

staff photo by David Fisher

The tricks were superb Monday night when Danny Korem used a volunteer from the audience to help demonstrate his capabilities at fooling people during his lecture on psychics in Rudder Theatre.

## Magician says feats not mystical, only tricks

by Cyndy Davis  
Battalion Staff

Reading minds, predicting the future and walking on coals are not as mystical as they seem, a professional magician told students Monday night.

Danny Korem, in a presentation sponsored by MSC Great Issues, explained mystical feats are done by tricks, none are really the psychic phenomena they seem to be.

Korem, author of "The Fakers," began his presentation by demonstrating several card tricks, sleight-of-hand tricks and mind reading maneuvers.

Korem used volunteers out of the audience to help him perform number guessing games and disappearing card tricks.

He then confessed he had not performed any psychic feats.

"Everything you saw this evening from top to bottom was a trick," he said.

Predicting the future was one seemingly psychic phenomena Korem explained.

He used the OUIJA board as an example. The board is not moved by special powers, but by nerve impulses from the brain, Korem said.

"The original reason for prophecies was to give hope to Christians that their God was in control," he said.

Atheistic and agnostic people today want to control their own lives and this is why so many visit "psychics" and palm readers instead of turning to God, Korem said.

Although Korem does not believe any one person can cause psychic phenomena, he does believe in supernatural powers.

Supernatural powers are those not controlled by people, but rather by God, he said.

He cited The Holy Bible as being more historically authentic in its predictions than any other book.

Statistically, for eight of the approximately 20,000 prophecies in The Bible to be correct, Korem said, the odds are 10 to the 17th power, but more have come true, he said.

Another "phenomena" attacked by Korem was "fire walking." Anyone can walk over hot coals with bare feet, he said.

"Coal is a poor conductor of heat," he said. "If you take no more than four steps not lasting more than .7 seconds each, the coals won't hurt you."

Korem said he had spent the

past sixteen months working on a television special, "Psychic Confessions". In this documentary, he exposed an "embryonic (Jim) Jones (Charles) Manson" — James Heidrich.

Heidrich has professed to have psychic powers that made things move at will and gave him super human strength.

He was considered dangerous by the Salt Lake City police, Korem said.

Heidrich later confessed he was a fake — the first filmed expose and confession of a leading psychic, Korem said.

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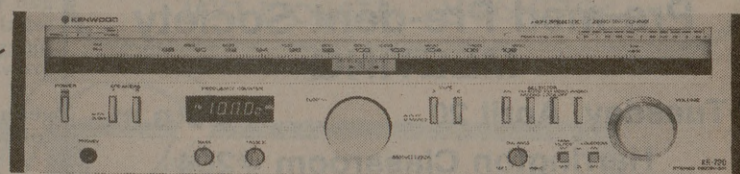
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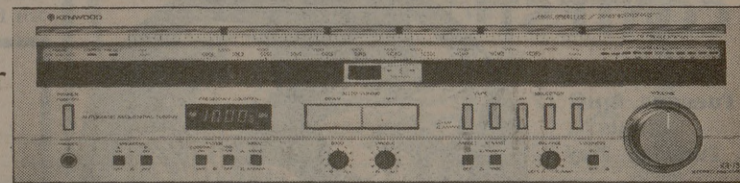
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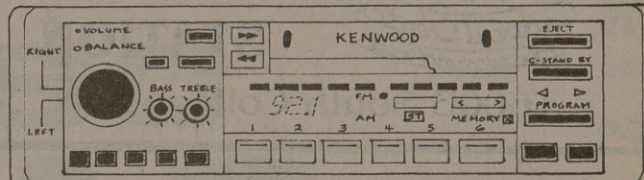
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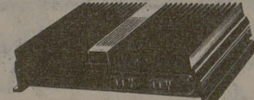
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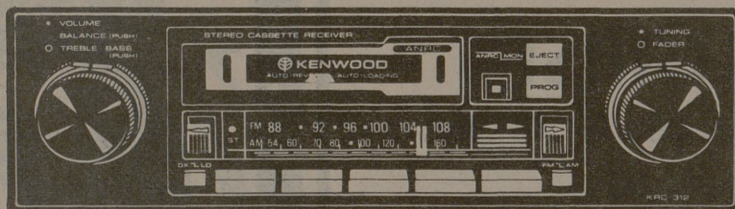


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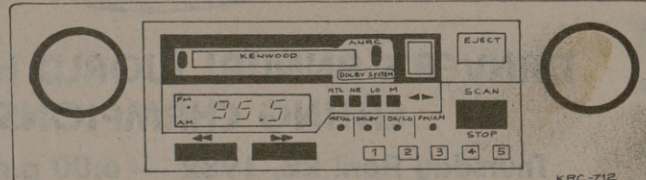
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