



Darrell Receveur of New Albany, above, wears a hair piece and struts across the Corydon Jamboree stage thinking he's Britney Spears after being hypnotized by Randy Emily of Corydon. Behind Receveur are others who volunteered to be hypnotized at the March 9 show. Emily, at left, made a career change from counselor to entertainer as a hypnotist.

HYPNOSIS BY RANDY

Corydon man uses power of suggestion for fun, clean shows

STORY AND PHOTOS
BY JO ANN SPIETH-SAYLOR

A male Britney Spears impersonator, a Barney Fife wannabe and the Easter Bunny were among the characters on stage earlier this month at a show in Corydon. The performers hadn't gone to the venue with those roles in mind; in fact, there was no guarantee they would get anything out of the evening except a few good laughs.

But the trio, along with six other people, all willingly volunteered to stand before the sell-out crowd as part of the entertainment for the evening.

The show, held March 9 at the Corydon Jamboree, was Hypnosis by Randy.

Randy Emily, 56, has been performing publicly for about four years.

"It started out as a fascination," said the Corydon native as he explained how he went from a post-secondary counselor to that of entertainer.

The enthralment began when Emily met Jim Wand, a hypnotist from East Dubuque, Ill., during a performance at Indiana University Southeast in New Albany. Emily had volunteered to go on stage and be hypnotized.

From that point on, he was hooked, and began reading and studying the art of hypnosis. He also caught Wand's annual show every year for about a decade.

Wand, who performs about 250 shows a year, eventually asked Emily to "shadow" him.

"I probably learned faster than most people, but it took me a while to perfect it," Emily said.

Emily hasn't always been one to appear in the spotlight.

Describing himself as a formerly quiet person, Emily graduated from Corydon Central High School in 1969 and worked in the meat department at two local grocery stores before following his eight brothers into the service (Emily is the youngest of 14 children). After serving two years, including a tour in Vietnam, Emily returned to Harrison County and took a job with Keller Manufacturing Co.

But Emily yearned to do something else, so he took advantage of the GI bill and earned a bachelor's degree in sociology in 1979 at IUS. He sold insurance for six months before accepting a job with the AFDC in Floyd County. In 1988, he was hired as a counselor at Ivy Tech Community College.

His interest in hypnosis never wavered, but it wasn't until 2003 that Emily seriously began to consider making a career change.

"It's hard for anybody to step out and try something new," he said, although he tells others that they are never too old to try new things.

Emily worked with Wand for two years developing a stage presence and having his mentor critique his performances. He also watched other hypnotists' shows to decide how he wanted to mold his.

"The first time I stepped on stage, I fell in love with it," Emily said. "Being hypnotized brought out a creative side in me that I didn't know was there."

Emily said his shows are different than most entertainers who use hypnosis to create laughs.

"Others do 'R' rated shows," having their participants do "raunchy" things, he said. "I'm probably a little easier ... My compassion comes out."

A reputation for staging a "clean" show allows families to attend and makes people feel more comfortable volunteering to be "put under" for the length of Emily's presentation, which usually last about an hour.

But is it real?
Emily said that's probably the No. 1 question he gets asked. "Yes, it is very real," he said. "I would never do anything fake."

Not everyone is easily convinced, including Emily's own family members.

"They were more skeptical," he said, until a couple of them let their brother hypnotize them.

At the March 9 show at the Corydon Jamboree, Emily, while asking for volunteers, said those who are able to stay focused make better participants.

"I can't hypnotize someone against their will," he added. Emily also told those who volun-

teered to go on stage that they would not do anything against their morals.

"Will you do some silly things?" he said. "Yeah."

Six women and five men initially agreed to be hypnotized, but two of them ended up walking off the stage. They hadn't completely relaxed and let themselves be guided by Emily's voice.

Charles (Chuck) Lyninger, 29, one of the two who willingly left the stage, said after the show that he initially felt very relaxed while Emily was trying to induce a hypnotic state.

"Then I opened my eyes, and I was done," Lyninger said.

His wife, Kim, said she was somewhat relieved that her husband didn't fall under Emily's spell. She was afraid he might do or say something really embarrassing.

Darrell Receveur, 47, of New Albany didn't recall what he done while on stage, but the audience had found him quite entertaining. Receveur, who was attending his first Hypnosis by Randy show, rode a stick horse across the stage, and donned a makeshift wig and did his best Britney Spears impersonation, among other things. Later, he caressed a balloon after Emily suggested to him that it was Britney Spears.

