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Juggler has careers spinning

Last year an Emerald reader, apparently offended by a juggler's wayward projectile, wrote a letter to the editor suggesting that the "fags" should "find a job" rather than waste time on such a trivial pursuit.

But last week, in the midst of those same jugglers practicing in the EMU courtyard, a Southern Oregon youth of national repute enthralled students with his impromptu performances, juggling and spinning whatever was handy.

Dave Klemczak, 18, isn't having any trouble finding a job. His main problem is trying to juggle the demands for his performances and still pick up his degree this spring at Eagle Point High School.

Klemczak has a "gift" he says. Actually, several gifts.

He claims he can spin anything he can pick up. "I've

never found anything that I couldn't spin, really," Klemczak says. He twirls and juggles with whatever is handy — hubcaps, 10-speed bicycles, suitcases and even the proverbial kitchen sink.

"I spin one on each hand, faucets and all," Klemczak says. "I spin wheelbarrows too — I get them going so fast people can't even tell what they are."

Klemczak's talents have been noted on the recognized barometers of the bizarre — "That's Incredible," "Good Morning America," "Real People," "You Asked For It" and the granddaddy of them all — "The Gong Show." He has also been featured in "People," "National Enquirer" and "The Star" magazines and is waiting for his story to appear in "Life" magazine.

He'll be in the 1984 Guinness Book of World Records for spinning a hubcap for 22 hours nonstop, without any rest periods. He set the record in a Medford television station, as viewers and judges waited for the slip-up that never came. Klemczak never used his opposite hand to keep the hubcap spinning, and he never considered quitting.

"The last hour felt just as good as the first. I wanted to go for 24 hours," says Klemczak, "but the owner of the station said he couldn't stay open that long."

This would be just another juggler-spinner-makes-good story if the Klemczak's story ended here. But it doesn't.

About two years ago Klemczak discovered he had "another gift."

"I just said 'hey, if I can do spinning, why can't I do other

things," he remembers. "I discovered I had the natural ability to sing. I'd never had any lessons or voice training, but I could sing."

So Klemczak pooled resources with four Medford area musicians, all in their late 20's and early 30's and working in other professions, and the "Sash" band was born.

An original recording now earning Klemczak as much attention as his spinning talents is his "E.T." song. It is very similar to a popular record released in the mid-'70s, where an interviewer asks questions of the famous shark "Jaws," who responds humorously with lines from current pop songs.

Question: "E.T., how will you survive on earth — it's a totally different environment for you down here?" Answer: "...get my dinner from a garbage can..."

Question: "E.T., how did you feel after drinking all that beer?" Answer: "...seeing seeing double vision..."

Question: "E.T., the doctors thought you were dead and they put you in that big cold box, and Elliot walked up to you and touched you. What were you thinking?" Answer: "...you're as cold as ice..."

You get the idea. Currently the record is running a solid seventh place on the charts at a San Jose radio station, and Klemczak says requests are also running high at Los Angeles stations. The record is scheduled to start playing on a Eugene station soon.

Sash will release its first album on May 6, including spoofs on popular Top-40 hits, including "Open Arms," "Abracadabra," and "I Love



Rock'n'Roll."

If Klemczak's juggling, spinning or musical mischief doesn't entertain his audience, his uncannily true imitations of singers John Cougar and Greg Kihn usually do the trick.

"It's weird," he says. "It's almost like John Cougar and I have the same voice. I mean the exact same voice."

"That's Incredible" was so taken by Klemczak's range of talents that he appeared in four different segments of the same show in February.

"I haven't really found anything I can't do," says Klemczak. "I remember the first time I tried to throw a boomerang. It was a left-handed boomerang and I'm right-handed, but it flew just perfect the first time. It's just a basic gift I have — to succeed at whatever I try."

Story by Sean Meyers



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Adult bookstore owner fined

EUGENE (AP) — The proprietor of adult book and film stores in Eugene and Springfield was fined \$1,500 Monday and was ordered to remain on five years' probation for disseminating obscene materials.

Mitchell Hutchinson of Veneta was convicted Dec. 10 on seven of eight obscenity charges and had faced a maximum penalty of a year in jail and a \$2,500 fine on each charge.

Lane County Circuit Judge James Hargreaves ordered Hutchinson to refrain from starting or buying into any business without approval from his probation officer.

Hargreaves called Hutchinson's crime "a difficult area of the law — probably one of the most difficult" because the conduct is not universally condemned, as are crimes such as rape, robbery or assault.

"It is unfortunate," Hargreaves said, "that the prescribed conduct by law is not as clear. It's not clearly identifiable in many cases (of obscenity charges) where legal conduct becomes illegal conduct. The test to be applied

is as varied as the people who sit in the jury box."

Hargreaves said he felt personally that the First Amendment should protect all printed materials. But he said case law and legislation have defined certain aspects of sexually explicit materials as criminal. Those definitions must be considered in prosecution and sentencing of offenders, the judge said.

David Nissman, the deputy district attorney prosecuting the case, said that obscenity cases are difficult and costly to prosecute. But, he said, the district attorney's office would be arrogant if it ignored violations of the law against disseminating obscene materials.

Nissman sought a harsher economic penalty — at least a \$7,500 fine — against Hutchinson.

In comments before sentencing, Hutchinson described himself as a responsible businessman and member of the community who has sought to operate his establishments within defined community and legal standards.

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