Ed McMahon—An Interesting Attraction

On March 6, 1923, Ed McMahon started life in Detroit, Michigan. He was raised in Lowell, Massachusetts. As a boy, the “well-to-do Alpo salesman,” acquired his hustler characteristics while selling vegetable slicers on the Boardwalk in Atlantic City, N.J.

Comedians were idolized by young McMahon. W. C. Fields and the Marx Brothers were his favorites. Fields was especially admired and Ed captured his well-known style with ease.

Having taken courses at Boston College, Ed McMahon started his radio career on WLLH, in Lowell. He joined the Marine Corps during WW II and became both a fighter pilot and flight instructor. Following WW II, Ed attended Catholic University of America, earning a BA in speech and drama. After graduation, he entered the television circuit in Philadelphia. Four years later, McMahon reentered the Marine Corps during the Korean War, again as a fighter pilot. He resumed his broadcasting career after being discharged.

Ed McMahon has made many television guest appearances, as well as doing many nightclub acts and participating in civic and community events around the country. He has hosted three daytime series and has headlined numerous specials on NBC-TV, such as “America’s Junior Miss Pageant,” “The Timex All-Star Circus,” and “Ed McMahon and His Friends Discover Wet at Cypress Gardens.”

In 1954, Johnny Carson and Ed McMahon commenced their successful working relationship. He assumed his sidekick role announcing for the program entitled “Who Do You Trust?” When “The Tonight Show” began in October of 1963, NBC gave the show a good start with the combination of star Johnny Carson and co-star Ed McMahon.

Ed McMahon considers “The Tonight Show” his main base of operations. He has been quoted as saying, “It doesn’t look as if it (the show) is slowing down any. It may go on forever.” In fact, McMahon has assumed a calm temperament as a result of his nightly “Tonight” appearances. For the past 11 years, he has entertained “insomniacs who watch you through their feet.”

Johnny Carson has characterized McMahon as a heavy drinker. McMahon admitted that it might be a safe assumption to make. Martinis are his favorite drink. As Ed put it, “I love them. They’re the greatest.” Don’t be totally taken by this image. McMahon doesn’t let his drinking habits interfere with working commitments. He waits until the taping of “The Tonight Show” is finished at 7 PM before any partying is done.

The image projected by Ed McMahon is portrayed through two main devices, drinking and acting like a pitcher. W. C. Fields is often the subject which highlights McMahon’s routines. Ed feels that W. C. Fields’ brand of humor is more understandable and thus, more popular at present than ever before. McMahon has captured the Fields style since he relates to Fields so well. McMahon carries his childhood idolization of W. C. Fields to this day. In fact, in his NBC office are scattered many replicas, carvings, and statues, of Fields. Of course, the interpretation of W. C. Fields as the “King of Booze”, is a special favorite.

In addition to his varied activities, McMahon has also substituted for Alan King on Broadway in “The Impossible Years” and had a leading role in the 20th Century Fox movie “The Incident.” All in all, Ed McMahon has had a very well-rounded career; and should prove to be an interesting attraction to the Lowell Regatta.

— Diane Sabatini

Have a drink my little chickadee.
Local Singers In
Ed McMahon Show

The Andover Townsman Choir, part of the Greater Lawrence Chapter of the nationwide organization known as the Society for the Preservation and Encouragement of Barbershop Quartet Singing in America, Inc., is scheduled to sing in the Ed McMahon show at the Lowell Auditorium on Saturday night. The chorus, composed of 35 men, has been scheduled to be in attendance for both the parade and the fashion show in front of St. Anne’s Church on Saturday.

The entire society is composed of over 15,000 members with chapters in many other countries of the world such as Canada, England, and the largest of which is located in West Germany. You may wonder what keeps these men together and singing. Many enjoy the singing, the friendships, and the other benefits of being a member of one of the most famous in international competitions. The Society is for those who like close harmony.

New members are always welcomed by the society with an open heart. Anyone wishing to join the Andover Townsman is cordially invited to attend their meetings which are held every Monday evening at the South Church on Central Street in Andover. If you wish more information you may contact their President Jack Gardner at 831-7183 or Membership President Dick Gardner at 681-4203 or 683-9493.