"I had wondered if I would know what I was doing," Receveur said following the show. "I didn't."

Emily said he almost "lost" Receveur but was able to keep him on stage and work a little harder to get him in a hypnotic state.

Jean Ann Birkle had seen Emily's show before but has never volunteered to be hypnotized by him. But she said his show is similar to one she participated in once while she was in Las Vegas. She described that experience by saying that she knew what she was doing as instructed by the hypnotist, and although they were silly things, she did them anyway.

Emily said the audience helps make a good show.

"The more the audience gets into it, the better (participants) seem to respond," he said.

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Above, Emily asks Roger Faith of Elizabeth about an "arrest" he made while thinking he's Barney Fife, a character from the old "Andy Griffith Show." At left, hypnotized participants wait for their next instructions from Emily.

HYPNOSIS BY RANDY

(Continued from page B7)

Besides performing annually at the Corydon Jamboree the past few years, Emily has done shows at businesses' Christmas parties and other events, at retreats, the Harrison County Fair and high school after proms.

Emily said he really enjoys doing after-prom shows, despite the fact that the shows usually don't start until 2 a.m.

"I do several every year, and many of my dates get booked early because the kids love to have fun being hypnotized," he said. "A hypnosis show draws kids in for the fun, and they love it. They also are off the streets on a dangerous night, away from drugs and alcohol."

Emily said his counseling background draws him to help high school students. "This is such a critical age," he said.

What he likes best about his shows is the feedback afterwards. "It feels good to make people

laugh," he said. "It's healthy for the body to laugh."

Now that he has gotten his feet wet with his new career, Emily said he has set a goal for himself. That is to appear on David Letterman's show by March 2010.

"Since David is from Indiana, I chose him," Emily said, adding that he has expanded that goal to include appearances on "The Ellen DeGeneres Show" and "Oprah."

His goal is written out and posted on his bathroom mirror so he can see it every morning.

"So if anyone can either e-mail or write them, I am sure we can make it happen, not just for me but the town of Corydon," he said. "That will make me happy to represent our town."

To learn more about Emily's shows, visit his Web site, hypnosis-byrandy.com. He can be reached at 738-7280 or 1-812-989-3359.

Emily can also be reached by e-mail at randyemily@wmconnect.com.

Honor rolls

The following Harrison County schools have submitted honor rolls for publication. Students included in the lists have made all As and Bs. Some of the schools designate students who made all As; they are indicated with an asterisk. For misspellings, call the newspaper office. For omissions or other errors, call the school office.

Morgan Elementary Fourth six weeks

Grade 2: Brittany Lamon, Amber McCorkle, Austin Wilson, Sylvia Schroeder, Jacob Morin, Sylvia Meredith, Megan Fessel, Aleia Clark, Stevi Burns, Taylor Davis, Olivia Miller, Elisa Smith, Josie Timberlake, Dalton Tyree, Chloe Carter, Trevor Clifton, Alex Evelage, Evan Goodman, Christina Grimsley, Zach Hoehn, Zoe

Leonard, Jacob Johnson, Tanaya Roll, Evan Schroeder, Alaina Sears, Grace Troncin, Hazel Vine and Austin Wilson.

Grade 3: Aryan Hall, Cameron Jones, Cassandra Milligan, Dylan Robbins, Dylan Slucher, Miriah Stewart, Harley Wells, Wayde Carr, Steven Daniels, Lukas Harshfield, Jordan Hill, Lily Ley, Audrey Shaw, Brooklyn Spalding, Dustin Stump, Wesley Wislon, Chelsea Compton, Heidi Craycraft, Mara Edwards, Brian Hawkins, Traci Jenkins, Makaela O'Connor, Clayton Stumler and Konnor Voyles.

Grade 4: Nick Amy, Gage Arnold, Kayla Cash, Kiersten Hoehn, Sean Holder, Joseph Pusateri, Chris Bowen, Sarah Kiesler, Dairian Lewis, Jed Robson, Kimberly Chiquito, Joshua French, Katlyn Gibson, Jonathan Southern,

Jon VanFleet and Dustin Young.

Grade 5: Austin Huber, Tyler Ley, Cassidy Logsdon, Evan Longacre, Kristina Riddle, Michaela Shelton, Dakota Tripp, Adrianna Watson, Breanna Wilson, Bryan Allen, John Billner, Alyssa Daugherty, Taihjem Denny, Marlaina Eveslage, Olivia Horsley, Brandon Meek, Adam Parr, Sydney Spalding, Jordan Stewart, Leah Ward, Michaela Young, Lacy Brown, David Harshfield, Wesley Haub, Kendra Lambert, Gavin Magee, Ben Mattingly, Joshua Murner, Kaylee Nordhoff, Jenna Previtera and Mary Grace Gehm.

