

## **State budget woes hit Bladen Community College hard**

The State government's budget woes have hit Bladen Community College hard, as the college strives to meet the challenges of providing services to a growing enrollment. BCC has been asked by Governor Beverly Purdue to revert another one percent--\$75,396—to State coffers. That brings the total reverted to the State for the fiscal year to four percent, or a little over \$300,000.

The Office of State Management and Budget (OSMB) has directed that BCC restrict all travel except that directly related to instruction and to suspend all hiring of full-time employees until June 30. Purchasing of supplies has also been restricted to only those items directly related to instruction.

BCC President Dr. William Findt said the spending restrictions will impact the college's operation but will not prevent the college from providing quality service to its students and the community.

"The faculty and staff of Bladen Community College understand the difficult position the State is in and are abiding by the restrictions the OSMB has mandated," said Findt.

"With the record enrollment we have this semester and anticipate for the fall, we are facing difficult issues in order to serve our students."

Findt added that reduced funding has limited the number of curriculum courses offered in summer school this year to only 44, about one-half the number offered in recent years.