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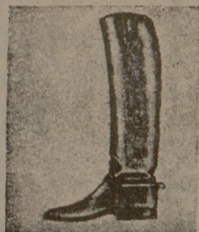
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**Chinese troupe
amuses crowd
with acrobatics**

By DAINAH BULLARD
Staff Writer

An audience of about 600 people were amazed and amused Sunday night by a performance of the Chinese Magic Revue of Taiwan. The program, sponsored by the MSC Basement Committee, was presented in Rudder Auditorium.

Although the program took place on one stage instead of in three rings, the Revue was similar to American circuses. Magicians, jugglers, clowns, acrobats and martial arts experts clothed in lavish costumes performed routines to the tempo of oriental music.

The highlight of the show was the "tower of chairs," a stunt performed by troupe member Hai Ken Tsai. Hai placed four champagne bottles on a table, then stacked a total of six chairs atop the bottles, climbing the chairs as he stacked them. From the top of the stack, Hai performed a series of balancing stunts, including a one-handed vertical handstand.

A tier of bud vases, wine glasses and champagne glasses on a table, topped with a plexiglass sheet, provided a 6-foot tall stage for the smallest member of the troupe. The young acrobat performed a series of

back bends and contortions atop the 2-foot square platform.

In addition to the acrobatic stunts, troupe members dove through hoops of fire and knives, performed bicycle stunts and demonstrated Kung Fu techniques and magic tricks.

Several skits in the program provided comic relief. In one skit, a giant Pekingese dog — manned by two troupe members — chased a performer off the stage. After rolling over, licking its paws and scratching at fleas, the big Pekingese was joined by two Pekingese puppies — each manned by one performer. The big Pekingese cavorted through the audience, then rejoined the puppies to complete a series of stunts, such as walking across a seesaw on top of two large balls.

The entire troupe joined in a grand finale, which included an 11-person pyramid on the floor, a 9-person pyramid on a bike, and a human wall composed of 13 performers.

The troupe — which includes 20 members from two families — is directed by Hai Ken Ksi and Kai Ken Hsi. The group is on its ninth tour of the United States.

**Two boats helpless
all night in Galveston**

United Press International

GALVESTON — The skipper of a boat who tried to help a pleasure craft that ran aground on a sand bar found himself beached early Sunday and had to wait for a Coast Guard helicopter to rescue his crew.

The crews of both boats spent the night on the larger vessel, a 38-foot pleasure craft owned by John Hargan of Katy. All six people were airlifted from the sand bar, just outside the Galveston ship channel, Sunday morning, said Coast Guard spokesman Michael Spencer.

"One ran aground late yesterday evening, about 7:30 Saturday. The other was coming by at about one o'clock this morning and, in turn, ran aground," Spencer said.

Hargan said no one was injured, but it was a difficult night at sea.

The Coast Guard identified the owner of the smaller boat as Lloyd Hemphill of Houston.

Hargan described the damage to his \$110,000 boat, the Nita, which was sitting on its side in 3 feet of water, as "quite extensive." He said the propeller shaft broke loose, and the boat was taking on quite a bit of water.

Spencer said the Coast Guard sent two boats to the scene to try to tow the boats off the sand bar.

"Even the Coast Guard practice got swamped," Hargan said of an earlier rescue attempt. "They came in a 15-foot boat, and it was all the could do to get out themselves."

Spencer said the Coast Guard pushed forward its rescue operation because at one time both boats had water in them.

**Prairie View's president
attends White House talks**

University News Service

Prairie View A&M President Percy Pierre has been invited to the White House today to participate in a conference designed to help historically black colleges become more effective in raising funds from the private sector and in competing for federal grants.

The conference is part of National Historically Black College Week which began Sunday and

commemorates the third anniversary of President Ronald Reagan's signing of an executive order intended to help colleges and universities with predominantly black enrollments in fund-raising and related endeavors.

The conference will include sessions dealing with such topics as how to get the private sector more involved with historically black colleges.



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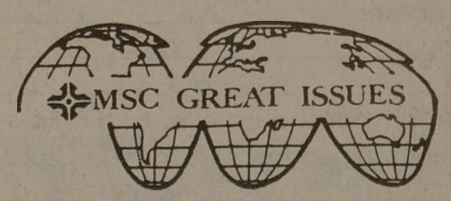


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