

# She finds practicality in college

Lori Friedman is one student who knows how to beat today's tight job market—she's already working. Ms. Friedman, from Southfield, is a junior in Michigan State University's James Madison College, which specializes in a four-year study of public policy issues. All Madison students are required to spend one of their 12 school terms working full-time for a public or private organization which makes influences or implements public policy.

This summer, for example, Madison's field experience office will be sending a total of 40 students to such agencies as the American Civil Liberties Union, an Israeli kibbutz, the state agriculture department, and a Georgia foundation for the fine arts.

Ms. Friedman will also be traveling to Georgia, to work at the Martin Luther King Jr. Center for Social Change.

"Agencies that want student interns provide us with a description of the work students will be expected to do," explained Thomas Emiling, director of the field experience program. "If an agency is looking for a clerk or secretary, we don't send students to them."

Emiling says the program's purpose is to let students apply their academic studies to practical work situations that involve decision-making and comprehension of public policy problems.

PAST STUDENT interns have undertaken such jobs as preparing posi-

tion papers, organizing community groups, and fundraising.

"Policy studies can be very abstract and difficult to grasp," Emiling said, "so we arrange for them to participate in these processes."

The students participate in the selection of their field placement, as well as choosing agencies that match their interests and academic programs from a listing that offers assignments throughout the world.

Emiling has solid evidence that the field study program is both pleasing participating agencies as well as boosting the student job outlook. MSU's Placement Services reports that in the Madison graduating class of 1976—a year hard-hit by the recession—a whopping 84 percent of the students either landed a full-time job or a seat in a graduate program before they left the university.

"The students make professional contacts in their career areas and

many go right back to the agencies they were placed in for jobs and recommendations," Emiling pointed out.

"We have never had an agency ask us to withdraw a student worker," he said proudly. "And after one of our students served at the Panama desk in the State Department in Washington, officials there told us they would take more students whenever we could send them."

Ms. Friedman, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Edward Friedman of 18865 Carmona, Southfield, will spend eight weeks working in a shelter home for neglected and abused children after two weeks of training at the King Center.

A 1974 graduate of Southfield High School, Friedman plans to seek a career working with delinquent children after she finishes college. If her experience is like that of other Madison College grads, she won't have much trouble finding work.

## Student wins AAA contest

A high school student from Southfield won the National Grand Award in the American Automobile Association's (AAA) 33rd annual National School Traffic Safety Poster Contest.

Winner of the program's highest award and \$700 in U.S. savings bonds was Tom Draplin, 16, an 11th grader at Southfield High School, for his post-

er urging those on the road to "Signal your Intentions."

Draplin, the first national grand award winner from Michigan in seven years, was among 12 savings bond winners from Michigan.

Winners were selected by a panel of judges from among more than 38,000 posters submitted by student artists from across the nation.

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