

THE DECREE

since 1960 “of, by, and for the Wesleyan community.”

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NORTH CAROLINA WESLEYAN COLLEGE, ROCKY MOUNT, NORTH CAROLINA 27804

Graduates Look Forward to Next Step in Journey

By Decree Staff

Fall graduates leave NC Wesleyan with fond memories, varying job prospects, and student-loan debt that ranges from zero to tens of thousands of dollars.

The December 8 graduation featured a well-received baccalaureate talk by NCWC Chaplain Barry Drum, a thoughtful commencement address by a Methodist bishop, and an emotional commissioning

ceremony of a Wesleyan senior. In total, there were 126 graduates from the traditional day and ASPIRE programs.

In his talk, Rev. Drum compared the Wesleyan community to a quilt, noting its accepting nature and the numerous and varied threads that it ties together, its “many colors and textures.” He said, “We are Wesleyan, we are quilted together, we are welcoming.”

The commencement speaker was Hope Ward Morgan, resident bishop at the North Carolina Conference of the United Methodist Church. In her remarks, Bishop Morgan urged graduates to be “open to new ideas and new friendships,” adding that they should strive to make the world a “gentler, kinder, stronger, more just and loving place.”

Education has allowed the new graduates to understand the complexity of contemporary life and equipped them to care for the needs “down the street and around the world.” She repeatedly called on grads to “overflow” to the less fortunate.

Just before degrees were conferred, the Wesleyan community witnessed its first officer commissioning in 20 years. Conducted by Major Bill Drew, the moving ceremony saw Gemal Minick be commissioned as a second lieutenant, with involvement from his mother, brother, and father, a retired Army master sergeant.

Audrey Friedrich was one of 97 ASPIRE graduates to cross the stage at Minges Auditorium. A student in the Rocky Mount program, she became the first in her family to earn a bachelor’s degree.

Looking back, she said she liked the structure of NC Wesleyan’s night program. “ASPIRE is great for working adults. The eight-week schedule allows us to be full-time students while working full time,” said Friedrich, a senior procedures analyst at PNC Bank.

Friedrich hopes to use her accounting degree to seek a higher position, but she’s not sure what that will be at this point. “I want to find a position that fits my personality and uses my new degree,” she said.

Like many ASPIRE students, Friedrich balanced her studies and a full-time job with family life and work in the community. A mother of three, she volunteers at her church and serves as a co-leader of her daughter’s Girl Scouts troop.

Here is a rundown of what the future holds for six other new Wesleyan grads:

Kristi Lucas

Plans: A native of Aliquippa, Pa., Lucas has lined up a job at Sign Innovations, a small sign company based in western Pennsylvania, where she interned last summer.

“I think it is a lot harder to get a job with this economy,” she said. “It was tough to find an internship back home, and my father had to help me.”

In her new position, Lucas will work in project management. “I will coordinate between what goes on internally between designers, fabricators, and engineers, with what goes on externally, with customers and vendors,” said Lucas, a business major, and member of Rotaract, Student-Athlete Advisory Council, and Fellowship of Christian Athletes.

She added that she intends to take a hiatus from school, but eventually plans to attend an MBA program to study finance.

Fondest Wesleyan Memory: “My fondest memory was my time playing volleyball,” said Lucas, who was an all-conference setter for the Bishops. “I was with my closest friends; we traveled together and were with each other every day.”

Student Debt Burden: “I’m one of the lucky ones whose parents paid for their education, so will not be stuck with student loans,” Lucas said.

Victor Goldsmith

Plans: “I plan on applying to jobs I know I can get quickly,” said Goldsmith, “so that I may have more work experience to go with my business degree.” Besides majoring in business, Goldsmith attained minors in marketing and visual arts.

To strengthen his résumé, he added that he might take more marketing courses, now that Wesleyan has adopted a marketing major.

Fondest Wesleyan Memory: Goldsmith mentioned Homecoming 2010. “There were a lot of old friends and new friends that came together that year and had fun!” Goldsmith recalled.

Student Debt Burden: Goldsmith estimates that his indebtedness is \$15,000 to \$17,000.

Jesse Southerland

Plans: Southerland, a former Bishops football player active in Refuge Campus Ministries, intends to travel this spring and do his own brand of missionary work. After stops in London and Israel, he will head to the Democratic Republic of Congo. “There, we’ll be rescuing child prostitutes and child soldiers out of the conflict in that region, working with a friend’s ministry,” said Southerland, an Edenton native, who majored in political science and minored in marketing and history.

After his trip to Africa, Southerland expects to tour the U.S. by bus. “From Dallas to Miami to Boston to LA back to Dallas for the whole summer, just loving on people and bringing the love of Christ everywhere we go,” he said. “We’re calling it Glory Tour. I’m sure you’ll hear about it soon.”

Next summer Southerland will become involved in a ministry in Dallas, while seeking an on-line masters degree in international government from Regent University. “Some friends and I are thinking about creating a relief team to go into warzones,” he related.

Bishops Resolve To Be Healthy, Generous, Patient in New Year

It’s the time when many Americans resolve to improve their lives during the coming year. Bishops were asked to share their resolutions for 2013. Following is a selection from students, staff and faculty:

Beverly Biancur

My resolution has to do with the “pay it forward” theory. I’ve resolved to do 50 acts of good (one per week) to people I do not know without recognition. I want to do this to bring a little more positive light to a struggling time. I believe this will be a good way to continue my endeavor to see the positive in people and, more importantly, within myself. I’m also making a concerted effort to be more positive with every situation, as opposed to the negative within my own life. Of course, the usual fitness and overall health resolutions are in the mix for me personally, but I wanted to tackle the more internal side of life on this trip around the sun.

Emily Bower

I actually don’t make resolutions because, once I say I’m going to do something, I always

“I feel that having a masters is going to help me have a platform to go into these regions.”

Fondest Wesleyan Memory: Southerland said that it occurred last semester at a Refuge meeting. “A student came to tell us she had just been diagnosed with cancer and it was a rare, fast-moving kind,” Southerland recalled. “We prayed over her and believed God for her healing. Three weeks later the doctors told her that she did not need treatment, because the tumor was shrinking. God was healing her. Now she is cancer free.”

Student Debt Burden: \$20,000 to \$25,000.

Sara Sallenger

Plans: Sallenger, a criminal justice major, would like to find a job in juvenile justice as a court counselor. “Location is not a factor,” she noted, “as I’m willing to move anywhere for the right job.”

