Annual struggle

Tough road ahead for teens in the job market

State and local employment service officials say it's going to be tough for youths to land summer jobs this year. Their advice: Start the job-search early

Jouns to fain summer pots this year, and keep on plugging. With an estimated 500,000 student job seekers flooding the already-light employment market, jobs will not be plentiful and people will have to scrape to find work, said Don McKhee, information specialist for the Michigan Employment Security Commission (MESC). The most important piece of advice I can give anyone looking for a job is for that person to get the word out to anyone and everyone. Most job leads corur that way. The dismal unemployment figures he cited make painfully clear the uphill battle all job hunters face.

"THE MOST recent figure released in April showed the state's total unemployment rate at 12.2 percent and it will be worse this summer when the half-million students pour into Job hunting," McGhee noted. "With few exceptions around the state, teen-agers in the metropolitan Detroit area will be the most pressed in finding summer

work."
Projected summer figures for youths between the ages of 16 and 19 indicate an unemployment rate of 35.5 percent, McGhee said. And he said finding a job

McGhee said. And he said finding a job will be harder for non-whites than for whites in the same age category. An estimated \$5.8 percent of non-white teens will be out of work this summer, compared to about 30.8 per-cent of whites who won't be able to find summer jobs he said

number of typical or traditional summer jobs, now being filled by laid-off auto workers," said McGhee. "They're taking whatever job they can get, including the lower paying service-type jobs, such as employment at fast food resturants, which traditionally have been available to students.

"Layoffs in the auto and auto-related factories, have virtually eliminated another major area of traditional summer youth employment," McGhee continued. "In the past, students were hired for factory work to fill vacancies created by vacations, but union contracts require that laid-off factory workers be the first to be recalled to fill any vacancies."

Because of unemployment combined with a strained state budget and federal eutbacks reducing government-lunded job opportunities, students are going to have to put more effort into their job-hunting efforts this summer, McChee said.

"BECAUSE THE job market is so tight, students should start looking for employment now. Although the employer may not be hirring now, many like to conduct their summer-job inter-

we'ves in advance. sammer-job mix-vess in advance. sammer-job mix-leve an application or resume so you provide the property of the control of the control of the control of the control of the type of work and salary they're looking for "he said. "They should have some idea of what kind of work they want, but they also must be flexable, taking into considera-tion job availability. They should be persistent despite rejections and pre-pared when they apply or go for an in-terview."

summer jons, ne said.

"The result of such high unemploy—
Job seekers may have to redirect
ment has significantly reduced the
terview."

Job seekers may have to redirect

or lesser-known employers or become more creative in devising self-employ-ment opportunities, McGhee said. "I suggest checking a junk yard," he said. "Who thinks to look for work at a

said. Who thinks to look for work at a junk yard? The point is job hunters tend to look for work at the larger, established, well-known, very visible corporations where competition is tougher, while the smaller businesses are often forgotten.

Some may have to start their own summer business like painting, cleaning, yard work or baby sitting. And others may have to do volunteer work for future experience, "McGhee said.

He provided a number of tips which may help the job hunter.

"FIRST, DON'T forget most employers require the employee have a Social Security card," he said. "If you don't have one, apply now because the provided by the provided service of the provided service

the interest in the business. Go to the interview alone so you don't run the risk of feeling pressured to hurry. Be punctual or early. Dress neat, be clean account of the control of the

to help youth find summer work.

He sald any business which was closed for the winter makes a good target, including resorts, camps, play, grounds, amusement parks, farms, nur-

**KEEP YOUR eyes open. Many em-ployers still use their front windows to advertise for jobs. Scour the classified section in the newspapers and local

advertise for jobs. Scour the classified-section in the newspapers and local, shopping guides. Watch bulletin boards at supermarkets, "said Altman. He noted that the clearing house has prepared four job-hunting, borchures, including a question-and-answer pam-



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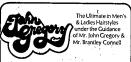
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