

Employment outlook sharpens according to new study

Employers nationwide are forecasting a sharply improved job situation during the coming three months, according to the findings of the Employment Outlook Survey conducted by Manpower, Inc.

According to the quarterly poll of more than 11,175 employers in 348 cities, a significant number of firms plan to hire additional workers during the second quarter of 1983 (April, May, June), while the pace of staff reductions will diminish dramatically. Overall, the job outlook is vastly improved over last year at this time.

Nationwide, the 21% of employers planning to increase staff size represents the highest level since 1981. For the second quarter of 1982, 10% had planned staff additions, but this was dulled by 13% of the respondents who expected staff cutbacks.

Companies that will decrease employment fell from

last year's 13% to 8% this year, the lowest level since 1980. Also, 69% plan no changes for the next three months and 2% are unsure of their plans. Last year, 65% planned no changes in staff levels and 3% were unsure of their plans.

Manpower President Mitchell S. Fromstein attributed the results to a cautious but still very solid rise in business confidence. "The most dramatic improvement in job opportunities is expected to occur in those sectors which were hardest hit during the recession — construction and manufacturing of durable goods. Jobseekers in the troubled Midwest are likely to find a much improved job climate with survey figures the best reported for that region of any quarter during the past three years."

Major improvements are also visible in the finance, insurance and real estate sec-

tor and in wholesale and retail trade. Also improved, but to a lesser degree than the former groups, are manufacturing of non-durable goods, the transportation and public utilities sector and education. Only the services sector, which suffered least from recessionary layoffs, shows no increase in employment levels from those reported one year ago.

Geographic regions, like economic sectors, are expected to show the sharpest improvement where the recession hit hardest. The Midwest reports the largest gain in employment opportunities. Southern jobseekers are likely to find an improved job climate, but considerably less dramatic than that in the Midwest. In the Northeast and West, an expected upward movement in job prospects based on seasonal factors is predicted, but the upswing is no greater than that reported last year at this time.

Family music is crafty

by Sally Perry
Debarge, "All This Love"***

All this talent is all in the family with this musically gifted quintet.

With the design wizardry of one sibling or another, the group delivers, although not an artistic triumph the first time around, but an album packed with enough of the formulaic gimmicks that guarantee any new artists commercial if not critical success.

Since this is the first outing on vinyl for the group, the angle from Daddy Barry Gordy is to sell records and establish audience now; concentrate on meaningful lyrics later.

It's hard not to like such an attractive group, but lyrics like "all this love is waiting for you — my baby, my darling" from the album's title cut make you wonder if they

either want to be famous or make music.

Despite the care that went into this first album production, the effort delivers only two impressive songs. "I Like It," a pleasing soprano melody, is delivered in the style of "We gotta make this stick." Nothing great, but enough panache to (hopefully) whet the musical appetites of a young audience who, fortunately for the commercial backers of this album, don't pay any attention to lyrics anyway. "Stop! Don't Tease Me" is an adequate dance number.

One can't help but wonder just how old these kids are. Sure, they are extremely talented musicians, but the vocals are as unconvincing and strained as they would be if Pavarotti did "Super Freak."

Nevertheless, family groups (B. Gordy is big on families)

like Debarge (four boys and a girl) do have mass appeal. That is, if they can generate enough excitement like the Jacksons, the Temptations and the Supremes did for the Gordy machine back in the '60's and early '70's.

"It's Getting Stronger" sung by Bunny and Eldra Debarge (I'm not sure who sings what verse) has an impressive horn arrangement by Daniel LeMelle. "Can't Stop" is the only cut on the album whose arrangement isn't a regurgitated version of the same orchestration.

Here's hoping that Mr. Gordy uses his impressario gifts to steer the group in a better artistic direction. Lord knows, he has the track record to give aspiring hopefuls a taste of success.

Rating system for Sally's Picks 'n Pans:
* = Smash it and trash it; ** = Almost but no cigar; *** = Good but not great; **** = Fantastic.

Murphy dazzles

by Tamara
"48 Hrs." Starring Eddie Murphy and Nick Nolte.

The miracle is that Eddie Murphy redeems this steamy plot of a movie.

In fact E. M. turns slime into Oil of Olay.

But first, the muck. Take your basic "Dirty Harry" plot, add the old macho side-kicks routine laced with racial distrust, inflate the script with as much raw filth as a scenario can contain without dire need of a laxative, and you have "48 Hrs."

The plot is dazzlingly original. You just won't believe it. There's this psychotic killer on the loose, see? In San Francisco, of all the unlikely places! How's that for "the death?"

In the murderer's past, there has been a million-dollar drug rip-off, and in his present, there are prostitutes. He uses the hookers for shields during gun-battles.

