses.

According to Patricia Matisz Smith, Director of the January Term, there were 501 students registered in the 26 titles offered this year. She said that she was excited at the results, given this being the first year.

Some of this year's January Term courses included such titles as Pre-Columbian Archaeology; Introduction to the Nonprofit Sector; Horses and Horsemanship; What Has Mathematics Done for Me Lately?; Conflict Resolution/Mediation; Energy, Environment and Society; The African American Experience in Rocky Mount; and Media Madness: From Movies, Music & the Marlboro Man to Metacrawlers.

Other topics included trips to



MEMORIES — Dr. Carol Lawrence looks over display at J-Term Expo, a collection of displays from J-Term classes.

various different places. The Heritage Tourism-Experiential History with Kathy Wilson included several trips to sites around the state of North Carolina. January Term Outreach with Kirk Oldham allowed students to go to Costa Rica.

Italy: A Cultural Experience

was a course that allowed 25 students along with Eugene Hunt and Warren Stone to trip around Italy.

The History of Broadway allowed 15 students to go to New York City, led by Richard Stafford and Jan Zarr.

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SGA working on new constitution

Since the beginning of the new year, the Student Government Association has been busy.

Chief among the activities they have already been working on are revising the SGA Constitution and the Spring semester budget. Coming up later this semester will be SGA elections and Spring Fling.

SGA President Justin Renville is spearheading an attempt to do a massive rewriting of the SGA

Constitution in hopes of addressing some of the inaccuracies and missing components. He did indicate that he has tried to get student input by putting out notices of when the meetings are. With elections coming up later this semester, he is hopeful of finishing before then.

Meanwhile, SGA is also busy with the budget process. SGA Treasurer Rick Fontana required organizations to submit budget

proposals by Feb. 11. He was expecting to have the Finance Committee review them over this past week, with the final budget to go to the SGA Senate when they meet on Monday.

While SGA office hours haven't been posted yet, students who have any questions about any of these activities or other SGA business can reach them through their office in the Hartness Student Center or at x1683.