

# CIRCUS REPORT

AMERICA'S  
FAVORITE CIRCUS WEEKLY  
Our 10th Year

Number 9

March 2, 1981



THE ROLLING DIAMONDS

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# Show Report

## THE HUBERT CASTLE CIRCUS

BY ALTON L. JONES

The Hubert Castle International Circus put on a very interesting show for the Mizpah Temple at Ft. Wayne, Ind., Feb. 6-8. We visited on Saturday, Feb. 7th, and the morning matinee was filled with 17,000 youngsters, a total of 100 busses brought the youngsters in for the show.

The performance started with the splendid music of Prof. Clement Toca and his wife on the organ. The total band numbered 14 musicians. The acts started with the Jungle Disco Fantasy with a dozen beauties taking to the air, with a presentation featuring the Swinging Amazonians on the Spanish webs.

Garry Thomas with the Royal Bengal tigers displayed his masterfulness of the animals, followed by the Circus Clowns and their cut-ups.

Then came the trapeze artists, Miss Sylvia, Miss Debbie, Miss Kathy and Miss Elona, followed by the cradle acts of the Roberts Duo, Gemini Duo and the special center ring presentation of the Braun Duo.

Juggling followed with the Kolmedys from Hungary, Sampion from France and the Torinos Brothers from Italy. Next on the program was a baby elephant, the camels and llamas and Patty Baron on the horses. Hair-hanging was next with the Kardelis - three rings. The tightwire experts included the Ricardo Troupe (low wire), Amazing Alain, inclined wire and Eugens & Aurekis, low wire. The Madcap Buffoonery was highlighted by

ACTS - Are you listed with us ?

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the World's Daffiest Clowns. Horvath's Chimpanzees entertained with their comedy and were followed by the Olmedas, direct from Spain, with their three rings of horses.

The comedy acts following were The Gaspary on tables, Lt. John, balancing and the Pierto with the unsupported ladder. This was followed by the Dialka Sisters on rolling globes.

Les Blocks, the newest highwire sensation normally performs with out a net, but due to the accident to an aerialist the day before, a net was requested and supplied.

The Yorkshire Terrier Dogs were wonderful, and were followed by a Clown number, after which came the Viva Las Vegas number with the Queen of the Air, Miss Jacqueline.

Following the intermission, the Flying Volantes put on a splendid show of acrobatics "in the air" and then were followed by Tarzan Zerbini with his lions and tigers. Clowns with brush and paint were next.

The Anrique's and Anonios showed their expertise on balancing bicycles, and the teeterboard specialists, the Canestrellis showed their training to perfection. The elephants then in all three rings was a number in high style.

The Nerveless Nocks put on a performance we will not see again due to previous commitments.

The final moments were exciting featuring Circus Captain.

# FLYING VOLARES

*Appearing In*

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March 20th through June 14th 1981

# Show Dates

Hubert Castle Circus  
Mar. 1-8 Minneapolis, Minn

Circus Odyssey  
to Mar 15 San Juan, P. R.

Circus Vargas  
Mar 3-5 La Mirada, Calif.  
6-9 Santa Monica

Garden Bros. Circus  
Mar 5-8 Montreal, Quebec

Ringling-Barnum - Blue  
Mar 3-8 Raleigh, NC

Ringling-Barnum - Red  
Mar 3-8 Norfolk, Va.

Royal Hanneford Circus  
Mar 6-8 Lansing, Mich

Shrine Circuses  
Mar 2-22 Chicago, Ill.  
3-8 Kansas City  
7-8 Albany, NY

---- MAGIC ----

David Copperfield  
to Mar 18 Lake Tahoe, Nev

Pf. Miller-Magic Time USA  
Mar 1 Winter Haven, Fla  
4 Port Charlotte  
5 Lake Wales  
6 Kissimmee  
7 Sebring  
8 Boynton Beach

Felix Snipes  
Mar 6-7 Odessa, Texas

---- OTHER DATES ----

Duke, the Wonder Dog  
Mar 3-8 Denver, Colo.

Cole All Star TV Circus  
Feb. 28 Mexico, NY  
Mar. 2 Hannibal  
3 Cato  
4 Phoenix  
5 Lowville  
6 Poland  
7 Holland Patent  
8 Oriskany

# TODAY IS CIRCUS DAY IN

A WEEKLY CONSOLIDATED ROUTE SHEET of Leading Circuses. - Circus Fans, Why Wonder where they are, keep up with them daily. Remember there was one in your State last Season that you missed. WHY? be disappointed this year. Watch the routes weekly as they near your state and city. Route Sheets start MARCH 1st, 1981. - \$17.50 for 1981 Season of 32 weeks.

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**REPORT****SAM T. POLACK CIRCUS - Feb. 4-8, 1981**

by Sally Payne

This is the 56th year for the Kosair Temple's Annual Circus, and Mr. Sam Polack's 42nd year as the promoter of the Kosair Shrine Circus, and his 4th year as the producer.

