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SALT LAKE CITY (AP) -- A elephant giving rides to two children lifted his trainer, tossed him to the ground and stepped on him, critically injuring him. Rex Williams suffered a broken arm, four broken ribs and internal injuries Monday.

The children, ages 2 and 3, were not hurt.

The 6,000-pound Asian elephant attacked Williams at the Jordan Circus after he bumped into the animal. "They love each other. I'm sure she got spooked when he tripped in front of her," said Pat Jordan, co-owner of the circus. Another trainer stepped in, but the elephant kicked her and broke her finger. A third trainer gained control of the animal and removed the children.