A two-year member of the women’s soccer team, Sallenger transferred to NCWC from Cape Fear Community College. She had intended to major in exercise science, but after she arrived here, she figured it would have taken her 3 1/2 years to graduate, which she was unable to afford. As a criminal justice major, she finished in two years.

Fondest Wesleyan Memory: “Meeting my boyfriend would definitely be one of my fondest memories at Wesleyan,” said Sallenger.

Student Debt Burden: \$65,000.

Kristin Seidel

Plans: The Laaken, Germany native plans to participate in an OPT (Optional Practical Training). That will allow her to remain the U.S. for a year and gain experience in her field, business administration.

Seidel said that the state of the economy was not a factor in her decision to major in business. “When I started my studies, I didn’t really know exactly what I wanted to do,” she said. “I chose business since it’s a pretty big field of study and you can go afterwards in pretty much any direction.”

Fondest Wesleyan Memory: Seidel said she will always remember the friends she made at Wesleyan. And she’s got fond memories of her time on the women’s tennis team, which last year won the regular-season conference championship. “The team always had great times and lots of fun,” she said.

Student Debt Burden: \$0. Seidel said that she saved money prior to college and worked summer jobs back in Germany to help finance her education.

“My parents helped me out a bit,” she added. “I’m really glad that this worked out so well because I think it’s not an easy situation to pay off all the loans.”

Keith Blunt

Plans: Blunt, a former Bishops linebacker, wants to continue playing football and earn a job with The National Football League. Because of his goal, the criminal justice major said he is not concerned by the present state of the economy.

Fondest Wesleyan Memory: “My fondest memory was when I entered the Christmas play held in the Dunn center,” “The Best Christmas Pageant Ever,” he said.

Student Loan Burden: “I’m graduating,” Blunt remarked, “with enough debt to drive me crazy.”



Brandon Givens scored a school-record 50 points in an upset of nationally ranked Christopher Newport. The senior forward leads the USA South Conference in scoring average. See story on page 3.

SI Photo

NC Wesleyan Administrators Lay Groundwork for Recruiting in China

Bill Allen and President James Gray traveled to China last fall in a delegation of North Carolina colleges, as part of Wesleyan’s growing recruitment efforts.

Allen, the vice president of Enrollment Management, was interviewed by the Decree staff about the trip, which occurred from October 23 to November 3.

Q. What areas of China did you visit?

A. We traveled the entire coastal region from Beijing to Hainan Island. We also stopped in Guangzhou, Hangzhou, Shanghai and a few smaller cities.

Q. What was the forum for your interactions with the Chinese students and officials?

A. It varied. We did not have fairs but had meetings with schools and at times met with students directly. The purpose of the visit was to give us the opportunity to see what the educational system in China was like, and then we could decide how we might work within that system to attract students to Wesleyan.

Q. What was the purpose of Mr. Gray making the trip? Wouldn’t it have made more sense for a student or a young recruiter to accompany you?

A. Mr. Gray was able to meet with college officials, etc. Many people we met were very impressed that our president was interested and traveling with us. Position carries a lot of weight in China. In general education is highly valued.

Q. Besides the fact that China is home to more than a billion people, what about this market appeals to NCWC?

A. We developed this connection through NCICU—the North Carolina Independent Colleges and Universities—which is working with a group called Global Classroom Alliance. It was maybe a once-in-a-blue-moon opportunity for the institution. The trip included other colleges from around North Carolina and was almost entirely paid for by sponsors. It cost NCWC almost nothing to go and we’ve made good connections that have already started to foster opportunities for us.

Q. What questions did the Chinese officials and prospective students ask you?

A. They asked a lot about our rankings. They asked a lot about college life in the U.S. Many also wanted to know about our campus—it was very similar to what U.S. students and officials might ask us.

Q. What was your marketing pitch? What aspects of NCWC did you stress?

A. Our size, our international flair and our programs.

Q. Did our Nepalese student population figure into your discussions in any way?

A. No, not really. This was seen as a unique opportunity for us to get a foot in the door in one of the largest markets in the world.

Q. Do you see China as a source for student-athletes?

A. Not so much. Most of the students I have been in contact with are focusing on studies here in the U.S. There has been no interest on their part in athletics at this point. I do think there may be a future for tennis recruiting in China. Time will tell.

Q. What happens next with our efforts in China?

A. We’ve already had one college visit our campus. We’re planning a day visit from a high school group in February which should include a student who is interested in coming here in the fall. We’re working on some direct relationships with some educational firms that will help us recruit and we hope to have more high school students visit in the spring and summer. We may also consider some direct relationships with schools in China.

Q. When will we begin to see Chinese students at Wesleyan? How many do you expect to see in, say, the next three years?

A. I’m hoping for one or two for next fall. I think that could grow over the next couple of years. I would like to see a steady flow of three or four a semester, if it works out. They’re very hard-working

students and would be great additions to our community.

Q. Should a group of Chinese students enroll in the next few years, what kind of English skills should faculty expect to see in the classroom? What additional support services, if any, will be necessary to accommodate the students?

A. All Chinese students have had to take nine years of English. What I’ve been told is that they’re a little rough with the spoken word at first, but because of the amount of English they have had, they catch on pretty quick. I think we’ll need to provide them support, as we do with other international students. I also think our social settings maybe a bigger challenge for them. They study a lot and are used to that.

Q. Over all, how would your characterize your trip and our prospects in China?

A. I was exhausted by the time we were done. We saw so many colleges and high schools that I had a hard time keeping them straight. I believe that there are real opportunities for NCWC. We’ll continue to work with Global Classroom Alliance (GCA) and we’ve already had a couple of follow-up meetings to plan the visits mentioned above. Our feeling is if we can get Chinese students to visit our campus, they’ll be more likely to return as our students in the future. GCA will continue to help us make connections in China.

Q. Are there other new countries you would like to enter?

A. No, right now we’re trying to strengthen what we’re doing and open up places like China and South America more. Specifically, Brazil, Venezuela, Chile are on the list. Frankie Taal (Men’s Soccer Coach) has connections, and I helped fund his recent recruiting trip (to Brazil). Patricia Infantino (Director of International Student Services) has connections, and we’ve picked up some baseball players from Latin America in recent years.

see RESOLVE pg 2

CAMPUS LIFE

Night and Day: Mother-Daughter Pair Flourishes at NCWC

By Katherine Crickmore
Decree Staff Writer

My fingers paused over the computer keyboard as I struggled to complete my last assignment for my theatre history class, a requirement for my major. The research paper was due the next day and worth the majority of the grade in the class but I was having a bit of trouble with the conclusion.

