

Evening News

No 36,223

PRICE 20p

Tel 031-225 2468

THURSDAY, AUGUST 10, 1989

Big Top worker in plunge



M. PILLOT-BIDON
Very concerned

A FESTIVAL Fringe worker has survived a horrific accident after plunging from the roof of a big top circus tent.

Lighting technician Sarah Sankey (24) broke her spine in the 20ft fall.

Today she is in a stable condition at Edinburgh Royal Infirmary.

The accident happened at about 6pm yesterday as Sarah was helping set up the "Archaos" tent on Leith Links.

Sarah, believed to be from London,

by BARBARA BUCHAN

was fixing the lighting for the show when she slipped and fell from a steel frame inside the tent.

Performers

Circus director Pierrot Pillot-Bidon said today: "It's a terrible thing to have happened to Sarah and we are all very concerned about her."

"I have spoken to the hospital and she has six broken vertebrae and a broken arm. As far as I know she will have to lie flat for quite a while but she can move her legs, which is a good sign," he said.

The French performers are on their first visit to the Edinburgh Festival Fringe. Sarah joined the circus in London last year.

"She was part of another troupe and left them to join our team," said M. Pillot-Bidon.

Injured

About 50 people are involved in "Archaos", which has developed a reputation for being a dangous show.

M. Pillot-Bidon said last year during their London show 12 members of the cast were injured.

"Everyone taking part is very enthusiastic during the performances and we do have some accidents but nothing serious."

The show is due to open tomorrow.

More Festival news
— Page 14