— Bob Hogan, Lowell Tech

Shriners Head Oktoberfest Parade

Flowers, celebrities, politicians, shriners, all the makings of a grand old parade will be combined for the kickoff of the Regatta Festival weekend.

Stepping off at 11:00 AM sharp on Saturday Oct. 5, the two hour long parade with up to 9 divisions, will be for the Lowell area. Parade organizers expect over 50 floats and as many musical units to be entered by the local ethnic groups, retail groups, manufacturers, schools and businesses.

Head Marshall of the parade is Lowell native, Ed McMahon. Walking with him at the head of the parade will be comedian Jerry Lewis and Governor Garnett.

The parade will start in front of the reviewing stand at City Hall where Ed will be presented with the key to the city. He will also receive awards from the Governor, the Marine Corp and City Manager Stetin. These ceremonies are all a part of Ed McMahon’s Homecoming Day.

Viewers will be treated to Marching Units, Bands, Firefighting equipment, including ancient horse-drawn equipment and the most modern apparatus in use today.

The Budweiser Clydesdale horses will participate in the parade adding their color and weight to the festivities. Numerous Colonial Minstrel units from all Greater Lowell towns along with Boy Scout and Girl Scout units from the entire area, will march.

A highlight of any parade, the Allegra Temple Shriners, will be out in full color and regalia. They will bring 11 uniformed marching units totaling close to 300 men.

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PIZZA and SUB SANDWICHES
with this ad get free lemonade at Johnny’s
CATERING TO TCH AND STATE STUDENTS
On The Boulevard

Rooftop 113, Pawtucket Boulevard in Lowell will be the place to be on Saturday, October 6th. The rooftop will be closed to vehicular traffic from Vernal Avenue to the Speare House, and pedestrians will have more than enough attractions upon which to cast their eye. The Robbins Rooftop will be re-inaugurated for the Sixth Annual Fall Festival Regatta, but strategically situated so as not to interfere with the crew races, will be a "Million Dollar Midway" and the Oktoberfest beer tent. Redoubter's Cydoloophers will be on display as well as a fire fighting display by Lowell's finest.

The United States Army and the Coast Guard will be setting up exhibits, included in their display will be one or two helicopters of the troop carrying variety. A bandstand with plenty of live entertainment will also be featured. Running out the attractions will be an antique auto show and an art exhibit.

A trampoline ride will also be available for thrill seekers of all ages. It’s route will be from City Hall Square in Lowell to Tyngsboro.

Perhaps one of the most beneficial side effects of the whole Oktoberfest is the fact that the South bank of the Merrimack River will have been cleared of its rain forest atmosphere and will now offer probably the best regatta viewings available. Those who brave the weather should find ample entertainment. Air aeronautics, sponsored by the FAA, will commence at twelve noon on Sunday.

In addition, the combination of Oktoberfest and Fall Festival Regatta should prove to be an event that will forever be remembered in the minds and hearts of all participating Lowellians. It’s good to see the city working together on a project of this magnitude, indeed Lowell is living up to its image of “All American City”.

SLAVE AUCTION!!

For INFO Call
James Howe 453-7473
or
Jamaes Lindelof 452-8583

THE GREATER LOWELL REGATTA FESTIVAL COMMITTEE PRESENTS

OKTOBERFEST WEEK:

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 29
Irish Party - Commodore Club on Thourndike Street, 8 PM. Two bands, one for regular dancing, one for Irish music.

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 30
Army Field Band & Soldiers Chorus - Lowell Auditorium, 8 PM. Free.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 2
Million Dollar Goding Midway - OPENS (continues on thru Sunday, Oct. 6)

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 3
Dinner-Theatre along with Fashion Show - begins at 6 PM Speare House, Pawtucket Blvd., continues each night until Sunday

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 4
Midway continues - Pawtucket Blvd. Noon - midnight

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 5
Oktoberfest Parade - Downtown Lowell, begins at 11 AM. Features Ed McMahon, Jerry Lewis, Ken Hodge, Akkypo Temple Shriners, Clydesdales Horses, Float Competition & Rex Trailer

Ethan Festival - JFK Civic Center, 1 PM- 5 PM. Ethan Foods, displays, and entertainment.