My cell phone's sudden flashing took my attention away from the assignment and alerted me to a new text message. It was from my mom.

Could you please pick up your sister? Dad couldn't get off work.

I let a sigh escape as I felt my plans for the next two hours crumble. These kinds of messages were more frequent lately, with my mom finishing her degree at Wesleyan.

With one last glance at my nearly completed project, I texted my mother back a quick affirmative and saved my work. It was all right. I might have time to finish the paper tonight after my play rehearsal at six. I sighed again and began to quickly pack up my haphazardly laid out books.

It's become more and more obvious that it isn't easy having more than one woman attending college and living in the same house, especially if one is a mother. The days are often a whirlwind of carpools, brief greetings, and last-minute plans for dinner.

There are often hastily scribbled reminders on the refrigerator concerning schedules, or hurried text messages asking if anyone was able to pick up the younger kids from school. The days often seem like a precarious balancing act of priorities. Do I attempt to study for my test the next day or head home

and make sure that my sisters have something for dinner? If I leave right now, will I have time to pick up my sisters and drop them off at home, or will they have to attend my meeting with me?

There have been times when juggling my mother's stray tasks and my own responsibilities seems impossible, and, I'll admit, a bit unfair. However, it's hard to complain when I see how hard my mom has been working.

My mother, Kay Crickmore, graduated from Northern Nash in 1990, and began attending classes at Nash Community College soon after she was married. She attended Nash from 1991 to 1992, and was on track to become an elementary school teacher. But when she discovered that she was expecting her first child, she put her education on hold.

For most of my childhood, my mother procured various jobs, ranging from babysitting to photography, but it was always somewhere she could bring along my younger sisters and me.

Just before my youngest sister began school, however, my mom decided to continue pursuing her career. She obtained a general substitute teaching position at Rocky Mount Preparatory School in 2004, where my siblings and I attended school, and began to take classes at Nash Community College in 2008.

At a pace of two or three classes per semester, most of them online, my mother worked towards her degree. She became an assistant teacher in the elementary school section of RMPS in 2010, and soon after she transferred to Wesleyan's ASPIRE program to finish the remainder of her required courses.

"I'm not going to embarrass you, am I?" my mother had asked me, soon after her plans to go to Wesleyan were announced.

"Embarrass me?" I had responded quickly. "How would you embarrass me?" "I don't know." She grinned. "Kids don't normally want to go to the same school as their mothers, right?"

"You're right!" I had exclaimed in mock horror. "We live in the same house, you work right across the street from me, and soon you'll be going to school with me, too? I'll never be able to escape you, will I?"

We both had a good laugh over the likely fact that we were going to be seeing much more of each other. But it was soon obvious that that wasn't the case.

Since my mother's classes are primarily held at night, I usually don't see her around

campus during the day. Still, I often notice her presence around, most notably her name alongside mine on the President Honor's List, something she prides herself in.

My mother and I have a bit of a competitive streak when it comes to education. We often compare grades in classes we have both taken, try to one-up each other in schoolwork, and update each other constantly about our respective GPA's (I'm winning by .2 points!).

And much to her excitement, my mother is set to finally graduate in May with a bachelor's degree in elementary education.

As mom's graduation looms, my family and I have been trying to make the last semester as easy as possible. My father and younger sisters have taken up much of the cooking, and I have been doing most of the chauffeuring of the younger kids.

After Active Fall, SGA Plans To Be Busy Again in Spring

By Rebekah Cain
SGA President

The fall semester was a very active season for SGA. We accomplished more than we imagined. Despite unforeseen challenges, with the leadership of Student Activities Director Adia Cuthbertson, in addition to the support received from the NCWC administration, SGA and the student body worked together to overcome obstacles.

Security has seen a major "face lift" this semester—with improved campus lighting and plans for stronger security staffing, among other planned improvements—and several students expressed their appreciation. The Wesleyan student body is grateful to the Board of Trustees for the improvements. Feeling safe is vital to student life at NCWC. Thank you, for helping our students to have a better "Wesleyan Experience."

Looking ahead, SGA would like to strengthen community engagement. We want to see a stronger connection between NCWC and the City of Rocky Mount. We made significant strides last semester. Several local Boys and Girls Club members we're able to celebrate Halloween in a safe environment,

She's been doing so much to achieve her goals and she's experiencing the same kind of workload that I am (minus the full-time job and family priorities). It will be wonderful for her to finish, finally, and get her afternoons and evenings back. So our family has been doing all we can to make things easier for her, even if it means forfeiting a bit of our own free time.

Now at my desk, as I was gathering the last of my things, my cell phone flashed again. I smiled as I read the new text from my mom.

Thanks! You're such a help. Love you!

You know, maybe I was being a bit hasty before, I thought as I quickly typed out a response. My theatre history paper won't be that hard to finish. It's really no problem for me to take an hour and pick up my sister. If it will help out my mom, I'd love to assist. She deserves it, after all.

No problem. Love you, too, Mom.

thanks to the participation of Edgecombe Hall residents and several clubs, organizations and the men's basketball team. Other community outreach efforts included food drives and additional activities for local children.

We hope to continue the trend. SGA has been contacted by Rocky Mount Prep, located behind Wesleyan, to help it launch a Special Olympics program. Our involvement will be to coach teams and run individual events. SGA is very excited about this future partnership. We invite members of the Wesleyan community to contact us if they would like to help.

Also this semester SGA will launch the Green Team as part of an effort to make the campus more eco-friendly. This project, headed by SGA Secretary Jennifer Oster and SGA Parliamentarian Sarah Olsowski, is seeking volunteers to support the effort.

In general, SGA is promoting increased involvement in campus events. This will begin with sign-ups for the MLK service day on Jan. 21st. Students have indicated that they wish to see more participation by the staff and faculty in student and community activities. Faculty and staff: Here is the opportunity to start fresh and show the student body that their request has been heard. Mrs. Cuthbertson is helping to coordinate this effort.

Other SGA objectives include revisions to our constitution and improved communication between the students and NCWC administration. Students: YOUR OPINION MATTERS. If you wish to see improvements in certain areas of the college, I urge you to use your voice. When it's properly presented, your voice possesses the power to make change. We've seen this in the tremendous improvement of the cafeteria food. The SGA food committee was very active during the fall and will continue to be this semester.