The following received all As:
Grade 2: Jessica Conrad, Kaitlyn Pohle, Christine Benz, Brooklynn Bruner, Destiny Dattilo, Kaylee Davis, Natalie Jacobi, Reghan James, Victoria Shelton, Austin

Spencer, Madison Trowbridge, Virginia Copelin, Cameron Higdon, Kodi House, Nick Murner, Collier Smith, Kaitlyn Washnock; **Grade 3:** Meredith Ingle, Kegan Livers, Fiona McComas, Abigail Purser, Duncan Southard, Max Abbot, Cambron Gabaree, Megan Gilley, Logan Hoehn, Caitlenn McAdams, Kaylee Wheatley, Eddie Chinn, Makenzie O'Connor, Brianna Riddle, Alyssa Robbeloth; **Grade 4:** Jill Book, Savannah Jones, Jason Murner, Josie Seibert, Hayley Elliot, Gabrielle Scarpulla, Amber Manship, Dustin Nevel; **Grade 5:** Joseph Hinton, Kenedy House, Brianna Jacobi, Keith Jones, Chelsea Couch, Lucas Livers, Gage Mosson, Brandon Spencer, Lorna Carey, Kelsey Chinn, Austin Nolet and Jaclyn Swanson.

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'Flat Stan'

Ethan Hibbs, left, Aaron Nevil, Michael Arnold and Abby Thompson visit with "Flat Stan" in February. Students in Ms. Joy's class at Lincoln Hills Development Corp. Project Head Start received Flat Stan from Joy's niece, Rachel Ronau in San Francisco. Ronau sent Flat Stan to the class as part of her social studies' homework.

New facility

(Continued from front page)

This technology reduces medication errors by making available only medication ordered for each patient.

As we transition to our new facility, our commitment to build and deliver quality care is strong. We strive to provide quality care for each patient. While our new technology, furnishings and environment

are much anticipated, we're most proud of the compassionate care we provide each day. Our staff is competent and caring. We will take this commitment to our new address at 1141 Hospital Drive NW, Corydon.

Editor's note: Diane Clark, R.N., is assistant director of nursing services at Harrison County Hospital.

YMCA

(Continued from front page)

pass for 20 classes; non-members, \$5 per class.

Step circuit

A 45-minute workout that incorporates both cardio and toning. Step is challenging a way to increase lower body strength while the circuit training tones specific groups to give you an entire body workout.

Class meets on Thursdays, starting April 12, from 6 to 6:45 a.m. Y members, \$2.50 per class or \$25 fitness pass for 20 classes; non-members, \$5 per class.

Deep water progressive training

This progressive class is great for individuals who want to tone up or stay in condition in a low-gravity environment. Float belts and related equipment are provided for this class. Individuals must be comfort-

able in deep water. Class meets on Tuesdays and Thursdays, May 1 through 17 from 7:10 to 7:55 p.m. Y member, \$25; non-member, \$35. Registration is required one week before class starts.

The YMCA of Harrison County makes programs available to all people regardless of age, race, income, religion, abilities or gender. Those unable to pay the full fee may receive sliding scale assistance through the Open Doors Program. The YMCA features a six-lane pool, a warm-water therapy pool, two basketball/volleyball courts, a fitness center, four multi-purpose rooms, Club Y, locker rooms and an indoor walking/jogging track. It is located next to Governor Frank O'Bannon Park in Corydon. Call 734-0770 for more information. Or visit our Web site at ymcaharrison.org.

Bluegrass
new ad copy

Upcoming reunions

Notice of family and group reunions will be announced one time in this section. Listings may be mailed or called in, 738-2211. The deadline is 10 a.m. Monday. After the reunion, articles about the event will be printed as space permits. Articles must be submitted no later than 90 days after the reunion. The information must include a phone number where the writer may be reached in case of questions.

will have their annual reunion June 21 through 24 at Hampton Inn in Corydon. Registration begins at 10 a.m. on June 21. RSVP (including number of people planning to attend) to Stu and Sharon Boaz, 6168 W. U.S. Highway 150, Fredericksburg, IN 47120. For more information, call 1-812-472-3941.

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