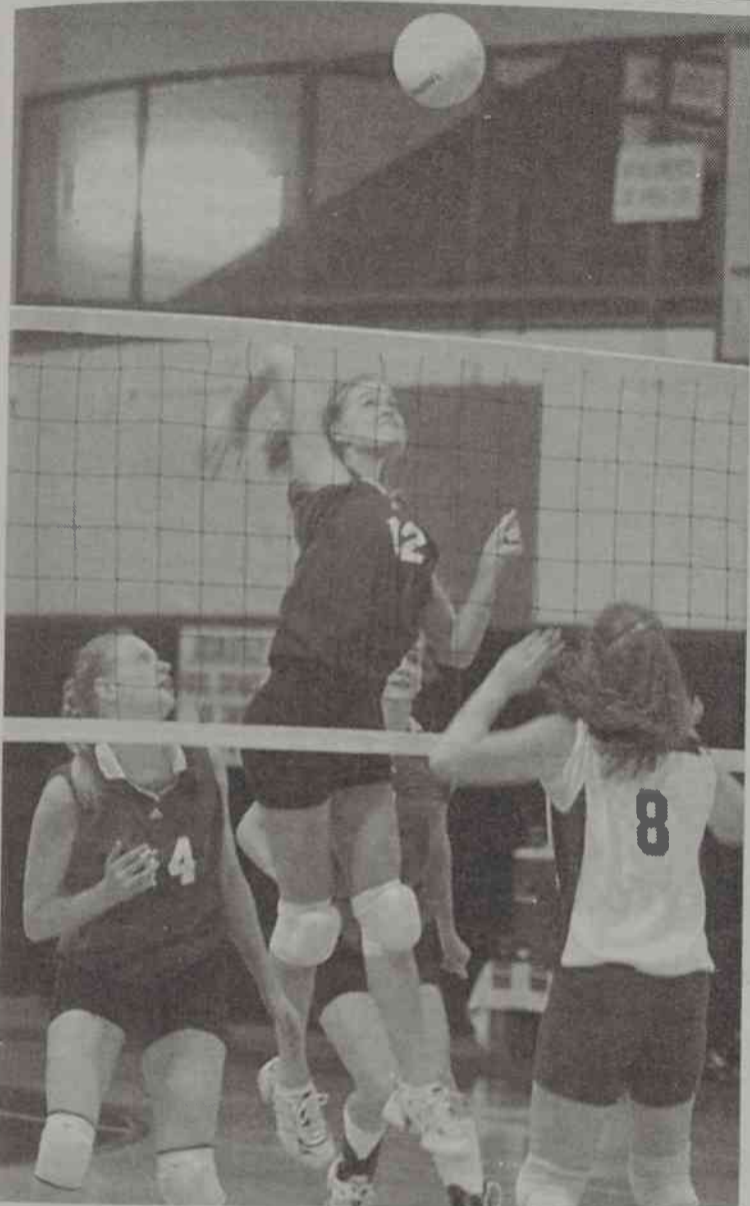


# The Decree

"Wesleyan's Student Voice Since 1984"

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## Wesleyan celebrates 44th Founder's Day

By JAN PITTMAN  
Staff Reporter

The 44th Founders' Day was celebrated Oct. 19 as N.C. Wesleyan's faculty, staff, and students were recognized for their hard work and dedication.

The 2000 Distinguished Staff Award went to Grace Wallace. She has served as a dedicated staff member who went above and beyond the outline of her job description. She not only catalogued the library, but also assisted in providing references to students, faculty, and staff. She has served as a volunteer helper for graphic design on the yearbook staff, supervised the library nights and weekends, and catalogued a collection of 1300 American history books donated to the college.

The 2000 Exemplary Teacher Award went to Dr. Steve Ferebee, professor of English. He has been recognized for excellence in teaching, commitment to the school, and finally the value-centered education.