One of our next initiatives is to create a clear line of communication between students and the Residence Life Department. We're hoping to develop a more efficient reporting system with our residence halls, resident directors and Sodexho. Led by SGA Vice President Terrance Hooks, this initiative is designed to help dorm residents get their requests and needs met in a timely manner. This is vital to helping students have a better experience while attending NCWC.

We're excited about the new semester. Upcoming events are highly anticipated. SGA wants Wesleyan to be at its full potential. For this to happen, we need everyone—students, staff and faculty—to be involved in some way. We're a community and everyone in this community matters.

A final reminder: All clubs and organizations must send a representative to SGA meetings in order to receive funding. Under the leadership of Treasurer Deontae Swain, SGA will be holding monthly meetings to manage the current budget for student organizations and plan for next year.

—President Rebekah Cain (Email: rc160532@my.ncwc.edu.)

—Vice President Terrance Hooks (th177027@my.ncwc.edu)

—Secretary Jennifer Oster (jo179695@my.ncwc.edu)

ROTC Enrollment Jumps in Two Years

By Decree Staff

NC Wesleyan has seen a dramatic increase in students involved in ROTC, the local commander reports.

From spring 2011 to fall 2012, the number rose from 3 to 41, according to Major Bill Drew, who added that the total will show a decrease in spring, based on recent enrollment figures.

ROTC's growing presence has been noticeable. From frequent training drills in green spaces on campus, to involvement in SGA, to admissions department open houses, to various ceremonial roles in events such as last fall's gubernatorial debate and the dedication of the new tennis courts, cadets have become visible and valuable members of the Wesleyan community, Drew noted.

Among their other activities from the past year, cadets completed:

- Field Training Exercises. One involved Wesleyan cadets participating in the intrastate Ranger Challenge Competition for the first time in the college's ROTC history. Wesleyan cadets represented the Falcon Battalion, which, Drew said, performed well against 39 other larger colleges and universities that included North Carolina Stake, Duke, University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill and East Carolina.

- Combat Water Survival Testing. Drew explained that CWST is a strenuous water survival test that is a commissioning requirement. It involves swimming and treading water for extended periods, with and without a soldier's gear.

- Community Outreach. Cadets took part in the "Tunnel to Towers" run in Wake Forest and the "Dash for Cash" in Greenville. An ROTC rifle squad has participated in fallen soldier dedication ceremonies in Rocky Mount, and Drew was keynote speaker at the Veteran's Day ceremony in downtown Rocky Mount.

- Paintball wars, hosted on the Wesleyan campus, in conjunction with the NC National Guard.

And last month, at the fall graduation ceremony, Germal Minick became the first Wesleyan ROTC cadet to be commissioned as an officer in 20 years. He's now a second lieutenant in the Army.

Drew said that a robust ROTC program has helped Wesleyan's overall recruitment efforts. He noted that nine new cadets came to Wesleyan because of ROTC. "We actively recruit at local high school JROTC feeders," the major said.

Bill Allen, NC Wesleyan vice president of Enrollment Management, appreciates the strides made by Drew and the ROTC program.

"Major Drew has done an amazing job," he said. "Overall, many students are looking for the possibility of financial help and ROTC could offer that to them. I think we need to have a strong program—it will only help recruit more students."

Many new students view ROTC as the first step toward successful careers and service to their country. Among them is John Jackowski, 18, of Hampton, Va.

"I always knew I wanted to go military," he said. "I want to go active duty."

A history major, Jackowski plans to join the infantry because he thinks that it will be more enjoyable than other professions. Jackowski intends to participate in basic training over the summer.

Thomas Padgett, 19, a criminal justice major from Holly Ridge, likes the career options provided by Army training. He's interested in aviation—"I've always been around planes"—or EOD, a group, he explained, that is charged, in combat, with destroying the enemy's weapons. He is drawn to EOD work, he said, because it's "eventful."

Katelyn Liseski, 18, from Charlotte, gave a different reason for joining ROTC. She wanted to test herself. "It would give me a challenge and I wanted to see if I would be able to do it," she said.

Although now involved in Army ROTC, Liseski said she may elect to pursue a career in the Air Force. It's a "little more organized and I grew up around Air Force," she said. A double major in exercise science and psychology, Liseski would like to work in a medical field.

Trevor Montani is a 19-year-old computer information systems major from Jacksonville. Involved in ROTC while in high school, he expects to go into the infantry after graduation because he sees more adventure in such professions: "I don't want to sit behind a desk."

(Staff writer Emily Ivey contributed reporting.)

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RESOLVE

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and I do lots of traveling on the weekends, and I'd like to spend some time this year exploring and taking advantage of all that Rocky Mount has to offer—taking a stroll at one of the many parks, visiting the Children's Museum, eating at a new restaurant, shopping at a local boutique, etc. I'm looking forward to discovering some hidden treasures in Rocky Mount.

Bill Drew

Faith: I have claimed before that I would read the Bible in its entirety in a year. It never happened. But I did purchase several "One Minute Devotions" that I plan on doing every day. It's just a minute (and some may interpret that as horrid), but often, it's one minute more than I may have studied The Word!

Family: Having been deployed for half of my 6-year-old's life, I resolve to spend a great deal more quality time with him. By that, I mean not just sitting on the computer in my home office to get up and play for a minute, only to return to the computer, but dedicated time to reading more together, outdoor activities, and simply dialoguing. So there will be little television or movies.

Bill Grattan

I want to stop swearing when I'm driving—from the tee, and in my car.

Steve Myszak

I don't necessarily believe in specific resolutions because I have not accomplished them so many times in the past. Instead I choose a personal theme to live by for the year. This year my theme is "Live, Love, and Spread Cheer." I like the thought of incorporating positive ideology in my life that I know will not only help me but also others.

Chrissy Rooks

My New Year's Resolutions: Stay Positive when things get down and negative. Be thankful for what I have. Talk to my kids and husband—have patience. Lose 25 pounds and stay healthy. I lost 15 last year, but added 10 back.

Fred Sanborn

My big resolution is to be more patient. I'm trying to keep in mind that most of the time, most people have good intentions, and just because they don't do things on my time

table doesn't mean they won't get done.

Kristin Seidel

My resolution is to keep working hard to make a good job experience that I can take back to Germany for the future.

Rebecca Staylor

Last year my resolution was to lose 30 pounds. I lost 55. This year my main resolution is lose 20 more pounds so that I can get toned and run a mile under 6:15. Over all, I just want to get healthy and stay healthy!



