

CIRCUUS REPORT

AMERICA'S
FAVORITE CIRCUS WEEKLY
OUR 11th YEAR

Number 19

May 10, 1982



"JADIE" from the Grizzly Adams Show

ANGELA WILNOW and her Collies have been signed to appear at the Illinois State Fair in August.

THE CHANDLERS visited Great American Circus when the show played St. Augustine, Fla.

PBA Circus

The PBA Circus played to full houses for its two performance, April 17, engagement in Newport Ritchie, Fla.

The program began with a three ring low wire display featuring the Valla Duo in the center ring. Next came a double cradle presentation with Frank and Doris Galambos and The Andersons (Tammy Wallenda and Ian Craik).

Bobby Fairchild's Sword Balance came next on the bill as Eddy Murrillo demonstrated a most unusual and crowd-pleasing spinning top routine.

This was followed by Jeff Earl's Poodles in Ring 1, while Yvonne Stephenson's Merry Muts were in Ring 3.

JoMar the Clown (Joe Myers) and the imitable Danny Chapman demonstrated the intricacies of landing a rocket on the moon.

After this came a nice aerial display with Miss Leann and Miss Sonya on webs with Carmen del Molino on the balancing trap-

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Two rings of ponies (Ian Craik, Yvonne Stephenson) followed the book pitch. Miss Lisa (Lisa Johnson) then caught the audience's attention with a strikingly attractive cloud swing.

The first half was concluded by the lively Frank Galambos Family with an interesting melange of rolling globe, roly boly and juggling.

Hunky Johnson's bears led off the second half, followed by Leann Stephenson's daring loop walk.

A clown-walkaround preceded the three ring juggling display featuring Bobby Fairchild in the center ring.

Johnson & Johnson's comedy whip act kept up the pace of the program. Baby elephant Pasha (growing fast) was then presented by Jeff Earl.

The concluding act was the Bertini Family demonstrating the unicycle skills of Monica Bertini and her sensational brother George.

Program was produced by Ron Morris with all equipment leased from Roberts Bros. Circus.

Visitors included Ron Bacon, Mary Jo Couls and Donna McMahon.

SHOW DATES**Circus Vargas**

May 10-13 W. Covina, Ca.
14-17 San Fernando

Coronas Circus

May 13-14 Jackson, Miss.

Dunn Boggy's Suitcase Cir.

May 8 Jamestown, SC

Hamid-Morton Circus

May 14-16 White Plains,
NY

M & M Circus

May 15 No. Platte, Nebr.

Pickle Family Circus

May 1-2 Mill Valley, Ca.
7-9 Berkeley
15-16 San Anselmo

Ringling-Barnum - Blue

to May 31 New York, NY

Ringling-Barnum - Red

May 11-16 Hartford, Conn

TNT & Royal Olympic

May 11-15 Houma, La.

Zerbini/Castle Circus

May 10-12 Regina, Sask.
14-16 Saskatoon

--- OTHER DATES ---**James H. Drew Exposition**

May 10-15 Burlington, NC

Elliott Amusement Co.

May 11-16 Brighton, Mich

Showtime Follies

May 10 Little Rock, Ark

--- MAGIC ---**Pf. Miller-Magic Time USA**

May 12 Williamsport, Pa.
13 Mt. Union

Michigan Magic Day

May 14-15 Roseville, Mich

Carson & Barnes Circus

May 2 Duncan, Okla.

3 Ardmore

4 Gainesville, Tex

5 Grapevine

6 McKinney

7 Greenville

8 Paris

Special Day

by DON BIRDWELL

Sunday, April 18th became another day for the Circus History books, as two year old Carlos Obando the 2nd, son of veteran high wire artist Carlos and Carol Obando, became the youngest person to walk across a tight wire, at the M&M Shrine Circus engagement in Sioux City, Iowa.

The feat, which was entered in the Guinness Book of World Records, was announced to the audience by Ringmaster Jimmy Douglass.

The standing room only crowd was on its feet to applaud the young wire artist upon his successful completion of the rather long solo walk, watched with concentration and much pride by his parents and 5-year-old sister Pamela, who herself was crossing the wire when she could barely walk.

The event received heavy media coverage, with Sioux City's Channel 9 devoting an entire segment of its news program to film coverage of the walk, as well as lengthy in-

terviews of the Obando family. They later presented a video tape of the crossing to the proud parents.

After the performance there was a mini-party and celebration of performers and staff on M&M in recognition of young Carlos and his record-breaking feat, hosted by the parents and M&M Circus producer, Mrs. Grace McIntosh.

Museum Seeks Funds

Personnel of the Ringling-Barnum Circus were on hand to help launch a campaign to save "Circus" a group of small sculptures by Alexander Calder, on loan to the Whitney Museum since 1970. The works may have to be sold to pay taxes owed by the Calder estate in France, where the sculptor lived until his death in 1976.

The work is displayed in a large plexiglass case in the Whitney Museum. It has been offered to the museum, which must raise \$1.25 million by May 31st, in order to keep it.

Florida Date

Johnnie Marshall, through Eastern States Promotions, recently produced a circus for The Boca West Resort & Club residents picnic (Fla).

The day was a typical sunny Florida day (no snow or ice). The lot was beautiful turf (low grass) and Roberts Bros. Circus provided the big top.

