

# THE DECREE

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November 21, 2014

NORTH CAROLINA WESLEYAN COLLEGE, ROCKY MOUNT, NORTH CAROLINA 27804

## Tuition To Rise 2.8 Percent, 900 Students Projected for Fall 2015

By Decree Staff

NC Wesleyan will hike tuition and other costs by 2.8 percent for most students in 2015-16, as it plans for a second-consecutive jump in enrollment.

Next year tuition will rise from \$27,250 to \$28,000, according to Jason Edwards, the college’s Vice President of Finance. Under a previous agreement, tuition will remain at \$26,482 for students who enrolled in fall 2013 or spring 2014.

Some freshmen were unhappy about the tuition increase.

“It’s already hard for students and their families to pay tuition,” said Jonathan Alston. “Why raise prices? I think the school will lose students due to the crazy increase.”

David Chang, a freshman from Australia, was less bothered by the tuition increase, but said he felt that the college should enhance the residence halls and, in particular, the offerings in the cafeteria. He called the current meal plan “expensive” for “low quality” food. “If we have to pay an additional \$150, I’ll have very high expectations for next year,” he said.

James Parish echoed Chang on the quality of the food. “I have a problem with the increase in the meal plan. It’s an outrage,” said Parish, who suggested that the college add a fast-food outlet on campus to give students more choices.

Aneisha Felton said the meal plan “is pretty good,” but that the menu lacks variety. She said she’s been most disappointed in the residence halls. While calling her room too small, the Edgecombe Hall resident reported that it’s often difficult to regulate temperature levels. “So no one ever wants to stay in their rooms,” she said.

Edwards reported that the yearly cost for a double-room in a residence hall will increase from \$4,281 to \$4,400, while a standard meal plan will rise from \$4,651 to \$4,800. The student activity fee will remain at \$150, he said, adding that it’s unclear whether the college will raise the cost of student insurance, now set at \$1,313 per year. “Student insurance is a pass-through expense driven by quotes received from a third-party provider,” Edwards explained, “and we don’t receive quotes until spring.”

Last fall the college decided to increase tuition, room and board by 2.9 percent, a rate that was about .3 percent less than that of other independent colleges and universities around North Carolina, said Edwards. It’s too early, he noted, to compare Wesleyan’s 2015-16 price tag to that of its competitor schools.

This is the second year in a row that the college has set its tuition in the fall. In the past, it often waited until the February trustees meeting, an approach that hampered recruitment efforts, Edwards said. “Last year we pushed for approval during the October board meeting,” he explained. “Our admissions team is on the road beginning in October and we wanted them to have all the pertinent information to share with potential students, rather than having to speak generally about tuition and fees.”

Edwards said that the new approach is in line with practices at other successful colleges. “We want to take advantage of every opportunity that’s available to us,” he said, “so we can compete for proactive students who are ready to commit.”

Besides setting the tuition, the board approved a balanced 2014-15 operating budget of \$26.5 million, an increase of about \$4 million over the last fiscal year, when the college ran a deficit of about \$673,000. Edwards said that the deficit was about \$77,000 more than anticipated due in part to higher costs associated with the college’s books-in-tuition program, which just concluded its third year.

According to the Edwards, the current budget makes provisions for the college’s new Heritage Scholarship program, which covers tuition, room, and board for students with exemplary academic credentials. Forty students were granted the scholarship in 2014-15.

Scholarship funding comes from a combination of sources, Edwards said. “We have a few trustees who have agreed to cover the room and board for some of the Heritage Scholars,” he said. “We require that the Heritage Scholars complete a FAFSA, so we can capture federal aid available for each student, and the remaining funding is absorbed by the college.”

Among other items in the budget, Edwards highlighted a 3-percent pay raise for all staff and faculty, more funding for student activities and intramurals, and additional money for marketing and recruitment initiatives.

He pointed out that the college must now absorb a North Carolina sales tax on cafeteria meal plans, under a mandate approved by the legislature in July. Edwards noted that, unlike other colleges, Wesleyan elected not to pass on the cost to students this fall and spring.

The budget includes a number of enhancements to campus facilities and services. The college is:

- Leasing the Rocky Mount Inn—located three miles south of campus on North Wesleyan Boulevard—as a residence for about 70 students and providing transportation services to campus. Edwards reported that the total expense to rent the Inn has been offset by student room payments, but that the college has, so far, borne the cost of the shuttle service, which is expected to total \$55,000 for the academic year. “But there is still availability in the Rocky Mount Inn and if we fill the vacant rooms,” he said, “we’ll break even on the shuttle service as well.”
- Thinning out trees in wooded areas of campus. Edwards stressed that the college intends to use the income generated through sale of the harvested wood to pay for cutting down and trimming trees. “It’s a break-even situation,” he said, adding that the objective is to improve “lighting, security and beautification.”
- Installing cameras in every residence hall and partnering with Rocky Mount police to strengthen security. The police now make regular, nightly rounds on campus.
- Purchasing 10 new tables and 40 chairs in the cafeteria.
- Laying sod and mulch in parking lot islands as part of campus beautification efforts.
- Converting to LED lighting in parking lots, gymnasiums and tennis courts.
- Replacing the original boiler in the Everett/Taylor building.
- Adding a baseball clubhouse and a building for the football team to store equipment and hold meetings.

After its enrollment rose to 793 day students in 2014, the college has set a goal of 900 students for next fall and 1,000 students for the following year. President Dewey Clark is excited about a second straight jump in enrollment.

## Unhappy at First, Many NCWC Students Now Enjoy Life at the Inn

Reported by KeCharna White  
Senior Staff Writer

High enrollment this fall forced NC Wesleyan to house dozens of students at a nearby motel, a move that initially frustrated many of the upper-class males who were transferred there.

Seventy-two students live at the Rocky Mount Inn, a motel located on North Wesleyan Boulevard, about three miles south of campus.

Jacques Alston, a senior, voiced his initial frustration, saying he was “mad as hell!” Several other students agreed with Alston, expressing their anger on learning of the change in early August, when it was time for football training camp.

SGA President Isaiah Morrow reported that some students, at first, complained about strong cigarette smoke odors in their rooms, an issue that was addressed through vigorous cleaning. He said that other students had packed as if they would be living in the residence halls, bringing TVs and refrigerators, items already furnished by the motel.

Among other minor grievances, Davontae Williams, a junior, noted that breakfast is not provided at the motel. Senior D’ante Nichols said “there isn’t a lot of space to

rollment. “We change more lives. The higher enrollment will allow us to provide more activities and programs,” the president said, adding “We can better leverage our assets, and our economic model will work better.”

The college is forecasting 400 new students in 2015, with 340 freshmen.

The growing enrollment will require changes in residence life. While renewing its arrangement at the Rocky Mount Inn next year, the college has decided to build a new residence hall in a vacant area next to Centura Hall. Already approved by the college’s Board of Trustees, plans call for a facility with 40 single rooms. The college intends to finish construction of the residence hall by August 2015 at an estimated cost of \$1.5 to \$2 million, President Clark said.

Edwards said that money for the new residence hall is not included in the current budget. “It would be part of our capital budget and will be covered by bank financing,” he explained.

Even with the new residence hall, President Clark noted, the college will still need to explore additional housing options. One may involve contracting with Wesleyan Villas, the townhouse complex located just north of campus.