Staylor

Decree Photo

Artina Trader

My resolution is to drink more water. I drink way too much soda and sweet tea but I doubt I'll be able to give up sweet tea.

Randy Williams

My resolution is to be more efficient with all my resources: relationships with family, friends, & colleagues, time, opportunities, money, and abilities. I'm always inspired by people who take full advantage of the blessings that have been presented to them.

George Yarusinsky

I gave up a long time ago making resolutions; however, you got me thinking about a few items I'm planning to do. I want to make more money this year (If economy and circumstances agree—doesn't everyone?). I want to spend more time with my five children (That involves more traveling in the summer-time). I want to get health issues straightened out and exercise more. These are a few.

SPORTS

‘Maryland Connection’ Helps Women’s Hoops Team Begin 4-2

By Decree Sports Staff

The Bishops raised their USA South Conference record to 4-2 by defeating last-place Mary Baldwin College, 69-46, in Staunton January 12. Senior forward Samantha Urquhart paced the Bishops with 22 points and 19 rebounds. Other leading scorers were guards Tiffany Bell (12 points) and Monet Edwards (10), as the Bishops turned a close game into a blowout, outscoring the Fighting Squirrels (0-13) in the second half, 34-15. Fourth-year coach Artina Trader has seen continued growth in her young team, as the Bishops improved their overall mark to 5-8.

She said that clutch shot-making has been one key in the team’s early victories. “We’ve done a great job of executing at the end of the game when we needed to score,” she said. In their first conference win, the Bishops edged Piedmont, 79-78, as Urquhart scored the last six Bishops points, including a game-winning foul shot just before time expired. Subsequent conference victories were by four points over LaGrange and three over Greensboro.

At key points in the game, the team defense has been strong as well. “We’ve stayed patient when opponents made a run to either tie it or go up by two or four points,” Trader said. “And we forced the opponents into more turnovers than we committed, which means we played well on defense.”

As has been the case in recent years, the Bishops have received balanced scoring. Prior to the Mary Baldwin game, Bell led the team with a 12 points-per-game average, followed by Urquhart at 11.5, Shanice Goree at 9.3 and Derreon Cole at 6.9. So far ten players have averaged at least 14 minutes of game action.

Givens Drops 50 in Bishops’ Upset of Christopher Newport

Newcomer Brandon Givens continued his offensive onslaught, scoring a game-high 50 points in NC Wesleyan’s 112-109 double-overtime upset of 13th-ranked Christopher Newport at home January 9. The come-from-behind win snapped a five-game losing streak and gave the men’s team their first USA South Conference victory after three losses. The Bishops had raced to 7-0 record in non-league action at the start of the season, including impressive wins over Hampden Sydney and Mary Washington.

Givens, a senior forward, has averaged 28.7 points per game, 5 points ppg higher than other players in the conference. After a relatively slow start, Givens scored 43 points in game three against Shenandoah and then 31 against Maryland Bible, 32 against York, and 33 against Maryville. In six other games, his point total has reached the 20s, including 23 points against East Carolina, a Division I team, in a 91-60 loss. Against CNU, Givens hit on 17 of 26 field goals, including 5 of 9 three-pointers, and pulled in 11 rebounds for a double-double. His 50 points set a school record, eclipsing his 43-point performance against Shenandoah. But Givens was far from the only hero against the Captains. Junior Josh Morrison scored 24 points and collected 11 rebounds as well.

The Bishops trailed by 16 points with just under six minutes remaining. The game saw several Bishops players step up in key situations, with senior Julian Martin (11 points) making a dramatic three-pointer at the end of regulation to force the first overtime. The Captains had led 40-34 at the half after back-to-back three-pointers from Connor Laframboise in the final 39 seconds erased a 34-34 tie. CNU extended its lead to double figures early in the second half, going up 51-41 less than five minutes into the period. CNU eventually took its biggest lead, 80-64, with 5:53 remaining. It was then that the Bishops mounted a furious rally behind the play of Givens and Morrison, who made a pair of key shots during a 27-11 run.

Trader praised Bell, a 5’ 7” junior guard, who earned third team All-Conference honors in 2012. “Her sophomore season established her as not only the best shooter on our team but definitely top five in the conference,” the coach said. “With her improved perimeter shooting, teams have adjusted their defense against her and her percentages are a little down but she has led us in scoring in many of our wins, which is a testament to her continued work ethic.” One of the lone bright spots during Wesleyan’s dreadful 2010 and 2011 seasons, Urquhart has remained a key contributor throughout her career. She has twice earned All-Conference honors. “Urquhart has been Urquhart,” Trader said. “In the past four years, she’s been the most consistent player I’ve coached. She’s improved her outside shot and she’s become a better perimeter defender. Although she’s a 5’ 7” post player, she’s earned the respect of the conference.”

Despite early success, Trader sees obvious areas for improvement if her team wants to make a run at the conference title. As of January 12, both Christopher Newport (12-0) and Ferrum (10-0) boasted undefeated overall records, while Maryville was 4-0 in the conference (10-1 overall). “We need to do a better job of communicating on defense,” Trader said. “In the wins, we did a great job of communicating with each other and rotating when it was necessary.” She added that more clutch scoring has been needed at times. “At the end of the day, if you don’t score, then you don’t win,” she said. “In the losses, we didn’t finish our open looks at the basket and although we continued to play hard and fight, we were unable to overcome the

Trailing 91-88 with seven seconds remaining, Wesleyan was forced to foul. CNU proceeded to miss a pair of game-clinching free throws, setting the stage for Martin’s off-balance three-pointer from the left corner as time expired. NCWC then jumped out to a 96-91 advantage in the first overtime after senior Cornelius Snow (16 points) netted the first five points of the period. The Captains battled back for a shot at the win, but Tra Benefield’s jumper was long, leaving the score 100-100 and forcing a second OT. Morrison opened the final OT with his third three-pointer of the night to give Wesleyan an early advantage, and while the Captains did not go down without a fight, freshman Devontae Williams (career-high 13 rebounds) scored on a lay-up with seven seconds left to seal the three-point victory.

(Article courtesy of Sports Information)

New Lax Coach Seeks to Reverse Losing Ways

Reported by Jasmine Croswell
Decree Staff Writer

NC Wesleyan’s lacrosse team has gone winless over the past two years, but new coach Emily Miller, the third in the program’s brief history, intends to reverse the losing trend.

