

Collector decides to keep Garbo's car

AUBURN, Ind. (AP) — A Houston car collector decided to keep a 1933 Duesenberg Victoria once owned by Greta Garbo rather than accept \$2.8 million for it.

Jerry Moore, who last week said the car was worth \$3.5 million, rejected the bid at the Auburn '91 Collector Car Auction and Show at Kruse International Auction Park on Sunday.

"You've heard about big ice cream cones you couldn't have. Well, that's the biggest ice cream cone I've ever seen, and I'm going to keep it," said Moore, a Houston shopping center magnate who owns 37 Duesenbergs. "It's my favorite. ... But anything's for sale for a profit."

The cranberry-colored automobile's body kept Garbo hidden from view. Its rear-seat section included seven concealed compartments for Garbo to secure her jewelry.

Officials at Kruse International said Moore bought the actress's former Duesenberg for \$1.4 million on Aug. 4, 1987. The largest bid Sunday was \$2.8 million, offered by Dalton, Ga., carpet salesman Ed Weaver.

Kruse conducts the annual classic car auction every Labor Day weekend.

Busy bird breeders believe business booming

TEXARKANA (AP) — Almost five years ago, Lucky Wormington's husband bought her a pet parrot. Today, the Wormingtons have more than 300 birds and are exotic bird breeders for area bird lovers.

They turned their passion for birds into a thriving business. "This grew by chance," Mrs. Wormington said.

She and her husband, David, who has always been a bird lover, have more than 30 pairs of exotic breeding birds that include Amazon Parrots, Cockatoos, Alexandrins and Conurns families. They also breed and sell English Budgerigars and pigeons.

Wormington bird buyers are assured of receiving a domestic bird that is banded and pedigreed.

When they are young, the birds are fitted with metal seamless ankle bands with pedigree information and assurance that the birds were bred in the United States.

Mrs. Wormington said her first parrot, an Amazon Parrot of the Yellow Nate species from Honduras is named Bubba and is the ideal pet.

"When Bubba was a baby, I just fell in love with him," she said. She said Bubba tells her "I love you" nightly when she puts him to sleep.

She said her love for birds has not waned over the years, but grown. Bubba was the start.

"Once we got Bubba, things went from there," she said.

Wormington said his wife is responsible for the care of the birds, and he maintains the three large cages.

The couple said exotic bird breeding is not an easy job, and right now they are on the heels of spring — the peak season for new eggs.

While the baby birds are hatching, Mrs. Wormington has to feed them a formula hourly around the clock. She said this lasts for about a week. She feeds the birds with an eye-dropper until they are at least 2 months old.

Wormington said they breed about 60 birds a year and sell them to individuals as well as pet shops in Longview, Tyler, Dallas and Little Rock.

He warned, however, that some pet shops sell "quarantined" birds or birds that were imported. He said often these birds are stolen from the nest and sold to pet stores.

Wormington said a lot of times imported birds are more hostile. "Domestics are gentler," he said.

They stress proper care and an understanding of how to condi-

tion birds. They say a common problem among bird owners is poor diet.

Mrs. Wormington said most people think birds just eat birdseed.

She said birdseed alone lacks the vitamins the birds need. She recommends roughage or even meats for birds.

Although the life expectancy of the exotic birds the couple breeds is 60 years, many only live for five years because of poor diet.

The Wormingtons said they are probably largest supplier of exotic birds in the area, and business is good.

They said they get the bulk of their business from word-of-mouth.

"Our customers are usually someone who's bought a pet from us," Mrs. Wormington said.

Wormington said the prices of their birds start as low as \$150 for a Conurn-Maroon Bellied and go as high as \$1,500 for Moluccans, which retail in stores for about \$2,500.

Wormington said there will be an eventual termination of the importation of exotic birds that will drive prices up. He expects a change in the bird business within a year.

While the birds keep the Wormingtons busy, Mrs. Wormington said it is a labor of love.

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King Missile's dark humor wears thin

Continued from page 7

don't show you the kind of humor King Missile enjoys, imagine "The Story of Willy" as a Monty Python skit. It's the last day of planet Earth and Willy visits his friend Bob who he finds dead from a suicide. No problem. He could stay and drink all of Bob's beer, but he decides to return later and take Bob's wife out dancing. After all, the end of the world is kind of a special event. Stepping out the door, Willy is hit by a runaway steamroller. Sorry Willy.