Due to the higher projected enrollment, and growth in the ASPIRE adult-degree program, the college will hire new faculty as well. For 2014, Wesleyan established a new tenure-track position in psychology and hired a full-time visiting instructor in criminal justice. Provost Michael Brown has said that next year, along with replacement hires, the college hopes to bring in new tenure-track faculty for the criminal justice, exercise science, marketing, political science, and religious studies departments. Dr. Brown added that the college will hire full-time visiting instructors in biology, English and math, as well as a new full-time librarian.

The college won’t know until next summer the total number of adjunct—or part-time—faculty it will need to employ, said the provost, who noted that, this semester, there are 41 adjuncts teaching 73 classes and labs.

He said that the current classroom space should be adequate to accommodate 900 students next year. “We’ve analyzed our classroom scheduling and believe that we can handle an additional 100 new students next year with our current classroom configuration,” he said.

put your clothes” and expressed concern about driving back and forth to campus and “wasting gas.”

Other students pointed out the earlier wake-up time required to travel to school. The college has contracted with a shuttle service to transport students to campus every hour in a van that seats 12.

Despite early frustrations, in recent interviews residents described the overall experience as positive.

Alston said there is more space and “it’s quieter,” while Williams said “the beds, most definitely” are a positive aspect of life at the motel.

To provide support and supervision, the college staffs the motel with one student resident advisor and three members of the coaching staff, two from football and one from baseball, who each live there. As is done on campus, the Rocky Mount police make regular rounds at the motel.

Jessie Langley, Associate Dean of Students for Campus Life, said that the college learned in mid-May that there might be a space issue on campus, after the Admissions office alerted Student Affairs about a larger-than-expected incoming class. “In the past, many prospective students would submit their deposit, but then not show up for fall classes,” Langley said.



President Clark with General Hugh Shelton after the former NCWC trustee introduced Dr. Clark at October inauguration ceremonies.

Photo copyrighted by Garry E. Hodges.

## Faculty Members Crack Down on Cell Phone Use

Michael Taylor  
Decree Staff Writer

Last semester, Dr. Jonathan Sarris introduced a guest speaker, and then sat in a desk alongside students in his African-American history class. The speaker, Howard N. Lee, a Wesleyan Trustee, was the first African-American elected mayor of a predominantly white city in the South since Reconstruction and a former North Carolina state senator. Midway through Lee’s lecture, his voice was drowned out by the familiar T-Mobile ring tone. It rang several times before the student realized it was her cell phone. After the phone was shut off, the other students quit staring at the source of the sound, and the speaker regrouped his thoughts and continued.

Because of incidents like this, a no-cell-phone policy permeates the classrooms of Wesleyan. A majority of the instructors implement this policy in their classes in order to keep the students focused on the subject matter. Dr. Marjon Ames embraces a no-cell phone policy in her classes. “I don’t want to see them out during class,” the history professor said. “They should be off and put away during the duration of the class meeting.” Adjunct Professor Danelle

Cauley shares this policy. She stated that her students “may not use cell phones in class.”

The dominant reason for the no-cell phone policy is to avoid distractions during class. “When students are in class, they need to be completely present in the moment and engaging with other people in class,” Cauley said. Dr. Ames echoed that cell phones “are distracting, both to the student and to everyone else in the room.” Ames also pointed out that using a cell phone during class is impolite. “It’s disrespectful to be engaged in anything phone related during class,” she commented.

Many professors will allow school-related work on cell phones if it is approved by them first. Cauley, who teaches acting and directs plays, has many students put their script lines in their phones. She stated she is fine with using cell phones for class-related purposes “as long as students use it as an electronic device and not as a phone.” Cauley stressed, “I will let the student know when it’s appropriate to do that.” In order to verify that a student is using her phone for approved reasons she said, “I come around and look.”

Some professors make few or no exceptions in their policy. Dr. Lee Templeton gives some options to students who feel they need their phone for class purposes. “There are other methods,” the English professor said. He recommends taking notes by hand or looking words up in the dictionary. Dr. Fred Sanborn is also firm with his policy. “The only exceptions I’ve made are for international students who need to use their phones to translate words,” he said. “I find it hard to believe anyone could take effective notes on a phone.”

Dr. Ames also feels that it should be the instructor’s decision whether to allow students to use cell phones during class, even for school-related reasons. She avoids problems with cell phones by having a no tolerance policy. “Anything that is done on a phone during class could be done after the meeting has ended without distraction or offense,” she said. “In my class, we can look up any questions after class and use it as a jumping-off point for further discussion.”

Not all instructors put the same weight on the no-cell phone policy and some have no policy at all. Senior Katherine Crickmore noted that some professors are stricter on cell phones than others. “In one class the teacher may say ‘stay off your phones’. In another class, a teacher may say ‘if I see it, you’re kicked out of class and you make an ‘F’ for the day,’” she said.

Student Michael Whitten related that in his chemistry lab, cell phones are permitted because students use them as a calculator. However, in his chemistry lecture class, there is a “three strikes and you’re out of class” policy. Whitten also said that one professor’s policy is even more stringent. “If she catches you with it, you’re absent from class,” the junior said.

Dr. Templeton has a stringent punishment for students using their phones in class. “If I see your phone or if it appears that you’re looking at it, I will deduct five points from your final grade,” he stated, emphasizing the

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G. Wallace photo



# OPINION & NEWS

## Issue In-Focus: Students Respond to Penalties for Marijuana Possession

According to Edward Naylor, Vice President for Student Affairs, the college is enforcing the existing regulations as outlined in the student handbook. In a drug case, Dean Naylor or an Associate Dean—Jessie Langley or Stephanie Battle—will meet with a student who has been accused of using or possessing marijuana. During the meeting, the administrator will review the facts of the case as well as other pertinent matters and then discuss possible sanctions, which typically involve suspension for two semesters. The accused then may elect to have the case heard by the college’s Honor Board, which is comprised of students, staff and faculty. If the Honor Board finds that the accused has violated the Student Code of Conduct, the student will face sanctions that range from probation to suspension to expulsion.

Through mid-November, Dean Naylor reported, three Wesleyan students have been suspended and two have been expelled. “All five students were charged under the Student Code of Conduct with drug violations and some had charges additional to drug violations,” he said.

### What’s your reaction to the procedures followed by the college in cases involving marijuana possession?

**Katie Beeman**  
I think it’s good that the school has started cracking down more on the marijuana problem. It’s something that has gotten worse over the past couple of years, and the rules and penalties need to be followed. Marijuana is illegal, and by having it, students are breaking the law. That’s something that does not need to be happening at Wesleyan, especially since we’re a school that’s affiliated with the Methodist Church. However, I do believe that a violator should be suspended for one semester rather than two. Being away from college for a whole year is a big deal. The student should be allowed to come back after one semester and continue with his education. Being in school would be more helpful to that student, I think.

