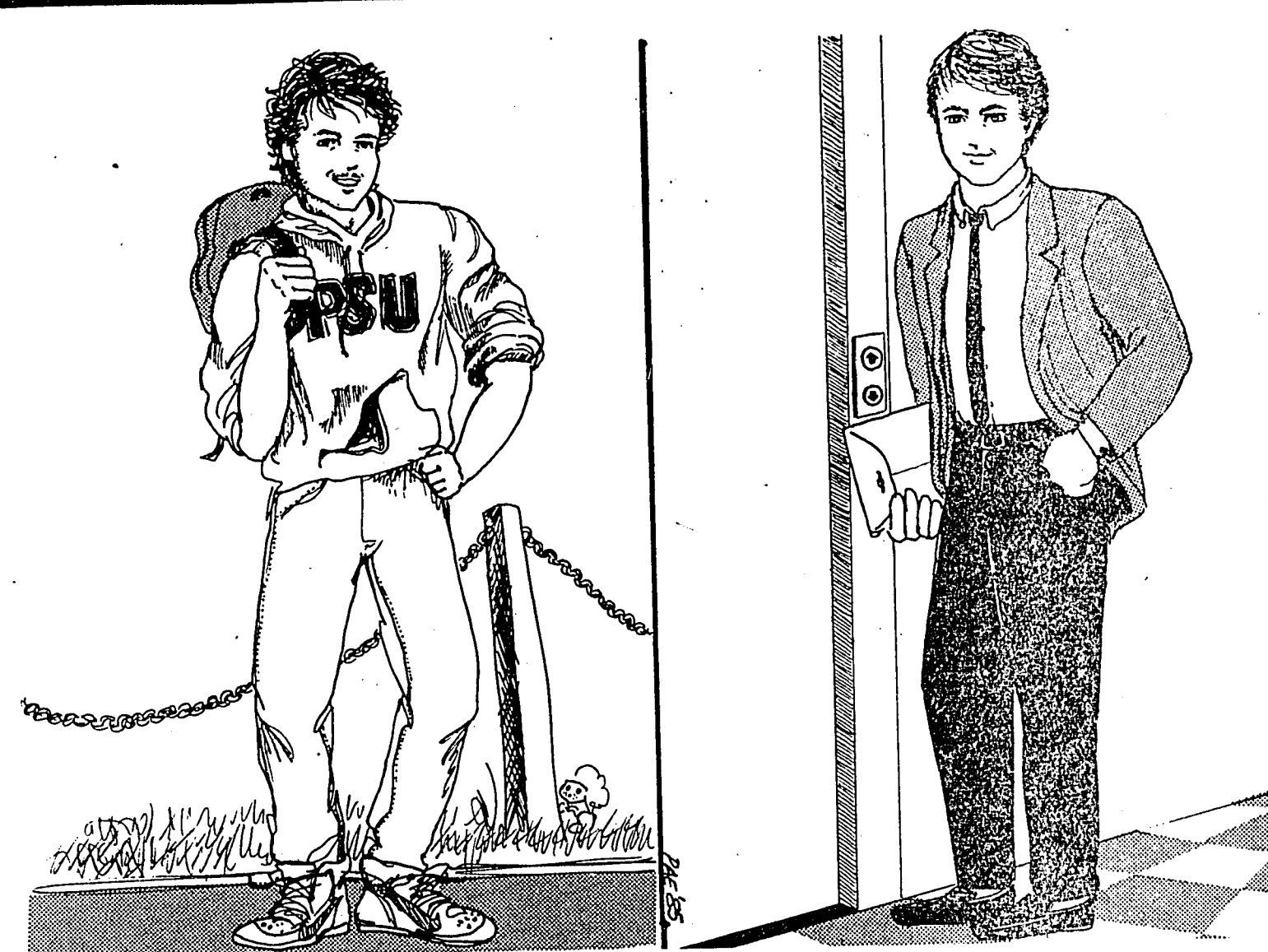


free lance

Summer in the working world



By ANITA YESHO
Collegian Staff Writer

Ask a University student what they did this summer and you're likely to hear a lot of the same answer: internships. These coveted summer jobs — often taken in the summer after sophomore or junior year — give students a chance to decide if they're majoring in the right thing. — in Washington, D.C., Philadelphia and Harris Township, Centre County.

