

Is MBA Really Necessary?

Campus Digest News Service

Many people who graduated last spring with an MBA found that having an MBA in your hand does not necessarily ensure a great-paying job, or in some cases, any job at all. The current glut number of jobs available.

More than 50,000 people received master's degrees in business last spring. Graduates of the more prestigious business schools had no difficulty finding high-paying jobs, in fact many were sought after by many different companies. But for those who received their degree from schools other than Stanford, Harvard, Wharton and the like, the picture was not so rosy. Many of them had difficulty finding recruiters to talk to much less fin-

ding openings to apply for. And many of those graduates had to settle for much lower starting salary than they had anticipated. While Harvard MBA's may start at 50,000, a lesser school's MBA graduate may be lucky to get a job offering \$20,000 in the same specialty.

Recruiting efforts vary considerably. Hundreds of companies go to the big-name business schools to recruit, while ten or twenty companies may visit some schools, providing much less opportunity for job-hunting before graduation.

Of course the graduates at those big name schools have usually paid more for their MBA than those at other schools around \$9,000 per year at a school

like Stanford.

The economy has been a big factor in the lack of job opportunities in the business field, but the increase in the number of graduates combined with fierce competition for the best jobs have also been contributing factors.

Yet the MBA continues to hold tremendous appeal.

Enrollment in MBA programs continues at record numbers. Despite having a hard time getting into the market, many people feel that the MBA will still pay off in the long run. Despite a slow start for some of the graduates, over the years, their chances for advancement within their field should be higher than those who do not hold MBA degrees.

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The Talent Show was not restricted to competition. There were some "just for fun" additions. One of these was Sheridan Simon's emceeing duty. Sheridan kept things rolling with comments about students in his various science classes, by trying to figure out which microphone to use, what Julio actually was doing down by the schoolyard, and the wonders of being a freshman advisor. During a delay, he also gracefully handled a question-and-answer session. Sheridan enjoyed emceeing the show. He liked the performances but he summed up the real cause of his pleasure: "As long as I'm talking, I'm happy."

Some of the other special features included other faculty members' contributions. Jay Van

Tassell got help from Steve Lin-vill on stories from Maine, and played his harmonica. Choir director Carol Burnett sang

"Through the Bottom of a Glass." The audience was treated to another surprise when recent Guilford graduates Tracey Welbourne and Allen Krusenstjerna teamed up with Don Howie and Lynwood Winslow on a few gospel and barbershop songs in the middle of the show. Yes, Virginia, Tracey still takes hearts away with his voice and charm.

As if all this weren't enough, just before the contest winners were announced, the audience heard a special performance by the Greensboro College Gospel choir. Although not at full force,

the choir sang fabulously and blew away everyone as they clapped along.

In the wake of such an awesome performance remember next year to support the Third Annual Talent Show—it's a lot of fun, as anyone involved will testify! Happy memories!

Lynch's Line Hip to Toe Runs Short

By Janice Lynch

How I wish my boyfriend's name was Calvin Klein. How I dream of Yves-St. Laurent measuring my inseam, noting my waist. How I long to show Pierre Cardin the statistics on women which indicate that the average woman is 5'4" tall and well over one hundred pounds. How my 5'4" tall compatriots and I would laugh to see our 5'10" sisters wearing pants to their calves. How confidently I would purchase pants, never worrying about how to hem a cuffed tailored leg by four inches. How I'd revel in my girth!

Do you remember Kermit the Frog singing, "It's Not Easy Being Green?" Well, I'm here to tap dance and sing a new song called, "It's Hard to Hem Your Pants When You Can't Reach the Legs." Please, Lord, I'm tired of tripping out of the dressing room, mortified lest someone see my fifteen-inch heels.

