

Unemployment rate for graduates rises

By Zach Geiger
COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

Penn State might be the No. 1 school in the country for career recruitment, according to the Wall Street Journal, but that doesn't mean recent graduates won't face difficulties in the job market.

The national unemployment rate among college graduates with a bachelor's degree or higher peaked at 5.1 percent in November, according to a study by the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Though that number is half the national unemployment rate, Penn State students need not panic when it comes to finding a job after graduation, Career Services Director Jack Rayman said.

"It's not a substantial increase," Rayman said. "It hovers between 4.6 percent and 5 percent. It's been hovering around 5 percent for the last couple years or so."

Rayman said the economy impacts various industries and geographic areas to different extents, therefore not all students are affected after graduation.

Still, some students expressed concern about the statistic — and what it means for their future.

"I'm scared of joining that 5 percent," Sandy Osterhoudt (senior-biotechnology) said.

The online resources offered by Career Services are helpful, she said, but students need to be proactive in finding a job post-graduation.

"You can't fault the system," she said. "It's just hard to be a student and be looking for a job."

Justin Garvey (senior-food science) said the numbers were

"alarming," but he acknowledged that gaining internship experience and participating in extracurricular activities are crucial to differentiate yourself from other job applicants.

"When people see that you're involved in things — that goes a lot further than someone that's just a 3.5 GPA student," he said.

The numbers do present a concern to Career Services, but the easiest way for students to prepare for their future is to take the first step — preferably in the direction of Career Services, Rayman said.

"Parents and students view higher education as preparation for a career," Rayman said. "If they don't secure jobs, they feel like higher education failed them."

To secure a job in time for graduation, students need to visit Career Services in their freshman year, Rayman said, and fully take advantage of the resources.

A benefit unique to Penn State is its reputation with employers, Rayman said. Career Services had an impact on the No. 1 ranking Penn State received in the Wall Street Journal, Rayman said.

Penn State came out on top of 100 colleges surveyed by 479 professional recruiters.

Penn State also ranked No. 5 in accounting, No. 6 in finance, No. 7 in computer science and No. 9 in engineering, according to the Wall Street Journal.

But the real challenge is up to students to enhance their marketability after graduation, Rayman said.

To e-mail reporter: zjg5012@psu.edu

FOR THE ELF



Kelly Rootes-Murphy/Colegian

Students pose with a Santa Elf for a picture in the HUB-Robeson Center on Tuesday morning. The photo shoot benefited the Interfraternity Council/Panhellenic Dance Marathon.

Man bound over for trial

By Zach Geiger
COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

The man charged with robbing the Northland Center Subway twice in November was bound over for trial after his preliminary hearing on Wednesday, the Ferguson Township Police Department said.



Blasko

Police said Michael Blasko, 24, of State College, robbed the Subway restaurant, 283 Northland Center, at knifepoint on

two separate occasions.

Blasko was arrested on Dec. 3 and faces two counts each of felony robbery and misdemeanor theft, simple assault and receiving stolen property, police said.

The Subway restaurant was robbed Nov. 9 at 8 p.m., police said. An unknown man wearing a white bandanna to conceal his face threatened a cashier with a knife and demanded money, police said.

The man fled the store with an undisclosed amount of cash, police said.

Surveillance video released by police showed a man wearing loose fitting jeans and a hooded

sweatshirt, in addition to a white bandanna. Police described the robber as a white male in his twenties, with a thin build and between 5 feet 10 and 6 feet tall.

At 10:39 p.m. on Nov. 12, the same Subway was robbed at knifepoint. The description of the man matched the one from the first incident, except the man was wearing a blue bandanna, police said.

Blasko is currently incarcerated in the Centre County Correctional Facility on \$100,000 cash bail and his arraignment is set for Jan. 5, 2011.

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2011

The Collegian office will be closing at 4 p.m. Friday, Dec. 10

We will be back at 9 a.m. Thursday, Jan. 6, 2011

Publication of The Daily Collegian will resume Monday, Jan. 10, 2011

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The Daily Collegian

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One at-large member.
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These Board terms require two-year commitments. The following are not eligible for these seats: current students, former Collegian staff members within five years of their terms on the staff, current Collegian staff members. Collegian Inc. is a Pennsylvania non-profit corporation which is legally and financially responsible for The Daily Collegian and related publications. The dual mission of Collegian Inc. is to provide a quality college newspaper for Penn State and a rewarding educational experience for its student staff members.

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- Setting broad policy and financial goals.
- Ensuring the financial independence and viability of The Daily Collegian and related publications.

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Patricia Hartranft
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State College, PA 16801-3882

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1. Reasons for seeking a directorship.
2. Local address, telephone number and email address.
3. Resume

The deadline for applications is 5 p.m. Friday, Dec. 10, 2010.

There's a spot for you at our table!

The Daily Collegian

The deadline for letters of application is 5 p.m., Friday, December 10.

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