3 BIG DAYS

Something different in the way of an audience developed at Boyes Hot Springs, Calif., when the Happytime Circus played that city for three days - March 15-17. Drivers lined up along the street waiting for gas, then became so absorbed in watching the circus they were reluctant to move along in line.

This was the 7th year in a row that the circus has been sponsored here by Fiesta Markets, Inc. They used plenty of newspaper space and window cards to advertise the circus, then gave free balloons to everyone who attended.

The performances presented on all three days included:

Ko-Ko, the clown and his balloon
Trained goats (3)
Dave and his balloon animals
Trained dogs (4)
Hula hoop contest for kids

STAR HURT

Hospital officials at Miami, Fla., report aerialist Jacqueline Zerbini is in good condition after surviving a fall during a performance of the Shrine Circus in that city.

The circus performer was riding her rocket ship to the top of the arena when the rigging apparently failed and threw her down 40 ft. to the concrete floor. Her husband, Jean (Tarzan) Zerbini, attempted to break her fall but was unsuccessful.

A hospital official said that Mrs. Zerbini injured her heel and suffered a broken tailbone.
FOR SALE

A total of 90 books on circuses and show business. All in excellent condition, many still have dust jackets.

Just $85.00 FC8 Madison, Wisc., or the first $95.00 takes them and I pay transportation.

JAY BEADSLEY
122 No. Bassett St.
Madison, Wisc. -- 53703

NOW AVAILABLE

Facilities for boarding hoof stock
Charlie Allen, P. O. Box 91,
Pixley, Calif. -- 93256.
Phone: (209) 757-3501

Our Error!

The route date listed for the Paul Kaye Continental Circus in last week's issue was in error. The date shown is for May and not the month of March.

NOTE ......

The illustration on the address side of today's Circus Report was clipped from Hal Haviland's letterhead.

THE CIRCUS REPORT is published each week by Don Mercks, 525 Oak St., El Cerrito, Cal. 94530.

Subscription rates: $5.00 for 6 months; $10.00 per year. For Air Mail service add $2.00 (overseas rates upon request).

show draws well

Enthusiastic crowds attended each performance of the Caltech Circus (Feb. 23-24) at Pasadena, Cal. Five shows were presented, with four full houses and one 2/3 house.

The show program, which ran 1½ hours, featured:

Pre-show calliope concert by Tracy Heaston
"Circus on Parade" featuring a 32 piece Caltech Concert Band
Miss Astra - sponge plunge
Heidi Wendany and Dorothy Herbert - dog acts
Rudy Rawls and Checkers Baker - Clowns with Boxing Match
Miss Aurora (Bambi Burnes) - iron jaw
Snow White and Seven Dwarfs - a walk-around
Clowns - The long shirt
Russ Saunders Trio - teeterb'd
Clowns - The Moving Man (Pops Levinson, Chip & Rick Burnes)
Aerial web feature - Miss Dale, Bambi and Dianne
Clowns - The Birdcage (Joey Braiga)
Miss Cindy - chimpanzee
Clowns - A musical invention
John Strong Jr - juggler
Clowns - The Dentist
Miss Dale (Baer) - trapeze
Linda Strong and the elephant "Naana"
Spec - "Over the Rainbow" with floats and a bird act
EXPERT TALENT
FOR D.C. SHOW

Next week (Apr. 3) the all-new "Circus America" opens at Capital Centre (Washington, DC) for a 19 day run. The show will feature top name circus talent, with five ring presentations, plus TV viewing for instant rerun and close-ups of the performers. In addition to the circus performance, a menagerie, side show and petting zoo will also be provided for patrons.

The circus program will be presented in next week's issue of Circus Report. The show's executive staff and Clown Alley is presented below:

Executive staff for the Circus America will include:

- Paul V. Kaye - Exec. Director
- Karl Wellenda - Perf. Director
- Jack Leontini - Comp. Manager
- Wm. N. Strong - Person. Director
- Philip McDonald - Announcer
- Jack Cervone - Musical Director
- Judy Jacobs - Prod. Coordinatr
- Trudy Strong - Aerial Ballet
- Gene Randow and Max Craig - producing clowns
- Tom Pettus - Prop spt.
- Lloyd Crabb - Electrician
- Walter Patterson - Spec. Effect
- John Walde - floats & wagons
- Karl Davis - Transp. Consult.
- Donna Mitchell - Wardrobe

Clowns who will be appearing with Circus America next month are:

- Jay Armor
- Charlie Frank
- Neil Kay
- Blinko
- Abe Goldstein
- Charlie Frank
- John McKay
- John Cirillino
- Lindy Daly
- Linda Daly
- June Dewsbury
- Mildred Hall
- John Daly
- June Dewsbury
- Marcel
- Emmet Kelly
- Walter Stiess
- Albert White
- Don Beshman
- Grady Craig
- Abe Goldstein
- John McKay
- Gene Randow
- Albert White
- David Strong
- Walter Stiess

Texas Gets Crowded

Sometimes, at least when it comes to circuses, it can become pretty crowded in Texas. Already this year the Circus Vargas and Carson & Barnes have been playing the same cities.


