

Most students find employment after graduating from Humber

BY NATALIE DAVIS

Are you stressed out over school? Terrified about what your future career has in store for you when it's all done?

Rest assured. Most of our students at Humber are finding employment in their field after graduation.

According to the Humber Graduate Report (1998 statistics) which surveys students after graduation, 93 per cent of Humber grads secured employment in a wide variety of full-time, part-time, temporary, contract and freelance positions within six months after graduation.

Of these, 67.5 per cent were related to their program.

In addition the report found 74 per cent of students were well prepared for employment, and meeting workplace challenges compared to the provincial average of 69 per cent.

Ward Yorke, one of the faculty members for the Funeral Services program said his program is very successful at helping students with their future careers.

"Last year, 93 per cent of our people had a job when they walked off the stage with their diploma," said Yorke.

"Humber is the only college in Ontario to offer an English language Funeral Service course, and we graduate about 96 per cent of our students," he said.

And because of that, Yorke said many individuals interested in pursuing the funeral industry have

sought Humber's unique program. "Almost every Funeral Director in Ontario for the past 30 years has been trained through Humber," he said.

Helen Hobbs, a 1996 Humber graduate from the Funeral Services program, is now a managing funeral director at Chapel Ridge Funeral Home in Markham.

She said her apprenticeship year was when everything was put into perspective.

"As much as they (Humber) try and prepare you as far as your labs are concerned, they can't really prepare you for what you might meet as far as technical skills," she said.

Humber's Nursing program is also very successful at placing students in jobs after graduation.

The program offers a final year co-op placement where students are exposed to a hospital where they work hands-on with Registered Nurses (RNs).

"This exposes our grads to not only the hospital, but to the shift expectations as well, which can sometimes be 12 hours or more," said Lenore Duquette, co-ordinator for Humber's Nursing program.

According to Humber's 2000/2001 full-time calendar, many grads will work in hospitals, community health agencies, nursing homes and doctor's offices.

On Jan. 31, a three-year deal was negotiated between the Ontario Nurses Association and the province's hospitals that will allow RNs to get a 6.7 per cent pay

increase, making them the highest paid in Canada.

Students currently in the program can look forward to making up to \$30 an hour when they land a job.

The Pharmacy Assistant Program, which is currently a one-year certificate program, will be reforming to a two-year format next fall.

"I get a lot of calls from companies who want to hire," said Marie Atlas, faculty member for the Pharmacy Assistant program.

Atlas also noted grads usually work under supervision in community pharmacies and hospitals to start off.

"They branch out into several other areas, and some have gone into sales, clinical drug industries and others in insurance agency drug plans," said Atlas.

In addition she referred to companies such as Glaxo Wellcome, Parke Davis as common companies that hire Humber grads. However, she said the private industry in this field pays more than the community industry.

Muhammed Punhab, a 1996 graduate of the Pharmacy Assistant program said he "gives great praise" to Humber for providing him with the necessary skills and tools that he now uses as his job as owner of a community pharmacy in Barrie.

"My decision to pursue a post-secondary education was something that I always knew I needed," he said. "Attending Humber was the greatest experience in my life."

Multimedia program holds online conference

BY DARREN LUM

Online technology at the college is giving Interactive Multimedia students the opportunity to speak to professionals from anywhere in the world.

Humber's Multimedia Program held its first online conference with an industry expert, Denise Schawrtz, on Feb. 9.

Schawrtz is an Interface Designer for Shockwave.com and contributes to their new e-commerce initiative. Schawrtz is also the owner and creator of Graphics-a-Go-Go.

Tom Green, program co-ordinator of the Multimedia program, and Humber Journalism grad from 1974, organized the online opportunity for the students, giving access to experts in the field of interactive multimedia. Green has come back to Humber to provide a unique education experience to his Multimedia students.

"The students sit down with the experts in the business to pick their minds. It only helps to further the knowledge of the students," said Green.

This success means a weekly online visit from other individuals from the multimedia industry to provide hints about Web designs, and share their experiences.

Dave Penny, a first-year Multimedia Design and Production student, said it was, "very cool. It eases my mind to know that programmers aren't all geeks but have personality."

The online environment provides a clear exchange of ideas

between the guest speakers and the participating students said Green.

"It went as expected. The interesting thing is once you get used to this format your personality tends to come through," said Green.

The only drawback to the event was the lag in the process of information on the Digital Image Training Centre chat room. Partially attributed to the chat room's compliance difficulties with Internet Explorer, the delay was put in place deliberately, helping to limit an overload of information in the chat room.

The 39 year-old Schawrtz, exhibited her personality and gave the kind of advice that can't be ignored.

"Just remember to follow your bliss, I always preach that. F__k what everyone else is doing and create your own s__t," said Schawrtz in an online interview.

William Hanna, director of the School of Media Studies, knows the possibilities that the Internet can offer education and welcomes the technology. However Hanna said the online technology will only be appropriate for some programs.

