

Janet Jackson Collapses Backstage

ST. LOUIS — Pop singer Janet Jackson passed out backstage after performing three songs at the St. Louis Arena, a spokeswoman says.

Jackson, 24, was treated for exhaustion Sunday at Barnes Hospital and was released, said a hospital administrator who would not give her name.

"She opened with 'Control,' 'Nasty,' and then 'What Have You Done For Me Lately,'" said Maureen O'Connor, her spokeswoman. "Then she excused herself and passed out backstage."

The singer, who canceled a performance last Thursday in Lexington, Ky., has suffered from exhaustion and flu-like symptoms, O'Connor said. Sunday night's show in St. Louis had been postponed from the night before, O'Connor said.

Jackson's tour began March 1 and concludes Sept. 4 in Richfield, Ohio.



Janet Jackson



MC Hammer brought the house down at the Thomas and Mack Center last Friday night. He is shown above as he "did his thing."



ROWE

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those sleet supermarket mags about his long-time boss...Thanks to Henry Hampton for the autographed copy of "Voices of Freedom: An Oral History of the Civil Rights Movement from the 1950s through the 1980s."...The Salvation Army, which will dedicate a new territorial headquarters in West Nyack, NY, Sept. 15 has a number of job openings. The needs are for secretaries, accountants, clerk typists, receptionists and various aides. Commissioner Robert E. Thomson, territorial commander, informs that the pay is good and the parking is free. For further info. call 212-337-7355.

DROP IN:--One of the great concerns of many of us in this country is the alarming school dropout percentages. A few years back, DELIGHTFUL LADY, Esther Ferguson, wife of the former chairman of General Foods, gathered a number of us at her Park Avenue Manse to aid and advise her in the formation of the Nat'l Drop Out Prevention Fund. Now successfully housed at Clemson Univ., the success of this venture is highlighted in a letter this board member received dated July 23, from Jay

Smink, exec. Dir., and we quote: "During the course of this past year, the Center had made significant advances in fulfilling its mission to 'significantly reduce America's drop out rate by fostering public-private partnerships in local school districts and communities throughout the nation. The FOCUS database is now online and available to the public nationwide and contains more than 400 successful dropout prevention program abstracts. Additionally, that computerized database contains an up-to-date calendar of events related to at-risk youth and our reference library. The Center has become a nationally recognized source of information concerning statistics, legislation, strategies and other matters related to dropout prevention. We continue to maintain involvement in a number of action-research demonstration projects in various parts of the country. One such activity is a three-year, \$900,000 project funded by the U.S. Dept. of

Education. The project involves adapting a proven dropout prevention model in three distinctly different locations--Broward County, Florida, Oconee County, So. Carolina, and Anne Arundel County, Maryland. The Nat'l Dropout Prevention Center would not have been able to complete its most successful year to date without the gracious help of the National Dropout Prevention Fund Board, of which you are a member. The Fund's initial gift of \$150,000 and a subsequent gift of \$35,000, in addition to your invaluable advice and counsel, are most appreciated.".....STAY LOOSE...Billy Rowe is a syndicated columnist.

Michael Jackson is about to do some hard sell in soft shoes.

Of course, hard sell for Jackson is just touching a product in an ad. He never has before. But later this week, the pop star will walk, dance and even pantomime in a pair of "MJ" athletic shoes in his first TV commercial for L.A. Gear.

In the ad, Jackson — who refused to so much as touch a Pepsi can in all of his Pepsi spots — is happily strapped into an \$80 pair of L.A. Gear black athletic shoes with silver buckles.

But unlike with former sponsor Pepsi, Jackson has more than a cash deal at stake with L.A. Gear: Part of his estimated \$20 million contract with the athletic

shoe maker includes options to purchase an undisclosed amount of L.A. Gear stock.

The highly stylized spot is sure to be provocative. Jackson doesn't sing or speak in it. Nor does the commercial have any typical

Jackson music. What it does have is plenty of close-ups of the performer's L.A. Gear-decked feet. There is just one close-up of Jackson's face — as he transforms a dark alley into an electrically charged set.

Michael Jackson to Sell Shoes

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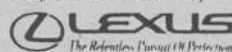
Consumer Reports Magazine

"It's not a car... it's a high speed cloud with a leather interior!"

Car & Driver



The new Lexus LS 400 has received lofty praise from the automotive press. But why not form your own opinion? Come in to Fletcher Jones Lexus on Rancho Road near Sahara, right next door to our Mercedes-Benz dealership and test drive one today. We think you'll find that while the Lexus LS 400 elevates luxury car performance, its price is anything but sky-high.



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