**Tiffany Brown**  
The college is cracking down on marijuana possession. I’m aware of students who have been suspended or expelled for marijuana. I find the sanctions to be eye-raising. Marijuana is not legal, but at the same time the drug has never killed anyone. On the other hand, alcohol is a legal substance that may cause one to be involved in a drunk-driving accident, which can kill. In light of these considerations, I’m not in favor of the college’s current policy. I think the administration should be more lenient. A simple warning should be enough to teach a student a lesson. With the current policy, even if a student has committed his first offense, he’s guaranteed to receive some type of punishment. This will turn off some students and decrease the student body at a time when the college is trying to raise enrollment to 1,000. Plus, you never know who uses marijuana. It could be some of the brightest students, with the highest GPAs. I think the college should focus on more important issues.

**Trinity Carter**  
I think the enforcement of the zero-tolerance policy is excessive. We’ve lost so

many students in the last few weeks because they got caught with weed or it “looked like” they were smoking. But I wonder if Wesleyan’s administration has ever thought about why students are even smoking in the first place. College can be a difficult adjustment and very stressful. Maybe some students have turned to marijuana to cope with the changes they’re experiencing. Instead of resorting to harsh penalties, maybe Wesleyan should be helping the students. College is supposed to be everyone’s first taste of freedom and it’s where we’re supposed to make mistakes and learn from them. The school might have just gone too far with this one. I remember when I started school here and the environment felt so welcoming, and now it’s “I can’t be here for ten minutes without seeing a police officer ride past.” It’s intimidating! I’m not saying that it’s right to smoke weed, but there has to be a common factor as to why so many students turn to the drug. I feel that instead of trying to figure out the causes, the administration is being too one-sided. Wesleyan students should at least be given a warning for first-time offenses. College is our last chance to live as young adults before branching out into the “real world”

## College Must Get Handle On ‘Left-Door’ Syndrome

The Decree interviewed Dr. Andrew Stern, assistant professor of religious studies, after he diagnosed a common, but solvable problem on campus. He calls it “left-door” syndrome.  
**Decree Faculty Advisor:** Our staff writers have witnessed you muttering to yourself as you enter and leave the Braswell classroom complex. What’s up with that?



**Dr. Stern:** Well Bill, it could have been any number of things. Perhaps someone had taken my favorite parking spot, or I had caught a student espousing heresy, or I was just arguing with the voices in my head. Or maybe I was concerned about something more important. Much more important.  
**DFA:** Oh, what’s that? Was it the Braves letting you down once again?  
**Dr. Stern:** No, it wasn’t the Braves’ latest September collapse. As with my children, I’ve grown accustomed to the Braves disappointing me. I’ve got a different problem on my mind—the failure of many members of the Wesleyan community to follow one of the basic principles of civilization and common decency: entering and exiting a building through the right-hand door. One might expect such deviance from psychopaths, freshmen, or Pittsburgh Steelers fans, but I’ve seen respectable people—the sort of people who wear ties to work—doing it as well, and that troubles me profoundly.  
**DFA:** I’ll just ignore the comment about my Steelers. But I’ve noticed this tendency as well, and you’re right that it’s widespread. But I wonder if you haven’t gone a little bonkers. In fact, I understand that you got into an altercation with an honors student, after she—let’s call her Reba—exited Pearsall through the left door. Digging into this story, dogged Decree reporters found that Reba is left-handed. Isn’t that a valid argument for using the left door? In a way

and we should be able to live a little.

**Ella Monroe**  
I don’t think this is the right policy for the college. When students first come to college, they’re basically screaming “Freedom!” They’re here to expand their learning but also establish a lot of responsibilities that they most likely didn’t have at home. So when I first got here, I thought there was going to be a lot of parties, meeting new people and so on. What I did not expect were students being treated like we’re still in high school. We’re all grown, right? I personally do not smoke and pretty much everyone knows that it’s illegal. But isn’t it up to the individual to make these decisions, to take that risk to smoke weed? Also, it’s pretty harsh to suspend a student for two semesters or expel him. What about all that tuition money? Pretty much wasted.

**David Robinson**  
These days, the difference between right and wrong is blurred, and the right of a person to do harm to himself (and others) seems to be almost inherent and self-evident. This observation is a puzzle to me, as I grew up knowing it was wrong to harm anyone,

this reminds me about my grade school years, when the nuns forbid students from writing with their left hand. I’m sensing a little Sister Agnes Therese in your attitude.  
**Dr. Stern:** On the advice of my attorneys I wish to state that I have no recollection of the incident with this so-called Reba. Furthermore, I affirm that I do not discriminate against, nor

do I condone discrimination against, individuals on the basis of hand-preference. Having said that, I would think that, as an English professor, you would know that the word “sinister” is derived from the Latin word meaning “left.” Just saying.  
**DFA:** To continue to play devil’s advocate: I also saw a faculty member leave Pearsall through the left door (To protect her privacy, I won’t name her but her office is directly to the left of yours and, like Reba, she doesn’t usually wear a tie). Do you—an untenured assistant professor of religious studies—really think you know more about social norms than a full professor of sociology?  
**Dr. Stern:** I don’t want to get into which discipline is the most ancient or lofty. Nor do I want to engage in ad hominem attacks against

my reckless and irresponsible colleagues. I prefer to focus on the issues at hand. You might ask: Why do I care which door people use? The response is simple—safety. Granted, “safety” is often an excuse for oppressive governments to erode civil liberties. But there are legitimate concerns in this case. Imagine someone attempting to enter Braswell via the proper, right-hand door. Suddenly, that door shoots out towards him, propelled by someone on the inside exiting, improperly, on the left-hand side. What’s going to happen? Perhaps the person on the outside of the door will merely be startled. But it’s also possible that he could be hit on the hand, or perhaps even the head. Serious injury could occur! So, all I’m saying is, everyone should use the proper doors, and those who forget and slip up should be flogged and banished. That’s all.  
**DFA:** I see. I think you make a good point. Other than threatening a “flogging,” what can we do to promote proper door etiquette?  
**Dr. Stern:** It’s all about education. In general I think the value of education is overrated, but in this case the first and most important step toward changing people’s behavior is making them aware of the issue. I’m certain that if we can make members of the Wesleyan community realize that using the wrong door threatens the safety of their friends and colleagues—to say nothing of the very fabric of civilization—they will change their ways. I just hope it happens before someone gets hurt, specifically me.

including myself. North Carolina Wesleyan supposedly models itself on the Wesleyan ethic from past centuries, and therefore the strict adherence to rules denying illegal drug use seems obviously right and acceptable. The students here are mostly literate and can absorb the code of honor, as written and distributed. What about “NO” is so hard to understand? The object of attendance here is to prepare for a productive and responsible adulthood, and part of that preparation is to ready oneself to enter the work force. With such a goal, what possible benefit could drugs and abuse of other substances be? College is expensive, and maturity would dictate a sober approach to it. A more innocent approach to having fun, unmonitored, seems reachable and laudable. In other words, do right because it’s the right thing to do. Put the campus police out of business!

**Rebecca Staylor**  
I don’t agree with the policy our school has made. Wesleyan administrators have made commendable efforts to help the campus crack down on drug use. However, their policy seems to be a bit flawed; while I feel that our students should be punished for marijuana possession, a first-time offender should not be suspended or expelled. The current policy should be revised to help the student who is in violation to better himself, rather than sending him away, which may make him feel alone and unable to find help for his problems. The college should adopt a “three-strike” rule to help the student rather than abandon him. The three-strike rule would require that first- and second-time offenders perform an ample amount of community service and attend Narcotics Anonymous classes. Under this policy, expulsion would only occur after the third offense. This would allow stu-

dents to make mistakes—something that we all do— but still suffer consequences. It would still limit the number of times a student will be “forgiven” for his actions, thus teaching him accountability and responsibility. While I do appreciate the college’s efforts to reduce the negative influences within our campus, revisions can be made to make the policy more flexible. Overall, though, the policy is the policy and as young adults we must abide by it, whether we agree with it or not.

