



## JOBS

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three-quarters were employed either full-time or part-time. About one-quarter of the respondents were continuing their education.

Communications, public relations, and advertising accounted for 10 percent of those working, and teaching accounted for another 20 percent. More than half of the English major graduates held jobs that were not directly related to their majors, and more than half were seeking other employment.

For 1990 graduates in all fields, 57 percent, held full-time career related jobs. About three-quarters of the respondents held jobs that had some relationship to their majors. An overwhelming majority of all graduates said that they were not adequately prepared for computer use — including many students who had majored in computer science.

With the possible exception of computer training, both Garfield and Morton have made sure that they are prepared for the stormy job market. Garfield is currently interning as a teacher's assistant at Harris School through the University ESCAPE program. She would like to continue working in education, but she is ready to do otherwise.

"If I don't get a real job, I plan on volunteering at a local school to keep building my resume," said Garfield. "I haven't really experienced the job market yet, so I'm still pretty positive, but I've seen what has happened to Will. I'm prepared to work in a restaurant for awhile if I have to."

What has happened to her boyfriend isn't exactly devastating, but it isn't the success that he had hoped for

*'It's been an emotional roller coaster. Learning how to cope with rejection is one thing you don't learn in school.'*

*Will Morton,  
University graduate*

either. Morton works as a free-lance reporter for radio station KUIK AM in Hillsboro. He makes \$20 per story working a city and county public affairs beat, and he generally writes five stories each week. While it is a good job for building a resume, Morton had expected more from the job market when he graduated.

"The job market was the surprise of my life," said Morton. "I was fairly optimistic and maybe a bit naive. I graduated in December and hoped that by mid-January I would have a job. Now it's near the end of May. I've talked to a ton of people and the best I can get is part-time news writing at a radio station ... My optimism has been shattered. I didn't really believe in the recession before."

According to Morton, the newspaper industry has been one of the industries hardest hit by the recession. After talking with people in the business, he has learned that if the business does come out of the recession, it will be one of the last to come out and get back on its feet.

A number of times he has spoken with editors who were interested in hiring him, but they have eventually told him that they couldn't get approval from their publishers to hire any new staff at all. Newspaper chains across the country have been "consolidating," which means that small papers have folded and any available staff positions have gone to dislocated workers who had been employed by newspa-

pers within the same chain. In short, the newspaper industry is not blossoming.

Morton said that if he had it to do over again, he may have taken a few journalism courses just so he could say that he had taken them during job interviews.

However, he doesn't believe that journalism coursework is a necessary prerequisite for landing a job in the media. The most important thing is to know people in the business.

"You can't underestimate the importance of connections," Morton said.

Garfield has other ideas about what she would have done differently when looking at her college career in review.

"Well, I wouldn't have majored in English," she said laughing.

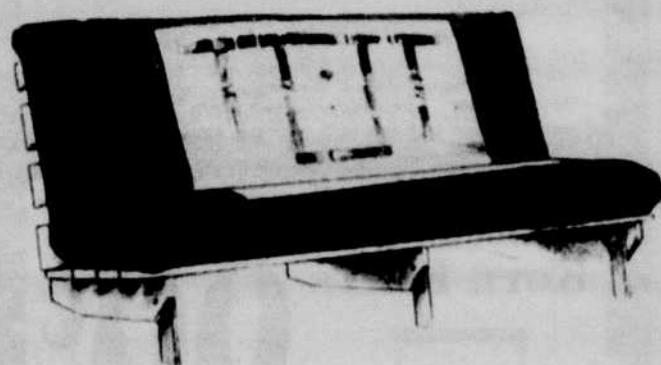
When asked if she thought this might offend some people in the English department, she said that they have 900 other students to spare, and that English is the most popular major at the University. As for other things she would have done differently, she said that she would have tried to figure out her schedule better so that it wouldn't have taken five years to graduate. She also said that she would have tried to do more internships and volunteer work around town.

Both Morton and Garfield said that maintaining their relationship is their top priority for the future. They have tentative plans to move to Massachusetts after Garfield graduates, but if things don't work out, they will just move some place that they both like and look for jobs there.

In reference to a popular novel about the ambiguity of the future of their generation, Garfield said, "You could totally call it a Generation X thing."

— Jason Jones

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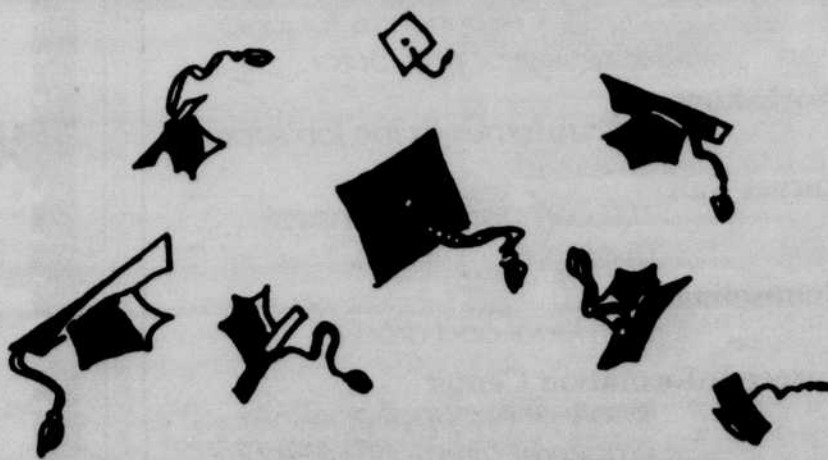
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