

## UNC-G Special Services Project

# Tutors, Counselors Help Students Progress

The joys and frustrations of college were again a reality for 19 Model Neighborhood residents attending the University of North Carolina at Greensboro this year on a Model Cities Special Services scholarship program.

Sixteen of these students — six of whom are returning from the program which began last January — have just completed their first semester work and are already into semester two of the academic year.

In this Special Services opportunity, Model Cities and the University team up to pay a maximum — all — of the \$950 a semester to cover expenses for going to college. This amount includes tuition, room, board, books, and personal spending.

All of the students from the Model Cities area were accepted on an open admissions policy by the state-supported school. Open admissions means that normal entrance requirements were waived for these students, none of whom could afford college otherwise.

By the end of the first semester, three of the 19 dropped out. One did so on account of illness, and two got married. With the beginning of second semester, one of the remaining slots has been filled so the program has 17 enrolled.

Ernest Griffin, coordinator for UNC-G Special Services, is pleased with the performance of this year's group. He and James Harrington, a counselor in the program, work with the students individually in solving problems that arise during the year.



SHIRLEY WALL

"Some of the problems facing these students are magnified because of their economic background," says Harrington. "Some have experienced family problems, and others have trouble managing their finances."

For this reason, Special Services has helped most of the students set up personal bank accounts to teach them better money management.

In addition, the students meet regularly together to discuss problems and share experiences. All have at least one upperclassman tutor to help them in weak subjects.

Many of the students need constant encouragement and reinforcement, which Harrington and Griffin try to provide, as well.

A reading and writing lab is avail-

able to those who need remedial work in those areas.

The six who began last January are all now classified as sophomores. They are Reva McKinnon, Artis Belton, Garland Ellison, Preston Russell, Gene Cole, and James Gates.

Three of this year's freshmen are Shirley Wall of 809 Willow Street, Rhonda Holmes of 1226 Hoover Avenue, and Cassandra Scott of 411 Cedar Street.

Ms. Wall worked as a secretary for the Model Cities staff since it was organized in 1969, following a year of business school. Last fall she resigned from her job to attend UNC-G full-time.

### NO REGRETS

"I've not regretted it at all," she says. "I enjoy it very much. This semester I did okay, but I hope to do better. I miss Model Cities and the people there, especially at first, but I'm glad I came."

Shirley plans to major in business administration.

Ms. Holmes says her chances of coming to college had been "slim" before the Model Cities scholarship program was made available. She and Ms. Scott both participated in last summer's Upward Bound college readiness program, so their transition was not difficult once they got to school.

"I like the campus and I like being a part of the school," says Rhonda. "A lot is being offered through Model Cities. I'd recommend this to my friends."

Cassandra says that like all of the students in the program, she enjoys dormitory life. "I don't think it would mean as much to me if I were off campus," she says.

She is majoring in vocal music, while Rhonda is "thinking about" a major in speech pathology.



RHONDA HOLMES

### Know Your Rights

You say that water bills sometimes run as high as \$300 when there is a leak in the plumbing in my house? But I have always thought that water was really cheap.

Water is not cheap. The average person spends \$60 or more a year for water and sewer service at his home. A factory may pay hundreds or even thousands of dollars a month for the water they use.

When I get my monthly bill from the city, how do I tell which part of it is for water?

The important thing to remember is that water and sewer charges are always the same amount. So, to compute your "water bill," you must add the figure under "WA" to the figure under "SW." If water is \$3, then sewer will also be \$3, for a total "water bill" of \$6.

In the last column you talked about how people get high water bills. Once I've gotten one, what can I do about it?

What you can do depends upon whether the leak is hidden or not. The City Code says that if a person has a hidden leak, they can get a statement from the plumber who fixes the leak that the leak was hidden. Almost all plumbers in town know how to prepare this statement and will do so. You should take the statement to the billing department at City Hall.

The billing office will then drop one-half of the excess water charge, and the entire excess sewer charge. Thus, if your bill for water and sewer was usually \$6, and you get one for \$100 (which would be \$50 for water and \$50 for sewer), they would reduce the water bill to about \$28 and the sewer bill to \$3, for a total water and sewer bill of about \$31. As you can see, this is quite a savings.

## Getting The Dope on Drugs

### 'Turn-On' Drugs A Bad Trip

While hallucinogens — like the drug LSD — are not habit-forming, they can still be very dangerous and can cause a person to think he is losing his mind.

Hallucinogens get their name from the hallucinations — a state of the mind which loses touch with reality, a "trip" — produced by taking the drug. Just how LSD works on the body is not known, but it seems to affect the chemicals of the brain, and brings about change in the brains activity.

Physical reactions to taking the drug, or "dropping acid," are nausea, lowered body temperature, goose bumps, and rapid heart beat.

What happens to the mind, however, is more severe. The effects differ from person to person, depending a lot upon his emotional state before taking the drug. Users may lose all normal feelings of sight and sound, and the relationship between body and space. Sometimes they may feel they can fly, and deaths have occurred as a result.

When a person is on a "trip," his sense of reality is distorted, along with his sense of color, movement, time, touch, and the relationship between him and objects around him. Because of his lack of sound judg-

ment the user of LSD can be most dangerous to himself.

Some users feel that LSD can heighten their senses and make them more creative. However, the psychological effects of the drug during and long after it is taken have been proven negative, rather than an aid, in productivity.

One of the most lasting effects expressed by LSD users is anxiety and depression, and the feeling that they are going mad. Fears stemming from a "bad trip" have even been known to cause suicide.

Any time the mind is altered, as it is by LSD, the user risks long and serious mental problems, including the fear of going insane. It is true that doctors are studying the use of LSD in treatment of mentally ill patients, but the results are not yet sound.

Parents or friends who think they know of someone who is taking LSD should try to get help for them, particularly if the suspected user is young.

High Point's Drug Day Program, a Model Cities project operated by the Drug Action Council, is there to give such help. It is located at 803 E. Green Drive. Phone 882-2125. All cases are kept confidential.



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