"There will be more and more opportunities for online education as it is appropriate," said Hanna. Existing online education opportunities already exist at the college. The Public Relations program has joint effort with an Australian college publishing a web site.

James Cullin, program co-ordinator, Internet Management is currently working on a new chat room for future online conferences. This new chat room is expected to be completely compliant with Netscape and Internet Explorer.

The next online conference will be with expert Zac Belado from Vancouver who is a contributing designer to Director Online and Pixelgeek.com. These are web sites committed to providing information on interactive multimedia.

Pixelgeek.com is an interactive Web site permitting the user to experiment with various skills for web-building. The site also provides an opportunity to learn by performing functions directly related to web building.

Correction
In last week's issue of Humber Et Cetera, we reported hypnotist Tony Lee (Tony Lee to Hypnotize Caps p. 13) would be performing at Caps on Friday Feb. 11. The actual performance will be held at Caps this Friday Feb. 18, at 5:30 p.m. Et Cetera apologizes for any inconvenience.

Friday Feb. 18
The Wheat Kings
A Tribute to Tragically Hip



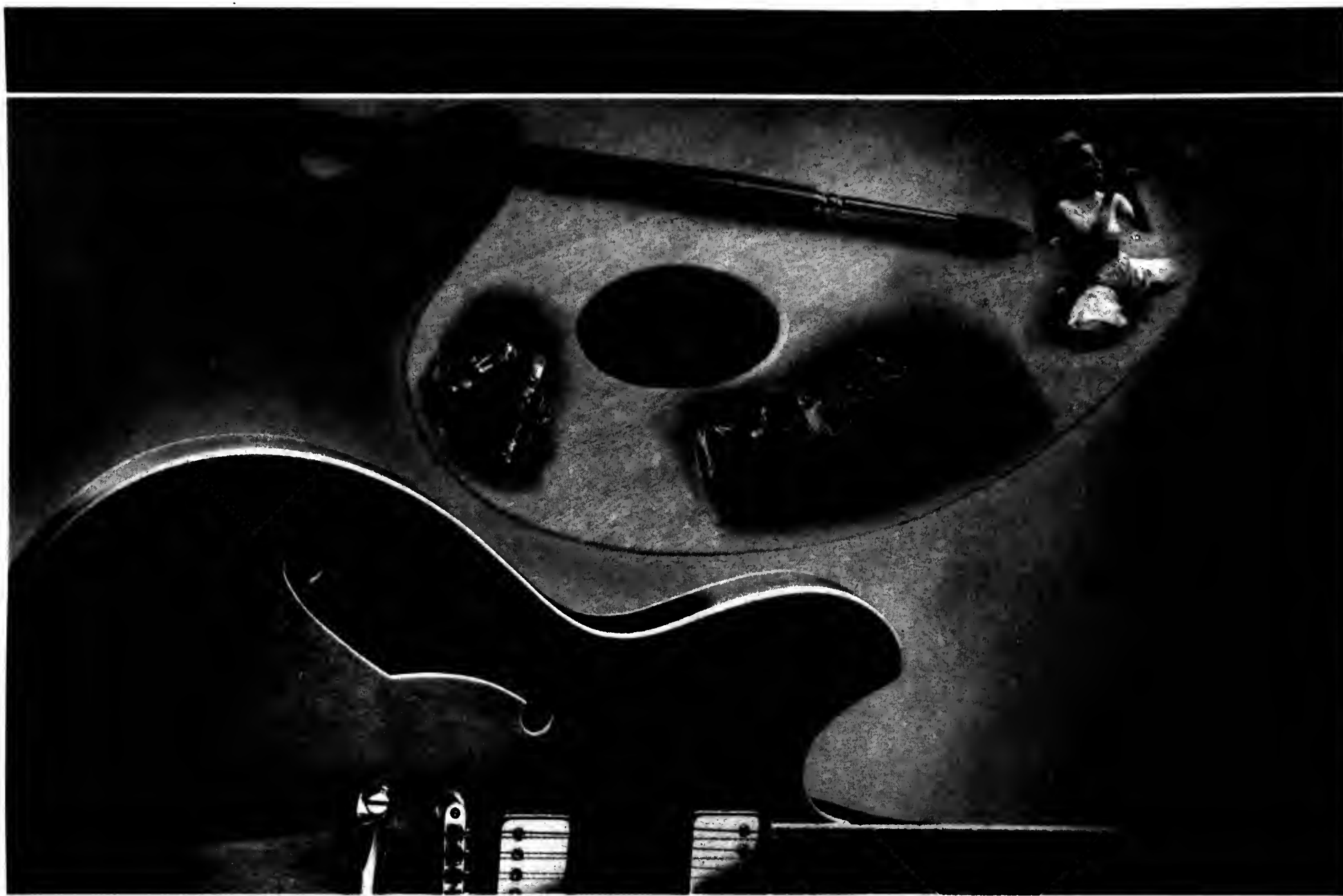
Saturday Feb. 19
Body Language

Sunday Feb. 20
Chuck Jackson & Guest
Steve Ambrose



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