

THE DECREE

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NORTH CAROLINA WESLEYAN COLLEGE, ROCKY MOUNT, NORTH CAROLINA 27804

'UNC-Rocky Mount' Elicits Mixed Reactions Among NCWC Students

By Jessica D. Jones and Jessica Bowen
Decree Staff Writers

Although the possible transition from NC Wesleyan to UNC-Rocky Mount has generated widespread community support, Wesleyan students expressed mixed reactions to the proposal now under consideration.

Many area residents see the move as a boon to the local economy. Rocky Mount Mayor Fred Turnage said the transition would be a "major resource that can help benefit the community, by getting it back on its economical feet."

A six-member review committee—comprised of university presidents, a university administrator and a Raleigh attorney—has visited campus and met with the faculty, staff and administration. It is preparing a report that will be reviewed by Erskine Bowles, president of the UNC system, and his administration. The study group is expected to complete its report in March.

If the review committee recommendation is favorable, Bowles would then make his own recommendation to the state Legislature, which would need to approve the move. Along the way, the NC Wesleyan Board of Trustees would need to endorse the plan as well.

Some observers believe that the review committee will endorse the proposal, but that the state Legislature may balk. When he spoke during Wesleyan's 50th Founders' Day ceremonies, former trustee J. Phil Carlton predicted that if the Wesleyan proposal is approved, other North Carolina college towns would

SGA Treasurer, Secretary Elected

By Decree Staff

Two students have been elected to fill vacancies in the treasurer and secretary positions of the NCWC Student Government Association.

Sophomore William Boyd was elected treasurer, while freshman Courtney Brown is the new secretary. The new officers succeed Amber Huggins and Amber Long, who resigned in the fall. Vice President Martin Hill had been serving as interim treasurer.

A Greensboro native, Boyd said he had expected a more "seasoned" student leader to run for treasurer, but when SGA entered January without a replacement, he decided to run. He garnered the necessary 50 signatures to place himself on the ballot and ran unopposed.

The Nash Hall resident has set three goals for his term in office. He hopes to:

- heighten transparency in SGA and its dealings with the college administration
 - increase student involvement in SGA.
- "More would happen at a faster rate," he commented.

• foster an improved sense of community among SGA members. "If we all work together, we can get more done," he said.

Boyd has been in SGA since his freshman year. A joint theatre and justice studies major, he has been active in campus theatrical productions as a Wesleyan Player. He is a member of the Black Student Association (BSA) and the International Club.

Among her many duties as SGA secretary, Brown will take roll at meetings, record the minutes, handle SGA correspondence and publicize meetings and SGA-sponsored events.

Brown is a point guard on the NCWC women's basketball team. She is active in the local chapter of the Fellowship of Christian Athletes and serves as secretary of the NCWC Cinematography Club.

An Asheboro native, Brown is majoring in pre-nursing and exercise science. She resides on campus in Edgcombe Hall.

clamor for comparable treatment from the state. Members of the review committee posed a similar question during a meeting with Wesleyan faculty in January: What sets North Carolina Wesleyan and Rocky Mount apart from other communities?

If Wesleyan were to become part of the UNC system, it is expected that it would take three to seven years for the college to be absorbed into the state university system. It would need to construct new buildings on campus, as student enrollment would rise to more than 2000, more than double the current number of students in traditional day programs. Among the UNC campuses, smaller schools include UNC Asheville, with around 3,000 students; and UNC Pembroke, with almost 6,000.

According to reports in The Rocky Mount Telegram, tuition costs would drop as a result of NCWC becoming part of the UNC system. Among current UNC universities, UNC-Chapel Hill charges the highest tuition and fees. According to the UNC-Chapel Hill website, for North Carolina residents the cost is \$4,875.82 and out-of-state students pay \$19,523.82, which is still lower than NC Wesleyan's current costs.

There is considerable community backing for a transition to UNC-Rocky Mount, as evidenced by the capacity crowd that attended a rally in the Minges Auditorium of the Dunn Center in November. Diana Bell, a bank teller in attendance, stated "it is good that Wesleyan might become part UNC, because it will mean a richer economy for the city of Rocky Mount."

Many students favor the possible transition to UNC-RM. Like many Rocky Mount residents, Senior Richard Williams believes the move would help the city's economy. "Although I am leaving next May, I think it is good," he said. "It will bring in more students and tuition will go down. It should be a technical school, because with it will come more students as well as more jobs for the folks in Rocky Mount."

Some students see in the proposal a chance to change faculty and staff. Sophomore Mike Davis believes that "joining the UNC school system would mean better faculty and staff." Students such as sophomore Jessica Daniel hope the change would bring increased diversity. "Wesleyan might become a more diverse atmosphere as far as teachers are concerned," she said.

