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Interns find summer jobs 'no joke'

By Linda Dono

Margaret Shirley applied for her internship as a joke. She ended up working for The Louisville Times. "When I applied, my goal was to get an interview," she said. "I'd never had an internship before."

Although Shirley was managing editor of the 1980 Talisman, the senior from Bliss Fish had worked at a camp the previous summer. "I expected to start at the top and work toward the bottom," she said.

Shirley was lucky to get her internship. "I'd never had an Internship before," she said. "I applied, my goal was to be on the front page," said Shirley, who was notified in December.

In the spring and this fall she worked part-time as a court reporter for the Bowling Green newspaper. "I got the routine junk like obituaries, police reports, weather stories—but in the summer I did a lot of feature stories, too," she said. "I guess I could have worked harder if I had wanted to, but a lot of times there was just nothing to do."

She said she had a regular schedule to pick up court news and other information. Some of Shirley's work was after hours with no overtime pay.

"Sometimes I had to cover city council meetings at night. It was kind of volunteer work," she said. "Sure they gave comp time, but in the short time I was there I didn't take any."

Shirley said that she went to Muldraugh to cover the train derailment after working more than 12 hours.

"I had just gotten home, and my editor called and asked me if I'd like to go to Muldraugh."

The story of the derailment and its resulting evacuations gave Shirley a chance to write her biggest front-page story, that of the returning evacuees.

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Western Kentucky University, Bowling Green, Ky.

Courier reporter speaks of Cambodian experience

By Mark Heath

Joel Brinkley was sitting quietly at his desk in The Courier-Journal's newsroom one day last fall, trying to look busy, when his city editor walked over and tapped him on the shoulder.

"Do you have a passport?" Brinkley didn't. But that was quickly remedied, and Brinkley was soon on his way to Southeast Asia, and to a Pulitzer Prize.

Brinkley and Courier-Journal photographer Jay Mather went to Cambodia for several days last fall to chronicle the plight of millions of Cambodian refugees.

Their four-part series, "Living the Cambodian Nightmare," earned them the 1980 Pulitzer Prize for International Reporting.

Using slides of Mather's photographs, Brinkley related his experiences in Cambodia to members of the Western chapter of the Society of Professional Journalists, Sigma Delta Chi on Sept. 18.

Brinkley began his career at The Associated Press in North Carolina, where he attended college. He later worked for The Richmond (Va.) News-Leader and has been at The Courier-Journal for about two years.

Brinkley spent most of his time at The Courier-Journal covering the Jefferson County Board of Education. As a

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Brinkley recalls Cambodian experiences

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reward sorts for his putting up with such a time-consuming beat, Brinkley's editors chose him for the Cambodian assignment.

Brinkley had three days to prepare for his trip. He was inoculated for three viral diseases — but not for typhoid, which he caught while on the story. He read clippings on Cambodia from The Courier's library and called an expert on Cambodia at the State Department in Washington for a quick lesson about the country. He said he wishes he had had more time for research.

Brinkley and Mather first went to Bangkok, Thailand, and rented rooms in a hotel. Then they began to visit refugee camps.

Brinkley said that at first they went to a government-operated camp to find their Kentucky angle — Dr. Kenneth Rasmussen of Louisville, who was treating refugees in Thailand.

After staying at the camp for two days, Brinkley and Mather decided to find the worst camps. The government camps are well run, and conditions for refugees were considered good.

The two followed a group of food sellers who left the village each day to the border. After following them to a dirt plaza, Brinkley said, some government trucks carrying water arrived. The area was suddenly filled with refugees who came from over a hill, he said. This was his and Mather's first encounter with the real refugee problem.

After a while, a man offered to take the two to the camp, and they crossed a river to a camp called Samet.

Brinkley later learned that the river was the border and that the camp with 300,000 inhabitants was actually in Cambodia.

"You think you have done it all until you see something like that," Brinkley said. "Never anything like that."

Brinkley said he learned something about journalism when he was at the plaza. He said that as he was trying to describe the sight as the people lined up to get water, he realized words could never describe the scene as well as Mather's photographs. "I learned if you are doing something with a photographer, let him carry half the load.

