

Job fair freebies



Columnist comes away from Engineering fair with bags full of loot

Every year there is a contingent of us engineers who are assigned something special for the Engineering Career Fair. We find the other side of the job fair — loot.

Somewhere, someone said, "We will get better recruits if we give away cheap promotional junk." And hence the junk was begun. Like one company rep said, it is Halloween for adults. Almost everyone has free junk."

There is a disclaimer involved. Passing judgment on a company only by what they give away isn't good practice. It is easy to think they obviously don't care about future employees if the freebies are lacking.

Of course, some have good stuff and some have lame junk that can't even double as a paperweight. Most of the time recruiters say "here, take another."

Only one person in all the companies was selfish with their freebies. Ironically, it was the company my dad works for.

So what was my take? How big is my stash?

I had to make two trips with my backpack full. I won't have to buy another pen for years. I garnered about 100 pens and pencils.

Everyone has pens and pencils at the fair. Nebraska Department of Roads had the worst pens overall, which all failed the first use test. Even after they started working, they were substandard.

The flexible pens were new this year. They were cool enough for mine to have been stolen.

At the other end of the scale were unsharpened pencils. Who wants free stuff that causes more work? Besides, I can't remember the last time I saw a pencil sharpener.

There was the same-old stuff available this year. However, the same-old stuff is not all bad. Garmin, who has the same stuff every year, also has the best lip balm. I grabbed about 10 to stock up for the year.

Thirteen companies had can Koozies, of which only two were purple. I've never really used one, so I'll give them away.

People don't really ask for Koozies like they do for things that blink. Most blinky things come in the form of a ball, which is good for impromptu midnight dodgeball.

Other things to throw would be all the foam toys. Foam toys are always common. Want a daytime war with your roommate? Foam toys are a way to go. Less damage, fewer scars and more of your possessions remain intact.

The best junk was the world on an elastic string. Great for people with pets, or if you want to annoy people by almost hitting them. Practice before public use.

Most everyone has candy, but two companies had actual chocolate bars. The same chocolate bars they had last year, however, only one company tasted like it was left from last year.

Can you find a job at a career fair? Probably. Do other schools have their own fairs with cool stuff? I don't know. Were my classes cancelled? Yes, which makes it all that much better.

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Photos by Catrina Rawson | COLLEGIAN

Engineering Career Fair awards

The Best Foam Toy: The earth ball on the elastic string was the most fun. Kleinfelder should come back with a bigger box of them next year.



The Best Can Koozie: Most koozies were really generic and only two were purple. However the award goes to the PinnacleOne koozie because it was made for water bottles.

The Best New Item: Free music download cards. One song is a little skimpy, so I took six total from two companies. The

companies don't get awards — the idea does.

Most Annoying Item: The spin top from Kirkham Michael. It lights up and plays music when spun. Though it can spin for close to a minute, the song it plays is unidentifiable.



Best In Show: Seeing the joy in the eyes of my peers caused by the Affinis Corp. goo-filled stress ball makes it the winner. It was like watching kids at Christmas.

Honorable Mention goes to the classic toys such as: Target's silly putty, the Archer balsa planes and the Kirkham Michael, Inc., mini slinky.

Chicago rocker draws in crowd for UPC Buzz series

By Hannah Crippen
KANSAS STATE COLLEGIAN

Dave Tamkin, singer/songwriter from Chicago, performed in the K-State Student Union Station for the Tuesday Night Buzz series.

Tamkin has shared the stage with musical groups like Guster, Rusted Root, Fountains of Wayne, Butch Walker and Will Hoge.

Gail Tremblay, junior in political science, found out about the concert from a poster in her sorority house. "It looked like it'd be interesting," Tremblay said.

She said she would like to see more artists like Tamkin perform at the Union.

"It fit with my musical pref-

erence," Tremblay said. "It was easy-going and upbeat. He was funny and good-looking."

