

## Q & A I'M KICKING AS FAST AS I CAN!

Camel dung! Hitler on heels! An ex-Rockette tells all.

**F THE OUT-OF-TOWN REL-**atives are in town and demanding tickets for the Rockettes, feel free to show them to their seats, then high-kick your way over to Dillon's, on West 54th Street, where ex-Rockette Jennifer Jiles's show *Kicking and Screaming* starts a weekly run on Saturday. **ADA CALHOUN**

**What was your first rehearsal like?** They did body-fat-content testing. You have to stay in a six-pound weight range. And they asked, "Did you always

want to be a Rockette?" You're supposed to say, "Yes!" That's it. **Was there a lot of Rockette rivalry?** You don't touch each other's backs in the kick line because you might push someone and cause a ripple in the line. I learned that the hard way. There was a woman next to me whom I call "Doris, Hitler on Heels" in the show, and she shoved me and said, "There! How's it feel. Jiles? You like getting pushed around?"



**What do the kids in the front row not get to see?** You're 30 yards from the audience, so they don't see a lot. Sometimes I blacked out my teeth to make the stagehands laugh—and I'd throw in a grand-jeté to see if anybody noticed.

**And the biggest occupational**

**hazard?** Every once in a while, you'll get a chunk of camel dung on your heel. I was the only real Jew in

the Nativity scene and I had to walk behind the gold camel for four years and it would poop all 75 feet across the stage.

**BEHIND THE MUSIC:** All that glitter is not . . .