Kosair membership says, "This is the Best Shrine Polack Circus yet," and the public was enthusiastic, they turned out over 50,000 strong for the entire five day run.

The weather was better this year, with temperatures between 30 and 45 degrees, with no snow!

The news media was very sparse this year, both the newspaper and TV. The Courier-Journal (a A.M. paper) on Feb. 1st, had a 3"x4½" picture of the Bruski family (bicycles) with 1½" of caption under the picture. Also mentioned were the Flying Lunas and the Royal Lipizzan Stallions.

The Louisville Times (P.M. paper) Feb. 2nd had a 4½"x5" picture of Trudy Strong and horse's head with a ½" caption.

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The C-J, on Feb. 4th, had a 9"x5", 4 col. picture of Harry and Rowena Thomas bringing a tiger cub down a ramp, out of the semi, with two lines of captions.

The L.T., Feb. 4, had a really nice clear picture, (9"x6") 4 col. of Harry Thomas shaking "paws" with a tiger through the bars of a cage wagon, with two lines of caption under it.

And that was it, absolutely no write-up stories of any kind. The circus ran their paid ad of 4½"x7½" for about two weeks on a daily basis.

The TV Channel 32 was there for the Wed. matinee (Feb. 4) getting a few shots of the acts, then on Friday night the 11 p.m. news Channel 3, showed some of the 400 little children who could not get in to see the circus on Friday afternoon and were turned away, and made a big deal of it, to give the circus and the Shriners bad publicity.

However, what the TV audience did not know was that those children all had Free Tickets (some block sales, others Free tickets, given out by the Shriners to families of laid-off workers at the Ford auto and truck plants, Inter-

(Continued on Page 8)

**SAM POLACK CIRCUS (Continued)**

national Harvester and GE, so they should have been there when the doors opened).

The same thing happened at the Thursday matinee, when there were 400 other "freebies" that came in the front door, 1/3 of the way into the first half of the performance, and the horses were being brought in the back door for all three rings, so every body on hand had to hold the kids back on the hippo track so they would not get stepped on by the horses.

On Saturday, one of the Shriners, who was supposed to keep the people out of the way of the animals, got in front of Tony Smaha's horse and was knocked down and wound up with a broken wrist, however, this year the Shriners and the County Sheriffs did a much better job of crowd management than ever before.

Johnny Zoppe, Sr., had a mild heart attack and was unable to work the Roanoke, Va. engagement (Jan. 30-Feb. 1) but was better and worked the Shrine date in Louisville, Ky. on Feb. 4-8.

Johnny Peers, formerly of Circus Vargas and Circo Tihany, worked the floss concession.

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# AT LIBERTY

## HOLLYWOOD LIBERTY HORSES

Due to circumstances beyond my control, dates promised or offered have fallen thru, leaving me with very few dates for this season.

I'm now calling on all agents, producers and show owners to help in any way possible to book this beautiful 6 Horse Liberty Act so they won't have to be forced out of the business for lack of work.

Dates Booked:

March 13 - Gulfport, Miss. - for Don Johnson

March 16-17 - Lake Charles, La. - for Don Johnson

March 20-22 - Lafayette, La. - for Don Johnson

April 24-25 - Little Rock, Ark. - for Polack Bros. Circus

April 30-May 3 - Toledo, Ohio - for Polack Bros. Circus

Thank you. . .

Contact: Owner/Trainer

**PHILIP ANTHONY**

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Phil Granger visited on Friday and brought the news that Tammy Ballantine had fallen while practicing with the Hubert Castle Circus at Ft. Wayne, without a net, and was critically injured when she fell 15 ft. to a concrete floor, the night before the opening of the date. She suffered a fractured skull and fractured pelvis. She was the adopted daughter of clown Toby Ballantine and Janet Ballantine.

Joe Sherman came down from (Ohio?) to visit on Thursday night and was pit to work selling novelty "Fez" in his clown wardrobe for the rest of the run.

Tony Smaha, Sr. is still in the Baraboo, Wisc., hospital, still in that coma, since his second stroke suffered last March and although he had brain surgery, soon after the stroke, there is not much improvement.

(Continued on Page 12)

**SAM POLACK CIRCUS (Continued)**

Acts going to Rochester, NY, to play the M&M Shrine date, Feb. 11-15, for Grace McIntosh are: Harry and Rowena Thomas, Boom Boom Browning, David Zoppe and Susan Sheryl and Bill and Trudy Strong.

Joanne and Pee Wee Pinson and Denny go to Milwaukee for Eddie Zacchini, while Inga and Tony Smaha, Jr. go home to Baraboo, Wisc., then to a string of dates for the Hubert Castle Circus.