The plot grows even more inventive! You could say the movie coins a brand-new expression—"It takes a thief to catch a thief." Sheer poetry.

So police detective Jack Cates (Nolte) recruits convict Reggie Hammond (Murphy), a former cohort of the killer, to apprehend the felon. Well, I just never! But there's a hitch: the authorities will release Reggie for only two days. *Voila!* 48 Hrs. That's called suspense, folks.

For characterization, the writers give Murphy a fancy suit and a lifetime supply of low-rent one-liners (Eddie gets a lot more latitude on the tube). Nolte, a reputable actor, receives even more: a lifetime supply of cigarettes to chain-smoke, a bottomless flask of whiskey and woman troubles (It's a wonder Nolte survived the filming of "48 Hrs.>").

For novelty, Nolte has a crush on his crumpled, sky-blue Cadillac. How's that for role reversal and the transformation of racial stereotypes? A "w.b." in love with his Caddy. We've come a long way, babies.

Enough of the plot, which is below description. Think skin and blood, and you've got it.

Despite all these deficits, the movie proves something we've known for at least a year—that Eddie Murphy is the most engaging comedian to appear in America since Richard Pryor.

His presence consists of a beguiling innocence (he's the man every girls wants to take home), fluidity (even standing still, he seems to be everywhere) and a gift for goofy impersonation.

The best reason for attending the movie is to watch Eddie hassle a bar crammed with rednecks. Secondary reasons for buying a ticket include Murphy's performance from the first scene to the last.

As soon as we see him alone in a jail cell, wearing ear-phones and wailing to the Police's "Roxanne (Don't Put on the Red Light)," the movie blooms. It dies whenever the camera leaves him.

As for Nolte, his role represents a career regression. Believe it or not, ladies, Nick's not just another pretty face. He was outstanding in "Who'll Stop the Rain?"—an underestimated film based on Robert Stone's novel "Dog Soldiers"—and "North Dallas Forty."

Incidentally, you'll never guess where the climax of "48 Hrs." occurs. What neighborhood in San Francisco contains the most fortune cookies?

Women seek satisfaction in careers as well as homes

NEW YORK, N. Y.—A recent survey on the attitudes of black women indicates that, despite the unique social and economic difficulties they face as a group, they are more determined than ever to find fulfillment in their careers and personal relationships.

These findings appear in the December issue of *Essence* magazine and are based on the results of a questionnaire published in the magazine in February of 1982. The editors of *Essence*, which has

a monthly readership of over two million black women, developed the survey with the assistance of clinical psychologist, Dr. Mari Saunders. More than 25,000 responses were received and they were tabulated by the marketing and research firm of Leslie A. Riffkin and Associates.

Titled "How Are You Feeling?" the survey probed readers on 41 questions covering their financial status, professional ambitions, self-image, and feelings about

their friends, family and future.

The results contained some unexpected answers. For example, while more than half said that relief from financial pressures would improve the quality of their lives, less than one percent felt that more money alone would bring them happiness.

Over 70 percent found their responsibilities as mothers made them "a stronger person," and over half want their men to share the duties of child-rearing.

she reads, plays tennis, goes bicycling, refinishes furniture and collects brass.

When Faison first came to Bennett, she worked as a residence director in Jones Hall. During her second year she was switched to admissions. "I felt like working in admissions and being a counselor would be a challenge," she recalls. To travel and to represent herself in an administrative role was what she wanted to do in the beginning, but she settled for residence director.

The hardest part of her job is keeping up with little receipts for reimbursements. She also states that it's hard trying to convince students to come to Bennett because it's an all-female college.

"I feel very happy and versatile, but I'm displeased with the mobility of my career," she says.

Recruiter is on the move

by Sheila Foxworth

With her outgoing disposition and pleasant personality, Barbara Faison is always on the go.

Recruiting is Faison's life. Her job includes traveling extensively, being a good salesperson, evaluating transcripts, interviewing students, carrying out college day programs, hospitality receptions and campus visitation programs.

She has really proved herself as a recruiter. Last fall she was on the freshman orientation committee for which she sponsored the freshman talent show and the tour to Burlington Mall.

Faison enjoys many aspects of her job because she can be independent. The easiest part of her job is talking with students and counselors and attending college day programs.

"I'm genuinely concerned about the welfare of each student that I have recruited to come to Bennett to get the best education possible."

"A lot of students have a stigma about all-women colleges because they think guys are not allowed and homosexual activity takes place. I tell the students that Bennett is a normal college and it's no different than any other college except we only enroll women."

Overall, the students she comes in contact with are interested in Bennett because it's a single-sex college and also it's small.

The hard-working woman from Clinton, attended North Carolina A&T State University where she received a B.A. degree in psychology, and continued to graduate school, receiving her M.A. last May. In her spare time "if any"

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