Fashion Show - In front of St. Anne's Church, Merrimack St., 2 PM - 4 PM Merchandise from downtown stores.

Art Show - Lucy Larcom Parkway, 1 PM - 5 PM.

Oktoberfest (Lowenbrau Beer Fest) - Pawtucket Blvd., 1 PM - 1 AM.

Ed McMahon Show - Lowell Memorial Auditorium, 8 PM Featuring Ed McMahon and his Las Vegas Review with the Shaw Brothers (Folk Singers)

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 6
ALL ACTIVITIES TO TAKE PLACE ON PAWTUCKET BLVD.

Ed McMahon - Speare House, 11:30 AM; your chance to meet and greet Ed McMahon. Regatta - Merrimack River, begins at 1 PM Along with:

Helicopter Rides
Parachute Jumping
One-Man Air Show
Kayak Races and demonstrations
Midway
Drawing For Sports Car
Art Show
National Guard Display

Oktoberfest (Lowenbrau Beer Fest) - Pawtucket Blvd., 1 PM - 1 AM

ITINERARY

Ed McMahon and Della Reese are scheduled to leave Las Vegas the evening of Oct. 4 after the Johnny Carson Show is over. Arriving at approximately 5:30 AM on Saturday morning they will then proceed to the Holiday Inn for a rendezvous with Governor Sargent. Ed and Jerry Lewis will then be helicoptored into Lowell, Jerry from Long Island and Ed from McMahon from Logan Airport.

Upon arriving, they will be greeted by Governor Sargent and the Regatta Committee Chairmen, Zephyr Sporcent. With them, will be the Shaw Brothers, possibly Ahn King, and other supporting acts. Headquarters for all the Regatta events will be the Holiday Inn in Tewksbury.

The Parade will start at precisely 11 AM with the Governor, Ed McMahon, and Jerry Lewis participating. It starts at Fort Hill Park, continues downtown Central Street, next proceeds to Merrimack Street and ends in the 3 mile hike at the JFK Civic Center. At the Center, Ed, Jerry, and the Governor are to be greeted by Mayor LeMay and the City Manager. It will proceed on to their key’s in the city.

The Marine Corps Band, retiring from North Carolina, has been sent in Ed McMahon’s honor, he was a full colored in the military. The Governor is to be giving Ed McMahon an award. In fact, Saturday will be known as Ed McMahon Homecoming Day!

Following the parade, many celebrities and the Governor will head to the Ethic Show and then the Gate House. (The Gate House will be dedicated as Lowell headquarters for the upcoming bi-Centennial and the National Park).

The entire 11 units will be commanded by Col. Malcolm G. Stevens, Illustrious Potenticator Frederick A. Spencer will lead the Alpeko Temple portions of the parade with his officers following.

Next will be the Mounted Patrol amidst 21 beautiful Palominos horses, the Arch Patrol and a matching Drill Team of up to 100 men. Following in order will be the Allejo Marching Brass Band of 50 men, the Alejo Chanters, the Alejo Degree Staff and the crowd pleasing 80 member international championship Oriental Band.

Following will be the 11 car Motor Patrol performing precision maneuvers, the international champion Clowns, the Temple Guard, the Provost Guard and bringing up the rear the Medical Corps.

Adding further punch to the celebrity list will be Kenny Hodge of the Boston Braves and every kids favorite, Rex Trailer of Bonnoontown fame.

Governor Sargent will also participate in a ribbon cutting ceremony opening the Lowell Urban National Park Center. The center is the gatehouse that is located next to the canal running parallel to Lucy Larcom Park.

The parade will begin promptly at 11:00 AM stepping off from the corner of High and Regent Streets and will continue to Westmead, to Back Central, to Central Towers Corner, to Merrimack and to Cabot where it will conclude.

