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190-198: David Paulson

Heavywt. Brad Newton

Co-Rec Basketball

Women's Basketball Tourney

Women's Badminton

Co-Rec Volleyball Tourney

Men's Badminton

Campus Rec

McGill
Hall 109

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Vet preference bill killed

By Jeff McDowell
Sports Writer-Reporter
HELENA—A bill that would have included the Montana University System under the state veteran's preference hiring law was killed Wednesday by the House Rules Committee.

The state's educational system is currently excluded from the law's provisions giving veterans and handicapped people a preference when applying for a public job in cases of a tie between equally qualified applicants.

House Bill 111, sponsored by Rep. Dave Brown of Butte, had received near unanimous support earlier in the full House.

However, the bill received an adverse report from the Senate Education and Cultural Resources Committee. The report was accepted by the full Senate on a 34-11 vote, effectively killing the bill.

Education committee chairman, Sen. Chet Blaylock, D-Dutton, said the committee objected to the bill because it included only part of the state's educational system.

"The bill would have excluded community colleges, vocational-technical centers and local school districts," Blaylock said.

Blaylock also said the community college president objected to changing the law so soon after it was passed. The law is a compromise measure that was passed during a special session only 14 months ago, he said.

Register fees due March 25 or 26

Students who took advantage of the new advance registration for Spring Quarter must pay their registration fees March 25 or 26, or risk losing their class assignments, William Cushman, accountant in the Registrar's Office, said Thursday.

The time and day each student is scheduled to pay their fees is listed on the class schedules distributed earlier. Cushman said, adding that each student was designated a half-hour payment period. If a student cannot pay their fees during the designated time, he or she will be readmitted to the fee plan and may not reflect interest by small firms in liberal arts majors.

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CPS — When Iowa State University senior Jeannette Fielder recently walked into a job interview with some conservative bankers, she figured she didn't have a chance. She was, after all, an English major.

"I said Do you realize that I haven’t had any finance classes? And they said No," Fielder recalled.

Fielder recalled, "They all said they wished they had been a liberal arts student.

"They felt their perspective was so narrow. I was tickled," Fielder said.

Fielder, who will go to work for the bank after graduation this spring, was, in fact, interviewed by about 10 corporations.

Though her case may not be typical, college placement officials across the country report that the number of firms looking to hire liberal arts graduates is up substantially over last year.

"Even major corporations are now giving an increasingly sincere look at liberal arts graduates," said Victor Lindquist, who directs Northwestern University’s career placement center and is the author of an annual report tracking job offers nationwide.

Lindquist said the increasing interest in liberal arts graduates is part of a trend that began in about 1980.

Liberal arts graduates tend to have marketable communication skills, both written and oral, analytical tools, and tend to be more trainable," he explained.

Small businesses are also hiring more this year, and are more receptive to liberal arts graduates than to graduates with technical or specialized degrees, who may demand higher salaries.

"It’s hard for a liberal arts graduate to convince a major corporation that he or she has valuable skills," Judith Kayser of the College Placement Council said.

"But with a mom-and-pop operation, it’s easier to get the time to sell yourself." And if the trend in favor of liberal arts graduates is reaching new highs, it could mean the end of what some administrators have dubbed the "taxi-driver syndrome: the spectre of bright, overqualified humanities graduates who drive taxis while waiting for meaningful jobs that never materialize.

But others say the increase in job offers for liberal arts graduates is not larger than for graduates in other disciplines.

"I’d like to believe that employers have come around to the advantages of liberal arts graduates," said Gary McGrath, the career development director for liberal arts majors at the University of Minnesota.

"But that’s not the case," McGrath said an improved economy is the reason more employers are interested in liberal arts graduates.

"When the economy improves, employers are willing to look at a more diverse group of applicants," he said.

The College Placement Council’s annual survey of major corporations indicates business executives plan to hire 8 percent more graduates this year than last.

Other surveys, however, suggest that liberal arts majors will not benefit from that increase.

In fact, both Lindquist’s survey and a similar study by Michigan State University placement director Jack Singleton, show the number of job offers to liberal arts majors will decline slightly this year.

The surveys, however, focus on large firms recruitment plans and may not reflect interest by small firms in liberal arts majors.

Stanford liberal arts graduates began looking for better jobs in 1980, despite surveys showing a general pool in educated job prospects at the time.

One hundred sixteen firms interviewed liberal arts majors last year, compared to only 11 four years earlier.

The proliferation of practical courses in liberal arts curricula, and an increasing realization that the technical skills required in business can be taught on the job helped liberal arts careers, career placement officials say.

However, many liberal arts majors are still said to suffer in the job market because of a fixation on one subject.

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VisionQuest cancels UM recruiting visit

By Shawn Emerson

An UM recruiting visit by VisionQuest, a private corporation that treats juvenile delinquents through programs located at wilderness camps, has been canceled due to conflicts with the University of Montana's recruiting schedule.

However, VisionQuest's representative will have a representative on campus during Spring Quarter to recruit students interested in working for VisionQuest.