He has taught at North Caro-



(Courtesy Madeline Walls)

**DR. STEVE FEREBEE (LEFT) WITH PRESIDENT GLASSICK.**

lina Wesleyan for 16 years.

Dr. Ferebee's hard work was crucial to the design, implementation, and development of the Honors Program and he served as the Director from 1986-1997. He has received several awards including the Alumni Distinguished Faculty Award and the President's Leadership Award, and is this year's Jefferson Pilot Professor.

Students were recognized for their exceptional scholarship and leadership qualities. A total of 13 people — 10 of them students —

were tapped for membership in the National Leadership Honor Society, Omicron Delta Kappa.

Those tapped students include Thereasa Bradley, Danny R. Dailey II, Angela S. Keye, Jacquelyne L. Lewis, Pamela Mitchell, Palomita Moreno, Christina Pinzon, Edythe M. Smith, Robert Pike, and Nick Fusilier. Others tapped include Angie Bennett, director of the annual fund and alumni relations; Dr. Erica Kosal, assistant professor of biology; and Board of Trustee member Sam Holton.

**DEFENSIVE EFFORT** — Freshman Deborah Porterfield prepares to block for the Lady Bishops volleyball team. See story and other sports, Page 6. (Courtesy Rocky Mount Telegram.)

## Presidential candidates face off over issues

By ALYSSA BATTLE  
Staff Reporter

On Nov. 7 America elects her first president of the 21st century. The two big contenders are Republican nominee George W. Bush and Democratic nominee Al Gore. The most current Newsweek and CNN polls give Bush a slight lead over Al Gore at this point in the election.

In this article, the positions of Gore and Bush on four key issues shall be addressed: tax reform, environment, education and health care.

On tax reform, Bush promises tax cuts across the board that amount up to approximately \$792 billion. Bush also favors returning this year's budget surplus to taxpayers. Gore also proposes tax

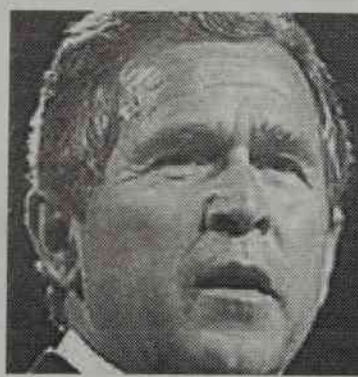


**AL GORE**

cuts but not as drastic as those proposed by Bush. Gore believes such a massive tax cut would be risky and that the surplus would be better spent addressing the national debt and investing in Social Security and Medicare, programs that have been in jeopardy of going bankrupt.

Gore vows to push a great deal of environmental reforms, while Bush tends to favor letting state and local governments determine their own regulation and reform. Gore favors stopping the drilling on the coasts as well as stopping logging. Bush however believes that the drilling should continue as well as exploration for natural gases. Bush also believes that private property and dams should be protected from federal intrusion and regulation. Bush also favors deregulation of the electric and natural gas industries.

On education Gore and Bush favor a greater infusion of monies into the school system and tax credits for parents and grandparents of students. However Gore favors a total restoration and "revolution" in the public schools.



**GEORGE W. BUSH**

while Bush is interested in the creation of a voucher system that would allow parents to choose whether to send their children to a private or public institution. Gore supports the hiring of a great deal more teachers, while Bush believes that we should institute school report cards and testing of

each grade to improve school quality.

The issues previously discussed are complex issues and the positions given are only a superficial glance at the actual party platforms. Gathering a great deal more information before voting is strongly advised! A deeper exploration of these and other key issues is imperative to making the best and most informed political decision this Nov. 7. College students (ages 18-25) have for too long been politically inactive and apathetic.

On the eve of this historic election prepare yourself with knowledge about the issues and party platforms. Platforms are available online: Republican — [www.rnc.org](http://www.rnc.org) and Democrat — [www.dems2000.com](http://www.dems2000.com)