A packed Reed Arena at the Fall 2014 Engineering Career Fair sets the tone for the upcoming spring fair. PROVIDED

Engineering career fair could break attendance mark

By Katy Stapp

The spring engineering career fair may set new records again this year, as the number of attending companies and students is expected to break 2014's record with the addition of a second day.

Registered company attendance is 50 percent greater than last year, and student-company interviews will now be offered throughout Reed Arena's concourse area. Student Engineers' Council — the organization responsible for engineering's semesterly career fairs — decided to make the jump from a one-day to two-day spring career fair on Tuesday and Wednesday to accommodate a greater number of engineering firms.

Melinda McClure, SEC president, said when company registration numbers exceeded their expectations in Spring 2014, they decided to make the Spring 2015 career fair in Reed Arena a two-day event.

"It truly sets a precedent to have two two-day career fairs in one year," McClure said. "It attests to the quality of our engineers."

McClure said while registration for the two-day Spring Fair was expected to fill quickly, company registration did not sell out. Still, 200 more booths in Reed Arena will be filled with recruiters, a more-than-50 percent increase from last year's spring fair, setting the total number of booths at a record-breaking 504.

"The prime time for recruitment is typically in the fall," McClure said. "So companies just aren't used to doing major recruitment in the spring. Still, I have no doubt that we will have it filled in the future."

Michelle Wise, SEC career fair co-chair, said in addition to an increase in the number of companies attending the fair, many of the companies have registered to attend for the full two days to maximize facetime with the students.

"Because we have more booths available this year, we have also seen a rise in first-time attendees," Wise said. "Many of these new companies have become interested in attending as a result of hearing about the highly regarded reputation of A&M students and the hiring successes of companies that went to the career fair previously."

To make up for the extra space that was planned for spring fair, the SEC teamed up with the Career Center to utilize the space for company representatives to conduct interviews with the students.

"The second day of fair, we will have the entire upper concourse of Reed Arena used for interviews," McClure said. "That way, companies can get those done while they're on campus and be more encouraged to hire students."

Ervin Polasek, SEC vice president of development, said SEC leaders planned ahead to make sure any extra space from the career fair's expansion would be utilized.

"We had a few options for the consequences of not filling up both days," Polasek said. "So about two and a half weeks ago we made the decision to contact the Career Center. I let them know what our idea was about having interviews, and sure enough, they agreed. They kind of took the reins on planning the whole thing."

The engineering career fair will take place from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tuesday and Wednesday in Reed Arena.

STAFFPICKS

Which podcast do you recommend?

Aimee Breaux Managing Editor

"This American Life." Some critics call this podcast an evaluation of upper-middle-class life in America and indeed some episodes are painfully frivolous, but it's overall a solid gateway podcast. The show started with the premise of providing honest journalism with a human connection and it stays true to this with its solid coverage of topics like 9/11, the financial crisis and the U.S. education system.

Mark Doré Editor-in-Chief

Have to cheat here and split my vote between "Stuff You Should Know" and "Slate's Political Gabfest." SYSK is fun, snappy and listenable — just two guys explaining everything from the origins of cinnamon to a barebones take on bitcoin. Gabfest is more attuned to the news-and-politics nerd. It features three smart, likeable, bipartisan(ish) journalists bantering on newsy topics. They manage to differ on things without yelling each other down, which is refreshing.

Brandon Wheeland Sports Editor

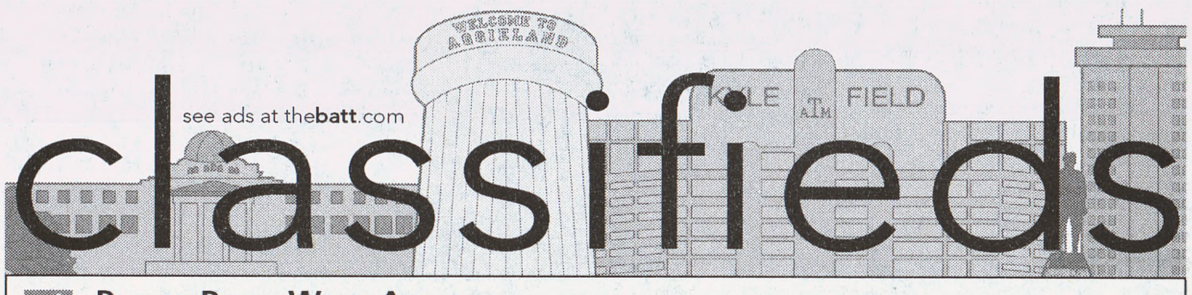
I enjoy listening to "The Thundering Herd" podcast with Colin Cowherd. It does a great job of capturing all the relevant sports news and condensing it into a short podcast to keep me caught up on the day's big events.