If all this sounds more than a little dark, it is. But Hall's deadpan delivery gives his subject matter the same twisted humor that works for the Python troupe or filmmaker David Lynch. The only problem is that the humor totally relies on Hall and he's at his best on only about 50% of the album. The rest of the album, especially on songs such as "Life" and "Scotland" are too self conscious for

their own good, and Hall comes off as more annoying than funny.

Unfortunately for the rest of the band, the other bad moments come when King Missile try to write actual songs. The music of King Missile is of the plodding 70s metal variety and originality is a bit lacking. This is one album to be listened to for lyrics only. The music at its best only allows the words to flow.

And finally, King Missile shares a fault of most comedy acts or albums. The good jokes are hysterical at first, pretty funny the next couple of times, and give a few chuckles after that.

By the time you play this album over and over, however, the humor begins to spoil. My advice is to buy the cassette, listen to the thing a few times, and then give the tape to a friend before the jokes get old. You too can help to make a brighter (or, in this case maybe darker) world.

Toad the Wet Sprocket's latest exceeds expectations

Continued from page 7

this song is a little more gutsy than the others - and it features a more rocking edge as far as the music goes.

The music on *Fear* is a little more rocking all around - the close of "Hold Her Down" drives Todd Nichols guitars over the edge, and the slow acoustic parts of "Pray Your Gods" are captivating.

The best song musically speaking, though, is without question "Butterflies" - the off-beat rhythm of the tune plus the sampled, speaking vocal of Laurel Franklin put the song in a class by itself. Phillips' lyrics are strangely simple, yet quite obscure, and the harmony parts in the chorus are just plain cool. Very definitely the best tune this band has come up with.

And that's saying a lot. The song's don't quit there. "Before You Were Born" is a song of hope and inspiration for a friend who has grown up in a single family; Nichols brings out the hurt and the anger felt, especially in the second verse, an impassioned "goddamn-ing" of the people to blame.

I was scared about this record before it came out. I like Toad's first two attempts so much, I figured *Fear* would be a let down. Far from it - there's not a song on it I don't like. "Nightengale Song," "Is It For Me," "In My Ear" and "Something to Say" all deserve mentioning. *Fear* closes with "I Will Not Take These Things For Granted," a perfect farewell from the sad but hopeful message the album conveys.

Protesters demonstrate at MDA fundraiser

LAS VEGAS (AP) — Comedian Jerry Lewis joined celebrities and muscular dystrophy victims in coaxing tens of millions of dollars out of viewers in his 26th annual Labor Day telethon.

The show sought to surpass last year's record tote of \$44,172,186.

The telethon drew a handful of pickets in Las Vegas and Los Angeles, but Lewis won accolades from those appearing on the annual show.

Actor Jameson Parker fought back tears as his daughter, 6-year-old Katherine, who suffers from a sometimes fatal form of muscular dystrophy, told Lewis: "Thank you for letting me smile."

Parker, star of the old CBS television series, "Simon and Simon," said that even before learning his daughter had the disease he frequently appeared at Muscular Dystrophy Association events.

Parker said he was grieving in his kitchen one night shortly after he learned of his daughter's illness when Lewis called to offer sympathy and support.

"He's given hope to millions of people who had no hope," Parker said.

Singer Maureen McGovern, who has participated in the telethon and worked with MDA for a dozen years, said her niece contracted a neuromuscular disease the previous year.


"If you think muscular dystrophy can't strike your family, think again," she said. "I never dreamed I would be thanking MDA for helping my family."

Two former MDA poster children, Cris Matthews and Mike Ervin, recently announced a national campaign to boycott the telethon until Lewis is removed as host and the appeal is changed. Matthews has said they want to change the telethon "but not discourage donations to MDA."


Six protesters, including one young man in a wheelchair, demonstrated outside when the show opened at the Sahara Hotel in Las Vegas. And in Los Angeles, seven demonstrators showed up in wheelchairs at a local telethon headquarters.

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