

Businesses survive student loss

By **SHERRIE THOMAS**
Staff Writer

When the majority of UNC students leave town for the summer, it means a decline in business for most Chapel Hill establishments. But many store managers on Franklin Street seem optimistic about the situation.

"Our clientele has changed since the spring semester ended," said Jennifer Inghram, manager of Johnny T-Shirt. "More townfolk are coming in, and there are less sorority and fraternity orders for items with press-on letters."

Other workers on Franklin Street have noticed the benefits

that come with a smaller student population. Rae Hershey, the buyer for Logos Bookstore, said since there are not as many students, the traffic is lighter so parking is not a problem right now.

"I like the fall semester better when school is in," said Steve Nelson, assistant manager of Bruegger's Bagel Bakery, "but business is picking back up because the summer session has begun."

Some stores are selling fewer alcoholic beverages. Bobby Leesnitzer, manager of Fowler's, said that the grocery store is not selling

as much beer but that business is about the same as last summer.

Darrell Beauchaine, kitchen manager at Spanky's, said "We always have a lot of people in for lunch. Our biggest drop is latenight."

One bar manager, however, said his summer business was booming. Summer is the perfect time for He's Not Here, manager Mark Burnett said.

"The summer is our time of the year because everybody likes to be outside, and we're the only outside bar in Chapel Hill," Burnett said. "We're having a great summer."

Merritt Mill Road closes until October for repairs

Merritt Mill Road will be closed to through traffic until October while workers make improvements, Town Engineer George Small said last week.

Plans include widening the road to accommodate a turning lane and adding a sidewalk to one side. Workers will also straighten some of the tighter curves in the road, Small said.

"We're trying to make (the

road) a little easier to negotiate," Small said.

The decision was made to close the road off during construction in the interest of time, Small said. "To keep the road open would probably double the time of construction," he said.

Crowder Construction Company of Morrisville is in charge of the project.

New SAFO director assumes duties

By **MICHAEL JACKSON**
Staff Writer

Newly appointed Student Activities Fund Office (SAFO) director Howard Brubaker said he hopes to work closely with campus organizations so that both SAFO and campus organizations will benefit.

Brubaker, who was formerly a

research analyst for Boeing Aerospace Co. in Seattle, Wash., took over the SAFO position on May 11.

"I want to establish a good rapport with organizations on campus," Brubaker said. "SAFO's director should be receptive to ideas, and talk and understand the

opinions of other groups so that SAFO and campus organizations will both benefit."

"He comes to us with good financial and personnel experience, and he has an open and good spirit on the job," said Dean Schroeder. "I think he will do exceptionally well."

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