

# On Campus

## The Wall

continued from pg. 1

1971, this restriction was lifted. And now the wall is being torn down. What effects will this have on our future? What political changes have made this possible? How much of a surprise is this change? Perhaps only time will tell, but it is never too soon to make predictions.

Junior Donia Henderson was surprised at the announcement. Henderson traveled by train through East Germany on her way to West Berlin in winter of 1987-88, and conversed with several Germans (from both sides) about the division of both Berlin and Germany. Those she spoke with gave her the impression most people had given up hope that the Wall would ever come down. Many she talked to feel a loss in the separation of Germany as a country. The Berlin Wall is a physical manifestation of this separation that is like a sore thumb that sticks out and reminds all not only of oppression but also of the separation of a country. One

student stated, "It's weird because you are in the same city, but the Eastern side is so different from the Western side. They almost feel like two separate countries." Berlin is an occupied city on both sides. There is no formal agreement in existence that gives the West claim to West Berlin. West Berlin is occupied by Western forces,

but it is legally part of East Germany. The removal of

the Wall leads to a problem in that now the city could become more unified, more like one city. If it does, what is the role of the occupying forces? An agreement of some kind must now be reached. Berlin has been in a

kind of political limbo for 40 years and now that the Wall is coming down, this limbo must be redefined.

Generally, reactions from students are the same. How do Americans feel about the opening up of East Germany? Surprised and elated. These are the feelings expressed by scholars across America. Professor

Tom Williams said that he sees this as the possible end of the Cold War. The Cold war is the result of NATO's policy of containment of Communism. The idea was that if Communism was kept under control (the West limiting Communist expansion) and no aid was sent to the Communist states, that these states would collapse on their

own. Communist countries would then reform to more acceptable (at least to the West) forms of government. The opening of Eastern Block countries, therefore, is the result of failure of Communism. Professor Neal Bushoven, however, disagrees with this last point. He claims that if one looks at the dissent of the people

in these countries, the complaints are about corruption in government. The opening of Communist countries is an attempt at reform and not a turn to capitalism. Bushoven also feels that while the opening of East Germany has occurred quickly, it should have not

come as a surprise. Revolts against authority, especially when corrupt, are common all over the world, not just in Communist countries. It is still too early to say whether all of Communism will ever occur. It must be kept in mind that Communism, Socialism and Capitalism are economic forms. The re-

forms that are taking place in the Eastern Block are governmental. People are demanding more equitable forms of government. Typically, Communist states have been controlled by rulers who do not represent a majority. The majority is now throwing out the minority in a move to a more Democratic form of government.

The opening of Eastern Europe presents a serious problem to the west and East. Policies for the past 40 years have been centered around the idea that each side must defend itself against the other. Communist countries are going to answer to their people's demands for human rights,

education, food, housing, etc. Such a large amount has been spent on defense on both "sides" that these human rights have been ignored. Bushoven and Williams both feel that the past week's events are going to have to lead in a re-evaluation of national budgets. How can America justify defense spending in such great amounts while human rights are ignored? This has been a difficult question, but now that the "threat" in Europe is being removed, it becomes more evident that spending must be redistributed.

Other issues that are important to ask about now are questions such as, what will this do to the East German economy? What about the prospect of a unified Germany? How will this affect America politically and economically? These issues are ones that will only be answered in time. It is important that Americans understand this situation as it could affect every aspect of life, education, defense spending, social programs, and much, much more.

## Students March in Rally

Mary Griggs

On Sunday, November 12, four members of the St. Andrews community traveled to Washington, D.C. for an assembly supporting a woman's right to privacy. The Pro-Choice forces gathered in front of the Lincoln Memorial and filled up the mall in a year-end attempt to encourage legislators to follow the majority of American people who believe in choice.

Official estimates placed the size of the crowd at 150,000. The group was composed mainly of college students and members of the National Organization for Women. There were also many people representing various religious groups for choice. From St. Andrews

those who attended were Dana Kuebler, Mary Griggs,

Rethel Matthews, and Virginia Griggs. This group carried with them petitions that had been signed by 284 members of the St. Andrews community. The petitions were turned over to the organizers of the assembly.

The slogan of this gathering was "Mobilize for Women's Lives." The four hour program had many state and federal legislators speak on the subject of what appears to be the biggest single issue of the 1990 election campaigns. There were also singers like Pete Seeger and Helen Reddy, who encouraged crowd response.

The anti-choice faction, with signs like "Satan is Pro-

Choice," were outnumbered 200 to one. There were more police officers separating the two groups of protesters, than there were anti-choice demonstrators. The majority of that crowd was composed of elementary school children and older white males.

The message that this assembly and last April's March sends to the nation, is that women and men are ready and willing to spend time, energy and money in ensuring that women have the right to choose whether or not they will bear children. Many activities are being planned at the state and local levels to encourage the majority who support a woman's right to have a safe and legal abortion

You're smart  
enough to know  
the difference  
between perestroika  
and glasnost.

And you're  
still smoking?