

# Students get taste of real business world

WASHINGTON — In communities all over the United States, 200,000 young people are learning how to succeed in business by really trying.

Two national organizations, Future Business Leaders of America, for high school students, and Phi Beta Lambda, its collegiate counterpart, are giving young people a taste of the business world.

"As a high school student you're ignorant of what goes on in the business community," said Donna Bristow, 19, a University of Kentucky sophomore. "FBLA and PBL give you a reason to go out into the business community and ask questions."

The objective of the two groups is to stir interest in business and ease the transition from school to work.

They bring business people into the classroom to talk about free enterprise and business careers and take students into factories and offices.

Among the many firms that pitch in with financial support, speakers and judges for FBLA events are Coca-Cola, IBM, McDonald's and Mobil Oil.

In one recent program, 30 Washington-area students took on the planning and building of an imaginary 400-room luxury hotel.

"They consulted with architects, lending institutions and did a feasibility study," said Edward Miller, national FBLA-PBL president.

Erie Hilton, vice president of the Hilton Hotels Corp., presented the students with certificates for their participation in the project.

In Little Rock, Ark., FBLA members "worked with the local bank's credit card department and learned how to establish credit," Miller said.

Using what they learned in the bank, they formed their own credit card system that allowed them to charge purchases at local businesses.

In Greensboro, S.C., Miller said, Burlington Industries funds area FBLA programs. "There are many other companies supporting us on the local level."

"We've had a lot of support in smaller communities," Miller said. "The members of the National Federation of Independent Businessmen and independent insurance

agents in towns everywhere have helped out."

Every year, members from across the country vie for national awards. Competitors give speeches, take written tests and are interviewed by judges from the business community.

"Quite often," said Miller, judges are so impressed they say, "I would really like to have this person on my staff."

"FBLA gives you a chance to get involved and get active," said national president, Stuart Fulton, 18, of Ft. Collins, Colo.

"I knew I wanted a career in business," said Fulton. FBLA has helped him learn "what's expected from a businessman."

Both students agree that participation builds confidence. "I've seen students who were frightened to death to get up before an English class and give a book report," Bristow said.

Because of experience in the program they have become competent public speakers, she said.

"There is an absolute need for students to understand business," Miller said.

Bristow agreed saying "So many schools don't require any economics, and it's so important to know how free enterprise works."

Miller said support from the business community has been "exceptional" and the groups hope continued support will enable them to plan more projects. "We want to let business know," Miller said, "that there are a quarter of a million students out there with a positive attitude about business and a need to work with business."

## Almanac

United Press International  
Today is Thursday, Feb. 21, the 52nd day of 1980 with 314 to follow. The moon is moving toward its first quarter. The morning stars are Mars, Jupiter and Saturn. The evening stars are Mercury and Venus. Those born on this day are under the sign of Pisces.

On this date in history:  
In 1878, the New Haven, Conn., Telephone Company published the first phone book. It listed 50 subscribers.

In 1885, the Washington Monument was dedicated, 37 years after the start of construction.

In 1965, Black Muslim leader Malcolm X was fatally shot at a rally in New York City.

In 1975, Judge John Sirica sentenced former Nixon administration officials John Mitchell, H.R. Haldeman and John Ehrlichman to prison for their roles in the Watergate cover-up.

A thought for the day: American patriot Thomas Paine said, "Those who expect to reap the blessings of freedom must undergo the fatigue of supporting it."

## Teacher says Russian students not hostile to U.S. counterparts

United Press International  
GRAND JUNCTION, Colo. — Soviet students are generally fond of their American counterparts and reserve their hostilities for the Chinese, says a teacher who recently spent two months in Russia.

Ruth Warner, 29, of Grand Junction, and five other American teachers worked with Russian students under a program sponsored by the American Field Service and Soviet Ministry of Education.

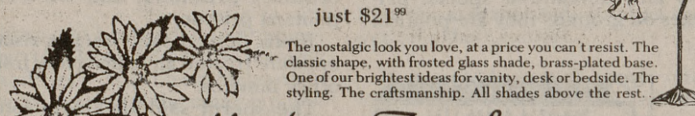
Warner, who teaches German and Russian at Grand Junction High School, said Russian students received a better education than their American counterparts.

She said while students in the Soviet Union are required to attend school for only 10 years, they generally receive a better education than American students who attend classes for 12 years.

She noted that brighter students in the Soviet Union are provided with intensive, specialized studies starting with the second grade. Also students attend school six days a week and by the fifth grade are required to have studied a foreign language.

She said she had found many similarities between students in Russia and those in America. She said Russian youths enjoy rock music and disco dancing.

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## Bay collision bodies found

TAMPA, Fla. — The bodies of all 23 men who died when the Coast Guard buoy tender Blackthorn sank in Tampa Bay Jan. 28 have been recovered.

Fourteen bodies were found Tuesday when the Blackthorn, which collided with the tanker Capricorn, was raised to the surface.

Members of a Marine Board of Investigation begin their 18th day of testimony Wednesday with Lt. Cmdr. George Jim Sepel, captain of the Blackthorn, testifying.

Tuesday, Sepel denied telling his executive officer to reply "Roger" upon receiving a garbled radio transmission shortly before the collision.

Lt. David B. Crawford testified that during radio contact with the Capricorn about two minutes before the collision, the only part he understood was a report a vessel was coming out of anchorage. Sepel told him to acknowledge that with a "Roger," he said.

"I never Rogered anything," Sepel said. And he said he wouldn't have Rogered something he didn't understand.



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