

# Give up career search; major in the major league

Admit it. No one ever wanted to grow up and become an accountant or a banker or, for that matter, even a reporter.

As children, few ever dreamed about sitting behind a desk when they grew up (unless, of course, that desk happened to be sitting in the Oval Office). We dreamed about becoming baseball players, firefighters and astronauts, but never about the joys of economics or English.

For the most part, play in the backyard centered on hitting that homer with the bases loaded, two outs in the bottom of the ninth. But I don't think very many sat in their livingrooms and really dreamed about closing the big deal with Exxon.

Yet, here we are, investing some \$5,000-plus a year in search of the almighty career.

Twenty-one-, 22- and 23-year-olds, who one dreamed about becoming future homerun

sluggers and high-flying astronauts, are now expounding limitless energies across the country to become tomorrow's auditors and big business

## Reporter's notebook

managers.

Oh, how is it that things have gone so strangely awry these last fateful years? Childhood dreams twisted and distorted, turned into adult nightmares.

How many kids ever said, "Gee, I hope I grow up to be like Lee Iacocca some day." But back then, who didn't want to be the next Dale Murphy, Tom Seaver or Dwight Gooden? Or even the next Sally Ride?

Where did it all go wrong? Somewhere along the way somebody popped the dream bubbles above our heads, and we woke up. Do you remember the day you woke up and said "Gosh, I just won't be making it into the major leagues, maybe I better major in business

administration"?

Or do you ever remember saying "Yeah, those astronauts, what ninnies. I'd much rather become an accountant"?

Maybe it's our parents' fault. I mean think about it. Maybe it all happened because they stopped giving us baseball mitts and spaceships and started giving us calculators for Christmas.

The parents, that's where this whole go-to-college, get-a-career thing starts, I'd bet. And once you're caught in the trap, there's no getting out.

Oh, sure, some people get to go to school to pursue the career they actually dreamed about as children.

Somehow, some way, certain people are able to escape all the horrible sidetracks toward a career. Somehow, they are able to leap over all of the obstacles with their childhood dreams intact.

They, a select few, actually get to go on and become astronauts and homerun hitters.

Well, I for one have had enough of it all.

Here's what we'll do. If everyone majored in becoming

an astronaut or a Major League Baseball player, and no one majored in becoming an accountant (or a reporter) then maybe campus recruiters would take on a different look.

Maybe the Et al. column in this paper would read more like "May 6: Los Angeles Dodgers (outfielders), group meeting only" rather than "May 6: Federal Deposit Insurance Corp. (bank examiner trainee), group meeting only."

So what if you can't play. What do you go to college for anyway? Do many people come to college knowing how to keep the books for IBM or how to examine DNA strands? So, you see, if we spent four years playing baseball instead of writing essays, maybe we'd all get a shot at our childhood dreams and quit thinking about this career thing.

I, for one, am going to the Registrar's Office today to change my major to Major League Baseball with a minor in space. I'll see ya' in Homeruns 101.

by Allan Lazo

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## Marine recruits need experience, leadership skills and clean record

By Patrick Low  
Of the Emerald

The Marines Corps is true to its slogan that it is looking for a few good men — out of the 103 University students who applied for the Marine Corps last year, only six were selected, said regional recruitment officer Capt. B.J. Toynbee.

"What I'm looking for is a spotless record. A guy who's in good shape, very smart, no involvement with drugs, no involvement with the police — that's what I'd like to find. And

I've got so many people applying that I can ask for that. I don't have to make exceptions for the Marine Corps," he said.

Toynbee said another important factor he considers in an applicant is personality. Ap-

clones."

Toynbee said he would like to dispel the image that members of the military are like Rambo.

"They (the movie industry) make us look like superstud —

**'We don't eat raw meat or chew on broken glass. We're frail human beings. We have feelings.'**

— Capt. B.J. Toynbee

plicants must have leadership qualities and experience in positions of responsibility, such as class president, president of an organization or a sports team captain, he said. They also must display determination and pride in themselves, he said.

Toynbee said he believes the public's biggest misconception about the military is the notion that it restricts one's liberty and initiative.

"Not only do (the Marines) allow you to think on your own, they require it. The Marine Corps spends six months teaching you how to question authority, how to question everything that you're told to do, analyze it for yourself and make a decision on your own. We are not blind, obedient

hey, it doesn't work that way. We don't eat raw meat or chew on broken glass. We're frail human beings. We have feelings."

Toynbee guarantees that all Marine recruits quickly will learn their limitations in the service, just as he did.

"Before I joined, I thought I was competent enough to do anything. The Marine Corps proved otherwise. They asked me to do a lot of things that I had to get honest with myself and say, 'This is above my abilities.' I think that's why I like it — that excitement of not being able to do everything that I always thought I could do. It gave me a chance to challenge myself and continue to have something to shoot for."

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