Friday, April 5, 2002

Workshop

A free acting workshop is open to all and will be held in the Studio Theatre on April 4th, 11th, and 18th at 7:30 p.m.

The workshop will be conducted by Jason Lawergren, a New York trained actor, singer and teacher.

On April 4 there will be theatre games and improvisation, on April 11 there will be auditioning and monologue, and on April 18 there will be auditioning for musical theatre.

The workshop is limited to 25 participants and anyone interested can visit Tony Elliot's office in the Academic Building to sign up.

Theatre Dumb human tricks on the job

The Orlando Sentine

Often it takes a major blunder to teach young professionals one of the most vital workplace skills: political savvy.

The rules are different - and largely unwritten - in every workplace, but in general, the biggest gaffes involve displaying too much bravado too soon. Sheri Mitchell wishes she had realized early in her

career that she didn't have to be a hero - that it was OK to ask questions When Mitchell, who now owns a staffing firm, started

out in the industry nearly two decades ago, she was like many young people - eager to prove herself.

She was on call one weekend in the mid-1980s as an entry-level staffer for an employment agency when a worker canceled an assignment. Mitchell, not wanting to bother her boss, immediately got on the phone and found a replacement for the Saturday-morning job of handing out samples of roast beef at a grocery store.

Mitchell was proud of herself for handling the situation. In her rush, however, she failed to notice that the woman she sent to slice the meat was legally blind. It wasn't until after the woman finished the assignment which she did fairly well, considering - that Mitchell learned about her blindness from the deli manager.

"I learned right then and there how important paying attention to detail was and that asking questions is never wrong," said Mitchell, 42, owner of ProFinders in Orlando, Fla. "My best advice to anyone starting out is pay attention to detail, and don't assume anything.

Mary Lee Carter was 22 and had been in the real-estate title business for about a year when she had a memorable phone conversation with a businessman a few states

As the pleasant chat drew to a close, the man asked, By the way, do you know so and so? naming someone who lived in her city. Carter said she did, but she didn't care for that particular gentleman and his attitude toward

After a long pause, the businessman told her, "Young lady, you need to know whom you are talking to before you share your opinions. That is my brother you just complained about" and hung up.

"That was really stupid, but it taught me a lesson," said Carter, now 39 and a manager with Chicago Title Insurance in Maitland, Fla. "I was young; I was full of myself. Ever since then my policy has been: You need to know whom you're talking to before you make any com-

It usually doesn't take long to learn how to be discreet and politically correct in the workplace. But several professionals say it took some time for them to develop a higher level of sophistication in dealing with others.

Skip Stein, an Orlando consultant, also has learned lessons about relationships in the business world. In Stein's

case, it's his lapse in communication skills that he regrets. When Stein was young and naive and in his "charging ahead" mode, he said, he thought mostly of how his various jobs affected him, rather than considering how he

might contribute. 'As you get older, you learn that listening is a more



It takes skills to be succesful in the business world.

sidering going for the sheepskin.

missed at first were on the job.

proving the department

said MacLeod, 34

it's not too late.'

Bob MacLeod said the educational opportunities he

When MacLeod started in his position as a trainer in the

accounting department of Orlando's Campus Crusade for

Christ 10 years ago, he was shy about offering his opinion.

Instead, he just listened to what his boss told him to do and

As carcer strategies go, that seems like a smart one. But

over time, MacLeod said, he realized that he needed to push

himself, learn new things and offer his own insights to im-

He kept waiting for the bosses to give him direction,

"But I've found that they themselves are often over-

So he took classes, attended management conferences

"Those are some specific things I wish I had known 10

on his own and sought out mentors. He has also learned to

be more sanguine about obstacles, realizing that they, too,

years ago," he said, but added that he still has plenty of

career left to apply the lessons he's learned: "Fortunately,

worked and underpaid, and are not necessarily thinking

long-term for themselves, never mind me!"

can be beneficial learning opportunities.

valuable skill than shooting off your mouth," said Stein, 56, president of Management Systems Consulting in Orlando. "I probably missed a lot of opportunities because I refused to listen to what people were telling me.

As important as relationships with others are, sometimes the biggest career obstacle is yourself. Several workers say they wish they had pushed them-

selves earlier in their professional lives to further their education, learn new skills and take more initiative. The lack of a degree is a regret for some, such as Nancy

Carter, 46, has been with the same company, Darden Restaurants of Orlando, for 30 years. She has had a great career with a company that encourages growth and devel-

opment, said Carter, who's a relocation supervisor. Still, she wishes she had stayed in college. Although she has taken several college courses and earned licenses and certifications in her field, she believes she might have gone further in her career with a degree.