**Michael Taylor**  
I think enforcing a tough policy for students using marijuana is understandable because it’s an illegal substance. Also, using marijuana may adversely affect a student’s academic performance and social life. However, I think the policy is a little harsh. Punishment should be more lenient for a first-time offender who only has a small amount of marijuana or is only suspected as having used it. Instead of jumping at the chance to punish a student, it’s more beneficial to find out why the student is using marijuana in the first place. Suspension and expulsion should only be applied to the most extreme cases. Probation, counseling, and treatment would be better for the student. Students depend on the school’s faculty and administration to provide guidance when they make mistakes. A one-size-fits-all style of punishment is as bad for the school’s image as is drug use.

**KeCharna White**  
NCWC has always been strict about the no-drugs policy. Whether or not the administration is stricter than it used to be, there have always been consequences if you’re caught with drugs and alcohol on campus. Dean Naylor and other administrators have been enforcing the college rules and, in general, haven’t given students second or third chances. In my opinion, first-time offenders should be offered another chance.

## PHONES

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word “five.” “I will do so for each offense.”  
**Dr. Sanborn** enforces the same policy. “Each use of the cell phone equals a five-point deduction,” echoed the psychology professor.  
Many math and science professors allow their students to use their phones as calculators. Using cell phones during a test is a different story. **Dr. Bill Yankosky** described his punishment. “I take the cell phone and test and they get a zero,” the mathematics professor said, noting that this is a new policy for him because of past problems with cheating.  
Most Wesleyan students understand the policies towards cell phones in class, whether they follow the rules or not. “They’re understandable, I suppose, based on how far students have gone in the past,” **Crickmore** said. A more laid-back view was expressed by **Whitten**. “I really don’t mind.”  
Not all students fully accept the no-cell-phone policy. **Shayne DeWitt** said she understands that the policies are to keep students focused in class. “But I feel there’s limits to it,” the freshman stated. **Jerome Little** also expressed some reservations about the policy. “It’s a mixed thing because some might use it to take pictures of notes,” the entertainment major said.

While some students adhere to the no-cell-phone policy, others do not. One of the most common in-class uses of cell phones is to check the time. **Little** commented that he never uses his phone in class. After thinking twice, he corrected himself. “Technically yes, to tell time,” the junior said. **Crickmore**



G. Wallace photos

also denied using her phone during class, especially during lectures. After a pausing a moment, she admitted, “I use it to keep time.” **Dr. Yankosky** also confessed to using his phone to check the time. “There are no clocks in the rooms,” he said. Many other professors also use their phones for this

purpose.  
Other students, many requesting anonymity, acknowledged that they use their phone for entertainment reasons. One freshman revealed that she uses her phone to email and text to “make plans outside of class.” A junior admitted that he texts or calls his family “when needed for an emergency.” He further stated that sometimes he plays games on his phone. “The other day I played the hell out of them games in class,” he continued.  
Another junior also admitted to texting during class. When asked whom he was texting, he replied, “anybody.” In one recent in-class text exchange, a student revealed, he was responding to his fiancé, who wanted him to “pick something up at the store.” Asked to explain the reason for texting during class, many students denied that it was done out of boredom. “Well, it depends on the class,” admitted one junior.  
“No cell phone” policies mean that students must conceal their usage in some way. Their methods are as varied as their reasons for using their cell phones in the first place. Many female students keep their phones in their purse, while others keep them in their book bags. “I check like I’m finding a pencil,” a freshman said.  
Another popular method is to keep the phone in a pants pocket and take a peek at it to check the time or texts. Other students conceal it any way they can. One junior stated he would act “like I’m doing work.” He hides it in his lap, notebook, hoodie, or hat. Another junior said he doesn’t bother concealing it. “I just don’t,” he said.  
**Dr. Sanborn** addressed concealment of cell phone usage from a professor’s viewpoint. “I sometimes find it oddly amusing that students think they can ‘hide’ their phones from me when I’m standing right in front of them,” he said.  
Although professors find cell phones distracting, it doesn’t bother most students unless there’s sound involved. **Crickmore** noted that she finds a cell phone distracting “only when it makes noise.” **Scott** doesn’t notice classmates using cell phones. “Because I sit up front,” he stated. **Whitten** summed up students’ awareness of cell phones. “I’m immune to it now,” he stated.  
Regardless of students’ views on cell phones, one thing is clear: No-cell-phone policies have curbed usage during class time. “I have almost no problem now, but I used to have a lot of problems,” mathematics professor **Gail Stafford** said.

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SPORTS

Wesleyan Football Team on the Rise

By Decree Sports Staff

The NC Wesleyan football team became relevant again in the USA South Conference, recording a .500 mark after three straight losing seasons.

With a season-ending loss, 37-20, at home against Huntingdon, the team finished with a 4-4 conference record (5-5 overall), after going 2-8 in 2013, Coach Jeff Filkovski’s first year at the helm.

The Bishops were in the hunt for the school’s fourth USA South title, but after the team raced to 3-1 conference record, it lost key games to Methodist and Maryville and fell from contention. The Methodist contest, a 42-39 loss in overtime at home, was devastating, as was an early season defeat at rival Christopher Newport, 31-28. In each game, the Bishops were unable to hold fourth-quarter leads.

Here’s a recap of the past two months:  
**October 4: NCWC 34, Averett 30**

Following an impressive win the previous week against Ferrum, Wesleyan took a second straight conference game, at home, with a dramatic finish engineered by quarterback Dustin Midgett.

Playing in relief of Robbie Lanier, Midgett threw for three 4th-quarter touchdowns to shock the Cougars. The winning score came on a 22-yard pass to Dwayne Bishop with 15 seconds remaining in the game.

Describing the winning play, Midgett said he first looked to his left, but found that side of the field “swarming with Averett defenders. So I snapped to the back side and found Dwayne. He was my third read on the play.”

Midgett dismissed talk of a quarterback controversy, noting that he and Lanier, last year’s starter, have maintained a strong relationship over the past three seasons. “Robbie and I are bros,” Midgett said. “I know if I mess up, he’ll have my back and go in to make things right. He knows if he messes up, I’ll go in and have his back to make things right. He’s my brother and I love him; I’d do anything for that guy.”

Jacques Alston continued his onslaught of USA South defenses. A week after gaining almost 300 total yards against Ferrum, the senior running back rushed for 196 yards and two touchdowns—one a 71-yard dash in the decisive fourth quarter.

The defense was led by freshman defensive back Anthony Janezic, who recorded 11 solo tackles and 6 assists.

**October 11: NCWC 48, LaGrange 21**

The Bishops extended their conference winning streak to three games with a drubbing of LaGrange on the road.

Getting the start, Midgett tossed a school record six touchdowns to five different receivers, earning plaudits from Coach Filkovski, a former DIII quarterback, who’s seen more consistency in his quarterback. “I’m proud of how Dustin is developing,” the coach said. “It’s important to him. Not everything is natural or easy for him, but he continues to work hard on a daily basis. He wants to be great and that’s a quality not found in every player.”

