

More Life is Short
See page 2

Editor
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Extension 6803

ShopTalk

Inside Scoop on News Interns

Twenty of the country's brightest and most talented college journalists are spending their summer at The Post as interns in the Newsroom. They came from schools such as Stanford, Harvard and the University of Missouri to gain journalism experience and to add The Washington Post to their already impressive resumes.

ShopTalk asked two of the interns to give employees an inside look at what their summer intern life is like. Here's what they had to say:

Perry Bacon,
Yale University, *Metro intern:*

When The Post selected me for the summer internship program in December, I was elated. I had applied to programs all over the country, but this was the one I (and many other students) truly wanted. Eventually, everyone at my college newspaper found out and it became sort of a constant stream of questions. Wow, you must be so excited about that Post job? What will you write about? Are you nervous?

I acted pretty assured, but I had no idea what to expect at The Post. So being a good reporter, I did some research. I found one of those "Guide to the Best Internships." It described how prestigious the Post internship was, but also the difficulty of the program. One of



The Newsroom's 2001 class of summer interns includes (back row l-r) Perry Bacon, Kristopher Lee, Andrew DeMillo, Abhishek Raghunathan, Mike Amon, Steve Schmadeke, Jason Ukman, (middle row l-r) Nicole Wong, Ylan Quy Mui, Nathan Willis, Ross Siler, (sitting l-r) Stephanie Kuykendal, Autumn Brewington, Erin Mendell and Molly Ball. Not pictured are Rosalind Helderman, Irene Noguchi, Jim Reedy and Krissah Williams.

the former interns told a story about being sent to cover some trial for the front page of the paper - on his first day. Exciting, but very scary.

But of course, the actual beginning of my internship was much more difficult than that. It wasn't the stress of a Page 1 story, but worse. For four days, we met editors, reporters and former interns. They reminded us over and over again about the high standards of

the paper and the difficulty of getting hired full-time at the Post. They told us about how much interns were expected to do, the long hours and high expectations from editors. After the third day, the tension was mounting. I just wanted to write something, anything, just to prove I could succeed here.

After those four days, they sent

CONTINUED ON PAGE 3

More Life is Short

On June 21, ShopTalk featured Post employee versions of the “Life Is Short” feature that runs on the front page of the Style section on Sundays, along with an invitation to send in a “Life Is Short” for publication in ShopTalk this summer. Here are more “Life Is Short” essays by your Post colleagues:

My first job interview at The Post and I was lost. Ma’am, do you know where The Washington Post is located? A sweet confident voice replied, “I sure do. I know where just about everything is in D.C. I used to walk these streets, homeless, but I got myself together and it’s my first day on the job. I’m steppin’ out on faith. Follow me.” While walking, I explained my reason for visiting The Post. “There you go. Good luck and I hope you get the job,” she said. I often think about this woman of faith during my commute.

—ANGELA SOMMERS,
Accounting



ANGELA SOMMERS found her way to The Post.



PHOTO — REX POTTS

As a single copy sales manager in Circulation, CATHY CAMPBELL is used to getting bad news on the phone.

It is before car phones and cell phones are ubiquitous. I arrive home Sunday night from a week-end visit with my parents. The light on the message machine blinks furiously: “This is night dispatch; your driver for 0519 (a single copy distributorship) is late picking up his second load.” A short while later, “This is night dispatch; your driver for 0519 called to say he wasn’t feeling well.” Another hour goes by: “This is night dispatch; your driver for 0519 died — he had a heart attack.” I call his ex-wife; she only wants to know if we owe him money.

—CATHERINE CAMPBELL,
Circulation

As an art production freelancer at The Post since 1988, I’ve seen the stat camera, waxer and phototype usurped by the computer. As everyone surges past me into the 21st century, I’m content to drift back to the 19th. My tools have remained the X-acto knife, glue stick and ruler. Since the departure of the presses, I’m the only one at the Northwest Building whose work results in ink-stained hands. I’m in an office in the basement of



Lyndall Dickinson’s old-fashioned tools of the trade.

the Lennox Building... until the Smithsonian puts me into an exhibit. I’m Miss Low-Tech: I work even when the power doesn’t.

