

Job Market 'Slightly' Better In 1986

Students who graduate in 1986 will enjoy "slightly" better prospects for landing a job than 1985 grads, the College Placement Council (CPC) predicts.

All told, American businesses expect to hire about two percent more grads next year, the CPC found in its annual mid-year assessment of the student job market.

The CPC's report, the first of three national job outlook surveys published by major agencies in November and December of each year, forecasts better times ahead for most kinds of majors.

But last year, the CPC's rosy predictions of a bumper job market for college grads did not come true, in part because of

the computer industry slump.

"The recovery slowed down to some degree," explains CPC spokeswoman Rhea Nagle. "The big fall-off in the Silicon Valley was the category we were off in."

This year "there will be plenty of opportunities (for computer majors) outside the computer industry," says John Shingleton, placement director at Michigan State and the sponsor of another of the annual job outlooks.

Shingleton expects his report to appear in a few weeks, and that it also will indicate a "slightly" better job market for the Class of 1986.

He also predicts starting salaries will rise more slowly

than the Cost of Living Index compiled by the federal government.

In the CPC survey, firms said they expected to hire seven percent more business grads than last year. They also forecast having four percent more openings for masters of business administration, although last year was a bad one for MBAs.

Students with degrees in science, math, and technical disciplines — excluding engineering — should also experience a slightly improved job market, CPC predicts. Employers expect to hire three percent more bachelor's grads in these areas and 13 percent more who have a master's, CPC data show.

Employers' predictions of engineering grads' prospects "are contradictory," Nagle says. "Employers are saying one thing, but when they project figures, those figures show a decline."

The data indicate corporations will hire five percent fewer grads this year, but in interviews engineering executives thought there would be a rising demand for engineers, explains Nagle.

"It's particularly surprising at the bachelor's level because they have been the most sought after for a number of years," she adds.

Companies expect to have seven percent more job openings for engineering students

with advanced degrees, however.

Liberal arts majors face a similarly confusing job market.

While the data show companies anticipate hiring three percent fewer liberal arts majors in the coming year, many employers say they are increasingly interested in hiring humanities students, Nagle says.

The rising interest of employers, if in fact true, "is a positive note for liberal arts grads," she says. "It shows employers recognize the value of the skills liberal arts majors have."

Of the contradictions in the survey responses, Nagle speculates, "Maybe if the survey was bigger, the results would have been different."

Bishops Confident As Basketball Opens

Despite a tough schedule and seven freshmen players, first year NCWC basketball coach Jeff Reynolds feels "we have the ability to have a fine season and just as good a chance as any time in the conference to win the title."

Coach Reynolds says he'll look to seniors Jack Martine and Daniel Wright to lead the team in scoring. Wright will also be the key rebounder and will get a lot of help from junior Chuck Hoffman and sophomore John Brackett. Martine, Wright, and juniors David Gruver and Lloyd Watts will provide leadership on the floor for the Bishops this season.

The Bishops look to have a well-rounded team for the 1985-86 season, but Reynolds feels his team's success will depend on "how well we mesh as a

team, play on the road, and how much contribution we get out of our freshmen."

This year's schedule sees the Bishops on the road for the first three weeks of the season with six away games before they come home for the Wesleyan Tourney on Dec. 6-7. "Any time you open with the first six games away as we do, and a young team as we have, I think every game is tough," commented Coach Reynolds on this year's schedule.

Perhaps one of the toughest teams the Bishops will face this year was Castleton State, whom they played in the first round of the Washington and Lee Tourney on Nov. 22. Castleton State returns three starters from last year's team, which has had a record of 49-9 over the past two seasons and was in the NAIA Tourney Finals last year.

Also tough outside the conference will be Shepherd College. Shepherd is also a NAIA school, which annually awards 12 full scholarships to their players. They return all five starters from last year and Coach Reynolds says they will "be very, very good." The Bishops may meet Shepherd in the Newport News Tourney on Nov. 29-30.

In the conference, Coach Reynolds says Greensboro College, St. Andrews, and Christopher Newport look like the top three contenders at this stage. However, Reynolds said, "There is no team that sticks out as a hands-down pick to get all the votes to win the conference."

He added that UNC-Greensboro, Virginia Wesleyan, Methodist, and Averett will also have good teams. "I think the league is as balanced as it has ever been," said Reynolds.



DR. WINFIELD WILHITE
Former Professor Dies In Michigan

Dr. Winfield Lyle Willhite, former professor of business administration at North Carolina Wesleyan College died Friday in his home in Mount Pleasant, Mich. Willhite was 72.

Willhite was a member of the Wesleyan faculty from 1976 till 1984. He was named Professor of the Year at Wesleyan many times and was a respected and popular educator.

"Dr. Willhite was loved and respected by his students, colleagues and friends in the local community," Dr. S. Bruce Peteway, Wesleyan president, said. "He will be remembered with a great deal of respect and affection by all who knew him."

While in Rocky Mount Willhite served on the city's New Decade Committee and the Rocky Mount Area Chamber of Commerce Economic Development Committee. He was also chairman of the Faculty Council at Wesleyan College.

A memorial service for Willhite was held on Campus in the Leon Russell Chapel on Dec. 3.

Bookstore Has Wide Variety of Offerings

The College Bookstore, located in the Student Union Building, is operated primarily for the students' benefit. This Bookstore does not merely sell books, however. It also supplies textbooks, school supplies, health products, clothing, and college souvenirs.

Open Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. with additional hours as needed, the Bookstore is governed by Ray Kirkland and operated by Rachel Dormagen. Students assist Dormagen as part-time help, funded through the work-study program, but Dormagen is the only full-time employee.

Students who work at the Bookstore gain experience in the areas of cashier and sales, stocking, and inventories while paid by federal funding. This funding helps Wesleyan considerably.

In the early 1960's, Wesleyan

was struggling financially. Consequently, a government bond was set up for the Student Union Building to pay for some of the expenses. The Bookstore is considered a non-profit organization but some profit is made.

"All the profits made go directly to the federal government to pay off the bond," stated Dormagen. Prices on the merchandise are marked up five percent to cover the costs of freight in and out, labor costs and utilities. This markup was decided by the college.

Rachel Dormagen has worked in the bookstore for the last six years after taking summer courses at Oberlin College in Ohio. She is now qualified as a professional bookstore manager. Since Dormagen has been working at the College Store, the addition of a new bookroom has been added, giving it a more professional look.

Sigma Pi Aims For Affiliation

(Continued from Page 1)

driver program wear buttons that say "I'm Driving" and receive free non-alcoholic beverages at participating bars. The bars which are presently participating are the Villager Pub, the Carleton House Lounge, and Trax. Sigma Pi plans to advertise the designated driver program on the radio.

Sigma Pi also plans to help with the Volunteers-for-Youth Christmas Party.

Sigma Pi's vice-President, Jamie Thorn, is pleased with the group's emphasis on community service. Thorn says, "We're helping the community, and that's what fraternities should be all about."

The Decree

OFFICIAL STUDENT NEWSPAPER OF
NORTH CAROLINA WESLEYAN COLLEGE

Editorial Board

Richard Beaupre
Scott Booker
John Pridgen
Nina Solomon
Timothy Taylor
Pathik Vyas

Photo Editor

The Decree office is located in the Student Union, North Carolina Wesleyan College, Wesleyan College Station, Rocky Mount, N. C. 27801. Editorial Policy is determined by the Editorial Board of The Decree. Republications of any matter herein without the express consent of the Editorial Board is strictly forbidden.

Opinions published do not necessarily represent those of North Carolina Wesleyan College.