

Center hears local disputes

By DEBBIE GOODSON
Staff Writer

Is your landlord refusing to make repairs after you signed your lease? Do you and your roommate argue constantly? Is the noise down the street preventing you from sleep or study?

The Dispute Settlement Center, N. Columbia St., is organized to deal with these and other disputes outside the courtroom at no charge for the residents of Chapel Hill and Carrboro.

In early July, the center received a \$27,500 grant from the Governor's Crime Commission to promote mediation as a method of settling disputes.

"The mediation program at the Dispute Settlement Center eliminates the necessity of taking domestic problems to court," Charles McNeil, regional representative for the Governor's Crime Commission, said.

"It helps the persons involved in the dispute by cutting out court costs, and it cuts down on the number of court cases."

The first mediation program in the state, the Dispute Settlement Center was organized in 1978 by community residents, Evelyn Smith, program coordinator said.

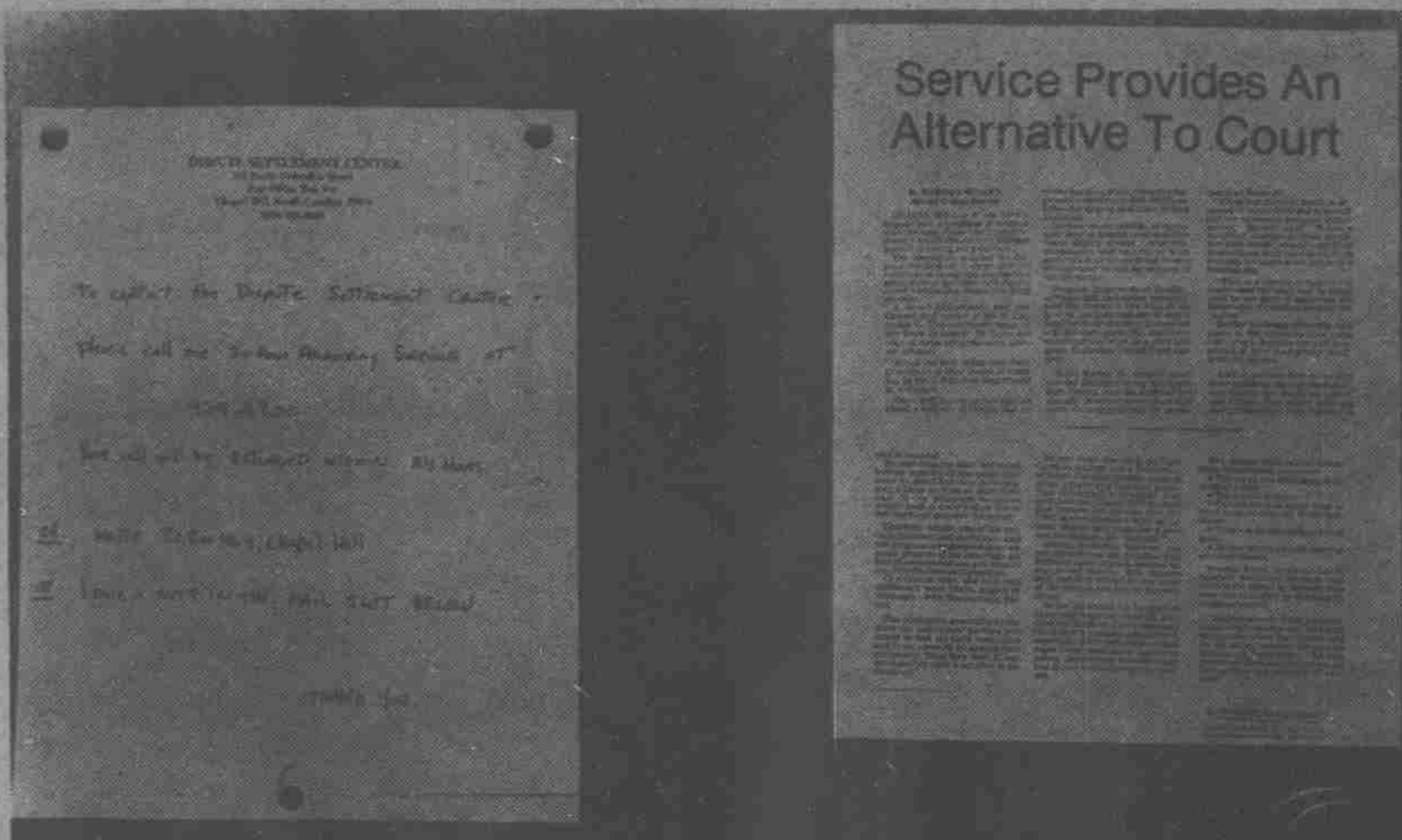
"The Center began as an outgrowth of the court watch program in the early '70s when the local citizens noticed that a lot of interpersonal problems were not being fully settled in court," Smith said.