In recent weeks, the passing game has complemented the team’s strong running game, led by a veteran line and the explo-



James Wallace (7) recorded 10 tackles in his final game.

siveness of Alton, who ran for 154 yards on 22 carries against LaGrange.

“Our offense is set up each week with checks and balances,” Coach Filkovski explained. “There is no doubt where we start and that’s to run the football with J. Alston. If we get the look we like, we roll with the play called. On the other hand, if Dustin or Robbie sees a change to the defense, they have the keys to the car and can change to a pass play. All we try to do is stay on schedule and take some shots down-field when the opportunity presents itself.”

On defense, the Bishops held the Panthers to 74 yards rushing and recorded seven quarterback sacks, three by sophomore Rakeem Cooper. Janezic led the team with 9 tackles, while

Travonne Marshall had 8.

The defense was a concern as the season began, but Coach Filkovski said he was pleased with the progress his young players have made so far. “We continue to grow every week,” he said. “The biggest difference is we have more bullets in our gun than we did last year. Sure, the defense is young, but they’re never shaken. They line up without fear and challenge the player across from them on every play.”

**October 25: Methodist 42, NCWC 39**

After a bye week, the Bishops returned to Rocky Mount for their homecoming game against the Methodist Monarchs. Playing before a crowd of 2,000, the Bishops missed an opportunity to tie for the conference lead, losing in overtime after leading for most of the game.

“It was an emotional game and an emotional loss,” Coach Filkovski said afterward. “But we have three games left and we need to get ready for next week.”

In a game that saw major momentum shifts, Wesleyan jumped to a 26-10 first-half lead, highlighted by two long Midgett-to-Malik Adams touchdown passes. But a determined Methodist team

narrowed the gap to three points with two touchdowns within a minute. The first came with five seconds left in the first half, as Dedric Bowman hauled in a 15-yard pass from Max Reber to punctuate a 78-yard drive that took only 1:18.

Then the Monarchs struck again after executing an on-side kick to begin the second half.

Cody Ausherman drilled a low kick right at the front line of the Wesleyan receiving team. The ball hit a Wesleyan player’s leg and ricocheted back to the Monarchs, who recovered at their 49-yard line.

The on-side kick appeared to stun the Bishops. On the next play, Reber scrambled and broke a 41-yard run down the left sidelines. One play later, he handed off to John Papillion, whose touchdown brought Methodist within three.

After another Ausherman field goal tied the score, the Bishops regained the momentum. Subbing for an injured Midgett, Lanier entered the game and led his team on two long scoring drives as the Bishops built their lead once again.

But Methodist fought back. Driving his team 85 yards in 2:39, Reber hit Valdania Bastien for a touchdown. After a failed on-side kick by Methodist, the Bishops were poised to run out the clock, claim victory and extend their win streak to four. But the Methodist defense was stout. Starting at their 49, the Bishops offense stalled, as Alston (164 yards on 33 carries) was stuffed twice and Lanier was sacked for an 8-yard loss.

Getting the ball on his 30 with 43 seconds remaining, Reber once again guided his team down field, setting up a 43-yard field goal that tied the score and sent the game into overtime.

During OT, the teams traded field goals, but the Monarchs stopped Lanier from the four and then finished off the Bishops when Ausherman made his fifth field goal of the game, this one from 39 yards.

Defensive back Terrance Peterson said it was a painful defeat to absorb against a rival like Methodist. “Some players cried; others were speechless,” he said. “We felt we had worked too hard to lose the game.”

**November 1: Maryville 42, NCWC 28**

A week later the Bishops lost their second consecutive conference game, as Maryville’s offense was in control.

Playing at home, the Scots attempted only 12 passes on the day, but ran 66 times for 350 yards, while the Bishops were limited to 128 yard rushing, with 110 coming from Alston on 24 carries.

“That was the best team we played so far,” Peterson said, “on offense and defense.”

The freshman noted that the Maryville offense boasts a strong offensive line. “Our weakness is stopping the run,” he said, “that’s what Maryville likes to do. They have a disciplined line and fast backs.”

The teams were tied, 21-21, at halftime, but the Scots seized the advantage in the third quarter, intercepting a Midgett pass and returning it for a touchdown, and capitalizing

on a short punt by Kyle Melquist that gave the Scots the ball at the Wesleyan 49-yard line.

“In the first half, we were doing well, getting our blocks, making throws, running hard, and sticking to the game plan,” said Midgett who played the entire game one week after an injury. “In the second half, Maryville adjusted well to our scheme. That’s a very disciplined and well-conditioned team. We really had to battle mentally and physically.”

For the game, Midgett was held to 14-36 passing, with two touchdowns and two interceptions. In an “off” game, Alston rushed for 110 yards on 24 carries.

See FOOTBALL pg 4

Women’s Soccer Accomplishes 1st Winning Record since 2001

By Katie Beeman  
Senior Staff Writer

The women’s soccer team advanced to the semi-finals of the USA South Conference tournament, where it lost November 7 to Methodist University, 2-1, in overtime.

The Bishops concluded the season with a 10-6-3 overall record, their first winning season since 2001, and the first in Coach Bev Biancur’s eight seasons at the helm. The team’s 6-3-2 conference mark was highlighted by a six-match shutout streak that included five wins and an OT tie.

In the final game, Wesleyan and Methodist traded first-half goals with NCWC’s Jade Gold scoring on a one-timer, with assists by Rebecca Staylor and Sarah Olsowski.

Then after a scoreless second half, Methodist claimed victory, when Victoria Martins got the ball 10 feet outside the goal box and one-timed shot, the ball just eluding freshman goalkeeper Sarah Hovis. “It was just really unlucky for us,” said Staylor. “Sarah initially caught the ball, but when she collapsed on it, it went through her arms, through her legs and into the goal. My first thought was, ‘That did not just happen.’ The whole play felt like it was in slow motion.”

Staylor said it was hard for the team to process that their successful run had just come to an end. “We had worked so hard for over 90 minutes and to lose on that goal was heartbreaking,” she said, noting that as game ended, she fell to the ground, pulled her shirt over her head, and just sat there and “cried my eyes. I just kept thinking my soccer career is over. No more goofing off with Coach Bev. No more wearing the 18. No more pregame speeches or locker room dance-offs.”

A week earlier, during their quarterfinal match against second-seed Piedmont, the two teams battled to a nil-nil draw. The game came down to penalty kicks, which the Bishops won 3-1, with Hovis stopping three of four shots, and outdueling her counterpart, Michaela Gardner.

The three Bishops penalty kicks were made by freshman Cissi Edehult, freshman Hannah Tolson, and junior Nicole Liette.

“Going into the quarter-finals, we had no doubt that we could win the match,”

see WINNING pg 4

Volleyball Team Misses Playoffs for Second Year

By Katie Beeman  
Senior Staff Writer

The women’s volleyball team finished their season with a record of 7-21. The young team struggled, finishing sixth out of eight in the conference.

Kayla White was the only junior, while the rest of the team was made up of freshmen and sophomores. According to Coach Robin Pietryk, this was one of their biggest challenges, noting that the team is still in a rebuilding process.

