

NC grad up to new tricks

Dave Womach's magic has already taken him around the world

By Mike Prager
Staff writer

Dave Womach's biggest trick may be his graduation from high school despite missing 51 days of class last fall semester.

His disappearance from school would be called magic by most teenagers.

Womach was on the job, spending the time away touring China with his award-winning magic routine. He said he was seen by maybe 200 million Chinese television viewers during one performance.

Despite the absences, the North Central High School senior said he got all A's in his classes.

"The grades are still up there," he said.

Womach has been doing this magic act since he was 14, and last year won

*"If you love what you do,
it's not work. I love
making people laugh."*

Dave Womach

first place in the Professional Magic Challenge in Palm Springs, Calif.

This summer, he's been invited to join a North American tour with 80 shows in some 50 cities over seven weeks. The offer came from Murray Hatfield, a Calgary magician he met in Orlando, Fla., last summer.

"It's something I love," Womach said of magic.

His fellow graduates might consider him lucky for getting a break so soon, but it came like most success: from hard work and a lot of practice.

He started learning magic when he was 4 years old. He read every book on magic he could find. He studied videotapes of the greats. He spent countless hours practicing.

In his winning performance at Palm Springs, he made a dove appear, disappear and reappear. He has dozens of other tricks, including dexterous close-up hand moves.

Womach has some real-life magic for other graduating seniors who are now thinking about their futures and careers.

"If you love what you do, it's not work," he said. "I love making people laugh."



Dave Womach will leave this ~~summer~~ ^{Nov.} on a North American magic show tour.

Courtesy Dave Womach