



PRESENTING DONATION — Cannon Foundation, Inc., Assistant Executive Director Frank Davis, and Executive Director Dan Gray congratulate Linda Stallone, vice president of development and college relations for North Carolina Wesleyan College, on a second gift of \$100,000 to the College's Quality of Life Campaign. The picture is of the late Charles A. Cannon, who established the foundation in 1943.

Foundation donates \$100,000 to college

The Cannon Foundation, Inc. has made its second gift of \$100,000 to North Carolina Wesleyan College.

In 1998 the foundation's board of directors believed in the soundness of the College's plan of capital improvements and stepped forward to make the first major gift of \$100,000 to the Quality of Life Campaign. This was specifically applied to the proposed Fitness and Recreation Center.

"We reaffirm our belief in the mission of the College with a second gift of \$100,000," said Dan Gray, executive director of The Cannon Foundation, in making the announcement, "this time as a grant for the College's unrestricted funds."

The gift helps secure the College's operating budget during a year of extraordinary post-hurricane circumstances for the entire region of eastern North Carolina. Despite generous community support for the College during the recovery from the devastation of Hurricane Floyd and the subsequent flooding, the College still needed additional annual funds to safeguard the operating budget this year.

With the \$100,000 award from the Cannon Foundation this year, the College can ensure the maintenance of existing academic programs, student financial aid, and outreach programs while at the same time contributing to the overall stability of the whole region, college officials said.

The Cannon Foundation, Inc. was established in 1943 by the late Charles A. Cannon, president and chairman of Cannon Mills Company. He established the foundation to carry out his commitment to the State of North Carolina and specifically, to the causes of health, education, and religion.

Day recognizes student-athletes

By **JAMIE FUNK**
Special to The Decree

Faculty, staff, and students got messy creating their own sundaes while celebrating National Student Athlete Day in the Hartness Center on April 6.

Making your own sundae was among some of the festivities taking place to honor the accomplishments of student-athletes for the year 2000.

Established 13 years ago, National-Student Athlete Day was designed to recognize student's athletic abilities on the playing field as well as their attainments in the classroom and their community outreach efforts. It was also created to recognize parents, teachers, coaches and school systems who make it possible for students to find the balance between academics and athletics.

The day, established by Northeastern University's Center for the Study of Sport in Society, is co-sponsored by the National Consortium for Academics and Sports and the NCAA.

President Clinton has saluted those involved in National Student-Athlete Day activities in 1997. In an open letter acknowledging the day he wrote, "A healthy balance between sports and academics is essential to en-

suring that our students are prepared for the challenges of the future."

Many student-athletes are recognized only for their efforts on the field. Similarly, the efforts of academic support staff including advisors, tutors and coaches are virtually unknown. In addition, student athletes who have found the balance between academics and athletics should be looked at

as role models for the youth of America.

Tremendous dedication and hard work are taken into account for a student athlete to successfully juggle schoolwork, athletic training, and social activities. Thousands of America's youth use their athletic ability to allow them to obtain an education and develop skills to help them later in life.

Creegan to present Monday Colloquium

Dr. Nicola Creegan, assistant professor of religion at N.C. Wesleyan, will make a Fourth Monday Colloquium Presentation on "History of the Design Argument" on April 17 at 11:30 a.m. in the Powers Recital Hall in the Dunn Center.

The event is free and open to the public.

Paley's version of the design argument was one of the most important proofs for the existence of God in the 19th century, and Paley was a large part of the University curriculum.

This argument was overturned by Charles Darwin's theory of

evolution by natural selection, as published in "The Origin of the Species." After this, religion resorted very much to arguments from experience, or to obscurantist denials of evolution.

In the last ten to 15 years there has been a revival of interest in the new forms of the design argument, and a very heated debate has ensued, in an attempt to answer questions such as these: What difference would it make if evolution were guided by an intelligent Deity? Would such an evolution be the one we observe? Are we really the result of a random force of Natural Selection?

Emerging leaders face challenge

Thirty-four freshmen chosen out of many applicants came together Feb. 4-6 and made up the NCWC's Emerging Leaders of 2000, taking and successfully completing their first challenge at Camp Don Lee.

The group left as individuals heading out three hours away from Wesleyan life to a camp with no TV, a hike to the bathrooms, and an 8 a.m. wake up call on Saturday and Sunday. They came back young leaders.

"No one knew what to expect but we all knew this experience would change our perspective on day to day challenges and become a memory never to be forgotten," one participant said.

As participants arrived Friday night, the camp conditions were overwhelming but the wonderful icebreakers helped. They were not only fun but a foreshadow of a great weekend.

Saturday morning, the challenge began. They were divided

into two groups later named Pokemon and Survivors and sent out into the woods to face the challenge course. Each obstacle tested the groups and the individual's strengths and weaknesses. Teamwork was the only way to be successful. The challenges were physically and mentally enduring on everyone.

After a long day and much effort, each group was able to com-

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