"It is hard to describe them (the refugees). So many years of adversity have left them numb. They have had it from all sides," he said. "The Thais would come over and rape the women. On the other side were the Vietnamese; they tried to find the last of Pol Pot's army. They attacked during the day and shelled the camp at night."

Brinkley said he didn't expect to win the Pulitzer after so many other papers and magazines had covered the refugee situation. On the day the awards were announced, he thought it was a joke when one of his editors told him to look at a video display terminal that had a wire story about the prizes on it.

Joel Brinkley, silhouetted by a slide by Jay Mather, talks about their experiences in Cambodia.

Beckley
Western buys VDTs

By Jim Highland

The College Heights Herald newsroom may not look exactly like the electronic newsroom at The Courier-Journal yet, but it's well on its way.

The Herald and the Department of Journalism have acquired a computerized video display editing system that is expected to be in full operation by the end of the semester.

David B. Whitaker, department head and university publications director, said six video display terminals (VDTs) and a central computer unit were bought this summer.

The new system will be used in both production of the Herald and for instruction in journalism classes such as basic and public affairs reporting and newspaper editing.

The system is connected to a Compugraphic 4961 typesetter donated to the journalism department by Robert Carter, publisher of the Kentucky New Era in Hopkinsville and former president of the Kentucky Press Association.

The university also made available to the department money for the purchase of more computer equipment to be used in either classroom instruction or newspaper and yearbook production.

Whitaker said journalism faculty are evaluating whether the department needs more reporting terminals, whether to add on to the master computer or whether to purchase more reporting-editing terminals.

That decision should be reached within the next few weeks, he said.

Whitaker said the system brings newsroom production facilities and classroom instruction to "state of the art" level.

He said it should give students a slight advantage in seeking media jobs because they will be familiar with video display terminal reporting and editing and computer technology.

The department bought the editing system from Newspaper Electronics Co. of Kansas City, Mo., the same company that supplied editing and reporting equipment for the Ashland (Ky.) Daily Independent.

The system has all normal reporting and editing functions, and it has a split-screen editing feature that allows easy compilation of wire and local copy. It allows for direct feed and editing of wire copy.

Mike Lee, an employee of Newspaper Electronics Corp., uses a schematic to locate a problem in a video display terminal.

Dickson speaks on reporting ideas

Getting the facts is not all that's involved in television news reporting, Dan Dickson, weekend anchor and reporter for WHAS-TV in Louisville, told about 35 Western Kentucky University students in a recent speech, sponsored by Sigma Delta Chi, the Society of Professional Journalists.

"There are theatrics involved in television," Dickson said. "In fact, the reporter often shows up the news story."

"Television news offers an added dimension you can't get in magazines and newspapers. Television pictures fill in gaps that regular journalism leaves out."

Dickson said one criticism of television newsmen is that they "go too much for the visuals. Often, if a story isn't good visually, it won't get on the air."

But Dickson said that being fair in reporting the news is important.

"Reporters must train themselves to be objective," he said. "You've got to get your personal views out of the way!"
Delivery service supports chapter

By Mark Heath

Each Tuesday and Thursday members of the Western Kentucky chapter of Sigma Delta Chi discover the other side of journalism.

Western students, on those days, deliver the College Heights Herald to dorms and classroom buildings on the Western campus.

The project is the chapter's main source of income, as it receives over $4,000 from the Herald for the service, chapter adviser Jim Highland said.

Because of this fundraising effort, Western's SDX Chapter does not charge a campus membership fee.

This money is used for sponsoring chapter activities from national and regional conventions to contributions to SPJ-SDX's Reporter Legal Defense Fund.

Approximately 15 members of the chapter are involved in the distribution of the more than 9,000 copies of the Herald.

The campus is divided into routes of two to four buildings each. Each route is designed so the members can carry the papers to their destinations by hand or cart.

Special attention is given to classroom buildings earlier in the day while dorms are more likely to be delivered later in the day. By 2 p.m. all of the papers are usually delivered.

