

The Lance

LIBRARY
APR 18 1983

Volume 21 Number 10

ST. ANDREWS PRESBYTERIAN COLLEGE

Thursday, April 14, 1983

Student Life Revamped

R.A.'s, Salmon's Position Eliminated

By BILL LIDE

In a move that will affect several areas of student life, Dean of Students Craig Hannas announced last week that the Assistant Dean of Students and the Residence Assistant spots will be eliminated on June 30 this year.

While no reasons for eliminating the assistant Dean's spot were given Hannas cited several reasons for ending the Residence Assistant (R.A.) jobs.

The R.A. positions were made to ease the load of responsibility of the Resident Directors, help with the student self-governance within the dorm and to help keep troubles within the dorm.

Hannas said the R.A. job was eliminated because it conflicted with the idea of student self-governance, some of the current R.A.'s weren't fulfilling their obligations and that by ending the position the school could save \$8,000-\$10,000.

"I feel that having paid student employees in residence halls impedes the student self-governance process. The way I understand

the system suite leaders and dorm officers are encouraged, and within reasonable limits, are expected to play an important role in hall operations. Indeed, many people have assumed a great deal of responsibility for dormitory operations as either elected officials or as volunteers, however commensurate with our system of student self-governance it is felt that students will take a more active role in and accept more responsibility for their living and learning in the absence of students who serve as Residence Assistants," said Hannas.

"Secondly, too many of our present residence assistants have failed to fulfill their obligations in the residence halls during the course of this year. What has happened this year is that the residence directors, administrators and student volunteers have had to carry out the functions that were to be performed by Residence Assistants," said Hannas.

"Thirdly, by eliminating the positions of Residence Assistants the college will be



Dean Craig Hannas and outgoing Assistant Dean Mike Salmon

able to use the \$8,000-\$10,000 it will save on more useful programs," said Hannas.

The move to end the Assistant Dean of Students spot was not explained, but Dean Hannas said that the responsibilities of the position would be divided up by the remaining members of the

student life staff.

The Assistant Dean position, entailed such tasks as head of housing contracts, advisor to the College Union Board and running the Resident Directors meetings.

Outgoing Assistant Dean Mike Salmon did not know the reasons behind the elimination of his job, but he

said that he had enjoyed working at St. Andrews.

"I have enjoyed working here. I found the students I was dealing with here were

helpful, friendly, understanding and willing to meet you half way, which is something that you usually don't find," said Salmon.

Students Struggle Against Possible Rise In Drinking Age

By DAVID GAEDE

Student political involvement isn't dead. It's just wetter.

Student lobbyists are swarming in unprecedented numbers this spring over state legislatures considering raising their legal drinking ages to 21.

And in what has become an annual spring tide of bills to hike drinking ages, the lobbyists are using more sophisticated civil arguments this time around. Those arguments, moreover, seem to be more effective in some places.

The Georgia Student Association, for example, "just beat" a proposal to raise the drinking age from 19 to 21 by "avoiding the old argument that if you're old enough to fight for your country, you're old enough to drink," reports GSA President Jeanie Morris.

Instead, "we went before the state Senate, had our arguments down and had the

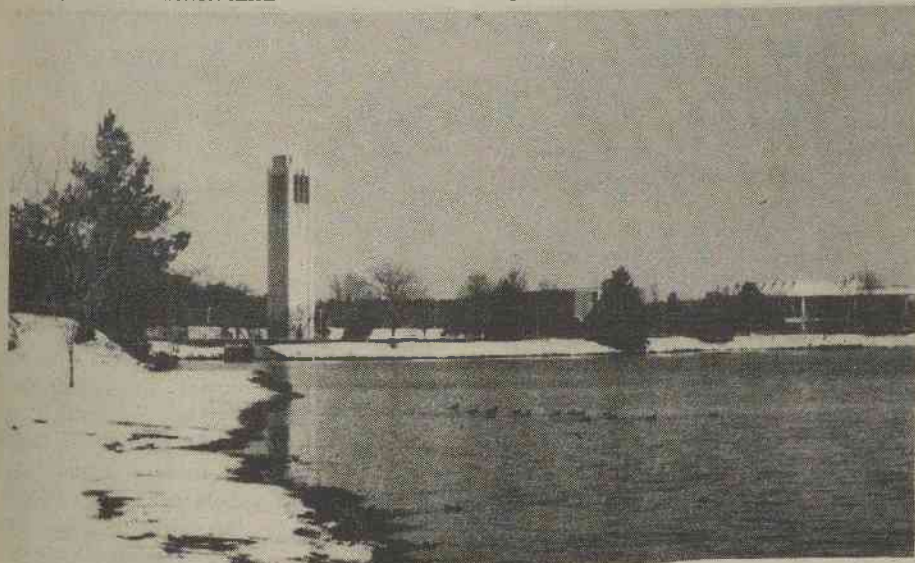
opposition's arguments down. We showed that drunk driving was high in the whole 20-to-34-year-old age bracket, and we challenged that it would be selective prohibition to only restrict 18-to-21-year-olds."

"I view it as a civil rights issue in terms of fairness," Bob Bingaman, field director of the State Student Association in Washington, D.C., agrees.

The new argument used by 18-year-old drinkers' advocates, he says, seems to be that the new higher drinking ages make young people pay for sins committed by older drinkers, too.

"I would never deny there is a problem with alcohol abuse in this country," Bingaman says. "But 18-to-21-year-olds shouldn't be singled out for a society-wide problem."

Singled out or not, the state legislative trend toward hiking legal drinking ages has only gotten stronger this (Cont. Page 3)



Some of the recent snowfall that hit the St. Andrews campus during Spring Break.

Global Glance



Along the Mississippi River basin several thousands of people had to be evacuated because of thunderous rains and record level flooding. The storm, which covered most of the Southeast last week, claimed 10 lives.

The space shuttle Challenger, after spending 5

days orbiting the earth 80 times, returned to earth safely on Saturday. The flight, which included a 4 hour space walk by astronauts Story Musgrave and Donald Peterson, was a success that was only marred when a satellite that was ejected from the ship went into a mishapen orbit.

The new MX missile proposal, which calls for 100 of the 10-warhead MX to be put in the existing Minotemen silos and the development of new single missile mobile units, is all ready under fire from Senator Earnest Hollings D-S.C. Hollings said the new proposal did nothing to change the problems within the plan.