The program featured: Clown Come-in; Overture, Billboard March; Harry Thomas, tigers; Frank & Estrelita, hanging perch; Joanne Pinson, dressage horse, Pee Wee Pinson, long rein horse; Tony Smaha's Long Rein Stallions; the Clowns; The Dionnes, juggling; Francarro, foot juggling; Zoppe's Rhesus Monkey Revue; Lunas Duo, aerial cradle; Joanne & Pee Wee, aerial cradle; Bruski's Bicycle/Unicycle act; Flying Lunas, flying return act; Intermission; The Dionnes, acrobatic act; Andromedia, sword balance; Clowns with long shirt; Wilson's Pets; Susan Sheryl's Afghans; Trudy's Dalmations; The Dionnes, perch pole; Smaha's Lipizzan Stallions (Smaha Duo with dressage, then Tony Jr. with stallion in "Airs-above-the-ground"

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and the "capriole"; Chase and Park, comedy trampoline; Clowns with the Wash Women; Tony Diano's elephants with Lee, Jeanette and Tanya Keener; The Quassar's aerial missile; Finale, Parade of American Flags.

Clown Alley included: Producing clown, Billy Vaughn, midget clown, Do Do, Carl Gray, Denny Pinson and John McKay.

The show's staff consisted of: Sam T. Polack, producer; Al Dawley, ringmaster; Wm. Boom Boom Browning, musical director; Harry Mills, concession manager

☆ **NOTICE** ☆

**Joe Mc Mahon** IS NO LONGER AFFILIATED WITH HOXIE BROS. CIRCUS, OR GREAT AMERICAN CIRCUS.

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# Review

## SHRINE CIRCUS (Hubert Castle Circus)

(From a review written by Dan Luzadder, which appeared in the *News-Sentinel of Ft. Wayne, Ind.*, on Feb. 7, 1981).

Now that I have calmed down, there's only one thing I can say about the 35th Annual Shrine Circus, which opened Friday night at the Memorial Coliseum. It is so extremely stupendous and colossal that it should carry a warning label. It nearly scared me to death. There is stuff going on at this place that a normal person would not believe. I did not even believe it myself.

One thing I didn't believe was a guy called Tarzan Zerbini, who looks like John Belushi and not only sticks his whole head in a lion's mouth, but also picks up one of the 350 lb. beasts and carries it around center ring. My heart grew weak over this, and it took a couple hot dogs and a brace of colas to bring me around.

This was nothing, however, compared to other things thrust upon the opening night audience of 5,000. I later had nightmares over the sight of a woman lifted into the air by her hair alone, then spinning at such speed it seemed certain her tiny costume would fly off. I nearly had to close my eyes.

No fewer than 18 acts paraded through three rings in the first half of the show, capped by a woman called Jacqueline and the Viva Las Vegas Review. Jacqueline went into the air, as high as you could go in the Coliseum and swinging the trapeze, dropped to hang by her heels. Just her heels. Nerves of steel. I had to go out for a smoke right afterward.

The ringmaster didn't leave much time between acts for people to recover, and had not jugglers and clowns been rushed into the rings between death-defying stuff, they would have been carrying people out constantly for smelling salts.

The Dialka Sisters, whose job in life apparent-

ly is walking three big furry balls up a giant, three-part ramp without falling off, fell off once. But I didn't care. They got right back on and did it until they got it right.

And Captain Circus, a perfectly sane man in other ways, climbed into an enormous cannon in the middle of ring three, causing an enormous explosion. Moments later, through slits between my fingers, I saw him hurtle through the air toward the hanging scoreboard. Whether he made it or not, I'm not sure because I fainted dead away and didn't wake up until the grand finale.

Of course, the Flying Volantes, guys who leaped obsessively into the air and catch each other while hanging from swings were terrifying. They did this like it was an everyday thing. Their over-and-under somersault caused irregular breathing I did not recover from until after the Nerveless Nocks. These people enjoy swaying dizzily on enormous flexible poles, then changing from one to another in mid-air. What they do at the end of their act I cannot even mention because children read this newspaper. All I can say is my entire row fainted.

Only courage on my part gave me strength to applaud after Les Blocks - billed as the world's newest highwire sensation: "unsurpassed bravery without a net." They did use a net, but what they did looked brave enough to me as it was. The youngest trouper, probably a fourth-grader, stood nonchalantly on top of a three-man human pyramid, while the bottom man danced on the wire 30 feet in the air. No kidding.

You may not believe these things actually happened in the Coliseum last night, and I can't blame you. I wouldn't have believed it myself had I not been there. I didn't even mention what the elephants did, or camel-leaping llamas. But I was certainly in constant danger of being terminally thrilled.

You don't have to take my word for it. There are shows today at 2:15 and 8:15 p.m. and Sunday at 1:30 and 5:30 p.m. All it takes is guts and up to six bucks for a ticket.

I, myself, must go find an aspirin and lie down.