More than 120 students attended the event, and the audience was receptive to Tamkin, whose jokes and songs kept their attention for an hour. He interacted with the crowd by having them clap along to one of his songs and by asking them to join in on songs like "Video Killed the Radio Star" and "In Your Eyes."

Tamkin, who has been playing since the fifth grade, said he is on the first week of his two-week tour that will take him to Omaha, Neb.; Tennessee; Alabama; and back home to Chicago.

"It's nice to play along the way instead of driving 10 hours

to every city," Tamkin said. "I always look forward to playing in front of new people." Tamkin said he was happy with the outcome of the night.

"Anytime you can see someone relate to lyrics you wrote, and connecting to you in that way, it's really cool," Tamkin said. "That's why I do it."

Throughout the concert, Tamkin expressed his gratitude to the audience for their attendance.

Kurt Fenster, junior in theater and arts co-chair of the Union Program Council, said he was satisfied with Tamkin's performance. He heard about him from one of the talent agencies the UPC works with.

"We listened to his stuff and thought he was a great artist,

and we were able to have him come," Fenster said.

This is the second year UPC has had the Buzz. In 2004-05, it was on Thursdays. Fenster said they changed it because of the parking on Thursday evenings.

Tremblay said she likes having the Buzz on Tuesdays.

"I thought it was nice because later in the week, you get busy," Tremblay said.

"It's something to break up the week"

Fenster said UPC tries to entertain a wide audience during the Buzz's performances that occur every other Tuesday.

"We try to have a very diverse selection," Fenster said. "We try to give people a show that they'll enjoy."



Joslyn Brown | COLLEGIAN

In Union Station, Dave Tamkin, singer/songwriter, plays to an intimate audience Tuesday.

CELEB NEWS

The Associated Press



Courtesy AP

Stones upset about Super Bowl censoring

NEW YORK — Nobody turns off the microphone on Mick Jagger without a fight.

Censorship of their songs during the Super Bowl halftime show was "absolutely ridiculous and completely unnecessary," the Rolling Stones said through a spokeswoman on Tuesday.

The NFL, which produced the show seen on ABC Sunday night, silenced Jagger's microphone during "Start Me Up," — one word close to the song's end, a reference to a woman so sexy she could arouse a dead man. Another lyric for "Rough Justice" included a synonym for rooster that was removed.

The football league, still nervous over the Janet Jackson wardrobe malfunction two years ago at the Super Bowl, has said it wanted to ensure family entertainment at the game.

"The band was aware of our plan to simply lower Mick's mike at the appropriate moments," said Brian McCarthy, NFL spokesman. "It was discussed with the group last week prior to the Super Bowl."

The band may have known about it, but that doesn't mean they liked it, spokeswoman Fran Curtis said.

Jay-Z, Linkin Park

to perform at Grammys

SANTA MONICA, Calif. — The Recording Academy announced Monday multiple Grammy winner and rap mogul Shawn "Jay-Z" Carter will perform with Grammy-winning rockers Linkin Park — nominated for a Grammy for their groundbreaking collaboration, "Numb/Encore."

Other newly announced presenters include Grammy nominee Alicia Keys and comedian/actor Dave Chappelle. Nominee Anoushka Shankar — up for Best Contemporary World Music Album — will perform during the Grammy pre-telecast ceremony.

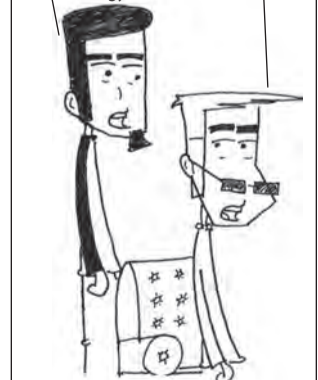
The 48th Annual Grammy Awards hosted by singer and actress Queen Latifah will air at 7 tonight on CBS.

Halls of College

By Clinton Smith



How'd she do that?
She accidentally punched herself in the face at the gym.



Oh, zing...