Then Carson & Barnes moved into the state to open its 1974 season with a Mar. 22-24 date at Austin, followed by a day (Mar. 27) at Mexia and an April 2nd engagement at Beaumont in the meantime Fisher Br. is playing the small towns of the state. Later on several other shows will move in for their share of the business.
Allan's Petting Zoo
Mar. 27-31 Canoga Prk, Calif.

Bale's Buckeye Circus
Mar. 25 Loudonville, Ohio
26 Lewiston
27 Lima
28 Tipp City
30 Delaware

Carson & Barnes Circus
Mar. 27 Mexia, Texas.
April 2 Beaumont

Hubert Castle Circus
Mar 28-Apr 6 Columbus, Ohio
28-31 Los Angeles, Calif.

Circus Vargas
Mar. 27-31 Phoenix, Ariz.

Cole All Star TV Circus
Mar. 25 Canton, N.Y.
26 Madrid
27 DeKalb Junction
28 Ogdensburg
29 Brasher Falls
30 Potsdam
31 Enroute

Fisher Bros. Circus
Mar. 25 Winnie, Texas
26 Hardin
27 New Caney
28 Magnolia

Great Moscow Circus
Mar 29-Apr 7 Sydney, Aust.

Hamid-Morton Circus
Mar. 22-24 Wichita, Kansas
28-31 Okla. City, Okla.

Hamilton Mini Circus
Mar. 28-30 Hamilton, Ohio

Hoxie Bros. Circus
Mar. 25 Sweetwater, Fla.
26 Sunrise
27 Davie
28 Coral Springs
29 Okeechobee
30-31 Melbourne

Hubler's Int'l Circus
Mar. 29-31 Decatur, Ill.
30-31 Steubenville, Ohio

Pan American Circus
Mar. 29-31 Morristown, N.J.

Ringling-Barnum Blue Unit
Mar 28-May 27 New York, N.Y.

Ringling-Barnum Red Unit
Mar. 26-31 Charlotte, N.C.

Royal Lipizzan Stallion Show
Mar. 25 Bloomington, Ind.
28-29 Cincinnati, Ohio
30-31 Dayton

Sells & Gray Circus
Mar. 25 Miramar, Fla.
26 Deerfield Beach
27 Boynton Beach
28 Fort Pierce
29 Melbourne
30 Titusville
31 Daytona Beach

Wallace & Rogers Circus
Mar. 21 St. Helens, Ore.
Apr. 6-7 Mercer Island, Wash.

World Pet Expo
Mar. 30-31 Trenton, N.J.

NOTES
In 1859 the Dan Rice Circus played Hartford, Conn. on Aug. 27-28. At that time they reportedly featured a trained rhino. The show had some 40 horses, plus the elephant "Lalla Roach". Admission price was 25¢.
This year's presentation of the Hubert Castle Circus, at Portland, Ore. (Mar. 7-10) marked the show's eighth year in our city. The circus was sponsored by Al Kader Shrine Temple and was presented at the Memorial Coliseum.

It didn't seem as if the crowds were quite as large as those of last year, perhaps it was due to the gas shortage. The admission prices were up slightly and this year they were $3.50, $4.00 and $5.00.

The program as presented here featured:

Joe Hartman - lions and tigers
Clowns - Target practice
Miss Anita and Rebecca - web
Miss Belinda - single trapeze
Merahal's camels and llamas
The Zamperlas - bicycles
The Olmedas - una-cycle
Irene, Tongo and Tonga - comedy
The Carlos Twins - hand balance
The Four Nandos - acrobats
The Torino Bros. - juggling
Francarro - single trapeze
The Torreanas - bikes on wire
The Atos Troupe - trampoline
Bounding Plunketta - trampoline
Clowns - hair grower
Willy Lenz - chimps

-- Intermission --

The Flying Latinos
Clowns - The fire cracker
Tony Foster - bounding rope

The March 1974 issue of "Horse & Rider" magazine has a story about the Schlitz 40 Horse Hitch.

Allen's Petting Zoo has ordered a new 35' x 60' vinyl red and white striped tent from the Canvas Specialty Co. of Los Angeles, Calif.

Some 28 CFA members visited the Hubert Castle Circus during its recent Portland, Ore. date.

The John Strong Circus played to turnaway business at each performance during a two day stand in Simi, Calif.

A full hour program will be filmed on the Paul Kaye Circus during its Hawaiian engagement for the Hawaii 5-0 program.

