

WALD'S WORLD

A second thought for St. Andrews

Last year, during Warren Board's speech, outside DeTamble Library, he addressed the school's financial problems and ways that we, the student body, could help bring St. Andrews back to its feet. One of his main points in this speech was retaining students, and through this, the school would inevitably overcome its financial difficulties.

I agree. That's why it's heartbreaking to see this year's class graduate with only 121 members (including Sandhills), and see the masses heading for shelter before they make it past their sophomore year. For all that is so special, diverse, and original about this college, one of the main problems with our institution is its ability to provide the simplest of things.

One of the easiest and hardest of tasks for a small college like St. Andrews, is balancing the standards of professors and programs; when good, they are the best; when bad they don't meet any standards. Our strongest programs are Politics, Science, Creative Writing, History, and Philosophy, simply because they are run by the icons of this college: men and women who have been here in the

early times and are no doubt as important to this college as every million dollars we receive during fund-raising.

As a college, we need to find more people like Bushoven, Prust, and Alexander, and reward them for the exuberant amount of effort they put into each and every day. When you have a large faculty, partially because of their faults, partially because of the school's, you lose the consistency that a small college should be thriving upon (at least in the classroom).

Simply put, Admissions Department, give incoming students what you promise! St. Andrews Presbyterian College is synonymous with offering things that just aren't there or going to be there. Communications, music, drama, 750 students in attendance; how can a college reasonably expect to keep incoming students and keep them happy, when they are misinforming them on the very programs on which they will base their decisions?

Maybe this alone explains why significant portions of freshmen leave or transfer during their first year; don't think that because 250 are coming means

250 are guaranteed to stay; admissions doesn't stop when the student signs his/her name on the dotted line.

On the other side, award students (either financially or academically) who are thriving and making special contributions to the St. Andrews community. The family environment of St. Andrews comes off as just another story of the prodigal son, where the hard-working are overlooked for a new class of hopeful St. Andrews students. A piece of paper of recognition doesn't really cut it in the very competitive market of colleges and universities.

In the words of Cuba Gooding, Jr. in Jerry Maguire: "SHOW ME THE MONEY!" Give students who exemplify the St. Andrews spirit whatever they need to keep them inspired. We once had a wonderful program called "The Highlanders" who received \$1,000 scholarships and were considered an elite group of the St. Andrews Community. They have been removed from the school's priorities this year.

The more a college cuts, the less appealing it tends to be. Exploration, and the ability to grow (whether it be

spiritually, mentally, physically) have always been an important part of St. Andrews. Men's tennis, golf, Highlanders, drama, (just to name a few) are important programs that challenged students into being interested and working hard. They breed school spirit and confidence and only enrich our program, no matter how insubstantial they may seem financially.

What it boils down to though, is that St. Andrews is an amazing place; its culture, promise and heritage all have inspired many people, and hopefully will inspire many more to come. Most definitely, what it hasn't lost and will never lose, is the family which makes it so special.

The student body (unlike anywhere else in the world), the faculty (unlike any people found anywhere on this planet) and the administration (which seems fully dedicated to this college existing in the world), WILL make this college everything it can possibly be. Without a doubt, St. Andrews has become a college that changes lives, and without a doubt, we will continue to be... This has been Wald, and I'm out like shout.

-Matt Sauerwald

News Briefs:

Junior Kelli Ferroni won the overall individual title at this year's Affiliated National Riding Commission (ANRC) Intercollegiate Championships.

The ANRC championships were hosted by Goucher College in Baltimore, Maryland. Ferroni scored 79.163, while Sophomore Amy Thran placed third with 77.65 points. Ferroni had placed second in individual competition last year and third in 1996. The equestrian team claimed the reserve championship title.

The student officers for the 1998-1999 school year have been elected

The Student Association Officers are Chris Ott, President; Tori Rutherford, vice president; Aaron Peterson, treasurer; Erik Havlik, attorney general; and Toby Dorling, student defense counsel. SAU representatives are Amanda Suber, president; and Mike Romano, vice president. Stephen Kagiri will serve as Christian Student Fellowship president.

Sophomore Elizabeth Gushee has been named Abbott Fellow for the summer of 1998.

Gushee will work with faculty member Lorrie Renker, Director of the Therapeutic Riding Program, to continue the research conducted by student predecessor Susan Loring on horse and rider interaction for therapeutic riding.

Worlds Apart, the Senior Art show will remain open through May 16.

The SAPC Pipe Band won first place in the Loch Norman Games.

The Pipe Band won first place in Grade IV competition at the Loch Norman Highland Games, April 17-19. It was among five bands competing at the grade IV level.

Admissions staff tours 95 prospective students in the month of April alone.

This brings the total number of prospectives toured this year to 572, a jump over recent years.

Division Chairs named.

Barbara Frank, Associate Professor of Mathematics, has been appointed MNHS Division Chair, and Corinne Nichol森, Associate Professor of Business has been appointed SBS Division Chair for 1998-1999. Mel Bringle, Jefferson-Pilot Professor of Religion, returns as HFA Division Chair following her sabbatical this year. Dennis McCracken, Associate Professor of Biology, remains the Division Chair of SAGE.