Jennifer Reiley Assistant Managing Editor

"Welcome to Nightvale." It's a quirky, fictional story about the town of Nightvale. Full of aliens and strange occurrences, it's a great way to spend a half-hour study break.

Lindsey Gawlik News Editor

My favorite podcast would definitely have to be "TED Radio Hour." It's when they turn TED Talks into a podcast format. It often fills the three-hour voids of silence on my frequent drives between here and San Antonio.



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Newsday Crossword

NOT QUITE WHITE by Billie Truitt
Edited by Stanley Newman
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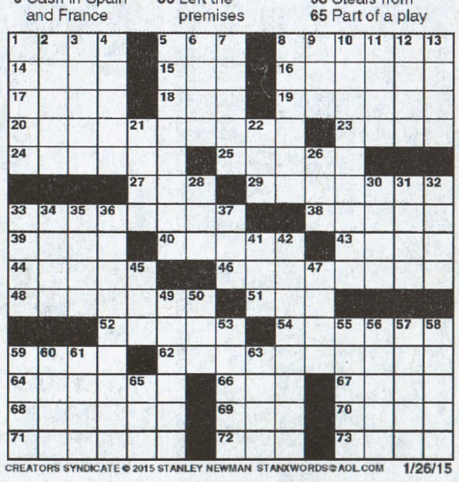
ACROSS
1 ID no. on a bank statement
5 Fraction of a min.
8 Bonus song at a concert
14 Create, as a cartoon
15 Your and my
16 Typical
17 Female horse
18 Moving to and __
19 11- and 12-year-olds
20 Hideaway for the impractical
23 Poker stake
24 Musical speeds
25 Have fond hopes
27 Football official, for short
29 Look up to
33 Noisemakers worn in dairy herds
38 Less diluted
39 Three-layer cookie
40 Telling fibs
43 Generic dog name
44 Tubular pasta
46 Hiker's woe, perhaps
48 Looks up to
51 Use a shovel
52 "Santa __ Is Coming to Town"
54 Bismarck, North __
59 Ancient legend
62 One who brings up gems from the sea
64 TV antenna of old
66 Sound heard in a dairy herd
67 Shakespearean king
68 Swoop down (on)
69 English TV network
70 Estimator's words
71 Gym clothes, informally
72 Seek answers
73 Beef-and-potatoes meal

DOWN
1 Allow inside
2 Have a yen for
3 Billiards bounce
4 Pipsqueak
5 Low-pressure persuasion
6 Cash in Spain and France
7 Throng
8 Main course
9 At this moment
10 Custard-filled pastry
11 Sign of things to come
12 Angry speech
13 "So what __ is new?"
21 Olden times
22 Make a mistake
26 Egyptian snake
28 Go by plane
30 Southernmost Great Lake
31 Relinquish legally
32 Easy run
33 Deal (with)
34 Mined rocks
35 Left the premises
36 Fine dinnerware
37 Bro's sibling
41 Head-moving approval
42 Severe traffic jam
45 Snakelike fish
47 Old-fashioned "Oh, my!"
49 Tree sources of syrup
50 Take to court
53 Brazilian dance
55 Metric weights, for short
56 Out in the open
57 Make fun of
58 Archer's missile
59 Atlas pages
60 "That hurts!"
61 Factual
63 Steals from
65 Part of a play



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ANSWERS to todays puzzles

A	C	C	T		S	E	C	
D	R	A	W		O	U	R	
M	A	R	E		F	R	O	
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			C	L	A	U	S	
M	Y	T	H		P	E	A	R
A	E	R	I	A	L		M	O
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O	R	S	O					
S	T	E	W					

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9	5	2	3	7	1	6	4	8
7	8	4	9	5	6	2	3	1
3	1	6	2	8	4	9	7	5
8	2	1	5	4	7	3	6	9
6	7	5	1	9	3	8	2	4
4	9	3	6	2	8	1	5	7