The Emmett Kelly, Jr. Circus is scheduled to give two shows on the U.C. Campus in Berkeley, Calif. on May 25th. They will also play the World's Fair in Spokane, Wash. for a few days

Kay Grant & Co. - illusions
The Kolmedys - balancing
The Pablos - perch act
The Torre Duo - bicycle balance
The Amandis Troupe - teeterboard
The Delanays - aerial audacity
Wallace Diehl - Janmar elephants
La Norma - aerial display

..... Michael Sporrer
people

ALBERT WHITE is just one of several clowns who will be with the all-new Circus America at Washington, DC during the month of April.

DAVID CHABIRA received a two-page write-up (with pictures) about his clowning with the Hamid-Morton Circus. The item was in the March 3rd issue of the Topeka (Kans.) Capital-Journal.

PEGGY WILLIAMS, an RBBB circus clown, recently delivered the sermon at the Church of St. Stephen in Washington, DC.

KEN WILLER, THE WAL-TIMS and MISS JAN were with the Globotrotters in San Francisco last week.

JOAN BYRON, former RBBB showgirl and Disney on Parade performer, currently does a striptease on a trapeze to open the stage show "Jumpers" which is now playing Washington, DC.

308 BUTLER, risley performer is reportedly working up a new act in the San Francisco, Calif. area.

MIKE KLUCKER has changed his name to "Earl Michaels". He is ringmaster/announcer with the Hamid-Morton Circus.

RAY RODMAN, PAT GRAHAM, and KARI and SMOKEY JONES visited the John Strong Circus when the show played Bloomington, Calif. on March 15th.

DIME WILSON is the producing clown on Hamid-Morton Circus for its current tour.

routes

Bugs Bunny Show
Mar. 25-30 Huntington Stat., N. Y.
25-27 Cherry Hill, N. J.
27-30 Port Arthur, Texas
28-30 Woodbridge, N. J.

Des Moines Sport Show
Mar. 26-31 Des Moines, Iowa

Disney on Parade Show
Mar. 26-31 Louisville, Ky.

Holiday on Ice
Mar. 26-31 St. Petersbourg, Fla.

Ice Capades
Mar. 27-31 Sherbrooks, Quebec

Ice Follies
Mar. 27-Apr. 7 Minneapolis, Minn

Kramien's Mad World of Magic
Mar. 22 Wickenburg, Ariz.
26 Camp Verde
27 Cottonwood
28 Williams
29 Winslow

Peter Pan Show
Mar. 26-31 New Haven, Conn.
The H-M Show Program

The program for Hamid-Morton Circus, as presented at two sponsored dates this month is shown below. There is a slight difference between the two, but basically they are pretty much the same.

The program as presented at Kansas City, Mo. on March 5-10 featured the following:
- Nat'l Anthem
- Circus Overture
- Spec - Mother Goose
- Wanda Ward - rings
- Eloise Berchtold - wild animals
- The Charles - acrobats
- The Milantis - comedy casting
- Carlotta Winn - a slide for life

The program as presented at Topeka, Kan., on March 1-3 featured the following acts:
- National Anthem
- Circus Overture
- Wanda Ward - on the iron ring
- Eloise Berchtold - wild animals
- The Charles - acrobats
- The Milantis - comedy casting
- Betty Woods - doves
- Girls on swinging ladders
- Tony Steel - sponge dive
- Intermission
- Musical Interlude
- The Flying Del-Steeles
- The Clowns
- Szymanski Chimps
- The Fulbrights - trained horses
- Gutus Jungle Fantasy
- Eloise Berchtold - elephants
- The Ayala Troupe - teeterboard
- Grand Finale

Order your copy today at $10.00 per year.
Write: Don Marcks, 525 Oak St., El Cerrito, Cal. 94530
NOW OPEN

The Duncklee scale model of Ringling Bros. Circus opened its 1974 season on March 10th. The circus display, on view at the Wayside Country Store, Rte. 20, Marlboro, Mass., is open to the public from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. with special arrangements for groups.

The display is on view through September, and what was once a two month operation has now developed into a ten month stand.

The scale model circus is an accurate reproduction of the old-time tented circus, completely hand-made. The display includes an animated street parade, 18 animated circus acts, the big top, backyard, railroad, a cookhouse, menagerie, 140 wagon display, 400 horses, 30 elephants and some 1,000 people.

Also on view is a collection of posters.

Readers Please Note!

Under a U.S. Supreme Court ruling, USDA agents do not have jurisdiction over entertainers who are purely “exhibitors”, even though they own animals and cross state lines. “An exhibition is not interstate commerce. The exhibition is purely a local affair and the travel merely incidental.”
RANDOM RAMBLINGS  . . . . .  by ART "Doc" MILLER

Life on a fair grounds midway is a continuous round of work, but now and then incidents happen which make the show folks forget the strenuous hours they put in catering to the fun seeking public.