The Bishops compiled records of 1-12, 0-13, and 0-10 under previous coach Ramona Walters. Last season, the team scored just 29 goals while yielding 165, or 16.5 per game, on the way to an 8th place finish in the USA South Conference. In its five-year history, the team is 7-60. The new coach has set two primary goals for the 2013 season. “My number one goal is for the team to play like a team,” she said. “Lacrosse is the epitome of a team sport; you can’t play by yourself.” Of course her other goal is to “put wins on the board.”

In light of the program’s history, Miller expects that it will be difficult to find and recruit lacrosse athletes to come to Wesleyan. But she’s ready for the challenge.

deficit we created at the start of the game.” In 2013 the Bishops hope to surpass last year’s breakthrough season, when the team finished 12-12 overall, after compiling a 5-43 record in Coach Trader’s first two seasons.



Tiffany Bell has rung up 12 points per game for the fast-paced Bishops attack. SI Photo

Tyler, Two Jakes To Lead Young Baseball Team into New Season

Head Coach Charlie Long enters his 16th season at the helm of the Bishops baseball team, as it tries to improve on a 16-25-1 record in 2012. The winner of five USA South Conference titles and an NCAA Division III title, Long answered questions from the Decree staff about the 2013 campaign. Q. What players will you count on to lead the team? A. Tyler Clark, Jake Alexander, and Jake Swartout. Tyler is a tremendous defensive catcher with some pop in his bat. Jake A is a solid infielder who is a very consistent player and a tough out. Jake S continues to improve and has the best stuff on our staff with a great fastball and sharp slider. Q. Tell us about your new coaches. A. We’re very excited to have Greg Clark (a former Bishop MVP and All-American, whose number has been retired) join our staff. His accomplishments as a player and his experience as a coach speak volumes. I look forward to what he will be able to do with our outfielders and the base running aspect of our game. We’re also very happy to have Zach Alexander as a student coach. Zach was a great player in our program and will bring a lot of tremendous offensive techniques to our hitters. Q. What do you see as the strengths of your team? A. We’ll be solid defensively. Our middle will be very consistent. Offensively, we have more team speed than we’ve had in the past and look to use it as much as possible. I’m also excited about our bullpen. It should take some of the pressure off of the

starters because we’re deeper and can go to the pen much earlier when needed. Q. What pitchers will be at the top of your rotation? A. Will Beasley, Hatteras Brooks, and Jake Swartout. Will is a control pitcher who knows how to spot the baseball, work hitters in and out, and control the count. He works quickly and keeps the ball in play. Hatteras has great stuff; his fastball has a lot of movement and he comes at the hitter from different arm angles, keeping the batter off balance. And Jake is a power pitcher; his fastball will touch 90 and his slider can be unhittable at times. Q. In recent years, you’ve stressed the running game—Get runners on base, advance them, and bring them home. Can fans expect more of your signature style in 2013, or might we see an increase in homers? A. The homers are a thing of the past with the new bats. I believe that we’ll attempt to run more than ever. Q. What teams look strong in the conference? A. CNU is the best team in our league. Their pitching is some of the best Division III has to offer. Their starters are good and they have a trio at the backend of games that is proven. Q. What are your three main concerns about your team as you head into the season? A. Youth. We’re experienced in several areas, but we have a few spots that will have to be played by freshmen. If some of the young guys come through and win spots, we’ll be better. • Learning to grind out the close ones. After several one-run losses last season,

them right away. As the team develops, so will our specific style of play.” When it comes to the beginners, Miller added that she will stress athleticism, speed, and stick work. Carlene White, a first-time lacrosse player, appreciates Miller’s approach. “I’ve never played lacrosse before but I’m super excited to be playing for the team this year,” she said. “It may look easy, but it’s not, so Coach Miller has been quite encouraging when she taught us the stick work.” In teaching her new players, Miller can draw on her varied experiences. Active in the sport since she was 15, Miller played for her alma mater, Arizona State, and then Tiffin University in Ohio as a grad student. She’s coached at the high school and collegiate level (Pacific Lutheran University in Washington state), and she’s served in sports management positions, which gave her experience in developing lacrosse clubs. Miller is confident that this will help her at Wesleyan. “I have an extensive background in building start-up programs from scratch,” she said. “And I’ve coached hundreds of student-athletes who are new to lacrosse. I can break down the basic mechanics and fundamentals like nobody else.”

and Jaleesa Honesty, who played together at Crossland High. “Bell and Goree committed (to attending Wesleyan) at the same time and told Edwards and Honesty about the program and the rebuilding that was going on,” Trader recalled, “and it just went from there.” A fifth player, Kourtney Salisbury, played for Old Mill, a rival of Trader’s alma mater, Annapolis High. Although they tended to form cliques early in their Wesleyan careers, the five Marylanders have been a boon to Wesleyan basketball, Trader said. In particular, she pointed to their up-tempo style of play. “They all have the same type of game and know how to feed off of each other,” Trader said. The coach pointed out that Maryland is one of the few states that use a 30-second clock in high school basketball. “Maryland girl’s basketball is a quicker game not just because of athleticism but because of the shot clock,” Trader explained. “It definitely adds a different dimension to the game as far as plays, coaching, and defense. It prepares players for the college game in ways that schools in other states do not.”

Football Team Hopes to Build on Late-Season Success

Reported by Daniel Carroll
Decree Sports Writer

After winning its final game of the season, 32-21 against the Averett Cougars on November 10, the NCWC football team is looking forward to next season. The win lifted the team’s overall record to 3-7. The Bishops placed seventh in the eight-team USA South Conference with a 2-5 mark, one game ahead of the Cougars. The Bishops struggled for extended periods—at one point losing five straight games—but hope to build on the Averett victory. “We finished on a high note,” said Head Coach Mark Henninger. “We had higher expectations, but we got back on track and finished the year strong. I think it gives us momentum for the off season and next year.” The Averett game was the last for several key Wesleyan starters. “I was glad to see the seniors end with a win,” said junior offensive lineman Frank Willis. “I can only imagine how that felt. I hope next year I can go out with a ring on my finger, because we have the team to do it.”