## WANTED

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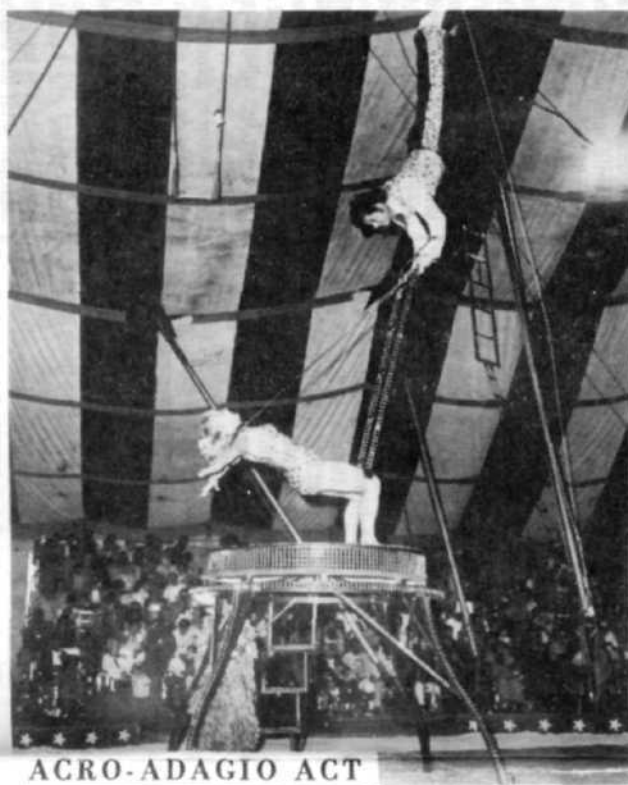
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## PEOPLE

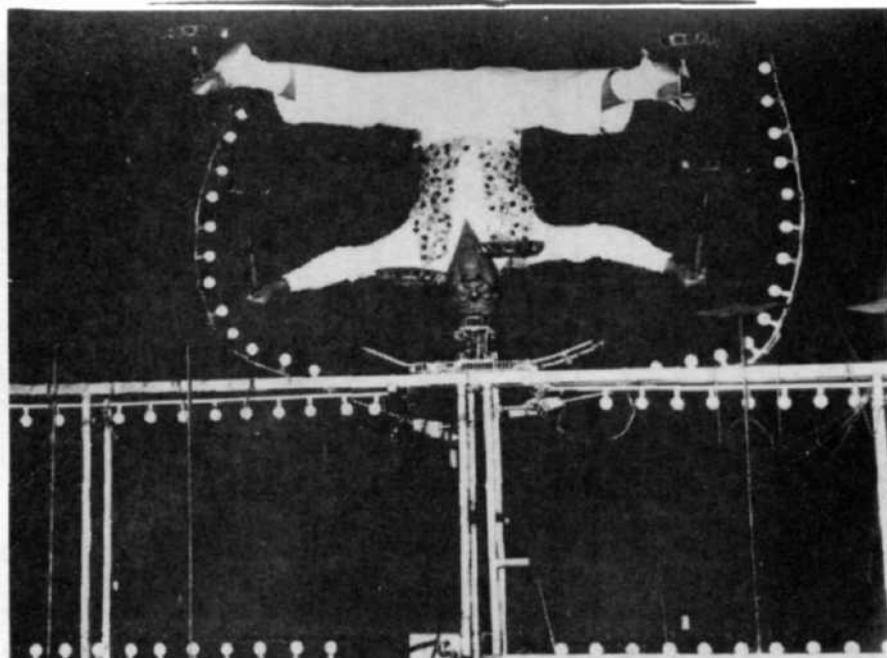
MIKE GORMAN, formerly with the Monte Carlo Circus, was helping with VIP tickets at Circus Vargas' Hollywood Bowl engagement. Mike's father, who was well known to many circus folks, passed away recently.

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### BY LLOYD E. JONES

Internationally famous for his "Eye-less Vision" performances, Kuda Bux, died Feb. 4 in Hollywood, Calif., at the age of 76. An habitue of the Magic Castle he had received a rising ovation at the Palace of Prestidigitation after his performance and then just a few hours later he passed away. He is survived by a son. A memorial service was held for him at the Castle on Feb. 17th.

Many explanations have been given about his methods which have baffled millions, but the stately mystic looking Kuda Bux stands alone. Lately, the "Amazing Karroll", of Hollywood, has offered for sale "The Blindfold Enigma" at \$12.50, which is the best coverage of the routine that I have seen. Besides the methods and preparation he explains fully many tests such as the writing duplication and firing of a rifle.

Personally, I have seen Glen Falkenstein and the late Sorcar perform the act, but Kuda Bux not only towered above them in height, but in performance as well. Fortunately, many of his performances have been recorded on film and tape.