Capitol jobs

Edith Raphael, perched on the edge of a couch in the HUB, explains what it's like to return to Happy Valley after working in a congressman's office. "It's difficult for me to be here now after being in Washington. There, you're living the news... I miss being in the world."

As an intern in the Capitol Hill office of Sen. Arlen Specter (R-Pa.), Raphael (junior-foreign service) was indeed in the world of politics — and she wasn't the only Penn State there.

Veda Nyoth (junior-foreign service and international politics) was also an intern on Capitol Hill. She worked in the office of Rep. Joseph Klotter (D-4th). "Like Raphael, Nyoth said she enjoyed the excitement of being in the nation's capital. For her, one of the highlights of the summer was hearing Rajiv Gandhi, leader of India, address Congress."

"There was only one ticket per office," a woman in the office was picked and "everyone was kind of down in the dumps that afternoon because we couldn't go. Then the majority whip called and said there was space on the floor so we ran over there."

Both students spent a lot of their summer writing. Nyoth's special duty was putting out a newsletter for Klotter's constituents and one of Raphael's projects was writing to the heads of every steel company in the United States.

Letter-writing was one of the big lessons of the summer, both say. "I learned that if I write my senator, he's not the one who writes me back," Raphael says, laughing.

Interns took turns sorting and answering the mail — a tedious job, Raphael says, but a very necessary one. "There's so many letters coming in that there's no way the congressman can handle it all," so the duty falls to aides and interns, Nyoth says. "I had to learn to write like I was the congressman."

Liberia, but she does not know if she would practice law here or in her West African nation. "I know one thing," she says. "If I live in America I want to live in D.C."

Raphael also says that her summer internship taught her a lot. "I feel that if I had a cause I'd be an effective lobbyist. I see how the system works now. Politics is so complicated, so intricate that it's difficult for the average citizen to understand what's really going on."

Dealing with pain

Ask Heather Duncan to describe her summer internship and she'll say, "emotionally stressful." Then she'll say, "It was a fantastic job — I was sorry to leave."

Duncan worked as a counselor at a Philadelphia health center where one of her duties was to talk to women who were thinking of having abortions. "A senior majoring in individual and family studies, she worked 35-40 hours a week for no pay counseling women who came to the Elizabeth Blackwell Center for Women for treatment."

"I counseled women going through menopause and 19-year-olds going through abortions — so it was really a range," Duncan says. "Abortion counseling was difficult for her, Duncan says, because she was ambivalent about abortion. If a counselor talked to a woman and she decided to go through with an abortion the counselor had to stay with her during the procedure."

"If I had been a little more resolved in my views it would have been easier," she says. "The women were often hostile — because they were pregnant, because their boyfriends or husbands were not with them or just because they were scared — and they lashed out at health center workers. Duncan says that although she understood the hostility, it still made for a stressful workday."

"A lot of people were offended at how young I was," she says. "I learned that if I write my senator, he's not the one who writes me back," Raphael says, laughing.

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"Working on the Hill more or less reinforced my plans to go to law school," Nyoth says. She is a citizen of

The summer opened her eyes, she says, and made her much more interested in women's issues. "I feel like I changed a lot," she says. "Things that I used to worry about seem so trivial now. I feel like a different person."

Corporate summer

While many students work at internships with little or no pay, others are lucky enough to land a summer job that brings some monetary reward, not just academic credits. For the past two summers, Brian Dowling (senior-business logistics) worked for IBM in East Fishkill, N.Y.

"The image of IBM is pretty 'blue suit,' but they're pretty laid-back," he says, adding that he and his coworkers really enjoyed "perpetuating the image" especially when they went into New York City. Dowling, however, says he has his limits. "I refuse to wear wing-tips."