According to Marks, staff members involved with the wagon train program spend five days each week on the trail with the wagon train.

VisionQuest is a licensed child-care facility that meets contracts with counties in California, New Mexico, Pennsylvania, and Arizona to take juveniles who would otherwise be put in jail.

The entry level pay for staff members is $925 per month, according to Marks.

By Shawn Emerson

HARPER POINTED out that the University of Montana is preparing for the Spring Quarter招生．
College fiscal problems may change faculty hiring and firing

(CPS)—In part to prepare for the next round of college money troubles, a major college group has started a new war of words designed to make it easier for administrators to fire tenured faculty members.

The change could also keep some college teachers worried about losing their jobs, from discussing controversial topics in class, opponents suggest. The change would “open the floodgates” to wholesale firings, warns Jonathan Knight of the American Association of University Professors (AAUP).

But the American Association of State Colleges and Universities (AASCU), in offering last week a new guideline for when colleges can fire tenured professors, said colleges need more flexibility in hiring and firing if they’re to survive the next decade of declining enrollments.

Since 1940, colleges have been able to fire tenured teachers only in times of “financial exigency.”

The courts, colleges and professors themselves traditionally have followed the ASUP’s definition of just what “financial exigency” is.

Now administrators want to change the definition to make it easier to trim their payrolls if they get into money trouble. “AAUP approaches the issue from the standpoint of the faculty,” said Alan Ostar, AASCU’s president. “We believe that the dialogue on governance needs an additional perspective.

The AAUP definition inappropriately is ‘held up as the gospel,’” added Morehead State University President Herb Reinhard Jr., chairman of the AASCU panel that drafted the new definition.

“The AAUP definition was written at a time when things were bright financially,” Reinhard said.

Things aren’t so bright anymore. The federal government has cut its funding of college programs, many states have reduced their higher education money—tuition—a campus’s other major source of money—is expected to fall as the nationwide student population declines over the next decade.

Some predict as many as 200 campuses will close before enrollments begin to creep up again in the 1990s. More may close unless colleges are freer to cut their costs.

But the AAUP definition of when they can cut costs by laying off teachers “has tied the hands of institutions struggling with declining or shifting enrollments, to the detriment of educational quality,” Reinhard argued.

Even without the change, many tenured teachers lost their jobs during the last recession. Since 1982, Temple, Northern Michigan, Western Michigan, Washington and the Brockport and Buffalo campuses of the State University of New York, among others, have fired more than 100 tenured faculty members.

AAUP says firing is justified only when “an imminent financial crisis threatens the survival of the institution as a whole and cannot be alleviated by less drastic means.”

AASCU argues that a financial emergency exists when circumstances “threaten to impair an institution’s ability to provide high educational quality and individual opportunity.”

The AAUP thinks the broader AASCU guideline would let just about all 3000-some campuses in the U.S. fire professors today.

“I don’t know of any institution that cannot plausibly argue that it has some difficulties maintaining high education quality,” Knight asserted.

“This definition would allow broad revocations of tenure for reasons that are hardly serious, unusual or extreme,” he said.

A substantial number of the schools on the AAUP’s list of “censured” schools are there precisely for laying off tenured faculty under what the AAUP considered fraudulent declarations of financial emergency.

Those schools include the University of Northern Colorado, California State University-Sonoma and the University of Idaho.

Knight predicts institutions that adopt the AASCU definition of financial emergency will antagonize faculty.

“A definition like this encourages unilateral rather than collegial action,” Knight suggested.

Reinhard said it is “highly unlikely” institutions will misuse the broad AASCU definition to lay off tenured faculty without first exploring other ways to cut costs.

If they do, faculty can still appeal to the courts for reinstatement, he noted.

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MontPIRG

Continued from page 1.

MontPIRG sent $100 to the New Jersey PIRG to help them win their lawsuit, Baer said. Money is also sent out of state to fund U.S. PIRG, he said, adding that a large proportion of the money MontPIRG collects is also used to pay the salaries of a few members of the organization, including C.B. Pearson and Julie Fosbender.

Pearson said MontPIRG had sent money to the New Jersey PIRG, but said the figure was actually $25 or $50, not $100. Pearson also said most of the money sent out of state comes not from students, but from non-students who maintain contributing memberships with MontPIRG. In addition, the money sent out of state is applied to projects that affect Montana, he said, comparing the practice to that of the Montana Legislature spending money in Washington, D.C., to protect the state's coal severance tax from congressional attacks.

Pearson said Baer's group's tactics are "disturbing," considering that they are soliciting off-campus involvement when MontPIRG is up for review by the Montana Board of Regents.

Pearson questioned the group's true aims saying if the group is really opposed to forced funding, why aren't they also opposing other fees assessed students. "Why are they just attacking the MontPIRG fee?" Pearson asked.

In his letter, Williams compares the MontPIRG fee to "one of those record or book clubs where if you don't let them know you don't want it, you've bought it." He wrote that if students wanted a refund, "they had to find some obscure table in the registration area...stand in more long lines...sign a waiver...and wait for a refund."

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