

Gonzalez

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it's great that Hans dances. It just shows how incredibly well-rounded he is."

And well-rounded he is. He dances, he does accounting, works at the student financial services office and watches *Lois & Clark* in his spare time.

"The soap opera drama between the two characters Lois and Clark fill the void of relationships I don't have in my life because of my focus on school and dancing. Watching the two of them I realize that I'm not sure whether or not I miss having a relationship or am lucky not having one," Gonzalez says.

The Florida competition was the highlight of Gonzalez' dancing career to date. "It was scary. There were 25 couples not only from U.S. schools but from Germany, Canada and Great Britain. In a big competition you can't be scared. You

only have that moment to shine," Gonzalez says.

"The whole experience was intense. Not only did we have our competitions but we also had training, so we were going from eight in the morning 'til midnight."

The devotion, work, sacrifice and dedication paid off. There are two categories in the competition, International and American style. For the past few years, Great Britain has been winning the American Style category. Gonzalez says that naturally the Americans wanted to recapture that category.

"We took first place in the American Style Team Match. We got paired up with couples from Yale because we were short on couples, and when we won we were awarded \$250. That was easy to split; we each got \$125 for our respective teams. The problem then became how to share the trophy," Gonzalez said.

One of the Yale dancers suggested they keep the trophy for six months and then UNLV

could have it for the remainder of the year. However, Donna Medrano, UNLV's ballroom dance coach suggested a different method. Her idea was to total up most points for the entire competition and that school gets to keep the trophy.

Along-faced and disappointed Yalie conceded, "Well, I guess then UNLV gets it." Gonzalez and his team were thrilled with that decision.

Gonzalez specializes in what is generally referred to as rhythm/Latin dancing. His focus is now on winning this category in the U.S. Amateur Ballroom National Competition, slated for August and to be held in Houston, Texas. He is determined to win this competition to fulfill his dream of having a shot at the World Amateur Championship in England.

"My goal is to compete in the world championship in Blackpool, England. You don't go to this competition without having won the U.S. Amateur Ballroom National Championships. If Nora and I can win

this title, then I feel we're ready for the big one," Gonzalez said.

Though Gonzalez and Palubinskas have only been dancing together for seven months, Gonzalez feels fortunate to have landed such a dedicated partner. "I'm lucky that Nora is so committed. Anyone that can put up with me has to be committed," he grins.

Kathryn Wilson, Gonzalez boss and assistant director of financial services says "It's fine that he's doing his dancing, as long as it doesn't interfere with his work in our office," she giggles. "Actually, I think it's a great thing that Hans represents UNLV nationally and hopefully, internationally," Wilson adds.

Last Friday Gonzalez and his partner competed in the "Challenge of Champions" regional competition held at Harrah's Hotel in Las Vegas. The duo took first place in the novice international Latin category and second in amateur rhythm.

"The guy that beat me out of first place is ranked amateur American champion, as a matter of fact, he has been for the last five years. I didn't expect to run into him until August and when I saw him, I said 'Oh, well,'" Gonzalez said.

Gonzalez and Palubinskas will head for Houston in August for the U.S. Ballroom Amateur National Championships.

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tunities with..." or something similar. Often this information is geared directly toward the entry level job market and lists the entry level jobs available and corresponding departments (or business units).

The best source for this information is your campus career placement office, although many libraries also have extensive employer information files. If not available in those locations, contact the company directly, ask for the human resources department, explain that you are planning to interview with them in the near future and request that they please send any appropriate company literature direct to you.

Although the above noted information can provide you with very detailed information, it is usually only available from larger companies. Yet nearly every size organization has a third type of information that can also greatly enhance your job search.

Marketing information.

This is one type of information that will not usually be available through public access, so it typically requires a direct call to the company. Ask to be connected to the marketing department, then ask if they would please send out some general marketing information on their company to you.

This could be in the form of general company information or specific product information. Most companies are happy to oblige.

Do your best to become familiar with the company's position within the marketplace and how they position themselves with their customers. Get to know what they really "do for a living" and what your potential role could be within that greater company purpose.

Ironically, most students don't attempt to access any of the above information until after their first on-campus interview. But if you are serious about your job search, do your best to acquire the information before you make contact with the company or its

representatives. It is those who are well-informed from the start who consistently are given the opportunity for the company-site interviews and eventual job offers.

Job search is a two-way street. Don't just go begging for any job. Doing detailed research on each potential employer will assist you in better understanding which companies you may have an interest in working for. And it will give you the ammunition you need to be successful in eventually landing a job offer from the company of your choice.

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