JUGGLING ENTERTAINMENT

Juggling Jeremiah Johnston brings lights and dance to his craft

LED lit clubs, hoops and batons light up the Les Schwab stage

Jeremiah Johnston brings artistic athleticism to juggling — one of the many talented performers gracing the Les Schwab stage at the Umatilla County Fair.

A juggler for 20 years, Johnston said he stretches beyond the usual joke telling and juggling tricks.

"I specialize in sharing juggling as an athletic art form," he said. Not only does he incorporate strength and agility into his act, Johnston said he specializes in juggling lighted props he uses in his act at night, creating dazzling light trails with his LED-lit clubs, yoyos, hoops and batons.

A high school athlete, Johnston said he got into juggling as a 12-year-old who found his father's juggling equipment in an attic trunk.

"There were juggling balls and juggling clubs and a set of fire torches," Johnson said. "I knew I wanted to learn to juggle the fire torches!"

Soon he was incorporating juggling into everything he did.

"I played soccer and I'd try and juggle the ball, I juggled baseballs and I played hacky sack," he said.



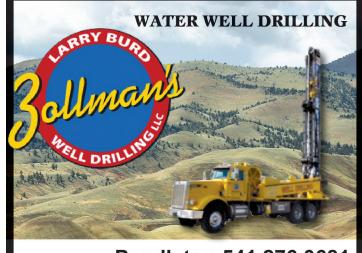
A student at Humboldt State University, juggling became Johnston's new sport when he joined the Humboldt Circus Club. Intent on combining is course of study with his love of juggling he said he majored in dance, the genesis of bringing artistic athleticism to his craft.

"Juggling can be like dancing with a prop," he said.

Fourteen years into a performance career, Johnston said he really loves teaching people about juggling, especially children.

"Kids are prime for learning to juggle and interact with me a lot," Johnston said. "A lot of people come up and think it's so hard, but it's just throwing and catching things — that's all it is."





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