“We’re still learning and going to make a lot of mistakes,” said Pietryk. “That is a part of the growing process.”

Pietryk stated that her goal for the season was to improve every match. “The faster we grow, the more wins we will get, but we need to focus on getting better and growing as a team,” she said.

Sophomore libero Christina Huber said the team came together at the end of the season. “It’s hard since the team is made up of mostly sophomores and freshmen,” she said. “We need to keep improving and play as a team rather than individuals.”

Huber went on to say that what the team most needed to improve was communication. “We need to talk to each other better on the court,” she said. “We need to trust that our teammates will be there to complete a play.”

Wesleyan’s biggest wins were against third-place Methodist University, which



Rebecca Staylor led the women’s soccer team with 18 goals. SI photos

said Liette. “Even as we approached the penalty kicks, I was confident in having Sarah in goal and the lineup of strikers we had. It was an honor to score my PK to help my team advance.”

Biancur credits the successful season to changing the culture of the team as well as having “a more complete presence” on the field. “This year I tried to instill a system that would make the girls more accountable and have more pride for the team,” said Biancur. “It was all about taking ownership.”

Biancur went on to state that with the large freshman class, and more good players, the team pushed each other to do better.

“All of the right pieces fell into place this year,” said Biancur.

She noted that the return of Staylor, who was a leading scorer two years ago before she transferred, gave the team an offensive edge. The senior tallied 18 of NCWC’s 42 goals. “We already had a good defense, but we were able to get the ball forward quicker this year,” said Biancur, noting the key role played by midfielders Olsowski (5 goals, 2 assists) and Tolson (2 goals, 3 assists).

The community presence also sparked the team going into the semifinals, according to Biancur. Wesleyan held “Blackout Wednesday,” in which the campus community was asked to wear black in support of both the men’s and women’s teams. Having the men’s team, aka the “wooks” cheering section, in the stands was a big help too, she said. “They supported us and did their ‘wook’ chants,” she said. “It was very encouraging.”

On their road to the conference tournament, the Bishops defeated Mary Baldwin College, 6-0, on October 21st in a purely offensive game. The Bishops took 34 shots to Mary Baldwin’s 3. Four goals were scored in the first half.

The first goal came 11 minutes into the match, as Staylor scored on a header after the ball was crossed by Edehult. Not even two minutes later Staylor scored the second goal for the Bishops with an assist from Tolson. The next two goals were made by Staylor, with an assist from

see WINNING pg 4

Men’s Soccer Finishes 13-6-1, Loses in Semis

By Rebecca Staylor  
Senior Staff Writer

The North Carolina Wesleyan men’s soccer team saw its season end in the semi-final game of the USA South conference tournament, November 7.

The Bishops fell short to Covenant in the 79th minute after USA South player of the year Snoopy Davidson tallied his second goal of the game, advancing the Scots to the championship match, while eliminating the Bishops, 2-1.

“As soon as the game ended, I automatically had a flashback to freshman year,” Isai Gonzalez said. “I just thought, Wow, this is what it feels like for it to be all over. This is how the seniors felt when I was a freshman. No more bus rides, hotel trips, or practice. I don’t get to put on a jersey anymore. It’s just really over and it’s killing me.”

The loss concluded the colligate careers of seniors Gonzalez, Jordan Grantz, Samba Cande, and Joe Storer.

The Scots took an early lead on the Bishops, when Davidson scored in the 18th minute of play. The game remained a tight defensive struggle until Davidson added his second, firing into an empty net, after the Scots capitalized on a defensive error by the Bishops.

Down 2-0, the Bishops fought back and scored a goal 25 seconds later to pull within one. Grantz sent a ball over to Cataeno Viegas, who tallied his fourth of the season.

Wesleyan pressed for the equalizer, but fell short. When the final whistle sounded, the Battling Bishops fell to the turf in disbelief.

“I think we played really well, but we gave them two easy chances,” sophomore Drew Wiltse said. “If we would have eliminated those errors and made them actually beat us, I think we would have moved on to the finals.”

The Bishops, seeded 4th, entered the first round of the tournament on November 1 against the Averett Cougars (5th.). The two teams played a tight match until the

Bishops finished on a golden goal in double overtime to win 3-2 at Scalf Field.

In the first half, the Bishops fell behind the Cougars, as Nathan Brown scored in the 18th minute. But Storer answered back with a goal in 41st, heading the ball past the keeper after a crossing pass from T. Thorfinnsson. The half began to look promising for the Bishops, but then Brown scored his second goal in the 44th minute.

The second half was scoreless until the 84th minute, when Wesleyan’s Xavier Mensah tied the game, drilling a one-timer into the goal after taking a pass from Viegas.

Both teams went scoreless in the first half of OT, but with less than two minutes left in the second, Viegas sent a flighted ball to freshman striker Charles Chapin, who nailed the golden goal, his team-leading 12th of the season, in the 109th minute.

On the season, the Bishops finished with a 13-6-1 record, 8-2 in conference action, a year after recording a sub-par 7-9-2 (5-4). Coach Frankie Taal and his assistant, Ryan Huber, said 2014 was one of their most successful seasons, noting the offensive contributions of Chapin, freshman forward Julius Oaskarsson (5 goals, 6 assists), junior midfielder Matt Moore (6 goals), as the team scored 20 more goals than last season. The coach added that freshman goalkeeper Jesper Olsson (1.33 GAA) has bolstered the defense.

“They have all really helped the program this year,” Taal said.

Storer, a team captain, said he was pleased with the way his team meshed over the course of the fall. “I think the team’s greatest triumph was that we all came together when it mattered,” he said. “Forty individuals turned into one team, one family.”

Meshing was a challenge due to the background of Wesleyan’s team, which is filled with athletes from Europe, North and South America, Africa and Russia.

See SOCCER pg 4



# ARTS & CAMPUS LIFE



Freshman Charles Chapin tallied 12 goals in 2014.

## SOCCER from pg 3

“We have a lot of new guys from many different cultures and soccer styles,” Coach Huber said. “It took some time to get all the players on the same page.” Grantz, a native from Fredericksburg, Va., related that his favorite style of play is broken up into two categories: offensive and defensive. “The offensive style I love involves a slow build up,” Grantz explained. “It demonstrates a team’s technical ability to pass the ball, while showing patience and keeping possession.” His preferred defensive style is “high pressure. It puts immediate pressure on the opposing team.” Iceland’s Oskarsson favors a different style of play. “I like to play a 4-3-3,” he related. “I prefer a very organized defending strategy, with deadly and quick counter-attacks.” Looking forward to next season, defender Mario Andrade is determined to make his senior year the best yet. “It’s hard to say what I think will happen next year because it’s a team game,” he said. “I can only hope that all the players do their fair share, so we can improve as a whole. We’re already a talented group and my motto has always been, ‘if we work harder than the opposition does, we’ll be just fine.’”