Take for example the time a carnival owner named Shirley was working like mad patting ground beef into shape for hamburgers. The crowd had just poured out of the grandstand, everyone was hungry and she could hardly keep up with the demand. Suddenly she noticed with horror that the diamond was missing from her ring, and thought, it must be mixed in with the meat.

With a scream, she cried, "My diamond, I have lost my diamond."

Tearing apart the paddies on the griddle without success she dashed out onto the midway, grabbing hamburgers right and left out of the astonished people's mouths and hands, examining them minutely, particle by particle, then throwing the pieces to the ground, and rushing on. Right up the midway went Shirley, repeating the process, leaving a trail of astonished people gaping after her in open mouth wonder. It didn't matter whose stand they had purchased the hamburgers from, Shirley snatched them all, until finally she located what she sought.

Without a smile of gratitude, she screamed, "I found it - I found my diamond" and proceeded back to her stand as calmly as if this were an ordinary run of the day incident.

The score of fair-goers whose lunches she had grabbed and discarded figured she must have flipped her lid and thought "Now I've seen everything."

Then there is the tale of the sausage vendor at the Buffalo, N.Y. Pan American Exposition, who ran out of sausages the last night of the fair. Not wanting to lose sales, he daubed one of his fingers with iodine, and at each request for a sandwich, he placed his finger on the bun, smeared it with mustard, and copiously loaded it with onions. As he passed it over the counter to the customer he quickly withdrew the finger, and repeated the process with the next impatient buyer.

When angry customers returned to his stand to scream, "Hey there ain't any meat in my bun," he'd shrug his shoulders and say, "sorry you must have dropped it on the ground."

This recalls what happened years ago up in the Yukon when a tenderfoot would order milk at the trading post cafe. Naturally with cows hundreds of miles away, no such drink was available, so the cook would stir flour into a glass of water under the counter and pro-

Turn to Page 4 of Supplement
The kitty draped around the neck of Alfred Court is Droushka, if that matters. She is a Siberian spotted leopard, guaranteed to eat anything that moves. Droushka is one of the stars of the Ringling Brothers-Barnum & Bailey circus.

The picture on the extreme left reportedly is Ruth Nelson. This picture was used by the Cole Bros. Circus during its 1943 tour.

The picture in the center was also used by Cole Bros. Circus, but on its 1940 tour. The name of the riding act is not known, but when used the picture would include a tag line reading a feature riding act now appearing with Cole Bros.

The Al G. Barnes picture is a reproduction of an early litho that show used.
'Cosmic Circus' in Debut at Starwood

In a blizzard of glitter, West Hollywood's Starwood Club Tuesday night baptized a new rock musical called 'Bimbo's Cosmic Circus.' Like most infants, the show is shrill, untidy and makes very little sense. Yet, in its best moments, 'Bimbo' is enormously appealing—and it will be fun to watch it grow.

A self-styled "hard-core, low-budget circus show," the musical follows the fortunes of a clown who opts out of the system, gets swiftly raped by his new freedom and is propelled into a tantalizing fantasy interlude as a Jagger-esque pop star. In the end, he's back where he started and so are we, wondering what we've learned on the way. That fame is fleeting? That life is a cabaret—oops, sorry—circus? Or maybe that Dorothy's speech at the end of "The Wizard of Oz" was pretty much right on.

Anyway, "Bimbo" borrows from a dozen more distinctive sources, never gets beyond a superficial rapport with any of its themes and manages to put down the success ethic while wanting desperately to succeed. Moreover, the score (like the book and lyrics credited to Kenny Ortega and John Flynn, with additional material by John Beatty and Billy Schwartz) insists on being incessantly overwhelming and takes on too many styles for its own good. The result may be undeniably diverting, but all the contrasts soon cancel each other out.

No matter— for what "Bimbo" can do superbly is work an audience, particularly a young audience that considers itself consummately knowing. Ortega is a veteran of touring "Hair" performances and, in his staging, (with David Shacker also separately credited as director), the eight-member company and five-man band put out an awesome amount of kinetic energy.

Let by Ortega himself in the exhausting title role, the cast includes collaborator Flynn, Debbie Ortega, Jurgune Wood, Gloria Brown, Patricia Keene, Michael Rhone, James Sbano—plus juggler extraordinaire Hillary Carpil. Each contributes moments demonstrating ability and commitment—and if they all worked for a genuine sense of community in the crucial circus scenes, 'Bimbo's' shaky premise might seem at least momentarily convincing.

For now though, 'Bimbo's Cosmic Circus' resembles "Hair" in its earliest Village incarnation: loaded with exhilarating drive and talent but badly needing focus, direction and an original vision.

—LEWIS SEGAL