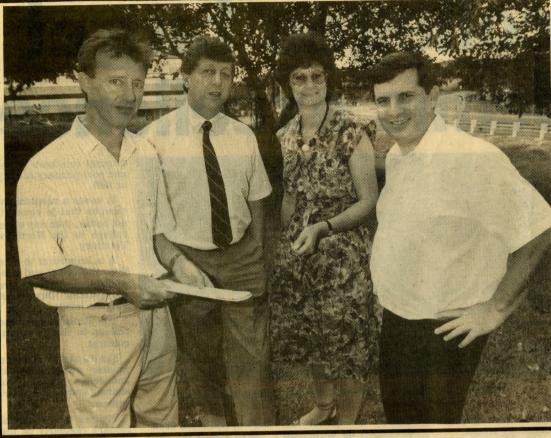
THE INAUGURAL CONFERENCE OF

## THE ASSOCIATION OF INDEPENDENT SCHOOLS



## Educators get together

Educators are in Darwin today for the inaugural conference of the Association of Independent Schools of the NT. Attending the meeting are, from left, Mr John Legg, executive direc-tor AISNT, chairman Dr Peter Harris, Ms Mary Lovett, Schools Programs, DEET, Can-berra and NT Education Minister Mr Shane Stone.

## **Boarding in Darwin** like being at home

Boarding in Darwin is but the greatest difficulty like being at home according to Stephen Brinkworth of Jabiru.

At the start of the year he enrolled at a boarding school in southern Queensland intending to finish his senior secondary studies there.

was the sense of isolation that came with being so far from home.

Midway through the year Stephen transferred to St Johns in Darwin as a Year 10 boarder.

Knowing the family is just a few hours away by Climate was a problem road removes the barrier

of isolation that Stephen found so difficult.

Stephen is an above average student and finds tha academic demands of NT education quite challenging.

## *Impact*

Headmaster of St Johns, Brother Paul Brooks, said that in his experience over many years in charge of boarding at major southern schools, he had seen at first hand the impact of distance on students.

He also said that it could not be solved just by technology. Telephones are a great means they cannot replace the Territory.

more frequent access that being educated locally brings.

He said all three independent boarding colleges in the Territory -St Philip's, Kormilda and St Johns - were committed to quality pastoral care of the students in their community.

Brother Brookes commended the NT Government action in assisting in the provision of boarding places which has seen about 600 being avail-

There are spare places but more would be needed when parents came to appreciate the of communication but value of education in the