The amount delivered to a building is determined by the number of people that are likely to pass through the building. Cherry Hall, Thompson Complex-Center Wing, Downing University Center and Pearce-Ford Tower are the top four delivery points.

Marian Kirtley, circulation manager in charge of organizing the delivery for the chapter, counts the bundles of papers coming in and then divides them among the 39 dorms and classroom buildings. Kirtley, a sophomore, public relations major from Bardstown, Ky., then posts a list in the Herald office designating how many bundles each person should take on his or her route.

Routes are designed to include buildings that are clustered together. Even so, some people may have more trouble delivering than others.

The route including Cherry Hall, Gordon Wilson Hall, Garrett Conference Center and Science and Technology Hall is the most difficult to deliver. It involves either a long walk from the Downing University Center where the papers are received, or a car with large trunk space that can accommodate the large bundles of papers that must be delivered in that area. This route is also the hardest to convince members to deliver. Delivery usually proceeds smoothly unless the Herald advertising department has sold space for a stuffer. Stuffers are advertising inserts that the Herald staff and SDX members must 'stuff' into each copy of the paper. This can set back delivery time anywhere from one to three hours.
Western graduate discusses layout

A Western graduate spent his summer helping a Pennsylvania newspaper experiment with different layout styles.

Don White, a 1979 graduate and former sports editor of the College Heights Herald and the Talisman, worked for the Allentown Morning Call, recognized as an innovator in newspaper design.

The internship was part of White’s graduate studies at the University of Missouri, where he will receive a master’s degree in journalism this fall.

White said that the Morning Call used its profits to improve the quality of the newspaper. It has pioneered the use of graphics in newspapers.

The paper’s editors also base their news judgment on the day’s events. On a slow news day, only one story might appear on Page One. The rest of the page would be graphs, charts, photographs or promotions for inside stories. Occasionally, when editors decide there is an abundance of news, the paper will have a “Second Front Page” on Page 3.

White worked in the paper’s art department, which is responsible for design.

Delayed Printing problems postpone Talisman

By Mike Collins

Printing problems have indefinitely delayed delivery of Western’s 1980 yearbook, according to a sign on the Talisman office door.

Bob Baker, Talisman adviser, and his staff would like the books reprinted. “We’re not satisfied with the printing job,” he said. “We know Delmar is capable of doing better.”

The printer, Delmar Printing Co. of Charlotte, N.C., feels differently.

According to Baker, Delmar’s position is that reprinting the book is not a consideration. “They consider this printing job to be a superior commercial printing job as far as the yearbook industry goes,” he said, “and we obviously don’t agree.”

Delmar printed and reprinted the Talisman in 1976. Although another company printed the that reprinted ’76 book,” Baker said. Printing problems found by the 1980 staff in an advance copy of the book included:
- Black and white material
- “I’d hate to see it not come....It’s like which of the two poisons you’re going to take.”
—David Frank

1977-1979 books, Delmar was awarded the 1980 contract by virtue of being the lowest bidder.

“When we selected Delmar for the ’80 book, we expected nothing less than the quality of

Carter wins logo contest

Robert Carter has won the SDX logo contest.

Carter, a junior journalism major from Glasgow, submitted the logo which shows all three phases of reporting, the university initials, and the chapter’s Greek initials.

The design will be used as a letterhead and possibly for silkscreening T-Shirts.
Interns find summer jobs ‘no joke’

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Many photographic interns voluntarily spend their overtime in the darkroom.

"I spent a lot of my nights at the paper, but some of that was because I had nothing else to do," Todd Buchanan, who worked at the Advertiser-Tribune in Tiffin, Ohio, said.

"The atmosphere here is rushed with going to classes and taking pictures. There you can work without as much pressure," he said.

Buchanan’s duties for the paper included shooting half-tones for final production as well as taking pictures. After morning meetings he was free to go around Tiffin to look for feature pictures.

"It was a good paper to work with," he said. "They gave you a lot of play, and I never had to take the 'rip-and-grin' shot." Buchanan was referring to an award presentation or ribbon-cutting ceremony.

