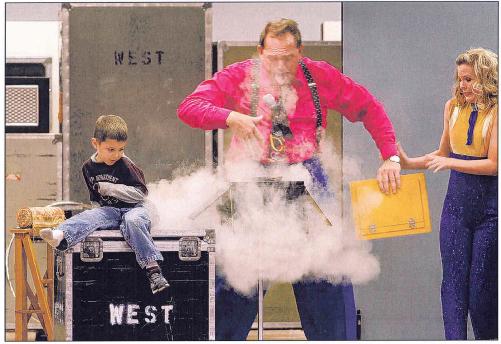


in fundraising!

(888) 470-7948

## entertainment group puts the FUN in fundraising with the

## Keith West Magic & Illusion Show



ADAM WILSON/HERALD-INDEX STAFF

Willowbrook preschool student **Kory Wright** scoots away from smoke billowing from a box that contained his right shoe as magician/illusionist **Keith West** and his assistant, **Madeline Peyton**, react to a trick gone wrong.

## MACIC

Continued from page 1A

West's Entertainment Group in Des Moines puts on hundreds of shows across the United States each year. The Web site at www.entertainmentgroupc omedy.com lists comedians, speakers, magicians, variety acts, hypnotists, musicians, rides and games as options for an event.

West recruited student volunteers to take the stage in Altoona. He flattened a shoe, made a girl float and his orders were followed with, "Yes, master," after a bribe substituted for hypnosis.

For a few moments, Madigan Arend, 11, expected to be a victim of the "spikes of death," which West described as 18 two-foot, stainless steel spikes.

"It scared me," Arend

She rested on a table, the spikes emerged and Arend



ADAM WILSON/HERALD-INDEX STAFF

Delaware Elementary fourth-grader **Blaney Essex**, middle, and the rest of the crowd reacts to a trick performed Nov. 7 by magician/illusionist Keith West

was "relieved" when she walked away from the trick with no damage. She called the show "amazing."

West said he has been fas-

was a 10-year-old, and West headlined his first show at age 12, when admission was 25 cents per person and his assistant worked for fudge. At Willowbrook, West danced with his female assistant, or "showgirl," Madeline Peyton, 23, of Urbandale.

Following the show, locals continued to purchase popcorn, and children gathered around West and Peyton for free autographed pictures. Magic kits and wands were for sale.

West said Entertainment Group shows can cost between \$300 and \$100,000 for organizations. He visits schools mostly in October, November and March, and corporate gatherings fill up the rest of his schedule.

He would like to return to Altoona, and as the crowds get bigger, so would the acts. For example, instead of Leo the Lion and Jake the Snake, which were artistic renderings of the characters, live animals could thrill crowds at a site like Southeast Polk High School.

"This is the first year, and it was a great turnout," West said. "It's promising."



## Fundraising has never been this FUN or this EASYI

entertainment group provides everything you need

- Keith West Magic & Illusion SHow family fun for all ages!
- Tickets, posters, & printed materials everything you need to promote your event.
- Free assembly show at your school 10 days prior to your event.
- Live support from our staff 9am-6pm, M-F. We are here to answer your questions and give you the support you need for a successful event.

Call today! Available dates are vanishing fast! (515) 564-0785 // (888) 470-7948