"I wish I had gone to school at night and continued working during the day," Carter said. "It might have made a difference with the path I took with the company, because they offer a lot of advancement. There were opportunities I passed up because I didn't have the confidence to accept the challenges."

However, Carter realizes it's never too late and is con-

HOROSCOPES. **HOROSCOPES**

To get the advantage, check the day's rating: 10 is the easiest day, 0 the most challenging.

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Aries (March 21-April 19) - Today is a 6 -Don't get into a fight if you can help it. Taurus (April 20-May 20) - Today is an 8 - This isn't an easy day for most people. Two very powerful entities could clash. Gemini (May 21-June 21) - Today is a 7 - It's nice of your friend to offer advice, but you don't have to take it just because

Cancer (June 22-July 22) - Today is a 7 -They say opposites attract. Is that really true? You're the one who should know. If you let a bossy person think he or she is in control, you could get very lucky.

it's free.

Leo (July 23-Aug. 22) - Today is a 7 -Your next lesson is about patience. You want to be right the first time, but that's unlikely now.

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) - Today is a 6 -There's definitely something standing between you and your objective. Is it a lack of financing?

Libra (Sept. 23-Oct,22) - Today is a 7 --Housework is not your favorite hobby, but this time it could be fun.

Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) - Today is a 7 - Sort through your data and make a few changes. Have you been doing your job the hard way?

Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) - Today is a 7 - Don't get silly and say the wrong thing at the wrong time to the wrong person.

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) - Today is a 7 - People show more interest in your opinions now, although they're still not following them very well.

Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) - Today is a 7 - Check and double-check the information you receive. Something you hear or read contradicts an old belief.

Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20) - Today is a 7 - Tempers may be short, and voices may rise. You can be a help, but don't get caught in the crossfire.

Through the Looking Glass

the weekly column that asks if there is intelligent life out there

by Mike Pingree

KRT Campus

AHA! BLAM! BLAM! OH NO! THUD! This year's Darwin Awards, honoring those whose stupidity has caused their

involuntary removal from the gene pool, features a poacher named Marino Malerba. While on an illegal hunt in Spain, he spied a wild stag on an overhanging rock above him and immediately fired. The beast fell on him, killing him instantly.

IF I MAY SPEAK FREELY, HON

A Texas man suffers from a bizarre psychological disorder that causes him to fly into an uncontrollable rage whenever he hears certain words, among them, "Wisconsin," "Snickers" and "Mars."

He thought his girlfriend was about to say "New Jersey," so he shot her. He was convicted of aggravated assault.







Crossword

- **ACROSS** 1 Assumed name 6 Ninnies
- 11 Flock leader 14 Fats Waller's
- instrument 15 Showery month
- 16 Self-esteem 17 Watches over
- 18 One immune from criticism
- 20 Flexible elevator? 22 Naive fellow
- 25 Golfer Ernie 26 Singer Diamond
- 29 Copy 31 Possesses
- 34 Stir 35 Population expert
- 36 Have debts 37 Summit 38 Mortgage
- attachments 39 Oahu porch
- 41 Capp and Capone 43 Not feel well
- 44 Decide a matter 47 Act dovish?
- 48 Calendar unit 49 Film composer
- 50 Bean curd 52 Definite article
- 53 On the waves
- 54 Gravy-train
- passenger 59 Moody 61 Neeson and
- O'Flaherty 65 Much removed 66 Hooked with a
- horn 67 The king of
- 68 Raw mineral 69 Zatopek and
- Jannings 70 John Jacob or
- DOWN 1 Fitting
- 2 Whopper
- 8 Killer whale 9 Raven or robin 10 Frome's vehicle 11 Pastimes 12 in the past 13 Cut, the lawn 19 Iniquitous locale 21 Porky's gal 22 Outer edge 23 Thurman of "Pulp Fiction"

5 Not so hot

6 Erroneously

gemstones

7 Iridescent

- 24 Menus 27 Church vow 28 Droop 30 In the lead
- 31 Locks fingers 32 Stood by
- 33 Lexical meaning 40 Bee factories 41 False front Golfer Woosnam 42 Old card game 4 Auto racer Mario 45 Bishopric
- Solutions GORED TOFU THE ASEA BOBERS NEI TENDS SYCHEDCOM
- 57 Actress Petty 51 Samovar 52 Corner-man's toss
- 55 Margin 56 Ancient Dead Sea kingdom
- 60 Golf norm
 - 62 Creative skill 64 Knight's title
- 58 Ms. Fitzgerald 59 Craft of sci-fi 63 Pasture plaint





Have any ideas for the Features Page? Is there something you like or dislike? Let us know! We give a darn about what you think! E-mail us at Behrcoll5@aol.com for suggestions or comments.