

# Big bucks: one quarter at a time

By BRUCE WOOD  
Staff Writer

The University Laundry Service makes about \$125,000 worth of quarters a year, according to John Roth, manager of the service.

The service's 11 coin-operated sites on campus process approximately 5 million pounds of clothing, towels and linens every year. In addition to students' laundry, the service also cleans for Memorial Hospital, the Carolina Inn, the athletic and physical education departments and some state and federal agencies affiliated with UNC.

"The hospital is our biggest customer," Roth said. "They're approximately 50 percent of our total business and most of our bulk work."

The service is self-supporting; it receives no state funds or grants. All of its finances are generated by business, and this can necessitate price increases, Roth said.

One such increase was the price of a coin-op dryer, that went from 10 cents for 10 minutes to 25 cents for 15 minutes this year.

"It was done strictly as a business-type increase that was necessary because there hadn't been one in a while," Roth said. "We had increased utility prices, increased benefits for employees and increased use by the students. It's still the most reasonable service in the area."

Many students agreed that prices are reasonable and added that convenience is a major factor.

"Basically, it's fairly convenient," said Bruce Wolfe, a freshman physical therapy major from Raleigh. "I can just walk over there, and . . . (prices) are higher outside."

Wolfe lives in Mangum dorm and uses the machines in Joyner. This one location, though, serves nine other

dorms as well.

"There are a lot of people using them," Wolfe said. "Unless you go at a dead hour, you've got to wait in line an hour sometimes. It's not fun."

It's the long wait for machines at the campus laundry sites that gives Soaps a lot of their business, according to Carey McCloskey, manager of the Franklin Street laundrymat.

"It's a popular place with students," she said. "I think people down here just like to come in and maybe drink a beer or whatever while they're doing their laundry."

McCloskey said the majority of her business comes from fraternities and sororities in the vicinity. "The frats don't have washers and dryers in the houses, and it's too crowded on campus, so they come down here," she said.

Roth said there are no plans to increase the number of laundry sites other than by one location in the new Carmichael dorm. He said the Housing Department must approve the locations of the laundry rooms, and that some dorms are physically incapable of holding one.

"We would, with approval and if it were a decent business venture, go into other dorms," Roth said. On Old Campus, though, . . . (the dorms) weren't even built with a facility in mind."

In addition to coin-op machines, University Laundry also provides a finished-laundry service, wash-dry-fold, linen rentals and dry cleaning service to students at six campus drop-off sites. All but the wash-dry-fold items are brought to the main laundry plant to be cleaned.

"The finished laundry service is the second most used service," Roth said.

University Laundry is 80 years old, making it one of the oldest services



Tony Martin, a junior political science major, tackles the drudgery

on campus. It operates as an auxiliary service of the university and stays virtually independent of other departments.

"We just try to stay more or less on our own, but any decision regarding students has to go through the Student Affairs department," Roth said.

In spite of the convenience and the

reasonable prices that the service offers, the all too typical problem remains.

"It's still a nuisance," Wolfe said. "I just don't like doing laundry."

University laundry now charges 25 cents per wash load, and 25 cents for each dryer load.

Soaps charges 85 cents per wash load, and 25 cents per dryer load.

# Scholarship service seeks student aid

By LISA ALLEN  
Staff Writer

The loss of more than half a million dollars in federal-grant aid next year, due to the passage of the Gramm-Rudman Act, will force many students who normally would have relied on Pell Grants or the work/study program to pay their tuition to find other means of financing their education.

Paul Hemphill, president of Student Aid Finders, a New Hampshire-based, scholarship-matching service, offers students a possible solution to the money problem.

"Practically all students can and do qualify for student aid at any time of the year, regardless of good grades or financial need," he said.

According to Hemphill, 68,000 students from middle-income families will be unable to attend college next year due to the passage of Gramm-Rudman, unless they can find private sources of aid.

