



Regardless of the profession, work days prove far more demanding than many people realize.

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Volume 84 No. 5

Grimsley High School

January 31, 2012

801 Westover Terrace  
Greensboro, NC 27408

## the high LIFE

“ Are Tebow's actions commendable, or is he going too far in spreading a message of Christianity? Since he is an idol, he holds influence over many people, especially children who may look up to him.

- Jacob Sechter



### News

Soon to be forced into early retirement are civilians working for the US Army due to decreases in budget.

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## College graduates discover grim job prospects in struggling economy

BY KAT ELLIOTT  
& CLAY MILLSAPS  
Features Editor & Reporter

As the economy continues to decline during what some call "The Great Recession," finding jobs is growing much more difficult than ever before, especially in the case of new college graduates. The unemployment rate for recent college graduates has risen to approximately five percent. The old way of thinking was that if one attended college, became well educated, and acquired a degree, securing employment would be almost guaranteed. Then the dream would extend to purchasing a beautiful home and a stylish automobile and being able to support oneself without parental assistance. Unfortunately, numerous college graduates have recently learned that a sheepskin diploma no longer guarantees that such wishes will come true.

Joblessness among those with advanced educations probably drove the overall rate higher, as that group makes up 30 percent of the labor force, the single biggest sector. According

to NACEweb.com, government figures show there were 2.4 million unemployed people in October of 2011 with bachelor's degrees and higher. In October, the unemployment rate for associate degree graduates in the 20 to 24 year-old age range was 9.6 percent; however, it dipped to 7.3 percent for associate degree graduates in the 25 to 65 year-old age range.

USA Today's website published that for bachelor's degree graduates, the unemployment rate was 7.7 percent for workers aged 20 to 24 years old and just 4.5 percent for those 25 to 65 years old. The unemployment rates for these groups of graduates have remained relatively consistent from October 2010. The biggest shift has occurred at the bachelor's degree level, where the rate for graduates in both age groups has dropped several percentages.

Not only does the job market seem unpromising, but the college loans are haunting young adults. With no income, the unemployed college graduate begins wondering if attending college was the right

decision after all. Sometimes these loans can run up to several thousand dollars, which can be difficult to pay off depending upon the financial condition of the family. If the parents are not able to help with these bills, even more pressure builds for graduates to find a stable, good paying job or even to find multiple jobs.

In July of this year, The Huffington Post listed online the top, best-paying majors for graduates. Educators were not lying when they said that science and math are the two subjects most critical to the future. Numerous types of engineering majors all appeared in the top 14 of the list, which included petroleum, nuclear, and electrical, as well as course of studies like economics, computer science, applied mathematics, and physics. Through all of these majors, the smallest starting pay was \$47,300, but the mid-career median salary rose to the \$150,000 to \$200,000 range.

Since The Huffington Post posted the top paying jobs, the online publication decided to list the majors that earned

the poorest salaries. How sad that the many of the majors related to aiding the public, such as Athletic Training, Elementary and Special Education, Children and Family Studies, Social Work, and Culinary Arts, offered minimum beginning salaries at \$29,000 with the mid-career median salary barely rising \$15,000 on average.

College graduates still fare better than their peers with only a high school diploma, but even their job prospects are few. The unemployment rate for students with just a high school education staggers at about 14 percent, while students with at least a college degree have an unemployment rate near 4 or 5 percent. Having only a high school education or even less drastically reduces the chances of finding a reasonably paying job.

If the economy begins an upward slope, it may become easier for new college graduates to find work, but trends make it seem that college graduates will remain trapped in this position for at least a couple more years.

## Sandusky case prompts victims across the nation to speak up

BY CLAY MILLSAPS  
Reporter

Issues of molestation have spread across the nation, beginning with Penn State's former assistant football coach Jerry Sandusky. Since he was charged with 52 counts of molestation involving young boys over the past decade, many other molestation cases have surfaced since mid-November.

It seems that as soon as a volatile issue in one field arises, several other related stories pop up simultaneously, such as the sexual harassment claims involving the previous Republican presidential candidate Herman Cain to Bernie Fine, another assistant coach, this time in basketball from Syracuse University.

After a three-year investigation that explored allegations of Sandusky having inappro-

appropriate contact with a 15-year-old boy over the course of four years, the indictment was made public. The boy's parents reported the incident to police in 2009. The jury identified eight boys who had been singled out for sexual advances or sexual assaults by Sandusky, taking place between 1994 and 2009.

At least 20 of the incidents allegedly took place while Sandusky was still employed at Penn State. Since Sandusky has been accused of these despicable crimes, he has resigned from his position as assistant coach at Penn State and awaits a scheduled court date.

Several other cases publicized included that of Herman Cain, who faces multiple charges of sexual abuse. Unlike Sandusky's accusations, he has not been sexually active with young boys, but rather faces

charges for sexually assaulting women. Four different women have come forward, one of whom appeared publicly to announce that she had been harassed. Each of these indictments is fairly similar; all the women claimed that Cain acted and touched them in ways that angered them. Most who accused him once worked for Cain. With no surprise, these claims have resulted in his campaign's demise, thus causing him to be very unpopular with the American public. Cain is no longer a front runner for the Republican Party because of these charges.

Syracuse University also fell victim to bad publicity because of a long-standing assistant basketball coach, Bernie Fine. Two former basketball players accused him of molesting them back in the 1980's, but state prosecutors will not place

any criminal charges against Fine for the alleged abuse, which the coach adamantly denies. The statute of limitations in both cases expired nearly two decades ago, just two years after his accusers, who are now in their late 30s, passed their 18th birthdays. They cannot sue Fine either. Under state law, the two men needed to file a civil suit against him before they turned 23.

Fine would not have fared nearly as well elsewhere in the country. In a growing number of states, legal reforms now allow victims of childhood sexual abuse to seek civil damages and criminal charges against their alleged abusers many years after reaching adulthood. Such reforms are an acknowledgement of substantial research demonstrating that abuse victims often require an extensive period of time before they are ready to confront their abusers.