

Students may find a summer work solution locally

By JO-ANNA DAVIS
Staff Writer

When pounding the pavement in search of a summer job, many UNC students are content to look no further than Chapel Hill.

Orange County has the most stable job market in North Carolina, because approximately 51 percent of the county work force are government employees, said Diana Staley, office manager of the Orange County Employment Security Commission.

Because so many Chapel Hill jobs are University-related, students' part- or full-time summer employment opportunities may be limited. Many summer students want a job with flexible hours that can fit around their class schedules and these types of jobs are more often located at least a mile or two away from campus.

Because there are fewer students and faculty in Chapel Hill in the summer than during school months, most of the downtown merchants cut back on their staff. As Staley

explains, "They may cut down on the number of employees they need, but nothing drastic."

Fowler's Food Store won't be hiring any extra help this summer, according to owner Norman Fowler. "We usually carry four to five students on the payroll and when they leave for the summer, we cut back on the part-time help to balance out the reduction on business."

Avie's Hallmark is another Franklin Street business that won't be hiring this summer. However, as Avie (who doesn't use her surname) herself points out, "Any Hallmark is a seasonal business."

Keely Merritt, the manager of The Lodge, solves the problem of more employees and less business in a different way by assigning each employee fewer hours, she said.

Most businesses within walking distance of campus that plan to hire people for this summer will simply be hiring fewer people. Johnny T-

Shirt needs several people to sew Greek letters onto shirts and shorts, while the Beach Connection has only one or two sales positions to fill.

Other sales positions available in the Chapel Hill area can be found at University Mall and South Square Mall in stores such as Sears, Thalhimers, Belk-Leggett, J.C. Penney and Roses. Most of these pay anywhere from minimum wage to \$4.50 an hour, but Thalhimers salespeople work under commission. Most store managers said that employees with previous sales experience would usually be paid higher wages.

Most grocery and discount stores, including Harris Teeter, Kroger, Roses, Sears, Food Lion, and Chapel Hill Zip Mart, have a couple of clerk or cashier positions available, as does The Intimate Bookshop. Store managers said pay scales also range from minimum wage to about \$4 an hour, and that employees with previous experience usually earn higher wages.



DTH/Regina Holder

Adriana Polcaro stocks a shoe display at The Lodge Saturday

Job placement agencies rescue students from unemployment

By GENIE WALKER
Staff Writer

Students seeking help in finding summer employment, internships or permanent job placement can benefit from the services of various local placement agencies.

Marcia Harris, director of University Career Planning and Placement Services (UCPPS), said the service is credited as the primary source that helps students find jobs, helping 80 percent of UNC seniors.

The service has many ways to assist the student, she said, including helping with applications and sending resumes, as well as bringing more than 400 companies a year to campus for recruitment purposes.

The service also helps students seeking summer employment and internships, Harris said. Summer internships are very competitive, and the student is less likely to find a situation close to his personal career goals.

More than 1,000 potential summer employers contact the service through the mail or by telephone when they have an opening, she said.

Of those seniors the service placed last year, 90.3 percent said they were

satisfied or very satisfied with their placement, while 5.2 percent said they were dissatisfied, said Harris.

The N.C. Employment Security Commission also helps the student seeking employment.

Diana Staley, manager of the Orange County branch, said her office works with students seeking part-time employment by telling the student about job openings.

Last year the agency placed 2,409

people into jobs, 1,023 of who were 22 years old or younger, Staley said.

"The time is excellent for youth to be coming into the labor market and will be for the next 10 years or so," she said.

The commission also works with UCPPS by sending listings which include information about job openings across the state, she said.

"The listings include the area of the job opening, the pay, location,

education and experience needed," Staley said.

Nationwide agency Kelly Services has a Durham branch which is jointly owned with Careers Unlimited Inc.; both organizations help students find summer employment in the Triangle.

Catherine Brown, personnel recruiter with Careers Unlimited, encourages students to begin looking now for summer work.

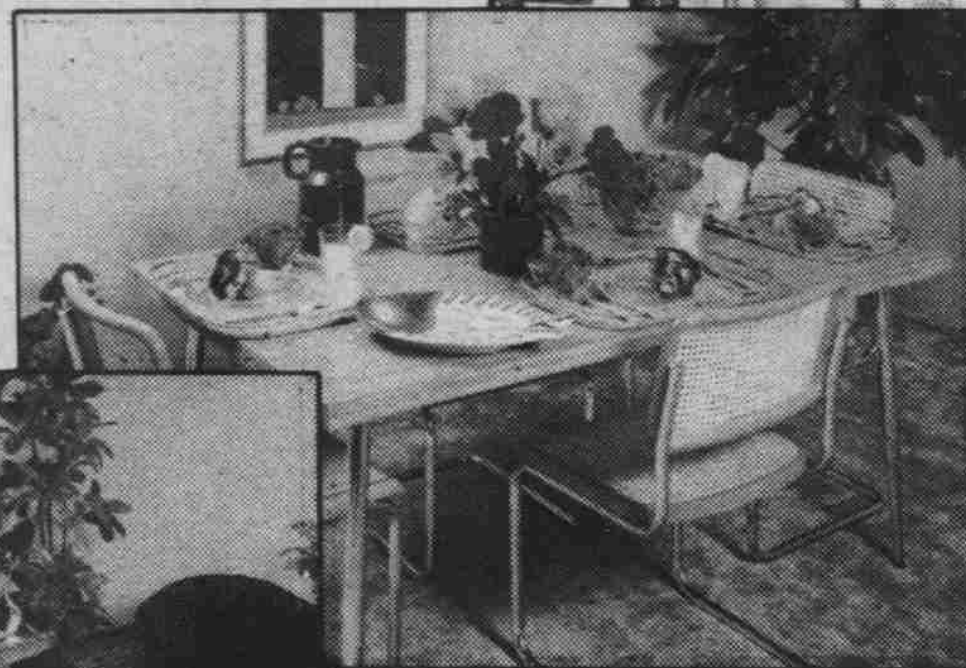
College graduates often come to a

placement service uncertain of their objectives and expect to find more opportunities than are actually available, she said.

Hallgren-Long Associates, a Chapel Hill firm, is an example of a placement service that helps neither the student seeking summer employment nor the recent college graduate. Instead, it deals exclusively with individuals with five or six years of experience.

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