For a \$39 fee, Student Aid Finders will provide an applicant who has submitted a data form a listing of at least five sources the student qualifies for, complete with names, addresses, amounts and eligibility requirements.

"Ninety-six percent of our applicants qualify for some type of scholarship," Hemphill said.

More than \$135 million in aid went unclaimed last year, largely because the students who needed it didn't know where to find it, he said.

Student Aid Finders is part of a nation-wide service with computer access to more than \$4 billion in student aid. It has 4,000 different sources which were compiled over a 10-year period.

"There are some real odd-ball scholarships out there," said Hemphill.

He gave the example of a school in California that offers five \$300 scholarships to any student at UCLA at Berkeley who can prove they don't smoke or drink.

Hemphill said he received an appli-

cation from one high school senior who put down bowling as one of her major interests.

"We found a scholarship offered by Coca Cola and NBC amounting to \$22,000," he said. "The only condition was that the student would participate in a semiannual bowling tournament," he said.

There is even a scholarship for prostitutes based in Seattle, Wash., Hemphill said. It is funded by the fines other prostitutes who are caught soliciting must pay.

The service processes 30,000 applications annually, and "at least 50 percent of those get actual aid money," he said.

Most of the requests for sources come from Louisiana. The service doesn't advertise, except by word-of-mouth.

"We give students the tools to find aid," Hemphill said, "but it's up to them to go and get it. Their success is our best advertisement."

Stuart Bethune, associate director at the UNC Financial Aid Office, said that although "students may have to borrow a bit more to stay in school," the office was making every effort to insure that qualified students could continue attending school.

Bethune said it was important for students to realize that the information needed for aid was available elsewhere for free if the student was willing to take the initiative.

"I have often wondered whether scholarship services provide any more information than the student can obtain on his own," Bethune said.

Hemphill estimated the average amount of aid found by his service was \$500 to \$2,500 in renewable scholarships and funds.

"I would not want to be a freshman in college now," he said. "There's no light at the end of the tunnel for students, and Congress is only going to make things worse. It's scrambling time."

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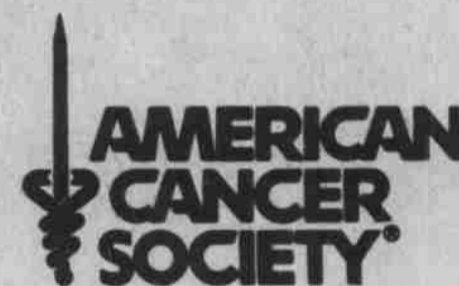
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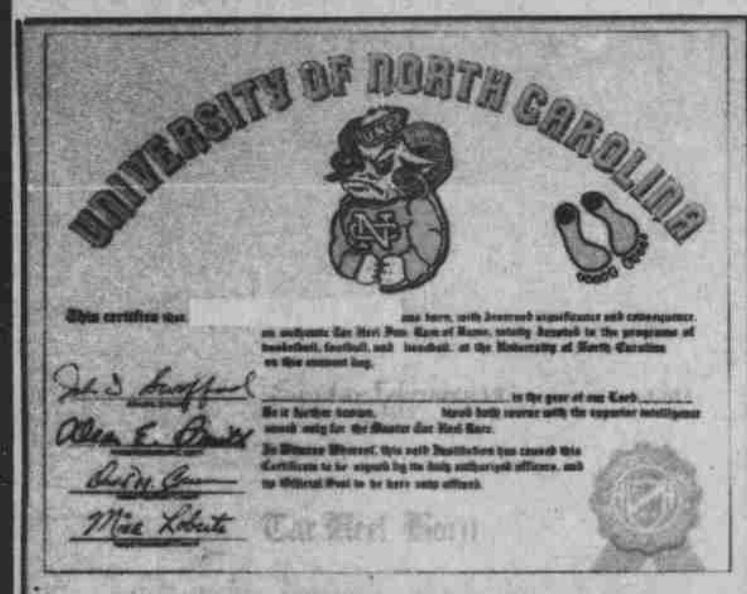
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