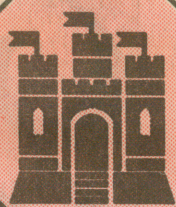


Evening News

Price 20p



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estival '90

Tuesday, August 14, 1990

Saddam's soldier

Circus star goes to war

**Festival News by
BARBARA BUCHAN and
BARBIE DUTTER on
031-243 3551 / 3556**

AN IRAQI Festival performer has flown home to play his part in the Middle East crisis.

Zanouk-El-Habib has quit Circus Archaos and headed back to Iraq where he is thought to have joined Saddam Hussein's army.

Members of the French troupe said today they were shocked and disappointed that Zanouk, the act's strong man, had left them.

Nathalie Tarlet, who is a clown in the show, said he had been upset when the Kuwait crisis broke ten days ago because he had a large family living in Iraq.

She said: "He said he was worried about his family then he just left. He had talked about joining the Army to fight for his country but we think he was mostly worried about his family and friends."

Humour

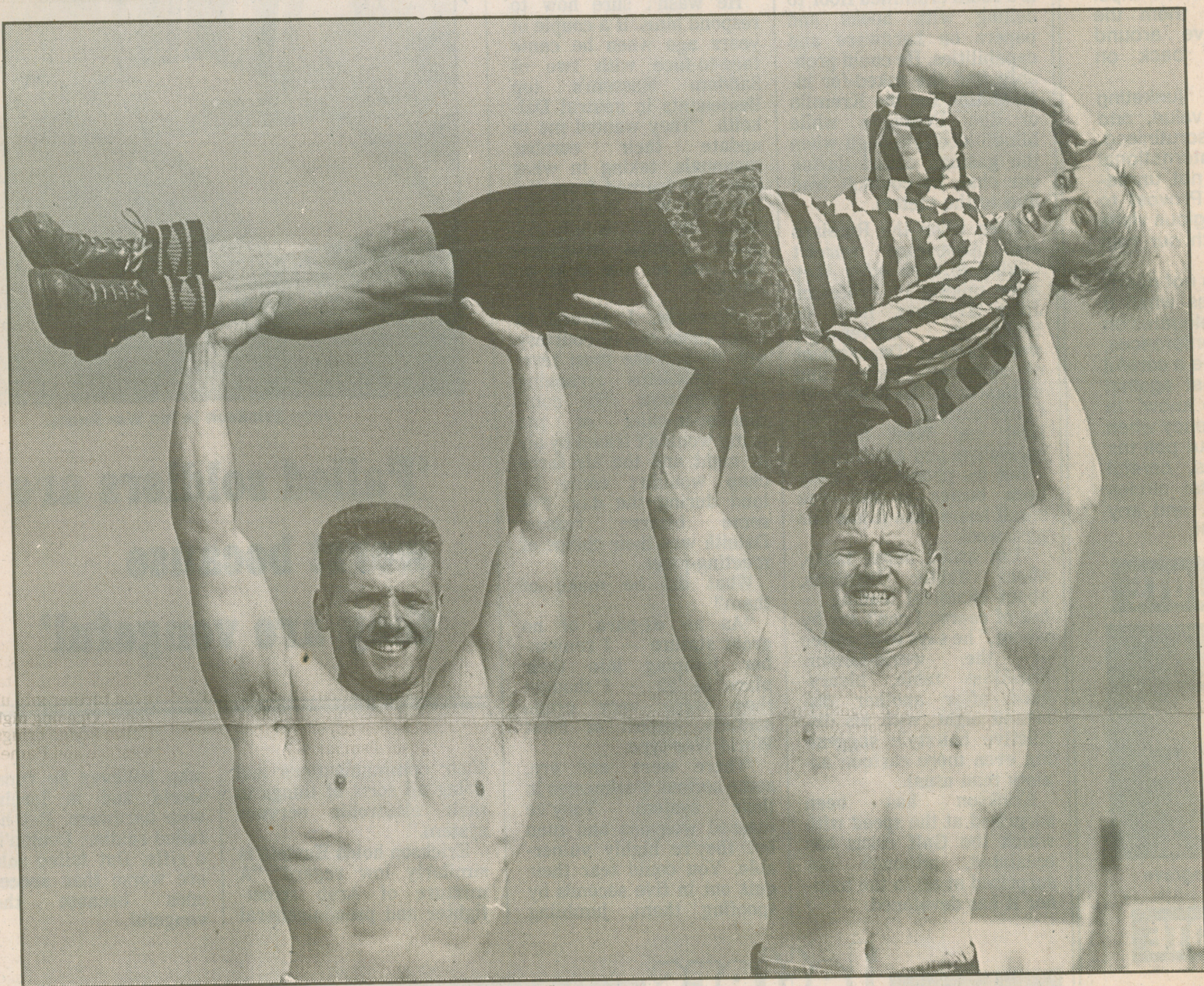
Zanouk had only been with Archaos for a couple of months and had performed in their controversial shows in Glasgow.

He quit at the beginning of the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait and now Archaos are desperately looking for a replacement for their Festival performances at Leith Links.

Nathalie and fellow clown Ramon Fernandez went to Marco's Leisure Centre in Grove Street to check-out the muscle men who daily pump iron in the gym.

Ramon said the stand-in would have to be strong, be able to bend bars and have a sense of humour.

"We don't mind if it's a man or woman so long as they have a sense of performance."



NATHALIE hoisted aloft by Grove Street strong men James Shade and Craig Donaldson.