

Balloonman



Hard to believe, but celebrated balloon artist Radovan Goudinski got started on his road to fame and fortune at the Gallitzin Abattoir when, one day, bored from the same old grind (ha!), he took a dozen bratwurst links, twisted them together, and created a very lifelike dachshund. Then in quick succession, he made a rabbit, an elk, a lobster and a triceratops. He only stopped when a middle management official commented about the alleged squandering of pork product. But it was clear that Radovan had a gift, and his co-workers urged him to ignore the petty bureaucrat and make more animals. He did, responding brilliantly with a water buffalo, a badger, a nearsighted squirrel and, his pièce de résistance, a giraffe lounging on a lawn chair reading *The New York Times*. But while his colleagues loved his work, Radovan's supervisor did not. He pointed out that two hundred and sixty-seven sausage links were now unfit for human consumption, and he ordered the future world champion balloonologist to stop fiddling with the food. The world of ballooning will forever be grateful to Radovan for flouting the order. Sure, he was fired and subsequently spent a few troubled months in and out of homeless shelters. But eventually, he found his niche, and, within a year, Radovan ruled the Las Vegas casino lounges.

For booking information, contact the Southern Nevada Animaux du Ballon Council.