"When he first worked for IBM two summers ago, 'the toughest thing was moving. I had no idea where I'd be living... and I didn't have any suits' for work, he says, laughing. "Moving to a strange city and not knowing what to expect from the summer can be a hassle, but Dowling says it pays off in the end."

"You gain a lot of confidence in yourself," he says. "I've seen how things are run out there."

"Selling" a hospital
Sue DeGregorio (senior-health planning and administration) worked at the Central Medical Center and Hospital in Pittsburgh as an assistant to a hospital administrator.

As an HPA major, she must have an internship to graduate. So, like 130 other HPA majors this summer, that's what she did.

She worked "40, sometimes 45 hours a week" for three credits and no pay. With hospital budgets as tight as they are, paying internships in hospitals are hard to find, she says.

Although she got no money for her work, DeGregorio says she gained a lot of self-confidence. At the beginning of the summer, however, she was a bit intimidated. "I thought they were going to expect me to know everything," she says. "But I realized that 80 percent of my job involved common sense and 20 percent was applying what I learned in classes."

"I've had a lot of jobs since I was 16, but I never had a job I felt was so important."



Veda Nyoth (junior-foreign service and international politics) poses with Rep. Joe Klotter (D-4th) in his Washington, D.C. office, where she worked as a summer intern.

in his shirt and tie, residents would come up to him and offer their opinions of the road. "Some of the citizens get hotheaded, but you just have to talk to them one-on-one," he says. "Having set work hours can be appealing, he says. "I worked eight hours and then I didn't have to work anymore. I'd go home and relax. And my friends, who were in school, would be working all the time."

His main concern was the results of the street-rating project, he says. "I was afraid they'd expect too much out of the project, that it'd solve all their problems... I didn't want to let them down."

"I realized this before, but it isn't all bookwork. You have to deal with people."

Behind the news
Not many students have the chance to have the daily results of their summer jobs seen by thousands of people, but that's one plus journalism interns can claim. In some ways, it's one of the few concrete advantages of broadcast journalism internships, which usually don't pay at all and involve long, harried hours.

For Jennifer Williams (junior-broadcast journalism) the one credit she got working as a broadcast assistant to CBS' southern New Jersey correspondent was well worth it. Some of the stories she helped cover included Karen Ann Quinlan's funeral and the Beach Boys concert in Philadelphia on the Fourth of July.

Williams worked with the same reporter and two television crew members all summer for 45-50 hours a week. "I never felt like I was an outsider — an intern. I was expecting to and I didn't," she says. Williams is only this semester beginning her journalism courses, so she says she learned a lot from watching the reporter she worked with.

"What I learned most from her was how to approach people, learn how to back off," she says. "One of the toughest assignments of the summer was a story on the 'mercy killing' of a quadriplegic woman. 'The father was screaming' and Williams says she was uncomfortable, but 'covering stories like that is just part of the job.'"

business

Tax to push up liquor prices

By DEBBIE SKLAR
Collegian Business Writer

A new federal excise tax will hit state liquor stores Oct. 1 bringing the total amount of tax on liquor to almost 50 percent of the total purchase price. The increase, part of a revenue package passed June 9, 1984, will raise the federal tax on liquor from 23.5 to 29.5 percent; however, the amount of state and local tax paid will decrease from 20.7 percent to 19.9 percent. In terms of actual dollars the tax could push liquor prices up as much as \$2 a gallon.

Lisa Tate, spokeswoman for the Distilled Spirits Council of the United States, said sales on liquor are expected to drop five percent in the next year due to the tax increase. The decrease would be the latest in a long line for the liquor industry. Between 1974 and 1984, annual per capita consumption of hard liquor fell 14 percent to 2.46 gallons per person, Tate said.

Most liquor stores around the country are preparing for the Oct. 1 tax hike with special advertising and displays. Robert Scott, manager of the state liquor store, 1608 N. Atherton St., said individual companies handle the promotions themselves, not the state stores.

