

3 Blind Mice the College Idol



BUBBLY HOST: Serena C (seated) clowns around as a contestant performs at Metropolitan College in Subang Jaya

■ By Joanna Van

IT was the last two chances for college students to win RM16,000 in the College Idol competition.

Thirty hopefuls were eyeing the 19 spots in the finals and the grand prizes of RM8,000 each in the group and solo categories.

There were three tests that the contestants had to go through. The first was the "Vocal Challenge" where they were required to sing a song of their choice. Many sang using minus-one tracks while some played the guitar as they sang.

Next up was the "Wrong Answer Game". Here, contestants had to answer four simple questions ... wrongly!

It may sound easy, right? Wrong!

Many contestants — maybe because they were so used to answering their exam questions correctly — answered, well, correctly, which was not what the judges wanted.

The final test was the "Groovalicious Body Challenge". The contestants had to impress the crowd as well as the judges by dancing to different beats.



GROOVY BABY: A three-man group who calls itself 3 Blind Mice shows what it can do at the audition at Metropolitan College in Subang Jaya

Again, this wasn't a simple task, with the crowd watching the bravehearts take on the challenge.

For the past two months, Wrigley's Malaysia, the organisers of the competition, has been visiting a few selected colleges and universities to hold auditions. College Idol aims to help students earn scholarships through their singing ability, dancing skills and mental alertness.

"We didn't expect to get into the preliminaries," said Low Ken Wen, a 19-year old from Malaysia Multimedia University (MMU). Ken Wen is the lead man for his eight-member group named Ken Wen and Friends. His bandmate Leong Wai Seng, 20, said: "We were just hanging out at the campus when someone told us about

the auditions and we thought why not give it a try? We figured that even if we didn't go far we would still get some free stuff from Wrigley's."

Unlike Ken Wen and Wai Seng, Indhuja Ravindran was more serious about winning. The young girl had a sore throat on the day of the preliminaries but she was still determined to give her best. "I'm not about to let a sore throat ruin my chances of winning," said the 17-year-old, who made it to the finals. The finals of College Idol were recently held.

First prize (group) went to Inti College's 3 Blind Mice while the champion for solo was Liu Wen Tao of Sunway College.