Wonder what will happen to that nightly card

## Circus Photos

CIRCUS PHOTOS - 8 x 10"

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- 1 - Aerial view of Ringling Bros. Barnum & Bailey winter quarters in Sarasota 1926 - 1960.
- 2 - Winter quarters scene 1926 - 1960
- 3 - Winter quarters scene inside practice building 1926 - 1960
- 4 - Aerial view Ringling Fire (1944) at Hartford, Conn.
- 5 - Ground view of Ringling Fire at Hartford, Conn. (1944).

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playing session, which included Dai Vernon, Hy Berg, now that Joe Cossari and Kuda Bux are gone?

Doug Henning, whose NBC-TV Special appeared on Feb. 27th, was scheduled to play San Francisco's Opera House Feb. 25-Mar. 7. This date is to be followed by a tour of several cities until September, when rehearsals begin in New York for the musical "Merlin" in which he will star. The film "Merlin" was recently completed in Canada and now awaits distribution.

Joe Berg, following recent colon surgery, has recovered and is again back at his Hollywood Blvd., hang out, working away.

Johnny Thompson, the Warsaw Wizard, after giving west coast lectures now heads for Japan for lectures there. He is a skilled performer as his act testifies. He will return in May and is scheduled to lecture in the Bay Area for Steve Dawson on May 13th.

Sacramento will tackle a "Funsation Day" with many attractions stilled not settled on. That date is May 16th. The location is to be announced later.

Performers appearing at the Oakland (Calif) Magic Circle's annual banquet on Feb. 20th were: Wally Lee, Rick Mang, Del Young and Bob Emerico.

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## PEOPLE

**JERRY LAYNE** and Friends, vent act who was recently with the Old Time Vaudeville Show, appeared at Knott's Berry Farm's Lincoln/Washington Birthday Party, for Feb. 14-16.

**KEVIN BROOKING**, formerly Simon Simplewitz of the Beatty-Cole Circus, will appear as Tiv in Canada's new Circus Tivoli. His friend Oli (the pig) will also play a significant role in the circus.

**HOLVECK**, magician, will be playing at the Magic Castle in Los Angeles this month before heading east for a tour with Hoxie Bros.

**BUFFALO BILL CARSON** sent out a colorful brochure as a belated Christmas Greeting card. He has toured with many shows as well as appearing with his own western show.

**SAM SHADE**, editor and publisher of the *Sedan Times (Kans)* has bought the present Emmett Kelly Museum and plans to remodel the house for a home. There are no plans for the continuance of the museum.

**OSCAR MILES** and **BOB YERKES** were recent guests on the P.T.L. Club TV program, where Yerkes told about his experience of being shot from a cannon for the first time.

**PERRY JONES**, retired magician, was featured in a special write-up in the Sunday Press of Binghamton, NY, on Feb. 1st.

**DONNI STAMBAUGH**, clown, is with Circus Odyssey in Puerto Rico. He is returning to the road after having been at home for some time due to ill health.

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## HOTLINE

Feb. 6 - Ft. Wayne, Ind. - Tammy Ballantine, of Groveland, Fla., suffered a fractured skull and a fractured pelvis when she fell from a trapeze during a practice session of the local Shrine Circus. Hospital officials listed her condition as "critical."

## Miscellaneous

The Brooklyn Clown Club, a subsidiary of the New York Clown Alley, has obtained a grant from the New York State Council on the Arts-Brooklyn Arts & Cultural Association, for development of alley participation in the Brooklyn Street Fair.

Circus Tivoli is scheduled to make it debut at Toronto, on April 10th.



**MAILBAG**

from Al House

On Feb. 15th, at Westchester County Center in White Plains, NY, circus fans from New York, New Jersey and Connecticut held a get together to open the season on the Hanneford Circus. The event was organized by the PoPo DeBathe-Eddie Allen and Bill Browning Tent with Dave Orr, of Sandy Hook, Conn., in charge. A total of some 50 fans attended.

The Hanneford Circus has been at the County Center for quite a few years, and always adds an extra truck to bring in all the rumors concerning show business in Florida. Thanks, to Tommy!

Although there had been no circus-oriented shows, the newspapers have had their share of circus stories. The Feb. 4th, edition of the New York Times had a story about Paul Binder's New York School for the Circus Arts. He has trained many of the actors for the big Broadway hit "Barnum". Binder makes an interesting point about stage performers and circus performers. Actors tend to look at a part and interpret the role, trying to express

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implications and their own ideas, and talk about the role with other actors. However, circus people continually do their act, always striving to maintain the edge of perfection, doing it so it never changes.

On Feb. 5th, the arrival of Dickie Chipperfield and his lions was announced in all the papers. Arriving in Port Elizabeth in their 38 ft. trailer, the local papers had stories about the ocean voyage, the feeding and caring of the animals and the background of the Hamid-Morton Circus and its dates

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**MAILBAG**

from Frank Dean

There is a campaign underway that the readers of Circus Report may find of interest. Each year for the past 49 years, they have probably enjoyed watching Montie Montana doing his famed trick roping stunts as he rode his horse in the Pasadena Rose Parade on New Year's Day.

