



SEEING *IS* BELIEVING

Hypnotist Ron Diamond entrances audience with captivating show

| STORY BY MADELINE PARADIS

Although hypnosis is like a state of sleep, hypnotist Ron Diamond's shows are anything but tired. He helps audiences open their minds to themselves and the method as a whole.

"You're not asleep, you're hyper focused on a specific point in time," Diamond said.

Diamond got his start in hypnosis after learning the technique through a college course and using it on himself.

"You just need to have an open mind. If a person doesn't believe something, it doesn't mean it doesn't exist. It doesn't exist for them because they don't understand it," Diamond said. Over the last 29 years, he has made it into a career, traveling across the country ten months out of the year and performing in over 640 shows.

Volunteers are chosen at random by Diamond to participate in skits. Through hypnosis, Diamond can make the audience feel strong or weak just by forcing them to focus.

"You just don't expect it.

I don't understand why I wasn't able to tear the paper. I was intentionally trying to tear the paper, I wasn't trying to make him look good. I couldn't tear it," said participant Carl Johnson.

Because his shows are reliant on audience participation, each one is different, drawing back patrons annually.

"We come to this show ev-



"My main goal is to make the audience have a good time. If they're smiling then it's a success."

- Ron Diamond

Ron Diamond performs a hypnotist show. He has entertained all week. "I create ideas in people's mind for them to play with." | PHOTOS BY MADELINE PARADIS

ery time we come to the fair. The things that he does to the people in the audience is enough to tell you it's pretty exciting," said Johnson.

For another participant Rebecca Southern, hypnosis was something new "I wanted to make the most of my experience and get involved but I was a little nervous," said Southern.

There are many benefits to hypnosis Diamond explained. In a medical set-

ting it can be used for pain management,

anxiety, lack of sleep or to refocus one's mind onto something more positive. During a performance, however, his goal is to help participants let loose and have a laugh. Diamond shows the crowd that, while it can be unnerving at first, hypnosis is meant to be a fun and enlightening experience.

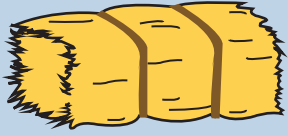
"My main goal is to make the audience have a good time. If they're smiling then it's a success," said Diamond.



Celebrating all things Kansas

The Midway
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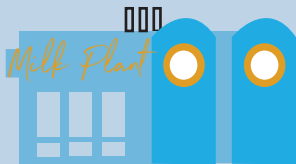
The Journey Milk Takes



1. Cows eat about 100 lbs of food and drink enough water to fill up a bathtub daily. Their food varies from hay, oats, chocolate, potato chips and even skittles.



2. After the cow has a baby they are milked multiple times a day because they make a excessive amount of milk. The milk is then picked up from the farm and taken to the processing plant.



3. The milk arrives at the plant and is tested for antibiotics along with other things. The cream is then separated from the milk in order to make ice-cream, whipped cream and other dairy products.



4. The dairy products are packaged and dated. They are then shipped out to the stores to be sold.

Farm Fresh

Father-daughter team shows the process of milk and the ins-n-outs of the dairy industry

| STORY BY CONCHA CAMPA

From farm to home, Southwest Southlands Dairy Instructor Callie Toews is working to educate people on how milk gets to their table. Toews grew up around the milking process and now she is proud to say she is udder-ly invested in it.

"My family had a dairy farm up until two and a half years ago we sold out, so I grew up in the dairy industry and grew up around dairy cattle so I knew I wanted to do something in the dairy industry. I found this job and it was perfect, because I could talk to people about what I know and what I like and what we do every day," Toews said.

Toews and her father Doug Unruh, who is also in the business, go around communities all over Kansas and teach how dairy products arrive to the consumer's table. The journey of milk all begins with a newborn calf.

"The most important job a cow has is to have a baby; if she doesn't have a baby, she can't make milk. When they

give birth, they start making milk. The calves only drink two to three gallons of milk so the cow has five to nine gallons left over daily," Toews said.

One of the most common ways to milk a cow is by using a robotic arm. The robot cleans and milks the cow, and increases milk production, because the cow can visit the robot as many times as she wants to. The milk is then picked up and taken to the processing plant.

"When the trucks pick up the milk, they fill up two little bags with milk and take those to test it several times for antibiotics and other things," Unruh said.

After it's filtered and pasteurized the processing plant separates the cream from the milk in order to make ice cream, whipped cream and other dairy products. When it's finally ready it's bottled, dated and then sent to stores to be sold.

"It doesn't matter if it's a holiday; this business doesn't stop," Toews said.

Milking expert, Doug Unruh demonstrates attaching the robotic milking machine. Unruh grew up in the cow business and enjoys every moment of it. "The cows mean a lot to us. We consider them family," Unruh said.

| PHOTO BY CONCHA CAMPA



Breeding YOUNG MINDS

VETERINARIANS EDUCATE PATRONS ON BIRTHING

| STORY BY ISABELLA RUBINO

It all starts with a push... and sometimes a pull.