I'm so tired of my sisters' laughter. As sisters, of course, we often shop together. Michele is 5'6½" tall. Patricia is 5'7" tall. I circle the rack several times, looking for the

shortest leg possible. I go in the dressing room and attach radar devices to my right leg, big toe and navigational equipment to my left big toe. I then attempt to walk out for my sisters' approval. How long will I live to see them burst buttons and fall over as they laugh at me—crotch to my thighs, soles of feet where a knee should be—and waistband which could double as a bra. Next time I'm attaching heavy artillery to my little toe and shooting them in their tails.

My grandmother is no better. She suggests I try a size 5. I put it on as a leg warmer. She holds up a petite—for women under 5'4" who weigh 98 pounds—and I am forced to repeat again, "Grandmom, my hips double as a Friendly Avenue crosswalk. I'll try something else."

It's difficult to pay \$40 or \$50 for a pair of pants only to cut off six inches at the bottom. Often I am able to fashion skirts and blazers from these scraps. I give them to my sisters for Christmas. My little brother—5'10"—remains sympathetic and lets me wear his shorts—as slacks.

News on Nude Beer

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What do you do when you have a wonderful idea, then are prohibited from selling it? Of course you just try a new approach.

That's exactly what William H. Boam did. Boam, who operates WHB Manufacturing Co, came up with the idea for Nude Beer—beer cans with naked women on them. However, regulators told Boam Nude Beer was not acceptable. So Boam came up with the scratch-off bikini. He dressed his naked ladies in tiny bikinis that the consumer can scratch off with his fingernail. And thus, Nude Beer is now on the shelves.

But Boam isn't finished. Now plans are to introduce Nude Wine and Nude Beer for women, with pictures of bikini-clad males.

"On Nov. 17th, adopt a friend who smokes."



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THE GREAT AMERICAN SMOKEOUT
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it seems to me that one should not put people in situations where participants risk having bad experiences simply for the purpose of seeing how people deal with risk. Essentially, it is a laboratory experiment with participants functioning both as guinea pig and scientist, their task being to study the group dynamics of risk taking. But the risks are real, both physical and psychological.

Of course there is risk involved in any activity. But the point is, the Ropes Course creates risk artificially, placing the element of risk as the integral component of the program. To me, it is a highly questionable practice to subject vulnerable freshmen, who are already grappling with issues of identity and competition, to this kind of lab experience.

The fact that the Ropes Course is a contrived existential experience also forms the basis of my objection to its function in the realm of personal growth. It seems to me that students encounter plenty of experiences every day, such as adjusting to dorm life, that challenge them as

individuals and as groups. Students also have experiences with unusual events like natural disasters or personal catastrophes which often prove to bring out the highest in human potential. The tendency to romanticize crisis experiences by the popular imagination in books and movies where a group of people is involved in a disaster and exhibit powerful moral and physical strengths to overcome their situation shows up once again in the philosophy of the Ropes Course where the crisis situation is artificially contrived.

While these existential experiences, whether genuine ones like dorm life or team sports, or artificial ones like the Ropes Course, can and do bring about the wonderful phenomenon of real trust and intimacy, it seems wrong to me to contrive a situation where this is expected. Forcing this kind of intimacy which is a kind of love that is too often the mere gestures of love, especially on confused and vulnerable freshmen, is false and highly manipulative.

The expectation that par-

ticipants reach this almost spiritual experience of love and trust is the aspect of the Ropes Course which has proven to be the most disturbing to me. But until I saw the Ropes Course in the context of Guilford College I merely felt an elusive misgiving about it. Although advocates of the Ropes Course would argue that they do not insist that participants have a spiritual experience, it seems to me that unless a genuine group love is realized, the Ropes Course becomes self-defeating. The program aims to do more than provide an opportunity for participants to showcase and develop their physical capabilities, but that is what remains if the spiritual quality is missing. And what makes this problem especially apparent at Guilford College is that expecting participants to manufacture a spiritual quality goes against the Quaker ideal of acting as the spirit moves you. Perhaps Guilford College should reexamine the philosophy of the Ropes Course.

Sincerely,
Rachel Purpel

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