## WINNING from pg 3

Amanda Mazza, and Gold. The half ended with two failed shots by Mary Baldwin. After several attempts in the second half, the Bishops found their fifth goal, made by Staylor with an assist by Ashley Dunn. The ball hit the post and was kicked in by Staylor. After Mary Baldwin launched its third and final shot of the game, Liette tallied Wesleyan’s sixth goal, on an assist by Shayla Thome, with seven minutes remaining. This match served as Wesleyan’s Think Pink Day to raise awareness for Breast Cancer. The team warmed up in Think Pink shirts and the goalkeepers wore pink during the game. The Bishops followed up this win with two more against Huntingdon and LaGrange. Both matches were won 4-0. Between these two matches, Staylor scored three, Olsowski two, and the remaining goals were scored by Gold, Logan Bill, and Diamond Ridgeway. Next the Bishops fought number-one seeded Meredith to a scoreless draw. According to Liette, at the beginning of the season the Bishops set a goal to win 10 games—mission accomplished. Added Staylor, “I’m so beyond proud of my team. We made it to the final four, something that hasn’t been done in years.”

## VOLLEYBALL from pg 3

The teams remained close throughout the third set, but again the Bishops could not put themselves in a winning position. The Bishops scored on kills by freshman Aneisha Felton, McLain, and sophomore Tori Stewart, as well as an ace from McLain. Evie Hunter’s kill tied the set at 15-15. As in the second set, the Bishops tied the game, 16-16. But again, the Bishops could not convert a winning point and lost the third set, 21-25. This match served as the volleyball team’s Dig Pink Day to raise awareness for Breast Cancer. All of the players wore pink for the occasion. After the Meredith match, the Bishops completed the season by winning two of their final five road contests. Impressive wins were recorded against Methodist, 3-2, and Ferrum, 3-1, providing hope for a rebuilding team.

## ‘Rabbit Hole’ Provides Compelling Look at Family’s Grief

By David Robinson  
Decree Staff Writer

We are curious, all of us, about the process of dying. Most of us not about our own mortality, but about the reconciliation and adjustment after a loved one or close acquaintance passes. Metaphysical explanations and possibilities abound, but few of us are convinced by the conclusions offered. “Rabbit Hole”, presented by North Carolina Wesleyan Theatre Program, addresses this question as it treats the struggle and reconciliation a husband and wife (Howie and Becca) go through after their 4-year-old son, Danny, is killed by a teen driver when Danny runs after their dog into the street. We are struck by the contemporary aspect of the play as Howie and Becca wend their way through the labyrinth of mourning: they face it alone, with only their immediate family involved. No clergy, no friends, hostile and contemptuous toward religion.

The couple wrestles with their relationship and individual coping mechanisms in this Pulitzer Prize-winning play. Howie

## Homecoming Called a Success

By Trinity Carter  
Decree Staff Writer

Highlighted by a step show and pep rally, the college scheduled an eventful week of activities for students during homecoming in late October. As always, there was an event held every night of the week leading up to Saturday’s football game, a 42-39 loss at the hands of the Methodist Monarchs. On Friday, there was the 90s-themed pep rally and step show that took place at The Arc behind Braswell. The event was filled with music from the 90s and old television theme songs. During the pep rally, the homecoming court was announced. Seniors Tikeyah Shaw and Andrew Brown took home the crown for queen and king. The step show featured performances by fraternities and a sorority from North and South Carolina

Stepping is a form of percussive dance in which the participant’s entire body is used as an instrument to produce complex rhythms and sounds through a mixture of footsteps, spoken word, and handclaps. On the same night, Visions of B.E.A.U.T.Y took the stage with a fierce runway show styled with NCWC attire. There was a party thrown by Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity following the step show. Malik Adams, a receiver on the football team, said that he enjoyed the party and other events during the week, but was disappointed that his team lost, despite his seven receptions and two touchdowns. “I liked the step show because that was my first time every seeing one in person,” he said. Denya Isabelle, President of V.O.B, said that she enjoyed the pep rally and that her highlights were the step show and party. “I really did enjoy the pep rally,” she said. “I just wish more of the school would have showed up.”

Noting the cold weather, Cortney Burch said attendance would have been greater if the pep rally had been moved inside. “Next time, let’s take the weather into consideration,” she said. “It was freezing!” Not all students were happy with the week’s activities. Darius Kelley, a senior, said he did not enjoy homecoming because there was “nothing exciting” that took place throughout the week. “The pep rally and step show were the best things about homecoming, but it still wasn’t that great,” Kelley said. He felt the performers “toned down” their performances due to various conditions that night.

The week started with the Rivalry Game Show. It was a competition between two teams of students on different quiz subjects. On Tuesday, Visions of B.E.A.U.T.Y hosted its first fashion show of the year titled “Beauty & Horror Fashion.” Members definitely showed off their skills on the runway and even gave the audience a variety of routines to admire. Wednesday saw a paintball competition and a Powderpuff game. That evening the school hosted a cookout at The Arc. Come Thursday, SGA organized the “Ultimate Bling Blowout.” The Hartness Center was filled with two Xbox Ones and two Playstation 4s, along with Bling Nation and American Pop Star, where you could create your own music video from your favorite contemporary artist. Over all, homecoming was a success, with the pep rally and step show being the most enjoyable events.

(played by Michael Taylor) attends grief counseling, Becca (portrayed by Katherine Crickmore) will not; Howie will not speak to the teen driver, Becca will; Howie wants to renew the physical aspect of their marriage, not so Becca; Howie wants to keep reminders of the lost son, while Becca wants to get rid of them. As they interact, and try to figure out how to resolve their differences, we are drawn into the struggles they face. The playwright makes full use of the “show, don’t tell” technique, and we are left to gauge the depth of their emotional

## Prepare for Flu Season

By Ella Monroe  
Decree Staff Writer

You know what time it is? It’s time to bust out the cozy sweaters, prepare your Halloween costumes, and get your bellies ready to eat! It’s fall! However, the changing weather also means runny noses and missed classes. Jessica Brys-Wilson, Wesleyan’s Director of Health Services, shared five steps to stay healthy.

1—One of the most important is hand hygiene. “Always wash your hands,” stated Brys-Wilson, a licensed physician’s assistant. And avoid touch-

## Two Students Cited for Gun Violations

Two Wesleyan students were charged with gun offenses on campus last month. The Rocky Mount Telegram reported that James Walker, 19, was arrested October 20 after a shotgun was seized from his car. He was charged with possession of a gun—a 12-gauge shotgun—on educational property and possession of marijuana, the Telegram article said, citing police reports. Walker’s vehicle was searched after authorities found a small amount of marijuana in his room in a residence hall, the Telegram article said. Two weeks earlier, the Telegram reported, Lorenzo Donte Johnson, 18, was cited for possession of a weapon—a BB gun—on educational property. Edward Naylor, Vice President for Student Affairs and Legal Affairs, declined to provide additional details regarding the two cases, citing student privacy. But he did say that there have been no reports of injury as a result of incidents involving BB guns. BB guns have become common this fall on college campuses with high-profile cases involving football players at Florida State and other schools. In early October, seven NC State football players were suspended for a game against Louisville after an incident at an off-campus home, WRAL.com reported.

