

High school students get interview tips

By SUSAN FIELD
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Today's economic conditions have Sophia Fish worrying about her future.

Fish, 20, a senior at Oasis High School in Mt. Pleasant, wants to be a daycare provider.

Like other students, Fish wants to make sure she does everything she can to start a fulfilling career.

Fish, one of an estimated 300 students from high schools in Isabella and Clare counties, attended Middle Michigan Development Corporation's mock interview day Tuesday at the Bovee University Center at Central Michigan University.

After her interview, Fish felt good about the experience.

"I think it went pretty good," she said. "They said I did well but said not to be so nervous going into the interview."

Fish, a resident of Mt. Pleasant, also said she was told to stay positive during job interviews.

Kayla Peterman, 18, another senior at Oasis, filled out a job application and was in a resource room with representatives from the military, Michigan Works, CMU and Mid Michigan Community College prior to her interview.

Peterman, of Mt. Pleasant, wants to be a pediatric nurse.

She is not as worried as her friend Fish about the economy because nursing is a profession with stability, she said.

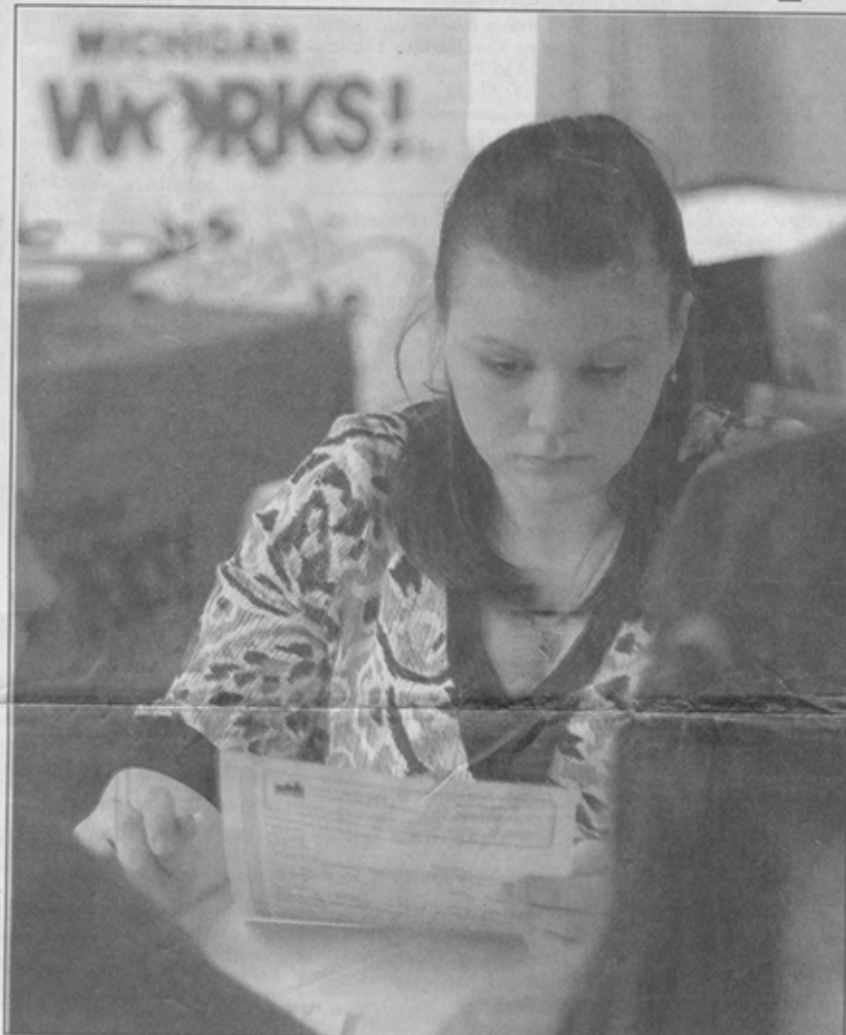
Although she was a bit nervous, Peterman was looking forward to the experience.

She plans to go to either MMCC or Midland College in Texas to study nursing.

Another Oasis senior, Balinda Morrow of Mt. Pleasant, also wants to pursue a career in nursing.

Morrow, 19, wants to attend MMCC and is confident that the need for nurses will remain after she completes her education.

Morrow thinks the mock



Sun photograph by LISA YANICK-JONAITIS

Sophia Fish looks over a job application during mock interview day at Central Michigan University Tuesday.

interview is important because college is a must to get into a good career.

Consisting of mock interviews, workshops and critiques, the 10th annual event brought high school juniors and seniors hoping to get an edge before entering the workforce.

About 70 business people participated, interviewing students, said Carolyn Bennett, director of promotions

and workforce development at MMDC.

Mock interview day allows students to practice their interview skills and have contact with the business community, Bennett said.

Students participating had to fill out job applications, write cover letters and present resumes, Bennett said.

One of the interviewers, Isabella County Parks and Recreation Director Sue Ann Koppmeyer, said she was glad to be part of the event.

Students were very enthusiastic, Koppmeyer said.

"I love the innocence of it," she said. "Kids don't realize the experience they have and how that can help them in the future."

Koppmeyer said it was nice to be able to point out that volunteer work, such as being in charge of an animal barn at the Isabella County Fairgrounds for 4-H, can be seen as work experience.

They said . . .

Morning Sun Facebook fan Susan Campbell had this job interview advice:

"Think back to a project you accomplished and were proud of, mentally focus on the confidence it gave you, and hold that feeling throughout the interview."