Rick Schweinhart, an intern at Land Between The Lakes, said that it was different to work on a university publication because of the deadlines. "At LBL, they would want your work almost immediately, but here you can have a week between assignments."

Schweinhart said he was so busy during the summer that he rarely spent time in his trailer at Golden Pond.

"There were four of us living there, but it wasn’t too bad because most of the time we were out on assignments," the senior said. The pay was low, $65 per week, but he said that he liked the atmosphere and the environment of the area.

The nearest town is 20 miles away, "but the intern would get together for potluck suppers, which is kind of nice," he said. "The place is away from everything. I lived in Louisville, and when it was clear, you could see only one or two stars. There you could see everything."

Tom Beshear also liked Virginia’s beach area where he worked.

"I spent a lot of my nights at the paper, but some of that was because I had nothing else to do." —Todd Buchanan

"The Tidewater area was really nice for the most part, but I spent most of my time inside," he said.

Beshear, a senior from Dawson Springs, was a Newspaper Fund intern for the Norfolk Ledger-Star. "It was an editing internship; I might have written one story all summer."

Consequently, his hours were more stable. "It’s like going to an office 7 to 3:30, five days a week," he said.

Sally Rayley, an admitted copy editor at heart, said she had wanted to work on the Times copy desk all summer.

"I kept bugging them, and finally the last four days I got to edit copy," she said.

"I like the way words look together. I had a really rough time learning to dictate stories over the phone because I couldn’t see them."

But some of those stories were front page material, an accomplishment she likes to remember.

Back at the college, these students are continuing their work through the Hearld and Talisman.

"But working on a broadsheet is totally different. The picture size, content—everything changes," Buchanan, a sophomore from Iowa City, Iowa, said.

"In a town you have all different kinds of people. In college you have college-age kids who throw Frisbee, study or party," he said.

"I’d do it all over again in a second," Beshear said. "It was the best summer of my life."

Linda Dono, a junior journalism major from Nashville, Tenn., was an intern at the Grayson County News-Gazette.

Speakers highlight convention

By Lisa Beaty

About 1000 Sigma Delta Chi members are expected to meet in the new Ohio Center in Columbus, Ohio, Nov. 19 to 25 for the national convention. Sessions will allow conventioners to learn everything from press performance during election year to how to conduct a good interview.

A day-long meeting of the national Board of Directors and an evening reception Wednesday, Nov. 19, will begin the convention.

John Henry Faulk, an author, humorist, social critic, political commentator and constitutional expert, will deliver the convention’s keynote address Thursday. David R. Brink, president-elect of the American Bar Association, will speak at Thursday’s luncheon.

Panel discussions Thursday include how to conduct a productive interview, how to do thorough research for a story, how to improve photographic techniques and how to inject humor into writing. An afternoon panel will discuss the performance of the press during the Iranian hostage crisis and the U.S. Olympic boycott.

Reese Schofeld, president of Cable News Network in Atlanta, and Katharine Graham, chairwoman of the Washington Post Co., will speak Friday.

Syndicated columnist David Broder and Carl Leubsdorf of the Baltimore Sun will analyze press coverage of the entire election year.

Jerry W. Friedheim, executive vice president and general manager of the American Newspaper Publishers Association, will discuss the latest developments in computer technology.

Bill Small, president of NBC News, will give the final speech of the convention at this year’s banquet.

Brian Foote, a sophomore from Louisville will be Western’s chapter entry in the “Run for the First” race which contributions go to the Legal Defense Fund, an organization set up to provide legal assistance to journalists.

The convention will conclude Saturday morning with a banquet, installation of new officers. President-elect Howard Graves, bureau chief of the Associated Press in Portland, will become national president.

The Central Ohio professional chapter will be hosts for the convention, and Ohio University and Ohio State University will be student hosts.

Western’s campus chapter will not be allowed a travel subsidy this year, as Bowling Green is within 400 miles of the convention site. Registration for the convention is $50.

Linda Dono, a junior journalism major from Nashville, Tenn., was an intern at the Grayson County News-Gazette.