Now a number of Montie's friends have decided to try and get the parade committee to consider having Montie Montana, a true American institution, for the 1982 Grand Marshall of the Rose Parade, for his 50 years of participation.

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be honored in this manner. They are asking for your help.

If you would like to see Montie as the Parade Grand Marshall please write to: President of the 1982 Tournament of Roses Parade Headquarters, 391 So. Orange Grove, Pasadena, Ca. 91105 and suggest that you would like to see Montie Montana serve as Grand Marshall for the 1982 parade.

from William Wotsch

In the Elk's magazine for Feb. 1981, there is a story about Annie Oakley called "The Torment of Annie Oakley", written by Jim Blair.

The story tells how she hated to kill animals even for food. It also tells about her famous shooting match with Frank Butler, her marriage and her tours with the Buffalo Bill Wild West Show in Europe, and the United States.

Although it is not a long article, it is very interesting and covers some important facts on her life with Frank Butler, and their deaths.

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| FACING THE BIG CATS, Beatty<br>(Ex-Library) . . . . . | 8.50     |
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# MAILBAG

from Circus Joe Valenciano

People of the Glenwood Mobile Home Park in Tampa, Fla. are circus-goers.

For the past few years show folks have wintered there from both Hoxie show units, World-wide Amusement Corp., and Royal London Magic Circus.

Owners of the park, Tony and Elaine Lyle have attended the Eddie Zacchini Circus for the second time, at the Florida State Fair. Their daughter, Tonya, recently visited the Ringling Museum.

Residents of Glenwood, the Quinns visited the Devine and Diaz families, of the Great American Circus, at that show's season closing date on Oct. 13th.

Mr. Don Quinn works for Tampa Steel which did some work for "Walt Disney World" they helped to construct the Thunder Mountain Railroad. Son Kevin Quinn checked out the Circus Valencia Miniatures and Railway Express and thoroughly enjoyed the models.

# In Memoriam

HERBERT L. (Bozo) SHELLHAMMER (84) who claimed to be the original Bozo, died at Findlay, Ohio recently. He was known as Zeka B. Lamont when he worked with the Barnum & Bailey Circus, Al G. Barnes, the Sparks Circus, James M. Cole Circus and Lewis Bros. Circus.

Shellhammer was also a radio star, working under the name Grandpappy Sears on Cincinnati station WLW.

# HOTLINE

Feb. 9 - Bangalore, India - Authorities report they suspect an electrical short circuit caused the Feb. 7th flash fire that swept through a circus tent in this city.

The 15 minute fire consumed the big top of the Venus Circus during a matinee performance, resulting in the death of 66 people and injuring 450 others.

## REPORT

### CINCINNATI NEWS. . . from Don Sandman

Because of the "Who" concert tragedy at the Riverfront Coliseum, all shows playing at the Coliseum, the Cincinnati Gardens and other local facilities must use reserve seating plans. The Shrine (Syrian) Circus, April 20-26, is not selling tickets, but coupons, which must then be taken to the Cincinnati Gardens Ticket Office and exchanged for a reserved seat. Also, for the special Morning Orphan and Student Show, each group must have reserved seating before they can enter the building. Can you imagine how much time is going to be required to get 12,000 children into the seats?

## MAILBAG

### from Ric Wilson "Choo-Choo the Clown"

I've often heard it said, "if the shoe fits wear it!" Well, now I've got my chance. I just recently purchased my most prized possession . . . a pair of clown shoes. But, I shall always walk proudly in these shoes because they were once the shoes of "Bob-O the clown!" On Aug. 17, 1980, in Reno, Nev., the well-loved master of merriment, "Bob-O the Clown" retired after 56 years of clowning. Throughout his career as a clown, "Bob-O" brought smiles, joy and laughter to "children of all ages" and he will truly be missed by all of us. It was a difficult decision for "Bob-O" to retire but for health reasons he was forced to quit. But, for "Bob-O", clowning was more than just a career, it was his way of life. . . an

## PEOPLE

DAVID HAMMARSTROM, author of "Behind the Big Top" has been signed to write a narrative for a TV film about the Soviet Circus.

MARK and SHAWNA VOZZA will have their M & S Jungle Parrott act on the Carden Int'l Circus this season.

BILLY BARTON was the subject of an article in the Times-Union Metro of Rochester, N.Y., on Feb. 12th, written by Peter B. Taub. The special feature item also included a picture of the aerialist/writer.

ARNOLD H. WEINGARTEN has been promoted to Director of Operation of the Rio Syrup Company of St. Louis, Mo.

MIKE PIKE, announcer/band leader, who is also known on KWFY Radio as Mike Rogers, has sold a five part news feature to the CBS radio network. It is a five part series on former President Jimmy Carter as he returns to his native Georgia, which will be called "Georgia On My Mind."

