

ERIC ALMOND THE MINNESOTA DAILY OF MINNESOTA



► Education or get your money back

Just as companies confidant in their products frequently offer warranties, some colleges are guaranteeing their graduates.

Community colleges have responded to the needs of students and industries in a questionable economic climate by ensuring employment and qualified employees.

The colleges essentially guarantee graduates will have the necessary skill and technical competency required in a entry-level job in their field, says Ivan Lach, senior deputy director for programs for the Illinois Community College Governance Board. If graduates do not think they have the necessary skills to succeed after entering the job market, they have the option to return to college at no cost, he says.

During the first two years, pilot testing will involve community colleges voluntarily entering the program. More than 25 out of the 50 community colleges in the system have agreed to participate.

"Hopefully all colleges will be involved in three years," Lach says.

A similar program at Baltimore City Community College in Maryland attempts to allay the fears of students entering a bleak job market.

It gives students the possibility of receiving 12 tuition-free credit hours if they do not find a job within 90 days of graduation.

Designed for students in two-year career programs, the guarantee first was offered to June 1992 graduates.

The second facet of the guarantee allows unsatisfied employers the opportunity to send a student back to the college free of charge.

"We are guaranteeing to the employer that we are sending out a qualified person," says Terry Felton, a counselor at job placement services at BCC.

"The programs reaffirm our commitment to send out qualified individuals, producing highly skilled professionals," Felton said. ■ Lizbeth McManus, *The Diamondback*, U. of Maryland

► The way we became the Brady Bunch...

It's the glue that bonds our generation.

You witnessed Peter's pubescent perils, Marcia's nasal nightmare ("Oh, my nose!") and Greg's groovy awakenings. You remember the infamous trip to Hawaii and the name of their dog. You know everything about *The Brady Bunch*. Or do you?

Did you know Greg and Marcia almost did it on a yacht in the Atlantic Ocean, Peter and Jan almost did it in the back of Peter's truck and little Cindy and Bobby were often known to sneak away to Tiger's doghouse to make out?

Yes, those squeaky clean Brady kids have a jaded past and the twentysomething generation can't get enough of it. Bradymania has sparked a book and an off-Broadway production.

All the rumors of "incestuous" misdeeds have been confirmed by Greg, actor Barry Williams, who wrote *Growing Up Brady*, an exposé of life in the TV household.

Fans of the show may be surprised to learn Williams, who once dated Florence Henderson, even showed up to work stoned on occasion.

But all of this talk of shattered images and fictional incest does not surprise Jill and Faith Soloway, co-producers of *The Real Live Brady Bunch*, who say sexual tension literally seeped among the Bradys.

"Greg and Marcia were always making eyes at each other in the original show," Faith Soloway says. "We caught on to it and just used it as part of our show."

The Soloway sisters created the production, which re-enacts *Brady Bunch* episodes word-for-word, and directed it for Chicago's Annoyance Theater. Since then, *The Real Live Brady Bunch's* popularity has exploded like an overstuffed beanbag chair with the fallout resulting in New York and Los Angeles productions.

This flashback to the '70s is complete with lime-green and orange Formica, polyester miniskirts and sideburns. Brady-hungry fans pack the usually sold-out shows and often recite popular Brady lines along with the actors.

U. of Southern California junior Eric Erickson went to the show in which Marcia breaks her nose before her big date. "It's the fad right now. The '60s and '70s are hip again."

James Pettis, who works in TV promotions and publicity at Paramount, says the interest in the Bradys isn't just a part of a '70s revival. He believes the show itself is a part of the twentysomething generation.

"*The Brady Bunch* is my thing," says Pettis who worked with Williams on his book. "When we were kids, we all liked watching, and we wanted to be them. Those were the good old days."

Viewers yearning for the good old days certainly have kept the Bradys popular, says Lynnea Shane, a junior at the U. of New Mexico. "It's all about nostalgia. When you see the show it reminds you of your childhood. We all can remember *The Brady Bunch* and the way we felt back then." ■ Laura Bendix, *Daily Lobo*, U. of New Mexico

New tales from
Bradyland:
Greg high, Cindy,
Bobby and...Tiger?
Go ask Alice.



► In search of the perfect dorm...

Specialty housing — housing that appeals to students' interests as well as their needs — is changing the face of the old dormitory image. And students, eager to match their lifestyle to their environment, are moving in fast.



JAMES J. WALKER,
DAILY UNIVERSE, BRIGHAM YOUNG U.

At Oregon State U., the wellness hall and international halls are among the most popular on campus, says Paulette Ratchford, assistant director of housing.

The wellness hall focuses on keeping fit and has a no-smoking and no-alcohol standard.

West International House provides an opportunity for

U.S. citizens and students from around the world to celebrate their diversity, Ratchford says. In addition, a women-in-engineering floor is scheduled to open in September.

And at Brigham Young U. specialty dorm fever has grown into a

language complex, says Joshua Coal, foreign language housing secretary. Russian, Japanese, Hebrew, Arabic, French, Spanish, Italian and German are some of the languages that will be spoken in the new Foreign Language Study Residence complex when it opens this fall. Living in the dorms also satisfies a language major requirement for spending time in a foreign country, Coal says.

Steve Burnett, a BYU sophomore who lives in the Russian language house, says the best part about living in the dormitory is speaking the language. "You hear the language being spoken and you remember things you wouldn't when you don't speak it. "It brings you together and helps you speak better."

Living in this type of housing is better than taking classes, he says. "It's certainly more practical than a regular class because in a regular class not everyone can speak at once. But here, you get hands-on experience because you get to speak the language."

And specialty housing continues to grow in popularity as universities strive to meet the needs of diverse student bodies. At U. of Southern California, students can choose from a variety of residence halls depending on their interests. Options include Latino and cinema floors and a law house, says Gabe Smith of USC's student support staff.

"The dorms are popular, especially among those who have special interests and want to meet others in the same field," says Aimee Cebulski, vice president for advocacy of the University Residential Student Community. "It's a great way to learn things outside of the classroom." ■ Cynthia Douglas, *Daily Barometer*, Oregon State U.