After a ribbon cutting ceremony to be held there, they will make their way to a fashion show in front of St. Anne’s Church, where the local merchants from downtown Lowell are featuring their fashions.

Good news for Senior Citizens! Saturday at 3:30 PM Jerry Lewis will hold a special rehearsal of his evening show. All Senior Citizens are invited! This show will be open to everyone else at 8 PM.

Sometime Saturday, Lowell Tech will present Ed McMahon with an honorary degree at a convention in Cumnock Hall.

SUNDAY

Sunday morning there will be a brunch at the Speare House, where everyone gets the opportunity to meet Ed McMahon. WLLW will radio their readers six times during the day. It’s the old “Tom Clancy Question Box”. This show gave Ed his start in radio and the entertainment field.

At noon, there will be an acrobatic show in Ed’s honor. Following that will be the regatta races, the climax of the entire festival weekend.
Map of Lowell Regatta Festival

Key To Events On Map
1) Oktoberfest Parade
2) Irish Party at Commodore Club
3) Art Show on Lucy Larcom Parkway
4) Ed McMahon show and Army Field Band + Soldiers Chorus at Lowell Auditorium
5) Ethnic Festival at JFK Civic Center
6) Fashion Show in front of St. Ann's Church
7) Lowenbrau Beer Fest on Pawtucket Blvd
8) Rowing Regatta on Merrimack by
9) Ed McMahon Brunch and Fashion Show Dinner-Theater at Spehrhouse
10) Gooding's Million Dollar Midway on Pawtucket Blvd.
Many favorite reviews were received during this tour. Follow ing an Inaugural Press wrote, "... the band took the world by storm in its first concert tour, and is considered by music critics to be one of the most distinctive musical organizations now appearing before the public. All concert tours are made as directed by the Secretary of the Army, and performances are open to the general public, free of charge. The Field Band was organized on March 21, 1926, when General Jacob L. Devers issued the following:

"I want you to organize a band that will carry into the various command staffs of our respective armies the finest traditions and accomplishments of this great tradition of the American soldier - the Soldier."}

Writing was the Field Band's commanding officer until November 1926, at which time he retired from the Army's major command staff. The 14 years as commander, Colonel Whiting led the Rutgers band and Bires, "we not only carried a band." Under his baton the band performed in all 50 states, Canada, Mexico, the United Kingdom, Europe, the East, Central and South America, Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands.

Marvin Samuel J. Fricano of Silver Creek, New York is the band's current commander and conductor. He assumed this position in June 1974 as the fifth director in the Field Band's 50-year history. Major Fricano brought to this command more than 18 years experience in military music.

The Field Band is composed of the Army's finest military musicians. Many have studied at the country's leading conservatories and schools of music; many have played with major symphonies, and leading dance orchestras before entering the service. All of the musicians - by personal selection - have been especially selected for assignment to the Field Band.

The music highlights of the tour included a concert in Medellin, Colombia. Rain would have forced the afternoon's performance to be cancelled, but the Archbishop of Medellin granted permission for the concert to be presented inside the city's Busca Metropolitan ... the largest assembly structure in the world. This band set up in the middle of the cathedral and performed to an overflow crowd of more than 10,000 people. Though not the largest audience of the tour, the response of the people and the magnificence of the setting created an unforgettable experience for all in attendance.

On its tours within the continental U.S., the Field Band has performed at most of the country's finest concert halls and amphitheaters, including the Hollywood Bowl, the Red Rocks Theater in Denver, Philadelphia's Robin Hood Dell, New Jersey's Garden State Arts Center, the Hatch Shell in Boston, the San Francisco Opera House and the Ford Auditorium in Detroit. In New York's Carnegie Hall, the Field Band was the first military band to present a full-dress concert. The band has appeared at the New York and Seattle World's Fairs and represented the United States Army at EXPO '74 in Spokane.

Though seen and heard by millions of people around the world, on television, radio and for motion pictures, the largest crowd ever to witness a single performance by the band was in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. On the evening of July 3rd, 1969, more than 350,000 people turned out at the Shoreline of Lake Michigan to hear the band as it participated in the "Old Milwaukee Days" celebration.