Senior quarterback John Jackson concluded his career with 1,483 total yards passing in 2012. Against the Cougars, he completed 12 of 27 passes for 153 yards and two touchdowns, along with three interceptions. He led the Bishops’ running game with 104 yards and a touchdown in eight rushes. And senior Jamal Smith rushed for 60 yards in 10 attempts, as the Bishops outgained the Cougars, 381 to 269, in total yards. On defense, senior Dwayne Hollis contributed a 59-yard punt return for a first-quarter touchdown, while senior defensive back Ed Harrington snuffed an Averett drive with an interception. But the turning point may have been an interception by sophomore Austin Arbuckle, who returned it for a 24-yard, third-quarter touchdown. At the time, the Cougars were leading, 21-12. Arbuckle described the interception as a once-in-a-lifetime play. “Averett went for a play-action fake and I saw a route coming behind me,” said the linebacker, who said he followed the

CAMPUS LIFE

Staff Profile: Trista Law of Student Success Center

The Student Success Center has been strengthened with the addition of Trista Law as an academic advisor. Besides working with individual student advisees, she coordinates the SSC’s Early Alert and Response program and “Project Success.”

SSC Director Stephanie Battle praised Law’s work with students and staff/faculty. “Trista’s commitment and dedication have stood out to me,” she said. “She’s very thorough and when working with a student, she goes above and beyond to make sure the student has

some graduate programs related to education. As an undergraduate, I had always entertained the idea of working on a college campus but was not really sure what kind of degree and/or experience it required. Hence, I reached out to mentors, former classmates in the profession, and former professors to get some information. After collecting the information I needed and getting assistance from the Career Development Office at my alma mater, I began browsing programs in student personnel

students within 48 hours. The Academic Success Program is an initiative designed to assist at-risk students, particularly those on academic warning and probation. This program is in the process of being overhauled to better accommodate the needs of our students. Our grant funding is still pending. I have also had the privilege of serving as the interim coordinator for spring 2013 orientation.

Q. Please describe a typical work day.

A. My office hours are 8:00-4:30pm (with 30 minutes for lunch). My typical work duties vary daily, but most of my day is spent writing and checking emails, responding to Early Alert referrals, and assisting/advising students. I also provide academic coaching to students, assist various faculty and staff members with projects, plan/facilitate workshops and events, and teach an assigned section of WesWay during the fall semester. With this new initiative for students on academic warning and probation, I anticipate spending much of my time facilitating group sessions, training/supervising a graduate intern from ECU, and meeting with these students bi-weekly in a one-on-one capacity.

Q. What aspect of your job do you find most challenging?

A. Finding time and resources to launch new initiatives is one of the biggest challenges. I have a million ideas but only few have come to fruition for various reasons, namely time.

Q. What do you find most satisfying in your work?

A. I enjoy facilitating the academic, professional, and personal development of students. It’s always invigorating when a student has an “Aha moment.”



Trista Law, at right, has joined the Student Success Center as an academic advisor. She’s shown here with her colleague Erma Hedgepeth, last year’s Staff Person of the Year, who will be profiled in an upcoming issue.

Decree Photo

all of the resources he/she needs to solve a problem and be successful. Her work ethic and passion is like that of other SSC team members, so I knew she would fit right in.”

A former high school Spanish teacher, Law graduated in 2007 from the State University of New York-Fredonia with a BA in Spanish adolescence education. In 2012, she earned an MS in higher education and student affairs administration from SUNY-Buffalo. She’s a native of West Valley, New York, a small town in the snow-belt, one hour south of Buffalo.

The Decree staff conducted a recent email interview with Law:

Q. We understand that, even at a young age, you’ve already worked in a number of different jobs. Please describe your various careers.

A. After earning my BA in May 2007, I moved to Raleigh to begin my teaching career. I spent approximately two years teaching high school Spanish (levels I and II) in both Granville and Wake counties. Then I made a difficult decision to leave the teaching profession, and I stumbled upon a new opportunity in the hospitality industry. In 2008, I was hired for a hostess position at a trendy new Lebanese restaurant in downtown Raleigh, Sitti. After only three months of hosting, I was promoted to event coordinator. In this position, I had the privilege of building their private dining accommodations from the ground up in collaboration with a number of brilliant restaurateurs and the executive chef. In 2009, I also took on the role as event coordinator at a dining establishment next door, Gravy, which was opened by the owner of Sitti. In January 2010, I decided to return to New York to pursue my master’s degree.

Q. Why did you leave teaching?

A. I made the decision for numerous reasons but mostly because it did not offer the flexibility that I desired. As an undergraduate in the classroom, I had the freedom to teach content in any way and in any order that I wanted. Foolishly, I thought that I would have this same flexibility in my own classroom. Au contraire! Each week, I was required to meet with my department to discuss our lessons for the week. Each teacher was expected to teach a certain subject, on a certain day, meeting a certain state standard. Honestly, I lost interest when I was no longer able to be creative in my practice. My personal values also played a role in my decision to leave; just a reminder that self and values assessments are important when making a career decision.

Q. And what led you back into education?

A. After leaving teaching and dabbling in the event planning/hospitality world, I decided that I missed the field of education. I missed the challenge of teaching, learning from others, and contributing to the greater good, so I decided to start browsing

administration. I found a few programs, and I was accepted to SUNY College at Buffalo, which was the best fit for me at the time.

Q. What are your initial impressions of NC Wesleyan?

A. NCWC has a lot of potential as an institution, but like many other institutions, it has a ways to go. I have no doubt that this college can be something truly special, but it will require a collaborative effort.

Having no previous knowledge of the greater Rocky Mount community, I will not deny that the student population/demographics came to me as a bit of a shock. However, having grown up with circumstances similar to those of our students at NC Wesleyan, I can certainly relate. Although this job can be challenging at times, I know that I’m making a difference in the lives of our students.

Q. What are your primary responsibilities in the Student Success Center?

A. My primary responsibility is to advise first-year, undecided students and teach an assigned section of WesWay. In addition to my responsibilities as an academic advisor, I’m also the coordinator of both Early Alert and Response (EAR) and the Academic Success Program. EAR is a referral system in which I serve as the primary contact for faculty and staff with student-related concerns (referrals are submitted online). This includes assigning and acting as a case manager and contacting referred

Olive Garden Tops Area Restaurants in Decree Poll

By Decree Staff

Olive Garden and Applebee’s were the runaway winners in The Decree’s informal poll of area “sit-down” restaurants.

Olive Garden garnered 72 total points, while Applebee’s totaled 49 in a survey of 36 members of the NC Wesleyan community. Twenty-seven students—all upperclassmen—and nine faculty/staff participated in the annual rankings.

The next closest competitor—Golden Corral—earned 16 points. It was followed by Mama’s Pizza (13), Red Lobster (13), El Tapatio (11), Texas Steakhouse (11), and Ruby Tuesday (10).

