

Viewpoint

Job search 91': Seniors are asking for experience

The year is 1991. The economy is not at its best. They know. Jobs are not as easy to find. They know. As a matter of fact, most people are not hiring. They know.

The graduating class of 1991 may not have their feet in the door yet, but they are not stupid.

Applying for a job and getting an opportunity to interview is tough enough. But to hear, "I don't envy you trying to get a job these days," from behind the desk of a person with their arms crossed over their chest, is enough to dampen their spirits, let alone discourage them from even trying.

Seniors don't envy themselves trying to secure jobs at this point in time either. They know it's not going to be "Bye-bye Elon, hello corner office with a view of the bay."

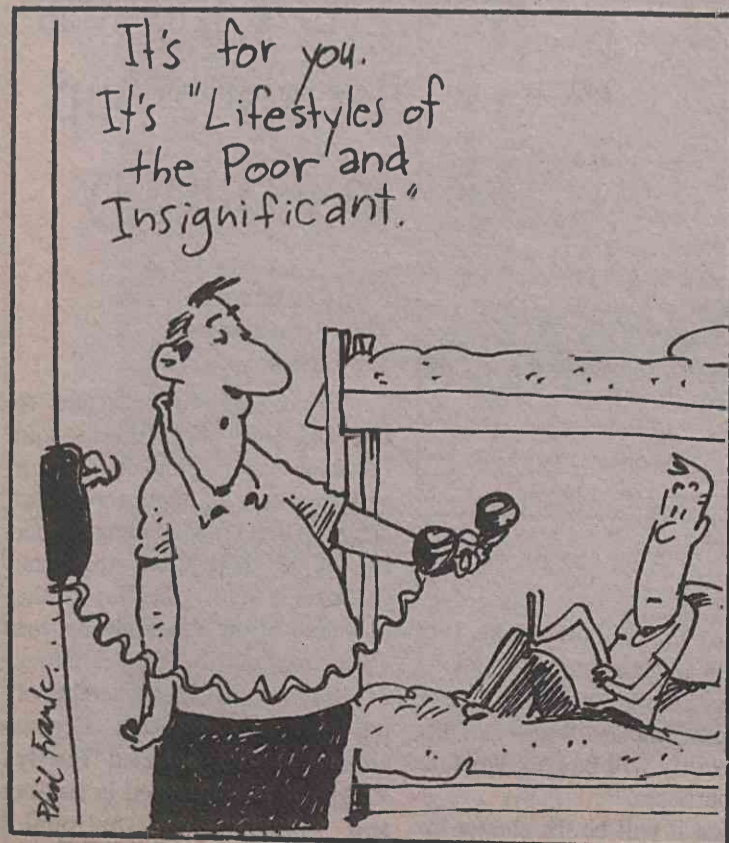
Seniors just want a chance to break into the work force. They want a chance to work and prove their potential. After all, they didn't go to college for nothing. They're not asking for the top, they're asking for experience.

So it may not be the best time to land a job, but they've got to work. Somebody, somewhere, has got to open up and let them test their wings.

If they don't get to try, they'll never learn how to fly.

Frankly Speaking

by Phil Frank



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Students under fire

Robert Treadway

Imagine this: you are sleeping soundly and peacefully, and have been for some time. Suddenly, you are required to leap out of your warm bed, dress hurriedly in pitch-like darkness, and run out to your car, which is parked, in the dark, across two hundred feet of grass and parking lot.

You then have to put on nearly forty pounds of protective apparatus and clothing, use all of your strength to carry it around and use hundreds of pounds of uncooperative equipment, and do so while having your breathing restricted. You endure extremes of heat and cold, and end up feeling like you've got a permanent head cold, arthritis and two broken arms.

After you finish, you get to wash down all of the equipment you used and put it back in its original condition. Two hours later, you have to wake up to go take a test in your eight-o'clock English class.

For the six students from Elon College, who are members of the Elon College Volunteer



Student firefighters fight fires as well as regular academic requirements.

Fire Department, the scenario described above occurs, on average, about every five weeks; a multitude of equally important but less disorienting calls fill the time in between. They not only bear the stresses imposed by a full-time academic load, but also actively participate in the community as volunteer firefighters. Incidentally, if you thought *college* was tough, *Fire Chief* magazine recently ranked firefighting as the *number one* stressful occupation worldwide, surpassing even law enforcement.

Clint Gantos, husband, father,

junior and firefighter, plays football for the Fighting Christians, at the position of free safety. He carries a full-time academic load and is active in the town of Elon College as a church member and community leader.

Lee Potter is a second-semester freshman, taking a full load of courses. He hails from Palm Beach, Florida, where he is also a firefighter with some two years of experience.

Erik Stromberg, a sophomore, not only firefights, but also acts as an Emergency

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Students should not be penalized for skipping class

To the Editor:

I feel that Elon College professors and departments should not impose attendance policies for their classes.

Attendance policies were created to keep the teachers from getting lonely on a warm spring afternoon or a cold winter morning. It gives them a false sense of "My students care enough about my class to show up."

Professors try to justify attendance policies by telling students horror stories about the Real World. They tell us that we won't be able to skip business meetings or take the day off to shoot a round of golf or go bass fishing. I sort of agree with this logic. . . but. . . I also feel that

"Professors try to justify attendance policies by telling students horror stories about the Real World."

attendance policies are not going to give us the self control we need to make it in the Real World. It takes a lot more than just being able to drag our butts out of bed by a certain time in the morning.

The real challenge here is to be good enough so that you can afford to do the things you enjoy. Like heading for the beach for an

afternoon. If you can get your act together and take care of your business without going to every class meeting, I say you are doing OK.

I once had a roommate who rarely went to his 1:30 classes in the spring so that he could play volleyball. He did well in the class and had his fun.

I'm not telling everyone to skip classes. I'm merely suggesting that students should not be penalized for skipping if they feel they can afford it.

The only thing I see attendance policies doing is providing a convenient environment for the transmission of flu viruses.

Chuck Shultz