

# Youner

inely work their asses off.

There is room for both kinds of students here at Clark. Is that a bad thing? It depends which way you look at it. On the positive side, here we have kids who do practically no work, and yet they remain here for four years, get their diplomas and move on. They are given time to figure out what they want out of life, and are then given an advantage over someone who was unable to attend college and had to go to work right after high school.

You may not know any one in this situation, but there are many people who are not as fortunate as we are. Keep in mind that I am fully aware that there are many students who work very hard in school and also have to take on two or more jobs in order to stay in school. I am commenting about those who are not in this position.

If the Republican majority in Congress gets its way, budget cuts in federal aid for higher education will add millions to the number who can not afford to buy this time to put off getting a real job. Yet many kids, including those who are on financial aid and take out huge loans do not apply themselves to any productive activity while here at Clark. What did they do while they were here? They, from my observations, watch mucho television, smoke pot, watch movies, drink, sleep, eat, and generally "hang out."

Now here we have people who are not serious about their studies, have no direction, and yet they are still managing to graduate from a respectable college and obtain that piece of paper that says "B.A." on it. They therefore have a much greater advantage getting a job over someone who does

not have the privilege of acquiring this document.

Should people be able to sit on their asses for four years, at the cost of over \$100,000, just so they can delay being responsible for themselves over this time period? It seems to me that most parents don't really know what their kids are doing at school, and if the college experience is going to benefit their kids. All they know is that they want the best for their kids, so they spend the money and hope for the best.

It also seems as if employers have gotten wise to the realities of college. They know that many young people screw off at school, and that what really impresses them is not a degree (although one is necessary) but rather, experience. That is the reason so many young people today are getting internships, or as I like to call them, slave labor. There are no jobs out there, but you can still work for free as an intern, and then put it on your resume. What do you need a resume for? Your next internship.

The scary truth is that due to corporate downsizing, there is an entire unemployed work force with much more experience and knowledge than your average college grad. However, many of these people who are getting "downsized" are getting replaced with recent college grads who can perform the same job for less money.

Regardless, those of us who are graduating are entering a highly volatile job market, and the chance

es for lucrative employment are dimmer than they have been in a long time here in the land of opportunity.

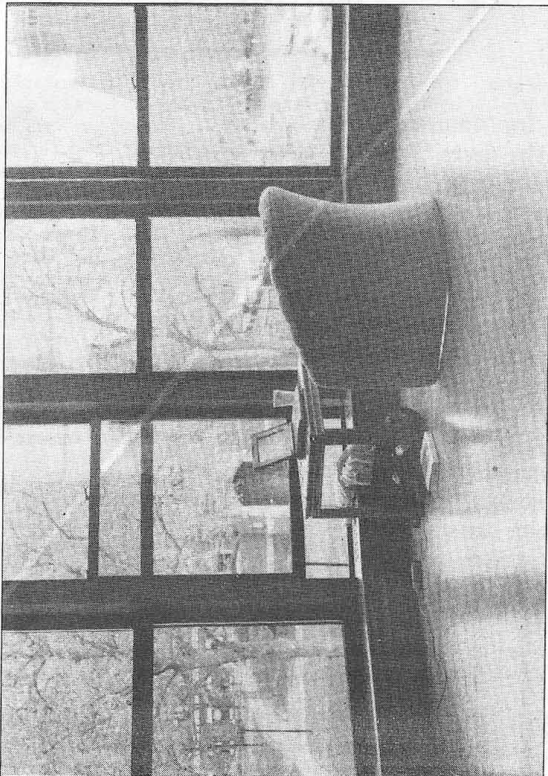
So what is your typically confused, directionless, unmotivated undergrad to do while you have these blissful years of freedom and lack of responsibility? My suggestion is to live it up, and by live it up, I mean *live* it.

Do not waste your time in your room watching Tv, vegetating as these years float by in a cloud of pot smoke. Be aware of where you are at in the grand scheme of your life. Find out who you are, what you stand for, and against. Get to know as many people as you can, and do not limit yourself to one small group of friends.

Pursue what you are good at, whether it be a sport, or acting, or playing a musical instrument. Be in a play, or two, or three. Hell, if I had the time I'd be in two plays a semester next year. Start a band, write for *the Scarlet*, or join Student Council. Shake things up and make some noise around here! Just make your experience here at Clark something to remember, and learn from it.

Because before you know it you are going to graduate, and at this peculiar school that is called Clark and that we know as home, you can get away with doing nothing, and that is precisely what you will take away from here. Don't make that mistake, because during this four year gift that society has given us, you now have a chance to live life to its fullest.

# WE DOING HERE?!



The laptop's on but nobody's home...