

Carroll College Career Times

Carroll College Career Services
100 West Lyndale Ave., Suite B
Helena, MT 59601

January 2006

Translators

With some 40 million Hispanics now living in the United States, major corporations, government agencies, and nonprofit groups are directing advertising, information, and appeals to this key segment of the population. Hispanics are the largest language minority but not the only group for which reliable translations are important. Language barriers must also be overcome globally in governments, businesses, and private communications.

Translating is not something that one does with a few years of foreign language study. Words must not only be translated accurately, but also with an awareness of cultural differences.

A number of translating companies have sprung up in this country. They charge from 10 to 20 cents a word for translating—a premium over less reliable translations one overseas that may be billed at only three cents a word. The translation and interpretation field is now a \$9.5 billion



industry in the United States and has its own professional organization, the American Translators Association online at www.atanet.org.

(Source: *Career Opportunities News*; September 2005 Ferguson, An imprint of Facts On File, Inc., 2005.)

Overtime Work and Pay Now a Hot Issue



Abuses of wage-hour laws are on the top burner all over the country. In Portland, Oregon, a grand jury found merit in the claim raised by 400 Wal-Mart employees that they were told to clock out after 40 hours of work a week

but return for additional unpaid hours. In Washington, DC, 270 claims adjusters at Geico Insurance claimed they were improperly classified as workers exempt from overtime pay, according to the *Washington Post*.

The pressure to work extra hours, without pay or at straight salary (not time and a half), is but one of the ways American employers are trying to cut costs and gain productivity for each dollar spent. And this comes at a time when hiring is limited as employers are loath to add staff because of the high cost of benefits.

As this is being written, Congress and the Bush administration are still debating making more American workers exempt from provisions requiring they be paid time and a half for overtime work. The rationale behind the proposal is that the existing regulations are outdated, especially in high tech and telecommunications fields. The proposal is opposed by labor unions, the AFL-CIO, and individuals. (*Career Opportunity News* March/April 2004 Volume 21, Number 5)

You're Outta There!!!

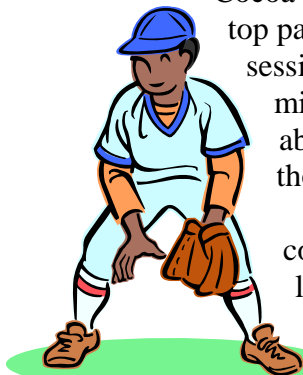
As you watch a baseball game, you probably disagree with the umpire's calls or the handling of the game. Could you do any better? Each year hundreds who would like to try begin the long tedious road that might lead to a job as one of 68 major league baseball umpires.

The only way to become an umpire in the major leagues is to demonstrate your skills at the minor league level, where 500 umpires who would prefer to work at Yankee Stadium or Comiskey Park are already toiling. Only around a dozen jobs open up each year for minor league umps, and they are all filled by graduates of two umpiring schools: Jim Evans Academy of Professional Umpiring and the Harry Wendelstedt School. Both are located in Florida and their five-week courses cost around \$3,300.

Each school is allowed to nominate 25 of its top graduates to attend an evaluation camp run by professional baseball held in March in Cocoa Beach, Florida. The top participants in this session are offered jobs as minor league umpires, or about one in four of those who are evaluated. After all this competition, the minor league umpire starts at \$1,800 a month for a five-month season.

Those lucky to make it to the majors earn well over \$100,000 a year.

(Source: *Career Opportunities News*; September 2005 Ferguson, An imprint of Facts On File, Inc., 2005.)



Jobs with Uncle Sam



Candidates for jobs with the federal government may place their resumes on file so they may be reviewed by agencies with appropriate openings.

Increasingly, government personnel officers are relying on automated screening and hiring procedures, and the Office of Personnel Management has just spent \$4.8 million to upgrade its website (www.usajobs.opm.gov), according to the *Washington Post*. (Source: *Career Opportunity News* March/April 2004 Volume 21, Number 5)

Totally Cool Career Factoids

- The five states that created the most new jobs between 2003 and 2004 were Florida (291,000), Arizona (101,600), New Jersey (98,000), Virginia (97,400), and Nevada (96,300), according to *US News & World Report*.
- Only 14 percent of workers who responded to a Conference Board survey said they are "very satisfied with their job," while 25 percent said they are "just showing up to collect a paycheck."
- The only Marines who don't have to go through its rigorous boot camp are members of its famous Marine Corps Band. But Marine musicians face their own challenge. Last year, 124 people from all over the country competed for two openings in the trumpet section, according to the *Washingtonian*.

(Source: *Career Opportunities News*; September 2005 Ferguson, An imprint of Facts On File, Inc., 2005.)