—LYNDALL DICKINSON,
News Administration

Whether you are a writer at heart or professionally, ShopTalk is interested in publishing your “Life Is Short”. We’re looking for 100-word or less Haiku-like statements like those above that somehow express your unique Post experience. It could be about your commute, about landing that new account or a conversation you had waiting for the elevator. To be eligible for publication, your “Life Is Short” must somehow relate to The Post and be less than 100 words. Throughout the rest of the summer, we’ll publish the best versions of “Life is Short,” with your byline and photo. You can submit your statements via email to ShopTalk@washpost.com or send c/o ShopTalk Editor, Public Relations Department, 7th Floor, Northwest Building. If you have any questions, contact Lisa Connors at x6803.

us to our respective desks and bureaus, and the internship has lived up to the hype. I've worked on a story almost every day here, and multiple stories on some days. The first week I had a few 10-hour days, and I suspect I will have many more. But of course, the thrill of being at The Washington Post has made up for the difficulties. During my second week, I worked on a story that made the front page, and I received emails and phone calls of congratulations from friends all across the country, as well from staffers here.

I share an apartment in Georgetown with another intern, Jim Reedy, who works in Sports. Like other interns who live together, we rarely see other, because he's often out covering games or writing late at night after I've come home. I don't think jealously even qualifies as the word for my feelings after I spent a day covering a city council meeting, and Jim came home about midnight to tell me that he

spent the day talking to Brady Anderson and other Orioles about Cal Ripken's retirement.

Ylan Quy Mui,
Loyola University, *Style intern:*

The answering machine at our apartment of [Post] interns says it all: "Hi, you've reached Anitha, Roz, Ylan and Kris – the den of diversity.' We are affirmative action. We are a living United Colors of Benneton ad.

The four of us have got the country covered. MTV couldn't have cast it better: *This is the true story of four interns, picked to live in a Georgetown apartment and find out what happens when people stop being polite and start being real.*

Let's put it this way: We all bonded really quickly. You end up knowing people in a ... special way when you're sharing a \$2,400/month two-bedroom, one-bathroom apartment.

It's only been a few weeks,

but the adventures have already begun. Like the trip to the grocery store that took four hours because we were lost somewhere past Leesburg. (We weren't even sure what state we were in for a good hour.) Dutifully sweeping the floors only to discover we don't own a dustpan. And then there's the lemon pepper chicken fiasco.

Fortunately, there hasn't been major drama yet. Our confessionals would be pretty boring. Maybe because we're so busy.

In MTV's Real World, the cast starts a business together so that they're forced to work with one another. In Real World: The Washington Post, it's the paper that fills our lives.

We all work in different sections, and getting home before 8 p.m. is considered a major coup. It's easy to understand how this job can become your life. We spend our days at the paper. We talk about the paper at home, as we feast on Frosted Mini-Wheats for din-

ner and watch "Designing Women." We're drowning in papers in our living room.

This is what being an intern is all about – being poor, working hard and, most importantly, having fun. Because, despite the long hours, this is fun. It's exciting to work here, picking the brains of the nation's top reporters and editors. It's thrilling to have a byline, to do a little happy dance when you see your name in print.

And maybe we'll never be as rich, famous or good-looking as the kids on MTV's Real World. Our 10-year anniversary may not have network appeal. But if all of us are still friends after 10 years – that will be enough for me.

Bylines

The Post was the presenting sponsor of two activities celebrating Howard County's Sesquicentennial (150th) birthday. On Sunday, July 1, Howard County bureau and Public Relations staff participated in the County's Family Fun Festival in Symphony Woods and presented cash awards to four Howard County elementary, middle and high school students who were winners of the Sesquicentennial time capsule essay contest. The essays, which described what the students thought Howard County would be like in 50 years, were printed in the Howard County Extra on Thursday,

June 28. On Tuesday, July 3, the essays, along with copies of the Howard County Extra and The Post, were placed in a time capsule at the Howard County government center in Ellicott City. The time capsule will be opened in July, 2051 when the County celebrates its 200th birthday.



(l-r) Howard County bureau staff **LINDA JAMES** and **SABRINA JONES** hand out goody bags at the Howard County Sesquicentennial celebration.

PHOTO – CARRIE MORSE

POST SCRIPTS

LOOKING FOR FORMS?

Almost every Post employee form you need is now available on *IntraNED*. Type in *IntraNED* on your browser, click on "Online Forms" under Tools on the left side of the screen and search for the form you need. The ten most often requested forms are listed at the top of the screen. You can also find forms by category, or use the handy form finder. If you need assistance, call **ROGER PIANTADOSI** at x7865.



PHOTO - DAVID JONES

Housing and Urban Development Secretary Mel Martinez spoke to Book World Editor **MARIE ARANA** and other guests at the reception in his honor.