CRISTIAN GARCIA has been named International Sales Representative for Circus World Park in Florida. Her main concern will be promoting Circus World to travel agents and consumers throughout Miami and the Latin American markets.

on-going dream! Although his career is over, his dream still continues!

So, not it's up to us . . . to follow in "Bob-Os" footsteps and continue his dream with the true spirit of clowning that he has shown us.

I've learned a lot from "Bob-O" in the short time that I have known him. But, perhaps the most important thing he has taught me is that it takes a lot more than big shoes, a big nose, and a big painted-on smile to be a clown. It takes a BIG heart. You've got to care! It's the love that makes the clown!!

So, I must say, "Thank you, Thank You, Bob-O. Thank you for caring enough to share your life with so many people. Thank you for all the hearts and souls you have touched. Thank you for the happiness that you have given us for so many years and thank you for bringing so much sunshine into this sometimes dreary world!!

We love you, "Bob-O". We always will.

Signed: Choo Choo



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# REPORT

## 1981 PLANS REVEALED

At the present time negotiations are underway whereby Charles Germaine will produce shows featuring Tammy Wynette, Tom T. Hall, Jim Ed Brown, Charly McCain and Dave and Sugar (the latter are under the personal management of Kenny Rogers).

In addition to scheduling shows featuring the nation's top name performers, Germaine also expects to produce some circus dates later this year on the east coast. These dates will be played under canvas and/or in buildings, but will not be presented as a grandstand attraction.

# SPECIAL

## TOM MIX SPECIAL

The Keystone Enterprises, Box 336, Hershey, Pa. 17033, is offering a number of Tom Mix items for the collector and those interested in western lore.

The items have been produced in limited numbers exclusively for the Tom Mix Festival, th commemorate the Centennial Anniversary of this famous star's birth and the 40th year of his tragic death. (1880-1940).

For information and a price list of the items available write Keystone Enterprises.

# REPORT

## NEWS FROM FLORIDA

The Olympic International Circus, owned and produced by Eddie Zacchini, presented some 28 free performances at the 1981 Florida State Fair in Tampa. The show was staged in a three ring format under the big top, and was, for the second year, sponsored by the Tampa Anheuser-Busch Distributorship and Hav-A-Tampa Cigars.

According to Paul Robinson, publicity director of the Florida State Fair Authority, the circus was among the most popular events on the fair's 879 Free Event menu, drawing straw houses for each performance again this year.

## PEOPLE

**HARRY BLACKSTONE**, magician, was featured on the "That's My Line" TV Show on the night of Feb. 17th.

**ROLAND KAISER**, who served as concession manager with Ringling Red and the ice shows, has joined Circus Vargas, where he is revamping that show's concession operation.

**GENE LYNCH**, retired ticket seller and concessionaire who toured with Ringling-Barnum now works as a bartender at the Elks Club in Sarasota.

**AUSTIN MILES** will serve as ringmaster for the *Aut Mori Grotto Circus* in Youngstown, Ohio, March 17 thru 22nd.

**MILLIE WARD**, wardrobe mistress for Circus Vargas, has turned out some flashy new and exciting wardrobe for the show, which in addition to costumes includes horse and elephant blankets.

**GEORGE "Red" WHITE**, former circus side show manager, has been in Florida visiting his many friends, including former fellow troupers **BOBBIE HASSON** and "Popcorn" **JOE BAINBRIDGE**.

**JOEY JORDAN**, juggler, is presently working on a cruise ship out of Miami, Fla. He recently taped a segment for TV called "Stars On Ice" along with skaters **LYNN NIGHTINGALE** and **JUSTYN LIVINGSTON**.

**FELSTON**, the Magician, is working at the West Bank Cafe in New York City.

**MIKE** and **MISSY CLARK** were stranded in a

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More Dates to Follow

Report to Tommy Hanneford

at the Fairgrounds

8 a.m. Tuesday, March 17th

snow storm in Colorado recently while enroute home from the west coast with 4 young tigers which are to be added to their lion act.

**JAMES "Jimbow" DECKER** entertained as a special honored guest at the Comanche District Scouting Anniversary on Feb. 13th, at Dallas, Texas.

**HAPPY** the Clown and **KRAZY KOKO** along with the Happytime Circus were featured at the Citrus Fair in Cloverdale, Calif., the week-end of Feb. 13-16.

**RON** and **JOY HOLIDAY** and their Magical Animals, were featured on the TV show "Those Amazing Animals" which was aired the night of Feb. 22nd.

**DAVE "Skinhead" LEWIS** clowning at the Winter Carnival at White Lake Inn, Highland, Mich. on Feb. 7-8, for a Jerry Lewis Muscular Dystrophy program.

**MURRY FIEN**, veteran vendor, worked at the recent Stock Show in Dallas. He was featured in a special report in the Ft. Worth Star-Telegram on Feb. 3rd, the article told about his business of vending, the selling of lizards and other items.