"Initially, the program was funded by the mediators, community residents who volunteered their services. In July of last year, we received a grant of \$7,000 enabling us to hire a part-time staff worker. With our recent grant, we are able to hire a full-time worker."

In addition to one full-time staff worker, the center employs 16 mediators, who undergo an extensive training program.

The center handled 125 cases last year and resolved 95 percent of them. A number of students use the service.

"We receive our referrals from the District



Dispute Settlement Center offers free services to residents ...mediates interpersonal disagreements outside courtroom

Attorney's office, local agencies and attorneys and Student Legal Services (which cannot handle disputes between students)," Smith said. "But we're not really involved in the legal procedures or aspects. Our role is to assist the persons involved in a dispute, to clarify the issues and find a solution that's acceptable to everyone involved."

"The greatest number of our student problems involve roommates, both in dormitories and in apartments and landlord," Smith said. "Students do not have to be referred through. We encourage anyone with a problem to call us."

To get help for a problem, citizens are asked to call the center and talk to a mediator who will then set up an initial appointment at the citizen's convenience to meet with him and the other person involved in the dispute.

"Of course, getting the other party involved to agree to attend the mediation session is the biggest problem

we have," Smith said. "Fortunately, most people are willing to participate."

At the session, the mediators and the participants discuss informally all the aspects of the conflicts and try to come to an agreement that will be satisfactory to all. When an agreement is reached, it is written down and signed by all the parties.

"Our agreement form is not a legally binding document at all," Smith said. "Rather, it signifies trust between all the parties involved."

The center will be expanding its operations to Hillsborough in September. Future plans for centers in Chatham and Durham counties also are being discussed.

"Persons who might be interested in serving as volunteer mediators or who have questions about our center may contact us at 929-8800 during office hours from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. weekdays," Smith said. "We also have a 24-hour answering service."

Graduate library offers help, advice to students

By WILLIAM PESCHEL
Staff Writer

Louis Round Wilson Library has more than two million volumes and 1.5 million government documents. It also has a main card file which fills a good-sized room, and a labyrinth of stacks and aisles that cover ten floors.

Consequently, it may seem imposing to many students.

Wilson Library also has a competent staff that will help anyone, said John Erlandson, Wilson's international documents librarian. The library offers personal tours and bibliographic searches to get students out of the stacks and into their research, he said.

One error students often make is assuming the main card catalogue covers all the material. "There is an awful lot of material which we feel is under used," he said. Government and United Nations documents, college catalogues and telephone books, for example, are not listed in the main file.

The library offers three services for students who want to use its resources, Erlandson said. General tours are held each Wednesday at 3 p.m. They are useful for learning the general layout of the library, he said. Librarians also will run a tour at anyone's request and can concentrate on a specific area, he said.

By using a computer, the library also can tap into other wells of information. For between \$5 and \$40, a student will receive a computer print-out of citations and information on dissertations,

abstracts, and newspaper and magazine articles. This service provides information dating from the mid-60s, he said. "But it doesn't cover everything; nobody covers everything," he said.

Wilson offers its own research service in the form of the Library and Research Consultation Service. A student can talk with a librarian about researching a subject, and after one of two days, the librarian will suggest areas the student can look and, in some cases give him a written bibliography. "But we are not doing their research," Erlandson said.

"We really do want to impart to all students that we are here to lend a hand. Because of the volume of material, everything isn't going to be on the shelf. But if they come in and talk with us, we can help. That is the feeling in this library," he said.

Erlandson also stressed that Wilson does not have everything. "We are not strong in engineering at all, because (N.C.) State is the college that covers that. We try to maintain a good collection that students and faculty are going to be doing research in."

