

Interview *focus*

Helping you Achieve your Preparation Goals

The **Legacy Group Pageant Consulting** Interview Focus Newsletter is designed to specifically assist our clients participating in interview preparation but is beneficial to any contestant.

Our weekly updates include the most important news events and related stories so that you learn to build your depth of knowledge around the “right” current events and stop wasting valuable time studying facts and issues that will never find their way into the interview room.

In addition, we also focus on one key social issue in each newsletter to help you understand the pros and cons and help you better decide where you stand on each issue. Once you know where you stand you can better defend your viewpoint in the interview process.

As a bonus there are extra interview questions on each week’s social issue and “get to know you” questions as well as a “tip of the week”. When you’re prepared properly, you’ll never be nervous walking into an interview again! Enjoy!

~Michelle & Jessica

FOCUSING ON COMPLETE
PREPARATION AND A
BETTER WAY TO REACH
YOUR GOALS,
DEVELOPING THE
INDIVIDUAL FIRST.

PAGEANT WATCH

Our condolences to the family of former Miss America Mary Ann Mobley who passed away this week. She was the first Miss America from Mississippi to be crowned. She was 77 years old and battling breast cancer. Mary Ann was an actress appearing in various tv shows and on Broadway. She was married to Garry Collins. [CNN](#)

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1. Eight states are considering requiring high school seniors to pass a citizenship test in order to graduate. The states that are considering this suggest that this is not an immigration procedure (although the test would be the same as required by immigrants) but rather a test for students to demonstrate their basic civic knowledge. A 2011 study found that 44% of Americans could not define the Bill of Rights while nearly 1/3 could not name the current vice president. Do you agree with this proposal? Should all states consider such a requirement?

The Week

2. The NFL announced this week a revised personal conduct policy that will take effect immediately. As part of the changes, the NFL will implement an element of paid leave during investigations as well as a 6 game suspension for violations involving assault, sexual assault, battery, domestic violence, etc. Do you agree these changes were necessary? Should similar personal conduct policies be put in place for other professional sports? Should the NFL players been able to have a voice in these changes?
3. Sony was hacked this week, by a North Korean organization, and many insulting and some racially insensitive emails were leaked to the press regarding statements a Sony executive made about several celebrities and even the President. Should Amy Pascal resign for her private communications that were never meant for public view?

[CNN](#)

4. Three people, all school-age, were shot on Friday afternoon near a Portland high school. As of the time of this newsletter, no further information has been released on the shooter or the victims. We read about these gun violence stories nearly every week. What can we do to reduce the gun violence we see in this country? Should teachers be allowed to carry concealed handguns in their classrooms to protect themselves and their students? Would you feel safer or less safe on campus knowing your teacher was carrying a handgun?

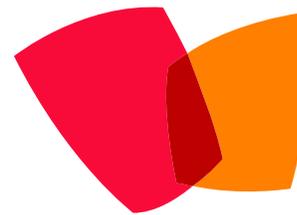
[CNN](#)

5. Paul Revere's 1795 time capsule was unearthed this week in Boston. It was originally buried by Samuel Adams and Paul Revere in a cornerstone of the Massachusetts State House in 1795. If you were to bury a time capsule today, what would you include? What would those items say about you?

[CNN](#)

Social Issue of the Week:

Education: Should Tablets Replace Textbooks



As tablets become more prevalent in our everyday lives, a new debate has formed over whether K-12 school districts should switch from print textbooks to digital textbooks on tablets. 2012 marked the first time that more people accessed the internet via smartphones and tablets than desktop and laptop computers.

Proponents of tablets argue that they are much lighter to carry than textbooks, can hold hundreds of textbooks and receiving recent updates, save the environment by reducing printing significantly, improve standardized test scores and are cheaper than print textbooks.

Opponents of tablets say that they are expensive and too distracting for students, easy to break and cost/time-consuming to fix. They also argue that viewing textbooks on tablets will lead to eyestrain, headaches and blurred vision, increase the excuses for students not completing homework assignments and require costly Wi-Fi networks.

Other thoughts to consider:

- During 2011-12 school year, more than 13,000 US students, ages 5 to 18 were treated for back-pack related injuries.
- Students at California's Riverside Unified School scored 20% higher on standardized tests from learning from an interactive digital version than students who learned from printed text books.
- Implementing tablets in classrooms requires purchasing tablets and training teachers how to use the technology and effectively teach from them. It is estimated that the annual cost per student per class with tablets to be \$71.55 v. \$14.26 for print text books.
- The brain interprets printed and digital text in different ways. People generally read digital text 20-30% slower than print. It is argued that reading hyper-linked text may increase the brains "cognitive load", lowering the ability to process, store and retain information, or "translate the new material into conceptual knowledge".
- The average tablet-owning US student reads 24 books per year on a tablet compared with 15 in print for those who do not own a table. According to a surevey by the Pew Internet and American Life Project, 30% of e-content readers (including 40% of those under the age of 30) say that they now spend more time reading than the used to due to the availability of e-content.

For more information on this interesting discussion, please visit: <http://tablets-textbooks.procon.org/>

Tip of the Week

During the holidays, don't lose sight of your fitness goals. Continue regular workouts and minimize your indulgences to keep yourself on track!

Get To Know You Questions

1. If I googled your name, what would I learn about you?
2. How has your upbringing shaped your dreams?
3. What do you think is the greatest environmental problem today?
4. Define "class" without giving me an example.
5. How do you handle peer pressure?

Social Issue Questions

1. Do you think you learn better by reading printed material or e-material?
2. As the U.S. continues to fall behind in the STEM-related subjects, would utilizing tablets and technology increase those statistics?
3. Would requiring tablets in classrooms further put lower income communities and schools further behind their middle/upper class counterparts?
4. Should schools be required to integrate tablets into their classrooms?