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JOBS

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Schirmer explained her search and how her background and persistence helped her through to net the job.

"I started looking in the beginning of October," she said. "I had interviews and second interviews," for which she signed up at CPPS.

"I am extremely organized and knew I had to get a job," Schirmer said. "I think it's a very independent person that does this. You have to do it on your own."

"Graduating in Rhetoric and Communications, I can sell myself," she said. "I believe the major is not the determining factor in getting a job. I took something that would develop me as a person."

"I believe my skills and personality will come through and that I can be trained on the job. When I went in for my second interview, I had to sell myself and be convinced that my degree meant something."

Schirmer's job comes with an investment plan, a company car, full dental and medical benefits, and a personal computer so that she can work from her new home in Salem.

"I'll be traveling a lot," she said. "My territory is from Bend to Lincoln City, and from Salem to Eugene."

"I think it's really exciting," Schirmer said. "I'm totally into doing new things."

Schirmer's background included coordinating the ASUO's recycling program and retail sales. "I honestly don't have any

experience in what they do but I have the skills to talk to people," she said. "I just lucked out that they saw what I have."

Schirmer and Seres are only two people, but they are two people already holding jobs. Although both are in sales positions, where employers may give more weight to personality than other positions, Seres and Schirmer's strong attitudes and planning speak for themselves.

If reading about Schirmer and Seres is more depressing than uplifting, maybe some statistics from the University's 1990 Baccalaureate Degree Graduates Career Survey will help. Thirty-five percent of the graduates returned the survey.

By February of 1991, eight months after graduation, 83 percent of the University's baccalaureate graduates were employed. Of the jobs those graduates held, 57 percent were full-time career related, 19 percent were full-time temporary, 10 percent were part-time career related, and 9 percent were part-time temporary.

Seventy-four percent of those employed were working in positions having some relationship to their major. Thirty-seven percent had positions highly related to their major.

Despite predictions that 1992 graduates are in for a rougher time than other recent classes, the survey indicates there is a pretty good chance that you will know or have heard about someone who actually got a job in their field of interest, whether they got it before or after graduation. That person may even be you.

-Jacqueline Woge

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