The library has four special collections containing rare books, newspapers, pamphlets and maps. The North Carolina collection contains publications dealing with many aspects of the state including government, business and religious organizations. This collection also contains the Thomas Wolfe Collection, dealing with works by and about the author.

The Rare Book Collection contains one of the largest collections of books published before 1500, rare book cataloger Roberta Engleman said. The collection also contains works by Charles Dickens, George Bernard Shaw and also includes many Confederate publications. Any books published in Europe before 1700 or in America before 1820 are put in this collection, she said.

The Southern Historical Collection has more than six million items dealing with the South. The Maps Collection contains social, political and physical maps of the world.

All collections are open 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday. Some collections may be open on the weekends.

YMCA receives \$150,000 bequest

By RACHEL PERRY
Staff Writer

Due to an unexpected gift of \$150,000, the Chapel Hill-Carrboro YMCA now will be able to renovate Clearwater Lake. YMCA Executive Director John King said this gift from the estate of the late Margaret Eaton Gulick, who died Sept. 1, 1979, has relieved greatly the lake's financial distress.

Because of financial problems in upkeep and mortgage terms, the Y had considered selling the lake. A local fundraising campaign to keep the lake open was in the making when the \$150,000 gift came through.

The donor's husband, John Gulick of the University anthropology department called the gift a solemn tribute to the late Mrs. Gulick. In a statement to the YMCA, he said, "During the last years, she often said how much she wanted to do something that would be of substantial benefit to many people. An appropriate opportunity did not present itself before she died. I am very grateful and happy that it has now done so."

Planned renovations for Clearwater Lake include improved parking lots and lake docks, a fence around the entire property, expansion of the present beach areas, a relocated entrance and a permanent caretaker's house. In addition, the YMCA development committee plans to correct the lake's erosion problems, to build bathrooms and to change areas on



Canoeist enjoys Clearwater Lake ...YMCA to complete renovations

both sides of the lake, and also to improve present day camp facilities.

Construction is not slated to begin until early 1981 and may take as long as 12 months to complete. The YMCA will receive part of the money in October. Due to tax purposes, the gift will be presented in two parts.

The Chapel Hill-Carrboro YMCA purchased Clearwater Lake in 1970 from Dr. Earl Summers. It originally was used as a day camp until members began to use it frequently in 1975. After 1976, the lake was staffed with lifeguards, but still required many improvements. The lake should be open for public use late next year.

New scholarship set up

The School of Business is accepting contributions for a scholarship for an undergraduate student to be given in the name of the late Gary Vernon.

Vernon, a graduate student in the School of Business Administration, died in an automobile accident Aug. 20 on U.S. Highway 1 north of Columbia, S.C. while returning to Chapel Hill from Columbia.

A doctoral candidate, Vernon had served as a teaching assistant for sophomore level accounting courses for several years. Last year he received a business school award for best teaching by a graduate student.

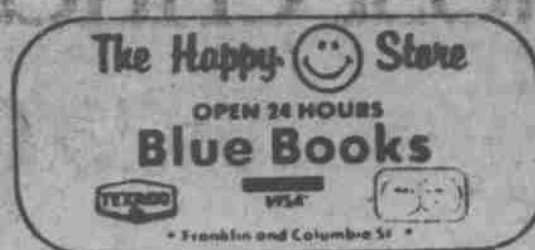
Vernon was a certified public accountant and had received his master's degree from the University of South Carolina.

Noreen Murphy, a senior accounting major, said Vernon "was genuinely interested in his students and that they

understand and comprehend his material. He became a friend both in and out of the classroom."

"He probably did as much or more for his students than anyone I've seen here," said Peter Wilson, who was a doctoral student with Vernon. "His students and his class came first for him. His degree and his own classes were all secondary."

Contributions for the scholarship in Vernon's honor can be made out to the UNC School of Business and noted for the Gary Vernon Fund. They should be sent to Roy Holsten, associate dean, in Carroll Hall.



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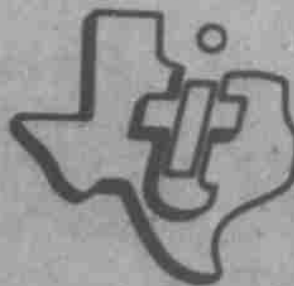
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