Some students expressed optimism about the future of campus programs. Junior Kevin Murphy suggested "if 8,000 attend NCWC, then students can expect more variety in on-campus programs." Davis added that "with the rise of GPA's, students can expect a larger selection of Fraternities and Sororities within Greek Life," noting that "having a larger Greek Life would bring about more events and more programs and provide more outlets for students."

Although some students anticipate more diverse faculty and an improvement in on-campus programs, others are not so optimistic about the transition. Freshman Erica Whitfield said "I have mixed feelings about becoming part of the UNC school system. I came to NC Wesleyan for the small teacher-to-student ratio. For this school to become a part of the UNC

see UNC-RM on pg.2



Greek organizations conducted a recent Saturday morning clean-up the NCWC campus. Participants included, from back left, Martin Hill, Greek Council Advisor Jasmin Spain, Krystal Mitchell, Shelly King, and, front, Donterio Perkins, Kyla Mitchell, and Earl Randall. Hill, Perkins and Randall represented Phi Beta Sigma. Decree Staff Photo.

It's Time for Resolutions...or Not

By Hannah Smith
Decree Senior Staff Writer

It's that time of year when many Americans aspire to change their lives for the better. Many NC Wesleyan students and faculty plan to make changes in their daily lives. The most common resolution is to get in shape.

Professor Gene Heavner, of the music department, stated that his resolution was to "exercise more and get in shape." He said that he plans on working with the exercise science majors and a personal trainer in order to accomplish this resolution.

Matthew Brooks, a sophomore, said that his resolution was to "be healthy." Junior Paige Collins is working towards quitting smoking.

Dr. Lisa Kirby, assistant professor of English, stated that she would like to exercise more and eat more healthful foods. She added that she would like to be more organized, a goal that many teachers and students alike would love to achieve.

Losing weight and getting in shape seem to be popular objectives, but many students resolve to do better in school. Sophomore Bryan Butler stated that his resolution is to be "back as a college student by next semester."

New VP of Development Appointed by College

North Carolina Wesleyan College has named Malcolm W. Woodall as vice president of development, effective December 1. A seasoned fundraising professional, Woodall has experience in all phases of advancement work at both private and public institutions.

Most recently he served as vice president for advancement at Lewis University near Chicago. Other prior positions include work at Loyola University in New Orleans, where he was vice president for institutional advancement, and at East Carolina University, where he was associate vice chancellor

Dr. Erica Kosal, of the biology department, stated that she would like to make more time for her family in the upcoming year. She noted that both she and her husband have very busy jobs, but now that there is a baby in the family they have resolved to make time for family. Many Americans struggle with hectic schedules and the idea of spending more time with family members is another popular resolution.

Alisha Wilson is one of many among the NC Wesleyan community who has stopped making resolutions. "I used to make resolutions, but always forgot them," she said.

Sophomore Amanda Landi and senior Shannon McGinnis consider resolutions a bad idea, McGinnis explaining that we tend to use resolutions to procrastinate. Rather than waiting until New Year's Day to begin, say, an exercise program or other self-improvement projects, McGinnis said that she believes "You should just do it" now.

So why do we make resolutions? Many Americans fail to follow through with their resolutions and get disillusioned and stop making them all together. Sophomore Eric Smith said Americans "make resolutions because they want

to believe they can make a change and accomplish something they put their mind to. If they can make this change, then they get satisfaction."

Another reason many continue to make resolutions is that when we set goals for ourselves we are more likely to follow through with them than if the thought is only lingering in the back of our minds. One problem is that we tend to set unrealistic goals for ourselves. We should always set short-term goals and reward ourselves when we've reached them.

As for myself, I have just about given up on New Year's resolutions. But I do wish luck to members of the NC Wesleyan community who have set goals for the year. Persevere. If you keep pushing, those resolutions might be met one day!

Students Honor Memory of King

By Kimberly Garrett
Decree Staff Writer

NC Wesleyan students and faculty took part in the recent "Unity March" that marked the birthday of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and a famous speech he delivered in Rocky Mount.

The event was held on the morning of January 15, the ML King Holiday. Participants marched the mile from MLK Park to Booker T. Washington school gym. According to the Rocky Mount Telegram, it was at the gym that King gave a version of his "I Have a Dream" speech on November 27, 1962.

During the festivities, a state historical street marker was unveiled in honor of King's speech at the gym. A ceremony included the dedication of a plaque and a performance by the NCWC Gospel Choir.

Clyde Peele, a sophomore, was there to honor Dr. King. He said that he admired civil rights leader because of his considerable accomplishments and sacrifices. Peele added, "If it wasn't for Dr. King, basketball wouldn't be the same, and I wouldn't be here at Wesleyan."

Lakisha Daniels, a sophomore in the Adult Degree Program at NC Wesleyan, agreed that if it was not for Dr. King, she would not be at Wesleyan either. "I love see KING pg.2



Malcolm W. Woodall

He and his wife, Lois, make their home in Rocky Mount. (Courtesy of NCWC Public Relations)