In addition to its concert tours, the Field Band is called upon to participate in a variety of special events. The band has marched in five Presidential inaugural parades, escorted the President on special occasions and played for many visiting heads-of-state.

The Field Band, as the musical voice of the United States Army, is authorized to carry and display the Army Flag. This banner bears 155 streamers representing the campaigns in which the Army has participated since its inception from the Revolutionary War to Vietnam.

Single tickets are still available for the United States Army Field Band, but tickets for groups are no longer available. Tickets are free.

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94 MIDDLESEX
Always interested in bringing new heights of theatre madness to the unsuspecting public, the Players in their never ending search for the Great American Play, have given up. We will instead present THE BANKER’S DILEMMA or HOW THE FAMOUS DOLLOP AND TRIPPINGTON RAILROAD CAME TO BOTS, CALIFORNIA!

SUNDAY, October 6th at 8pm
Third floor LTI Student Union Building
Tickets: 50¢ all proceeds donated to the MUSCULAR DYSTROPHY FUND

We, in America, have many heroes and heroines. Some of them actually lived; others have come down to us in story or legend. This play is not about those people. The purpose of this play is to dramatize an incident in American history which has fortunately contributed nothing whatsoever to our American heritage. There are some people who doubt the authenticity of our story and its characters. It is enough to say that we have not needed these voices and that we will present this play. So to this end, we may say that although our story is little known beyond a small lunatic fringe, we feel that it has played its part in the growth and spirit of a free America.

THE BANKER’S DILEMMA has been compared to such plays as HAMLET, DEATH OF A SALESMAN, and THE ODD COUPLE. Of course the person making the comparison has been judged completely insane. For in each comparison, it has been found to be lacking something...all characteristics of good theatre or even not-so-good theatre. In fact, the question should be, why in the world did the Players pick such a winner in the first place?

THE BANKER’S DILEMMA is a one-act farce-melodrama. Many of the elements of a typical melodrama are contained within this play: the widowed mother and her son versus the evil banker. It is full of surprises, improbabilities, and complications. An evening of pure FUN is promised to everyone. We selected this play with the idea of enjoying ourselves as much as possible. You will enjoy watching this play as much as we enjoyed doing it.

Here are some reviews that we have received:

"A very amusing and effective travesty on misapplied Freudian psychology, I wish I have seen it."
—Ponca City Monthly

"One of the two or three plays..."
—Botts Literary Roundup

"A...plot makes this...a...but the nude scene in the last act was totally unexpected."
—Tilly City Gazette

The cast includes such people as Rita Buffuck, W.A. Hurd, Carl Stafford and Cindy Cook. Michael Ryan is directing this production since the entire cast looks up to him. (sorry about that big guy, no more tall jokes.)

The play will be performed several times on Sunday, October 6, starting at 8:00 p.m. If there is a demand for more performances, they will be held on Monday at 8:00 p.m. Performances will be held in the Little Theatre on the third floor of the LTI Student Union Building.

THE BANKER’S DILEMMA is being performed as part of the Greater Lowell Oktoberfest. All proceeds from Sunday’s performances will be donated to the Muscular Dystrophy Fund. Tickets are fifty cents and may be bought in advance from members of the Players or by mail (Michael Nelson, Box 1661, Lowell Tech).

The Players present
THE BANKER’S DILEMMA

How the famous Dollop and Trippington Railroad came to Bots, California!

Zenny Speronis
General Chairman

The Speare house

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AND
The Greater Lowell Regatta Festival

OKTOBERFEST

Zenny Speronis
General Chairman

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The Speare house
KING ARTHUR’S FINE KIK AND STEAK CASTLE ALONG THE MERIMACK
At 113 Pawtucket Blvd., Lowell, Mass. Ph 452 8903
**Fall Festival Regatta**

**Returning to Lowell**

A truly memorable reunion has been planned by the alumni of the Class of 1969. This will constitute the Octoberfest Anniversary classes to be honored are the classes of '64 and '69.