## FOOTBALL from pg 3



Dustin Midgett tossed a school-record six TD passes in an earlier game against LaGrange. Sl photos

### November 8: NCWC 31, Greensboro 6

The defense turned in a strong performance against The Pride, as the Bishops snapped a two-game losing streak and won their fourth conference game of the season. Coach Filkovski pointed out that with four interceptions on the day, the defense set up three short touchdown drives, each under five plays. “It was good to see our defense have a bunch of takeaways,” he said. “It’s has been a fun group to watch all year, so young and out there competing.” For the Bishops, the leading tackler was veteran James Wallace (5 tackles, 1 assist) and Coach Filkovski paid tribute to his senior linebacker after the game. “James has played well and he’s been the quiet glue that helps keep the young guys focused week to week,” the coach said, noting that Wallace has rebounded from an injury to perform at a high level. “If he is a leader, it’s by example. He is one of the hardest workers and his example will be missed.” With one game remaining, at home against Huntingdon, the Bishops will be bidding for their first winning season since 2010.

challenges, measuring them according to our own experience and outlook. For example, Becca slaps a woman while in the supermarket because the woman is ignoring her whining son. It is our task to understand Becca, if we can, for this display of violence. While the dialogue is quite crisp and expressive, the frequent use of profanity is distracting. Perhaps the story could be told without such language, although it does show another aspect of today’s society: It is a worldly presentation of a family unwilling to believe in the possibility of an

ing your face to minimize contact with germs that your hands may have picked up during the day, Brys-Wilson said. 2—Get a flu shot. Receiving the shot will create antibodies and decrease your chances of getting sick. 3—Maintain a healthy diet. “It’s a simple way to keep your immune system strong,” Brys-Wilson explained. “With a strong immune system, you can easily fight off any cold.” 4—Make sure to rest. By not getting enough sleep, you can put strain on your body. Being rested will keep you alert and boost your immune system, Brys-Wilson said. 5—Decrease stress. A lot of students stress over the tiniest things. However it’s the tiniest things that cause a lot of damage, Brys-Wilson said. Stress can cause you to be tired and irritable and it can weaken your immune system as well, making you more vulnerable to illness.

These are some ways to prevent getting sick but you should also be aware of what is going around campus. According to Brys-Wilson, the stomach virus and sinus infections have been pretty common so far this fall. To avoid the stomach virus, she recommends that you avoid others who have come down with the illness. And always wash your hands. If you get a stomach virus, you should drink lots of water and eat broth, noodles and toast, since those foods won’t make you queasy. To avoid getting a sinus infection, once you start getting a stuffy nose and that nasty cough, you should treat your symptoms and often. But if you do develop an infection, you should visit the Health Center or a doctor; often a sinus infection will require antibiotics. As a PA, Brys-Wilson can write prescriptions. It’s easy to keep yourself healthy throughout this changing weather. Keep warm and stay healthy!

“Win or lose on Saturday, this season will be one that will bridge the gap to the future of this program,” Filkovski said, adding that he would like to see the team finish above .500 for the nine graduating seniors who have not been part of a winning team while wearing the blue and gold. **November 15: Huntingdon 37, NCWC 20** In the final game of his record-breaking Wesleyan career, Alston exceeded 100 yards for the ninth consecutive game, but it was not enough as the Bishops failed in their bid for a winning season, losing at home to Huntingdon, 37-20, on a brisk, sunny afternoon. Alston gained 119 on 23 carries, while QB Midgett threw for 263 yards and two touchdowns, but completed just 14 of 32 attempts and saw three of his passes intercepted by the Hawks. Wallace ended his stellar Wesleyan career with a 10-tackle performance.

afterlife, who in fact reject and mock those who speak of “being in a better place” or say “he’s at peace now.” This play does not encourage any metaphysical consideration other than the teen driver’s belief in parallel universes of “rabbit holes.”

The October 6th presentation was well done and a show worth seeing. If it was not professional quality acting, it was close to it. These Wesleyan Players brought credit to the school. Nat, the grandmother figure (played by Kimla Brandt), provided comedy relief to a somber subject, delivering audible and timely lines that brought laughter from the audience at appropriate moments. The only distraction in her performance was her tendency to look off into space at times, noticeable because Ms. Brandt’s eyes are deep set and a striking feature, leaving no doubt as to the direction of her gaze.

As Becca, Crickmore gave us a memorable look at a grieving woman, trying to keep her family together and her marriage intact while coming to grips with the loss of her son. There were perhaps too many sighs from Becca, but the acting was superior nevertheless. Taylor added a strong performance as the husband, showing a wide range of emotions as he dealt with his wife’s differing approach to grief. Strength of character was a significant part of Howie, who tried to conform to his wife’s perplexity as she dealt with the unimaginable grief a mother feels at the loss of her child. Howie is capable of anger, well portrayed, and also contrition, as he strives to find his wife again. Strong work, Michael Taylor!

Amanda Gauthier’s portrayal of Izzie, Becca’s sister, complemented the other performances and provided a light moment on occasion. Her out-of-wedlock pregnancy was thoroughly current—no one was surprised or displeased. The prop used to convey the pregnancy could have been improved. It appeared to be bunch of crumpled paper towels stuffed in a bag.

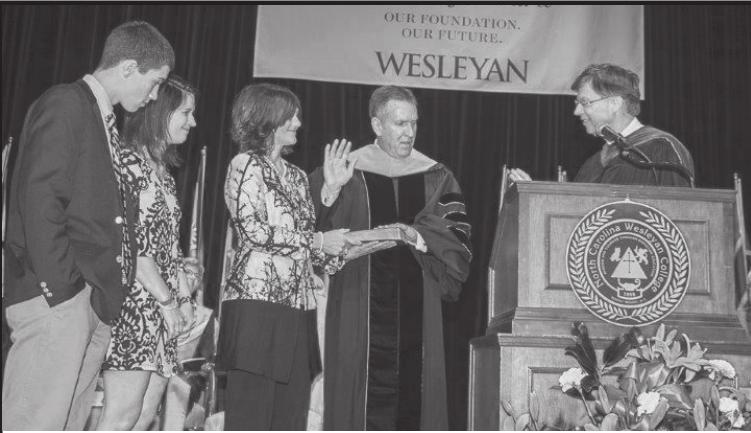
Perhaps one of the most convincing characters of the evening was Jacob Evans as Jason, the unfortunate teen who struck Danny with his car. Jacob gave a standout performance portraying an awkward, unsure teenager. Professor Roger Drake, who heads up NCWC’s drama department, was a very effective director and set designer. Praise must be heaped upon him. He put untold hours into producing “Rabbit Hole.” Rehearsals went till late at night, and weekends as well. He made sure the actors knew their lines, and they did know them. If there were any missed lines, it went unnoticed.

The James B. Powers Recital Hall is a small, intimate setting, so the audience sits close to the action. Such an arrangement makes any faults and errors very apparent. It takes courage to present a play there, and it worked well for this one. The set was a kitchen and living room with a stairway and hall providing a division point.

Lights were effective and followed the play precisely. Professor Drake chose Gabriel Faure’s “Pavane” as transition music between scenes. This stately and elegant composition from a century and a half ago added a somber hue to the play.

On that Tuesday night, there were approximately 50 people present by curtain time. There was room for three times that, and this play deserved to be seen by more of the Wesleyan community.

“Rabbit Hole” was a success, and brings credit to the Wesleyan Players, Professor Drake, and the North Carolina Wesleyan College Theatre Program.



President Clark is sworn into office by the Honorable Carson Saunders, a district court judge in Virginia, who was his roommate at NCWC. Joining the president were his son, Nick; daughter, Blakely; and wife, Suzanne.

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