

THE LANCE

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Opening Convocation - Roy Parker, Jr., contributing editor for the Fayetteville Observer-Times, spoke at the Sept. 4 Opening Convocation.

St. Andrews Receives Grant

Scotland County residents stand to benefit from a \$83,000 grant received by St. Andrews. The federal grant will finance the creation and operation of a drug prevention program for college students and community residents.

Dean of Students Cynthia Greer is excited about the funds and believes the education program will benefit a wide variety of people. "Our focus is not to preach against drugs, but to encourage people to develop a healthy lifestyle. For college students, a 'just say no' program doesn't work. We want to be able to do more as far as drug education and prevention.

"We decided to apply for the grant because we wanted to do more on our campus in the way of drug education and prevention," Greer said. "We wanted to be able to tie drug education and prevention into the wellness concept. There are many aspects to wellness: physical, spiritual and mental."

"This grant will allow us to hire a drug education coordinator who will be responsible for various programs," she continued. Programs will include: training of a core group of students to do peer intervention and talk at Scotland County schools and

(See Pg. 3)

Enrollment Drops at St. Andrews

By Joy Berry

While you may not have noticed it--the halls appear no less crowded than in the past and the lines at SAGA are no shorter--present enrollment at St. Andrews is lower than in past years.

Joe Rigell, St. Andrew's Director of Admissions, reports that the drop in enrollment for this year has been a nation wide issue.

"Many schools in the United States suffered a decrease this year," said Rigell. "We experienced the same kind of situation that other schools did."

According to reports from the College Board, the number of high school seniors taking the SAT, which is required by almost all colleges as a part of the admissions process, has dropped considerably in the past year. The number of students taking the test nation wide has fallen off by 12%. In North Carolina, from which St. Andrews drew 42% of all new students this year, the number of high school seniors taking the test dropped 16% from last year's total.

Such statistics are reflected in the comparative totals of the freshmen classes of 1989 and 1990. In the fall of last year, there were 216 new freshmen

on campus. This year, only 145 incoming freshmen were introduced to St. Andrews--a 33% decrease. The number of transfer student is also down 22% from 1989. The number of what the Registrar's Office refers to as "special students," meaning wheelies and other handicapped students, has dropped 48% as well.

Rigell feels that changes that have taken place in the Admissions office over the past two years may have affected the level of production. Since the summer of 1989, the office has had three directors, Mr. Rigell being the third. Before his arrival, Peggy Crawford held the post, and then Mary Kay Ollis stepped in as Acting Director. "Having three directors in that amount of time makes it difficult to keep the process in good shape," said Risell.

Another obvious reason for the decrease in enrollment may be the growing cost of higher education. Colleges all over the state and nation wide increased the price of tuition as much as 16% "I can see that enrollment would fall off," said senior Susan Gumm. "The cost of going to college is

so high that many people that truly want to go and have the potential to do so simply can't afford it. Why take the SAT if it won't set you anywhere?"

Understanding these factors and problems, the Admissions staff has made changes to accomodate situation. Starting this fall, the counselors, most of whom are new in their positions, will be touring the country's secondary schools for ten weeks each in order reach a record 750 high schools by Christmas.

Of the seven counselors in the office, five are recent St. Andrews graduates. With the exception of Walter Krauss, who was hired in the summer of 1989, Lisa Gaw, Malinda Powers, Wendy Phillips, and Toni Smith were all hired last spring. "Who could be better to sell the school than a recent graduate?" asks Rigell.

Another change that the Admissions Office has implemented has raised some brows and become somewhat of a "silent" issue of controversy. In an effort to increase the response of students that are not affiliated with the Presbyterian Church, the word "Presbyterian" had been omitted from the

(See Pg. 4)