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Job prospects pretty slim

by Bill Doskoch

Summer job prospects are better than they have been in years but be forewarned, it's still an extremely competitive market, says Wendy Caplan, manager of the Canada Employment Centre on campus.

To ensure a chance at landing one of those jobs, "Start early, that can't be emphasized enough," said Caplan, "and right now is definitely not too early."

The next step to take is developing a good resume.

"A good resume matches your experience and knowledge, whether it was gained on the job or through volunteer work and education, to the requirements of the employer.

"We offer clinics on Wednesdays and Thursdays at 9:30 a.m. on resume writing and interviewing skills, plus counsellors are available to help people on an individual basis," Caplan said.

Once equipped with desire and a resume, one needs to find a potential employer and the employment centre is a good place to start.

"We update our listings constantly and we suggest that students come in once a week to check for new prospects."

Caplan recommended that when you want a job, either in a specific location or with a specific company, get aggressive and contact them directly as many companies don't advertise their requirements.

If everything has gone well and the student manages to make it into the interview room, he or she should research the company (if possible) and the requirements of the job being offered.

"If nothing else, being prepared

will give you more self-confidence. That's important, because most people hurt their chances by underselling their abilities, and not by being arrogant," Caplan said.

If the student succeeds in bamboozling the employer with tales of his abilities and receives a job offer, what wage level should be expected?

"About five to eight dollars per hour will be a realistic wage level this summer," said Caplan, adding

there was "not that much" paying over \$10 per hour. She felt students must look at the non-monetary benefits involved and not just the wage.

What if a person has followed the above steps to summer job searching success and winds up getting rejected?

"Perseverance is the key. There will be jobs out there, it's mainly a question of not getting discouraged," concluded Caplan.

Board boycotted

TORONTO (CUP) — Teachers at Ontario's 22 community colleges are boycotting a committee setup to investigate teacher workloads, the issue which triggered last fall's three and a half week strike.

Calling the committee a "stacked deck," the Ontario Public Services Employees Union, which represents the 7,600 teachers, is refusing to appoint a committee representative.

"The government has the power to appoint the chairman and the Council of Regents representative—two of the three committee members—so we see it as a stacked deck," says union spokesperson Katie FitzRandolph. The COR represented the government as a bargaining agent during the strike.

When the provincial government legislated teachers back to work last November, it sent all issues except workload to arbitration. The emergency legislation called for a three-member committee to conduct a "comprehensive review of all aspects of instructional assign-

ments in the colleges."

John Humber, a colleges and universities ministry official, says he does not think the teacher boycott will interfere with the committee's task.

"It was a setback, of course, because we wanted (the union) to have a representative on the committee," he says. "But we have researchers assigned to the task already."

Humber says the union's allegations about the committee's structure are "quite unfounded—but nobody is going to convince them that it is unfounded."

The union is also concerned that the committee has no power to enforce what it recommends.

"The committee has no clout," FitzRandolph says. "We don't see how going there achieves anything."

The committee is expected to report to the new education minister, Keith Norton, June 30, but the government has not yet appointed its representatives.



GATEWAY LITERARY CONTEST

CASH PRIZES FOR EACH OF THREE CATEGORIES:

Short poem — maximum 32 lines
Short story — maximum 3000 words
Long poem — maximum 200 lines

FIRST PRIZE (each category) — \$150
SECOND PRIZE (each category) — \$100

RULES

1. Open to all persons attending a post-secondary educational institution in Canada, except the employees of the Students' Union of the University of Alberta and writers who have earned more than two thousand dollars from their craft in 1984.
2. All entries must be typed with double-spacing on a single side of good quality bond paper. The name, address, and phone number of the author must appear on each page submitted.
3. All entries must be submitted by noon, March 14, 1985. No late entries will be accepted.
4. Each writer may submit a total of three entries in aggregate.
5. Submissions may be in French or English.
6. The winning entries and additional entries selected by the judges will appear in the Gateway Literary Supplement on March 28, 1985. The Gateway shall hold only first North American serial rights to any entries that appear in this issue. All other rights will remain with the author.
7. Entries shall not be returned unless accompanied by a self-addressed, stamped envelope.
8. Entries should be submitted to:

LITERARY CONTEST, c/o Suzzette C. Chan, Room 282, Students' Union Building, University of Alberta T6G 2G7

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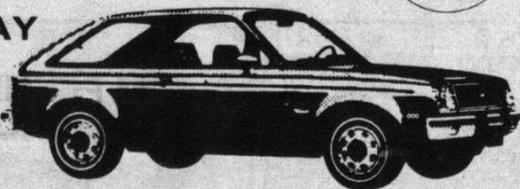


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