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## SPECIAL

### SHOW AND TELL AND SELL

BY BOB STODDARD

Here you are: talented, skilled, enthusiastic and ready to offer all of this to the public. You know that all of the above is true but how are you going to convince prospective employers that you have more to offer than you expect to receive?

How can you let them know that "getting by" is not good enough - that every performance is just one more opportunity to conscientiously strive for excellence in a field where you have already dedicated your entire life?

Life itself is short, and, from the time you are born, your time is running out. Obviously, you don't have forever to get the job done. Being American, you want to get there, and get there fast, and, if you are willing to pay for the ride, there are some things you can do to help speed things up.

Assuming that you have already been paying for the ride and have a good act; have become proficient in more than one skill; then it becomes necessary for you to become a salesman and convince those prospective employers that they need you, even more than you need them.

It may sound like "blowing your own horn"

if you say the necessary things about yourself and you sometimes need someone to take the blame (for you) when something backfires, or goes wrong, so you might find that a promotion man or publicity agent could better create and market your image.

Whether you do it or have someone do it for you, there are many things that can be done to improve your chances and impress a potential employer.

If your attitude is that you are willing to earn more than you get, so that some day in the future you will get more than you earn - you are on the right track. This means that the buyer is getting a bargain. This appeals to any buyer.

Good promotion will show (or make it appear) that the band wagon is already rolling and convince the buyer that it would be wise to climb on!

You are already in a position to aid your own cause if you treat every personal appearance as if it were an audition for the highest pinnacle of the goal you have set for yourself. Back in the 1930's I told the musicians in a band I managed to "play as if the major Hollywood studios had the talent scouts, who were about to discover you, hidden in the audience." Actually, variations of this are true. Any star can give you examples of good performances that got them excellent jobs.

(Continued on Page 26)

**SHOW and TELL (Continued)**

Extra effort results in return engagements from management or by popular demand. This is not only true with the stars. Everyone in business who has had any success at all would be able to attest to this.

You should know that the world judges you on your past accomplishments. Your future potential is determined as a natural projection of this, combined with your ambition, character, integrity and dedication to excellence. Add to this the goals you have set and your commitment to these goals.

For these reasons you should prepare a resume that will reflect your good track record. This is very important.

The personal interview is another place where you can make an impression that could help or hurt you. It may help if you consider that anytime you are one-on-one with anyone, you should consider it an interview.

Not long ago I talked to Lou Jacobs and some of the Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey Circus clowns. At the time, they didn't know, and neither did I, that I would later have two

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| Bumper Sticker .....         | 1.50    |
| 1981 Calendar .....          | .50     |

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articles published as a result of those conversations, and several more are in the offing.

In the personal interview, you have the opportunity to establish your image. This is where your character, integrity, dedication, and goals are brought out.

In your role as salesman, a positive attitude is a must. You must always strive toward the goal as if you were already there and have backed up in a flashback and are re-tracing the steps that were followed in arriving at the goal.

In every confrontation a sale is made. There is both a seller and a buyer. You must be sure that you are the seller. The salesman convinces the buyer that the service is worth more than the money it costs. Unfortunately, sometimes the unscrupulous salesman (the con man) convinces the buyer of this when it is not true, and unfortunately (again) in some cases the people on top are not the best talents. In most cases, though, the people on top are the people who belong there because they earned and deserved it. It may be true that part of the reason they earned it was because they were smart enough to realize that

(Continued on Page 27)

**SHOW and TELL (Continued)**

they should hire someone to help tell their story.

I have read, on numerous occasions, that the only reason Emmett Kelley was considered a better tramp clown than Otto Griebing was because Emmett gave part of every paycheck - from the very first one - to a publicity agent I don't know if it's true or not, but it sounds reasonable.

There are people walking the streets who could have been a world champion, had they not chosen to hide their light under a bushel. The world's greatest clown may have failed to heed the biblical advice in regard to talent and spent his entire life as a bookkeeper.

I once knew a writer who had the "greatest story idea, ever," in his head. It was so great that he didn't dare tell it to anyone or write it on paper because someone would steal it - so, unfortunately, "the greatest story, ever" died when he did. I have always felt a sense of loss, not having read it.

So, all you have to do is: Get a great act and learn many skills; work hard to improve the act and skills; strive for excellence; hurry, but

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be willing to pay for the ride; get yourself a good publicity man and a booking agent; beware of con men; be willing to earn more than you get (temporarily); give more than you take; always do your best; treat everyone nice and be a great salesman; don't bury your talent or hide your light under a bushel; and live up to your potential!

That's all! That's all!

**PEOPLE**

KEN and BETTY WILLER, juggling and balancing acts, will be working spot dates on the west coast this summer.

**DON KIDDER**

OF SARASOTA, FLORIDA

\*

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