In the Kansas State Fairs' maternity ward there is never a dull moment. From births to hands on activities, patrons are thrust into the world of livestock and agriculture.

Professor of small animal surgery at Kansas State University, Dr. Walter Renberg and his students work at the fair to educate the public on birth in agriculture.

which is always a bit scary on both sides. We love doing it, and it always seems to be popular."

Fourth year veterinary student at K State University, Sara Lange spends her days working with kids to get them excited about livestock, and giving them hands on experience with birthing.

"Kids can come in here and play veterinarian, we have everything set up for them," Lange said.

Renberg sees this as a way to pull the general public into the world of livestock as well.

"I hope some of the crowd takes away a new-found interest in livestock and agriculture,"

Renberg said. "I think that we in Kansas have a unique role in feeding the country and I hope this is an opportunity for those who might not get that exposure to see 'oh wow this is interesting, this is fun, I want to learn more about it, or I want to understand it better and hopefully that is good for the farmers out there as well as the general public."

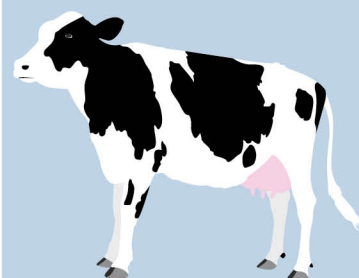
"It's a great opportunity for us to educate the public about what the veterinarians do. Even in the state of Kansas, few people have the opportunity to really understand what happens in the process of how babies are born, how the animals are raised, and how meat gets on the table" Renberg said. "Plus, it's good for our students to get more exposure to interaction with the public,



Dr. Walter Renberg answers patrons' questions at the birthing center. Renberg has worked the fair all week. "The veterinary school is down here and it's a great opportunity for us to hopefully educate the public," Renberg said.

| PHOTO BY ZOE GILPIN

There are **3** expecting cows awaiting delivery in the Birthing Center.



Race announcer Tyler Cowell has been involved in races for a long time. "I've been doing this for five years," Cowell said.
I PHOTO BY MARLIE COLEMAN



FAST FOOD

IT DOESN'T TAKE A TORNADO TO MAKE THESE PIGS FLY, JUST A COOKIE

| STORY BY MARLIE COLEMAN

Dale Swinehart Jean Claude Van Hamm and Brittany Squeals are ready to race for the Kansas State Fair crowd. Spectators gather around daily to view the entertaining competition of the speedy hogs.

According to announcer Tyler Cowell, just like in life, "the winner will get the cookie, and the losers get the crumbs."

"We got four pigs running per race, three races per show," Cowell said. "Each race winning pig gets an Oreo cookie."

It can be time consuming for all of the pigs to be trained at once, but is worth it in the end. "I start training three times a day. When you start them off, they're already running from you, so that's easy," Cowell said.

Rod Maskel, the supporting role of the show, knows training these pigs is critical at a young age. "Start 'em when they're young, and train them as they get bigger," Maskel said.

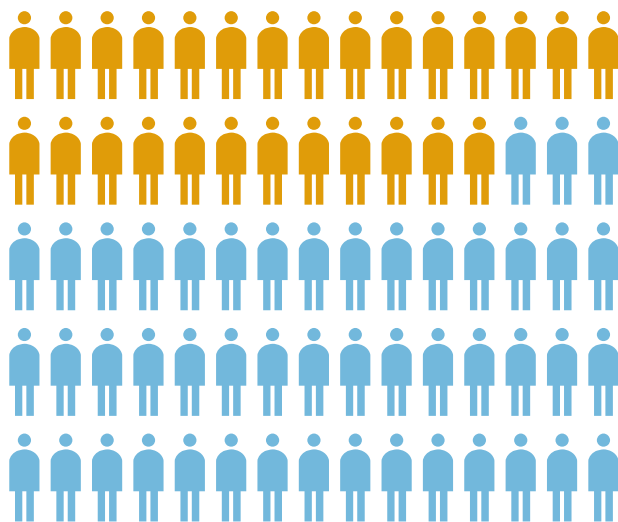
Pig racing is entertaining for an audience of hundreds, but there is

a downside to the sport. "We lose half the crowd after the first race," Cowell said, "It doesn't bug me as much as it bothers the pigs. It's not me putting on the show."

Races can be a serious matter, but the competitors of this show know how to have a little fun every now and then. The pigs sometimes add a little spice to their show with tricks like backflips and spinning circles. "The crowd doesn't know that that's not part of the show," Maskel said.

A DAY
AT THE
RACES

27 OUT OF 75
AUDIENCE
MEMBERS
HAVE BEEN
TO A PIG
RACE
BEFORE.



*75 spectators were surveyed on September 13.



A young pig eagerly awaits his chance in a race. Pig wrangler Rod Maskel has put full faith in his animals. "I love all of my pigs equally," Maskel said. **I PHOTO BY MARLIE COLEMAN**