



ST. ANDREWS PRESBYTERIAN COLLEGE

LAURINBURG, N.C.

THURSDAY, APRIL 14, 1994

## New Hope for St. Andrews Community

by Laura Van Riper

In a community forum Monday afternoon, more than 100 students, faculty and administrators gathered to support St. Andrews' mission of community. The forum was called in response to students' concerns over the placement of the St. Andrews Academy in Granville Hall and a concern over the student role in the St. Andrews community.

Students spoke about change and the need to become more responsible and involved. "People have been talking in terms of revolution... If the type of revolution we're talking about is getting people involved... let's make that attitude the establishment," said '93-'94 Student Government Association president Brian Doles.

Doles also spoke about stu-

dents' fear that the St. Andrews community is disintegrating. "We have proved that is not so," Doles said to the cheers of students. "Not just in a handful of students, but in hundreds."

Jeff Hice, a Granville resident, spoke at the forum on behalf of wheelies living in the Adapted Disabled Living (ADL) apartments in Granville Hall. "St. Andrews goes beyond other colleges," Hice said. "S.A. says 'We will adapt to your needs.'" Hice also spoke of the importance of ADL's in helping to introduce wheelies into the general S.A. college population. He stressed their meaningfulness not only for the benefit of the wheelies, but for the benefit of able-bodied students as well.

The forum was sponsored by a group of students called the Concerned Students for St. Andrews Community (CSSAC).

Members of CSSAC, Student Senate, and several dorm presidents attended a breakfast meeting with Warren Board, president of St. Andrews, prior to the forum. This meeting focused on the issues of the S.A. Academy and the St. Andrews community.

President Board emphasized the college's need for money as well as his concern for the students. "There are hundreds of ways a person can fail in the presidency," Board said. "One way guaranteed is for the president not to bring in the money... It gets to be that crass... That's what I was doing. As a new president, I relied on a

process that didn't work. I am the new president and I will assume responsibility for that."

Board also gave the students his personal definition of community. "We all have different roles... They are all important, but still different... I didn't know that students hadn't been talked to. That's not something to shove off..."

The breakfast meeting also focused on positive means of moving forward with the St. Andrews community. "We're in a stall," said Board. "We've got to come to an understanding or make a hard decision."

William McLean, a junior attending the meeting, requested that students be given an outline

(Continued p.2)

## Students Protest Residence Hall Change

### Class, Housing Boycotts Considered As Strategies

By Mark Durham

This article has been reprinted with the expressed permission of The Laurinburg Exchange.

An estimated 175 St. Andrews Presbyterian College students attended a campus meeting Wednesday night, many to express their concerns about plans to move students out of Granville Hall so that housing for an academy of advanced high school seniors can be located there.

Some students understood the purpose of a Tuesday meeting with college officials was to listen to students' opinions on the housing change. They said they were disappointed to learn at that meeting that the decision to move all non-handicapped students from the school's smallest residence hall had

already been made.

"We are basically not being listened to," said John Clegg, a junior from Asheville who has spent his college career in Granville. "Our opinions are not being listened to."

Christopher Moyles, who lived in Granville last year, agrees. "The issue is not moving students out of Granville," he said. "The academy is a good idea. The larger issue is students having a voice."

"It's been a tradition here that St. Andrews operates as a community of students, faculty and administrators. That's one of the reasons I came here."

"I didn't want to feel like a number, now I feel like a number."

St. Andrews' president Dr. Warren Board announced shortly after taking office last month that the school plans next year to open an academy for high school students who are in the top ten percent of their classes. The students would complete their last year of high

school and their first year of college at the same time.

Elaine Thomas, public affairs director said, "A subgroup of the administrative council" looked at possible housing settings for the academy and recommended that Granville become its residence hall.

She said the study group considered cost, the number of existing students who would be required to move out and the size and location of the hall. Thirteen students currently living in Granville are expected to return to the residence hall next year, she said. Granville can house about 60.

Council members and the future headmaster of the academy informed students of the recommendation Tuesday night. On Wednesday, students held their own meeting to discuss ways of opposing the change and demonstrating their concern about the way the decision was made.

Clegg said some students

planned to boycott classes during a specified period Monday and are encouraging each other to refuse to sign housing contracts for next year.

Granville was the site of a fire a few years ago. At that time, some of the rooms were renovated for wheel chair students.

Clegg said putting wheel chair students with high school seniors contradicts the stated purpose of keeping wheel chair students and regular collect students together.

"I am upset that my dorm is being taken away from me and that I was not given a chance to have my opinions known," he said.

Clegg said the student actions should not be construed as a striking out against school officials. "We are trying to be cooperative as possible. We are not trying to hit the bull in the face. We're just trying to run with it and work out a solution," he said.