Emily Perry was one of 20 respondents who named Olive Garden among her favorites. “The food has a unique flavor that isn’t replicated at any other restaurant,” said Perry, executive assistant in the provost’s office.

Cheyenne Green agreed. “I love Olive Garden,” the student said, singling out the restaurant’s pasta and calamari, which she called “the best.”

Like Perry and Green, Tyler Payne

picked Olive Garden as his top choice. He orders the Lasagna Classico. JoAnn “JoJo” Brockington loves the steak and pasta dishes. Emily Harrell enjoys the Chicken Florentine soup, while Emily Ivey favors the Five-Cheese Pasta and stuffed mushrooms.

Daniel “Bubba” Carroll is a fan of the Chicken Alfredo. And Stephen Bardswick was one of many who mentioned a regular lunch-time offering. “Nothing beats an (inexpensive) lunch that includes unlimited soup, salad and bread sticks,” he said.

Applebee’s—like Olive Garden, it is located in the Golden Crossing mall complex on North Wesleyan Boulevard—received 13 total votes, with seven respondents selecting it as their favorite.

Jaquan Evans and DeShon Slade praised the restaurant for its service. “It’s very fast and the employees are respectful,” Slade said.

Like many students on a tight budget, Akeem Bangurah is drawn not just to Applebee’s food, but its “Two for Twenty” offerings. Jasmine Williams and Jasmine Crosswell echoed their classmate, adding that they both like the Bourbon Street Chicken and Shrimp. Phil Harris called the popular 2/20 deal “addicting.”

Phillip Wester stated that he always leaves Applebee’s feeling “full and happy”; he orders the steak and the appetizers.

Remarked Rebecca Staylor: “Give me some mild wings and cheese fries and I’m good to go.”

The Decree poll was conducted last fall, when survey subjects were asked to identify their top three area restaurants. Thirty-three restaurants were mentioned at least once in the responses.

Other vote-getters included Hong Kong (9 total points), IHOP (9), Outback Steakhouse (9), Andy’s (8), Western Sizzlin (8), Chili’s (7), The Highway Diner (7), K&W Cafeteria (6), Parker’s (6), Pizza Inn (6), Waffle House (6), Cracker Barrel (5), Gardner’s (5), Madison Seafood (5), Peking Palace (4), Crepe World (3), Doug Saul’s (3), Hunter Hill Café (3), Pizza Hut (3), San Jose (3), Brian’s Cheesesteaks (1), Hing Ta (1), Ichiban (1), Mario’s (1), and Ribeyes Steakhouse (1). Two students voted for “Chinese” without specifying a restaurant.

Under the poll’s scoring system, five points were awarded for a first-place ranking, three for a second, and one for a third.

It was announced in the last issue of the Decree that Cookout was the clear choice for the top area fast-food restaurant.

as hiking, mountain biking, kayaking, trail running, and camping.

Q. Tell us some of your favorite things (teams, music, etc.)

A. I’m a Buffalo Bills fan despite their lousy history (you have to stand by your hometown team). Aside from the above-mentioned, I also enjoy listening to an eclectic mix of music genres (i.e., Jack Johnson, Frank Sinatra, Vampire Weekend, etc.), escaping to the beach or mountains of North Carolina, visiting wineries/breweries, meeting new people, and travelling. I look forward to vacationing in Las Vegas for the first time this spring and standing in three weddings for three great friends in three different states (FL, NY, OH) in summer 2013...Never a dull moment in this life.

Q. What do you miss most about living in the Greater Buffalo area?

A. Above all, I miss my parents. I’ve been incredibly close to my parents my entire life and leaving them was a difficult but necessary decision. I also miss cool summer nights, the quiet rolling country side, and the Finger Lakes region. I can’t say that I miss anything else.

FOOTBALL

from pg 3

quarterback’s head and eyes. “He tried to pass to the guy behind me but I intercepted it. It felt really good. I don’t get to do that too often.”

After Arbuckle’s score, the Bishops put up two more unanswered touchdowns, the last one on a 44-yard run by Jackson with 2:12 remaining in the game.

Now it’s onto next season. Coach Henninger stated that in 2013 he wants his players to take a better mental approach. “One of our strong points was that we did a great job of playing hard toward the end of the season,” he said. “I wish we would have done that all season.”

The new mental approach extends to execution and one of the team’s primary problems last season—“not protecting the ball,” Henninger said. “Turnovers really hurt us this past season.”

Soon after the Averett game, Coach Henninger and his staff were already making plans for next season. Off-season workouts will begin “the second week after we get back from Christmas break,” Henninger said, adding that coaches have been on the road recruiting. “For next year our goal is to be bigger, faster, and stronger than our opponents.”

Willis is excited about his team’s prospects. “My goal is for us to be back where we were a few years ago,” he said, recalling the 2009 and 2010 seasons, when the Bishops won the conference title. “Next year, I’ll be a senior and that would be an awesome way to end it. I know the coaches have a plan for us to be great, but we have to do our part as well. We have a long way to go, but I love a good challenge.”

DB Hollis Honored For Stout Play

Dwayne Hollis, a senior defensive back and return specialist, has become the first Bishop in history to be awarded All-American honors by the American Football Coaches Association (AFCA). Hollis received his AFCA recognition for his play at defensive back.

In addition to his AFCA accolades, Hollis was chosen as a Beyond Sports Network (BSN) All-American for a second consecutive season, as well as a D3Football.com Second Team All-American at return specialist. His D3Football award followed First Team All-Region honors at return specialist and Third Team accolades at safety, making him the first Bishop in program history to earn All-Region honors at two positions.

Hollis’ post-season recognition began within the USA South, where he picked up honors at two different positions for the second straight season, garnering a pair of First Team awards after tallying a team-high four interceptions (one returned for a TD), five pass break-ups and nine pass deflections. He added 46 tackles and a fumble recovery, while he averaged over 13 yards per punt return with two touchdowns. On kickoff, the Newport News, Va. native averaged nearly 24 yards per return with a TD.

(Article courtesy of NCWC Sports Information)



NC Wesleyan will honor photographer Walter C. Bryant with an exhibit that chronicles a half century of African-American history in Rocky Mount. The exhibit runs through February 17 in the Mims Gallery of the Dunn Center. On January 25, the college will host a free, public reception for Bryant, with jazz performed by “Mac” McLaughlin.

Photo courtesy of E. Adelman