Scott added, however, that "in order to anticipate the September rush, Harrisburg will return to normal after Oct. 1." It cannot be determined how beer sales will be affected by the tax, but John Hickey of W.R. Hickey Beer Distribu-

tors, 1321 E. College Ave., said his store is not increasing its inventory after the price increase. Hickey said he believes the price will not affect drinkers choices because "You have your beer drinkers and you have your hard liquor drinkers, and those people who sit around bars drinking hard liquor will not stop drinking it because the price goes up."

Bars in the State College area seem to believe the tax increase will not affect their prices. John Coclin of The Gingerbread Man, 130 Heister St., said there will be no increase in the establishment's prices immediately or in the near future. The Kasser Distillery, a state-authorized distributor located in Philadelphia, which supplies the state liquor store on North Atherton with some of its stock, said it is running no special promotions or displays in preparation for the September rush of those who wish to stock up.

Outside of Pennsylvania, in New York and Washington D.C. for example, where liquor sales are not state controlled, liquor stores are preparing for the increase with large promotional signs both in the store and in front windows. Richard Coelen of Park Avenue Liquor Shop, 292 Madison Ave., New York, says his store has posted several very large red and white posters that read, "Buy Now... Beat the Big Federal Tax Increase of Oct. 1 — Stock up on your favorite brands."

But Coelen says the store is not increasing its inventory in preparation for the rush because of a floor tax on existing inventory which will prevent stores from stockpiling before the new tax takes affect.

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Smoking costs \$65B annually

By JIM DRINKARD
Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Disease and lost productivity due to smoking are costing the United States some \$65 billion a year — more than \$2 for every pack of cigarettes consumed — according to a new congressional study released yesterday.

The new estimate from the Office of Technology Assessment, Congress' scientific advisory body, is substantially higher than past calculations of the costs of smoking reflected in increased medical bills, premature death and time lost from work. "Our economy is losing more than \$10 billion an hour because of the smoking habit," said Rep. Fortney Stark, D-Calif., who requested the study. "This study confirms our suspicion that smoking is not only a deadly habit, but a costly one for the federal health care budget."

Stark, chairman of the health subcommittee of the tax-writing House Ways and Means Committee, is pushing legislation to keep the cigarette tax at its current 16 cents per pack instead of allowing it to revert to

eight cents a pack as scheduled at the end of this month. Stark's bill would earmark part of the revenue to help pay for federal health care programs. Focusing on the three major causes of disease attributed to smoking — cancer, heart disease and lung ailments — the congressional researchers said the habit adds \$22 billion a year to the nation's health-care costs and costs \$43 billion in lost productivity and wages.

OTAs put the total cost of smoking in the range of \$58 billion to \$65 billion a year, with a middle estimate of \$65 billion, or \$2.17 for each pack of cigarettes sold. It said its new figures represent a conservative estimate. In 1984, U.S. Surgeon General C. Everett Koop said smoking costs \$40 billion a year, and an estimate in August in the New York State Journal of Medicine put the range at \$39 billion to \$55 billion.

Tobacco interests immediately disputed the figures, saying the congressional study was hasty and inconclusive. "The OTA memo released today demonstrates how little is known about the relationship of personal behavior to disease, and then in turn, disease to costs," said Anne Browder, assistant to the president of the Tobacco Institute.

Most of the data for the new estimate are drawn from earlier studies by the American Cancer Society and other groups. The OTA paper says the latest estimate for smoking-related deaths, for 1982, includes 129,000 caused by cancers, 123,000 from cardiovascular disease and 52,000 from chronic lung diseases.

Researchers acknowledged the difficulties in coming up with accurate estimates. For example, smokers tend to be heavier drinkers of alcohol, a beverage, meaning that some health effects may not be directly linked to their smoking. For that reason, cirrhosis of the liver and ulcers were excluded from the cost figures. Smoking effects which cause a far smaller number of deaths or for which less data are available, such as damage to infants born to smoking mothers, the breathing of cigarette smoke by non-smokers and the effects of cigarette-caused fires, were left out of the study as well.

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Edith Raphael (junior-foreign service), on left, poses with Sen. Arlen Specter (R-Pa.) and some of the 18 interns who worked in his office this summer.