MARTINEZ VISITS POST

On Thursday, July 26, the National Association of Hispanic Journalists (NAHJ) hosted a reception at The Post honoring U.S. Housing and Urban Development Secretary, Mel Martinez. Martinez, the highest-ranking Latino in the Bush administration, made remarks in English and Spanish on topics including the Census, minority homeownership and the economic and political clout of Hispanics in the

United States. Attendees included Publisher **BO JONES**, Executive Editor **LEN DOWNIE**, and several Newsroom staff. In addition, journalists from several local and national newspapers and media outlets, including Telemundo and Univision, attended the event. **GINA ACOSTA**, Editorial, who coordinated the event, is the regional director for the NAHJ.

NEW SECURITY MEASURE AT NORTHWEST

Effective immediately, will be required to escort their guests during visits to the Northwest Building. The Security desk will announce your visitor and request that you meet them in the main lobby on 15th Street. The security officer will give the visitor a building pass that must be worn during the length of the visit. Prior to leaving, the visitor should be escorted to the lobby for security clearance. This new security measure is being implemented to help insure the safety and security of Post employees and visitors.

Visitor Pass
The Washington Post

NO SHOPTALK NEXT WEEK

ShopTalk will not be published on Thursday, August 9. The next issue will be published on Thursday, August 16.

MARKETPLACE

FOR SALE — Lightly used year-old Dell Dimension L desktop computer and 15" monitor, Pentium III processor (667 MHz), 7.56 GB hard drive, 12X DVD drive, Ethernet card, MS Works Suite 2000/MS Word 2000, Windows 98, Norton antivirus, etc. The works. Purchased in July, 2000 for \$1,115.75. Will sacrifice at \$700/OBO. Contact Bob at (301) 654-7033 or leveyjf@home.com.

FOR SALE — 1987 Toyota Camry, 4-dr, automatic, white. High mileage, but car runs well thanks to extensive engine work in last year. \$1,750. E-mail Jeff at baronj@washpost.com, or call (703) 279-3241 or (703) 841-0564.

FOR SALE — 1995 Nissan 200SX SE, black, 2-dr coupe, 5-speed, AC, FM/CD, power lights/windows, 1 owner, 99K mi., Excellent condition! Asking \$5K/ OBO. Call Monica x5461, or (703) 848- 0466.

ISO — Seeking a family to hire a live-in housekeeper/nanny/elder-care giver, available immediately. Call John at x7823 or (703) 966-2530.

FOR SALE — AM-FM stereo with 6-disc in-dash CD changer, 18 station presets with new RDS (radio data system) technology. Brand new from 2001 Nissan Altima SE. Asking \$285. Call Vernon at x6520 or (301) 203-2546.

FOR SALE — Girls Little Tykes cottage bed \$100, hobby horse \$25, professional food grinder \$100, pullup dips and pushup exercise station \$40. Call Martin at (703) 916-2282 or (703) 866-5464.

FOR SALE — Two rabbits: one male, brown and white (Fred) and one spayed female, black and white (Wilma) to a good home. Price includes cage, carrier, water bottle, food dispenser plus any food and bedding. Asking \$25. Call Yvette at x1181 or (301) 254-4259.

FOR SALE — Oak dinette set (table with one leaf and four chairs). \$100/OBO. Call Jeff at x4669 or (202) 363-0444.

ISO ROTTWEILER PUPPY — Looking for a 2 - 4 month-old German Rottweiler puppy for sale. Preferably male w/AKC papers, but will consider a female also. Price is negotiable. Call Christie x5970 or (202) 213-5017.

FOR SALE — Beautiful handmade Persian rug, 6'3" x 4'2", all silk, good investment, market value \$5,000, asking \$3,000/OBO. Call Bob at x2220 (M-F, 3 p.m. to 10 p.m.), or (703) 671-1646.

HELP THE HOMELESS — Recycling will help the homeless. Bring in the travel-size toiletries you picked up on vacation and also any large or boot size shoe boxes, bring to Barbara Hudson in Accounting or call x6229 or (301) 593-3422.

FREE! FREE! — Ads in marketplace are free to employees of The Washington Post. Join thousands of satisfied customers who have bought and sold through Marketplace. The deadline is Friday at noon for the next Thursday's issue of ShopTalk. Send your ad with your extension and home phone number via e-mail to ShopTalk, or fax to x4963.

MARKETPLACE DEADLINE: Noon Fridays. Please include your name, extension and home phone number. **ADS ARE FOR POST EMPLOYEES ONLY.** Send ads to Shop Talk, 7th floor, or call x6803. To send ads via fax dial x5609; via e-mail send to shoptalk. Ads run two issues unless otherwise requested. One ad per employee, please.

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