

A&M placement office expects good job market

By **TIMOTHY SAGER**
Battalion Staff Writer

December graduates in most academic disciplines can look forward to a good job market, according to Louis J. Van Pelt, director of placement at Texas A&M.

Van Pelt said in an interview yesterday that it will be another two weeks before most companies invite graduates for site visits, follow-up interviews and extend definite offers of employment.

"We're not in the period yet where a lot of firm offers are being made," said Van Pelt. "We'll be seeing that in about two weeks."

Van Pelt and J. Malon Southerland, coordinator of educational placement services at A&M, broke down the job outlook by academic college as follows:

Geosciences

"We will do very well in the geosciences," Van Pelt said. "There is a steady demand in geophysics, geology, oceanography — especially geological oceanography — and all undergraduate geosciences."

Engineering

"In all of the engineering disciplines it will be for us as good as it has ever been—which has been fantastic," Van Pelt said. "The salaries being offered our engineering graduates are considerably higher than the national average."

Business Administration

There will be more job offers for accountants this semester, but there will also be more accountants graduating, Van Pelt said.

All of the major accounting firms recruit on the A&M campus, Van Pelt said, as well as such companies

as oil and power companies which hire their own accountants.

Finance majors with directed electives in economics and accounting should also do well.

Science

Southerland said that most of the employment activities in this college are carried on within the college. Many science majors also go on for graduate degrees because they are needed for the work students are interested in.

Southerland added that there has been some demand for chemistry majors from companies that are usually more interested in hiring chemical engineers.

Agriculture

"Agriculture is as stable as it has ever been," Van Pelt said. Southerland said that agricultural education is also doing very well this semester.

Liberal Arts

Van Pelt said, "In liberal arts on the undergraduate level the student is going to have to work harder, have more interviews, look harder and for a longer period of time."

"There are so many curricula in liberal arts that are not truly vocationally oriented," Van Pelt explained. "They produce a well-rounded college graduate, but they don't produce an accountant or an engineer or an architect. If you're a graduate in a discipline that isn't vocationally oriented it's just going to be harder to find a job."

Education

"Last year we did very well in the college of education," Southerland said, "as a matter of fact, I'm not

aware of a teacher that did not get a job with the exception of 27 who would not consider positions outside the Bryan-College Station area."

Southerland said that this should be an average job market for December graduates, which means it will be slow since few positions are available at the Christmas break.

"There is a large national surplus of teachers," Southerland said, "but we're just now beginning to see it in Texas and not to the point where it's affecting Aggies getting jobs."

Graduate College

Southerland said, "It's fairly tough across the board for Ph. D.'s. The only exception to this seems to be in petroleum engineering and related energy fields."

This is at least the second year that the Ph. D. market has been considerably down, Van Pelt added.

As many major companies recruit at A&M as recruit at any campus in the Southwest, Van Pelt said. This does not include the University of Houston where many small Houston firms might just look for one employee.

Van Pelt said that the best way to impress recruiters favorably is to be, "prompt, neat, and prepared."

"A lot of what it takes to make a good impression is something you should have been doing for four years," Van Pelt said. "You should have the GPR; you should be a member of your professional society; you should be active in campus organizations."

"The student going into an interview should at all costs know as much as possible about the employer's organization."

Students interested in finding a

job through A&M's placement center can register two semesters before they are scheduled to graduate. The center's offices are on the 10th floor of the Rudder Tower.

Van Pelt said that he would be glad to see students as early as their sophomore year to help them with employment related decisions.

HEW proposes major program for handicapped

The Education office of the U.S. Department of Health, Education and Welfare proposed regulations to set up regional education programs for the handicapped last Tuesday.

The programs would help handicapped students to participate in a school's regular education program and to compete academically with non-handicapped students.

The proposals would mean adding interpreters for the deaf, notetakers and readers, wheelchair attendants and provide job placements with followups. It would also include guidance counselors and instructional aids.

The Regional Education Program will award grants to junior and community colleges, vocational and technical institutions, and other non-profit educational agencies.

The program is established and funded under Part C of the Education for the Handicapped Act.

Priority will be given to programs serving multi-state regions or large population centers, those adapting existing programs to the special needs of the handicapped and those serving areas where a need for such services is clearly demonstrated.



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MEETINGS SCHEDULED

Lamarque-Texas City HTC will meet Thursday at 7:30 in Room 225 MSC.

The Sailing Club will meet Thursday at 7:30 in Room 212 MSC.

The Panhandle HTC will meet Thursday at 7:30 p.m. in Room 504 in Rudder Tower.

The Bowling Club will meet Thursday at 7:30 p.m. at the MSC Bowling Lanes.

The Veterans Club will meet Thursday at 8 p.m. at Karl's Restaurant on Hwy. 30.

The Electrical Engineering Student Wives Club will meet Thursday at 7:30 p.m. at Bob's Green Thumb Nursery on Texas Ave.

The Freshman Ag Society Mixer will meet Thursday at 7 p.m. in Room 226-228 in the MSC.

The Civilian Bonfire Committee will meet Thursday at 7 p.m. in Room 510 in Rudder Tower.

The Soccer Club will meet Thursday at 7 p.m. in Room 401 in Rudder Tower.

The Racquet Ball Club will meet Thursday at 7:30 in Room 137 MSC.

The Outdoor Recreation will meet Thursday at 7:30 in Room 607 in Rudder Tower.

Women's Awareness will meet Thursday at 7:30 in Room 308 in Rudder Tower.

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