The reunion weekend will start Friday, October 4th with an informal "Get Together" in the Student Union Building. Ed Ciampi will provide live music.

The Annual meeting will be held Saturday at 11 am in the Multi-Purpose Room of the Memorial Library and tentatively will feature a slide show later in the afternoon. The Afternoon Tea will be provided by President Olsen and will address the Alumni Luncheon at 12:30 pm. In the Student Union Rathskeller, all campus buildings will be open (including the nuclear reactor).

**BIG BUD**

The big Budweiser balloon is a hot air balloon heated by propane burners. To make the balloon rise, the burners are turned on and the hot air rises, and as it does so they are turned off. The balloon cannot be inflated if the wind is over 5 mph. At the widest part, Big Bud is 50 feet in diameter and 70 feet tall. It can lift 2 to 4 people depending on the outside temperature.

The lightweight nylon fabric is flame retardant and specially woven to prevent tears. Most of the gondola's weight is carried by the load lopes between the panels. Though hot air balloons have gone over 30,000 feet, the Budweiser Balloon normally flies 300 to 600 feet above ground. Above that altitude, the air currents are too unpredictable for Balloon racing.

Depending on the weather and outside temperature, the Budweiser Balloon usually stays up for 2 or 3 hours. On cold days, with a light load, a 4 hour flight can be attained. The distance it can float depends on the wind. Although it cannot be steered, the pilot can descend or climb to obtain the correct wind direction and speed.

The first hot air balloon flight was in France in 1783 which makes hot air ballooning the oldest form of air transportation. The passengers on that historic trip were a rooster, a duck and a sheep. (All landed safely) Today the sport is becoming increasingly popular and is regulated by the Federal Aviation Agency to maintain flight safety standards.

**The Perfect Car**

The Bradley GT is a fiberglass bodied roadster that uses a 1969 VW chassis as its base. Combining custom aluminum paneling as well as classic styling, the Bradley GT may well be the car of the future. It will use a stock 1500cc engine and a stock 4-speed standard transmission. The only noticeable difference is in the sound, which is produced by a set of exhaustors. The sound is similar to the sound of a well tuned 'vette, with a deep rumbling sound common to extractors.

The car is in a world where fuel prices are going up and emission control standards are following the same route, the Bradley GT may well be the answer. It seems to be the perfect car for any "sports car" minded person. It is not excessively noisy, nor does it use vast amounts of gas. It handles well, goes fast, and looks nice, all of which seem to be the prime requisites for a sports car.

The car is being donated by Sports Classics of Westford, in conjunction with the Lowell Rotary, as a fund raising item. It is worth about $3,000, and one of the best looking "kit" cars for the VW that we have seen.

Tickets are on sale around Tech and are $1.00 apiece or $2 for $10.00. This is truly a dream car for any sports car enthusiast, so be sure to get your tickets soon.

Who knows, you might win.

— Andrew Lagravine

**Aerial Show**

Four balloons, including the large Budweiser Balloon, will be expected for the Octoberfest. Prof. Ralph Hall of Lexington, will be in his hot air balloon, while white and blue wallpaper along the Budweiser headquarters at the Holiday Inn, Thursday, Oct. 4th.

Dr. Harold Thomas of Brimfield, and a balloonist student of Prof. Hall are expected to arrive Friday morning with their balloons. Senator Tom Rubenstein, a state senator from New Mexico and the famous balloonist, Sid Cutler, are also expected.

The four colorful balloons are scheduled to rise from an area over the city, subject to wind and weather. Launching and landing sites will encircle the city. The balloons are scheduled to take up certain VIFs and possibly Lowell Tech's radio station, WLRT, 91.5 FM. They will be "on the air" in the air.

On Saturday, the balloons will fly over the parade from Rogers Fort Hill Park to City Hall, Saturday night, they will be tethered at the Square House on route 111.

Sunday, the balloons will again be performing and if events go planned, local, amateur parachutists will be jumping from the balloon alongside the Merrimack. At press time, helicopters were scheduled to give rides.