BITE YOUR TONGUE

36% of recruiters say the most common mistake candidates make during interviews is TALKING TOO MUCH. Good communication is a two-way street, and big talkers are often not very good listeners.

(KORN FERRY INTL)

LEADING THE WAY

Every year, colleges turn out graduates with similar backgrounds and skills and they embark on the proverbial job hunt. What makes one new graduate more marketable in the job market over another? In a recent survey, employers were asked to rate candidates using a 5 point scale to measure the influence of certain attributes of job candidates; with 5 being the highest level of influence.

1. Leadership experience and college major rated the highest at 4.0
2. High GPA (3.0 or above) rated 3.7
3. Involvement in extracurricular activity 3.7
4. Volunteer work experience 3.2
5. College attended 3.0

CAREERS IN THE GREAT OUTDOORS

Nature Lover? Crazy about the environment, natural resources or wildlife? Love outdoor activities and adventure sports? Career World recently interviewed a Park Ranger, an Outward Bound wilderness guide and a turf manager for a Big Ten football field. Read on the see what they had to say about their jobs:

Kelli English, Park Ranger, Yellowstone National Park- leads adventure hikes, gives science and nature lectures regularly. “Being a park ranger means being part teacher, scientist, historian, performer and psychologist”, says English. English has a BA in Anthropology and an MA in Natural Resources.

Casey Montandon, wilderness Instructor, Outward Bound- “I lead expeditions from seven to 80 days long.” The job takes physical strength, emotional stamina and technical expertise. Montandon studied architecture, but decided he loved the outdoors more than an office job.

Amy Fouty, Turf Manager, Michigan State University (Spartans)- “we nurture the grass, throughout the year by irrigating, fertilizing, aerating, top dressing and seeding.” Fouty, with one full time employee and two interns works up to 12 hours a day, year round. She has worked for Michigan State for 4 years now, but also worked for University of Michigan for five years as their turf manager. Fouty takes her job seriously: “I never want to see a guy go down because of a poor playing surface.”. Fouty completed a 2 year certificate course in Turf Management. (Career World, Nov/Dec 2007)

(For more information about Outdoor jobs check out Ellen Shenk’s book.)