The show consisted of 1½ hour of entertainment featuring: Lee Ann Stephens who opened with a single trap act; Jeff Earl, dogs; Tammy Anderson, aerial ballet; Military ponies presented by Ian Craik; Freddie the Fool (clown), Dennis Michael; Kelmar, the Magician (George Rowe); Lee Ann Stephens, upside down walk; Dennis Michaels, plate spinning; Tammy Anderson, swinging ladder; Ian Craik and Lee Ann, juggling and Lisa the elephant presented by Earl Jeff.

The band included Charlie Moyers playing drums and trumpet at the same time and Lynne Michael, organist.

Robert Earl was general manager and superintendent; Teresa and Bobby Earl had the concessions. Bob Stephens was prop boss with the able assistance of Tom Carden, Jessie Moyer was seating manager, assisted by Ginny Simmons.

Doris Earl was side wall superintendent.

New Book

by MARJORIE J. HACKETT

"CLOWN ALLEY" by Bill Ballantine - Published by Little-Brown - \$18.95.

This has got to be the best \$18 plus dollars that I've invested in for our Circus Library ever! Bill Ballantine has outdone himself with this one. I do not really know him but I do know many of the people mentioned in this volume. His insights and observations are classic.

He is very discreet because I am sure he could have told many more "tales out of school" - the school being the much touted and publicized "Clown College" of the Ringling-Barnum Circus.

You will laugh, you may cry, like when you read of the death of Otto Greibling, etc., but you won't be able to put this book down for very long until you want to pick it up to paraphrase Paul Harvey, "To find out the rest of the story".

If I knew Bill's address in little old Groveland, I'd write right to him but I hope he reads "Circus Report".

All of you readers out there, read Bill's "Clown Alley."

The book is available at Haslam's Book Store in St. Petersburg, Fla. 33713, and I'm sure it is available at Billy Rodgers in Gibsonton, or any good book store.

A Shrine Date

by *DON BRIDWELL*

The 32nd annual Abu Bekr Shrine Circus was staged Apr. 13-18 at the Sioux City, Ia. Municipal Arena, under the direction of Mrs. Grace McIntosh's M&M Circus Internationale and Potentate Kermit D. Lohry for the Shrine.

The nearly 2½ hour show is all new for '82 and features a new Oriental opening Spec, by veteran costumer and scenic designer Jim Douglass, who with Vern Woerner, operates Circus Creations out of Daytona Beach, Fla.

The show was to go to Lincoln, Nebr. from Sioux City for an April 20-25 run and then was to resume its mid-Nebraska run on May 15th.

Show line-up and personnel for Sioux City were as follows: Overture, Shrine Band under the direction of Bill (Boom Boom) Browning; Oriental Fantasy, opening spec with all personnel; Alan Gold's mixed cat act; The Burketts, aerial cradle; The Darrell's educated albino mule; Two rings of low wire acts with Miss Paterson in one ring and The Obandos, featuring little 5-year-old Pamela Obando on the wire, in the other ring; Clowns (Vern Woerner, Don 'Whizzer' Bridwell, Jimmy 'Peanuts' Hylton and Alvin 'Chipmunk' Huston) with the Boxing Gag; Barbara and Buckles Woodcock and their elephant riding leopards; Two rings of displays with Lydia & Co, and the Jose's Comedy Trampoline; The Clowns with Big and Little Firecracker; Two rings of juggling with Don Phillips & Co., and the Davisons; The Albulet Bros., high wire; Intermission.

The second half opened with the Flying Torralbas trapeze act; Clowns with the Long

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Shirt; Mr. Rythm, horse act; The Patricks, rola bola; Clowns with the Safe Cracker gag; Aerial Ballet with Miss Gracien and Miss Sabrina and featuring Miss Lorelei's single trapeze; Satani Demon, sword and fire act; Woodcock's Shrine Circus Elephants and closing with the Juliens Aerial Motorcycle.

The show was produced by Mrs. Grace Mc Intosh; Show announcer and Ringmaster, Jim Douglass; Band Director, Bill "Boom Boom" Browning; Producing Clown, Vern Woerner; Prop Boss, Don Bonta; Asst. Prop Director, Carlos Obando. Spec and Show wardrobe by Circus Creations.



by LLOYD E. JONES

The Easter Egg Roll at the White House is the longest running traditional happening and a crowd of 20,000 to 30,000 took advantage of this opportunity to meet notables, be entertained and have fun on Apr. 12th.

The back yard of the White House was converted into a varied entertainment center with military bands, kite exhibit, an antique car rally, plus the Egg Roll and hunt for eggs autographed by world-wide notables. Cartoon characters like the Incredible Hulk, Mickey Mouse, Smurf and Poppa Smurf, Bubbles the Dancing Bee, The Thing, Scooby Doo and Webster E. Drake were represented and First Lady Nancy Reagan had her picture taken with Spiderman.

A 16 page program, a colorful one with a cover by Charles Schulz had pages to color

for the kids and credits to many noted business concerns.

On the program, which had Annie (Allison Smith) and Daddy Warbucks (Harve Presnell) as the mc's, were stage presentations given by Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey Circus (clowns, acrobats and teeterboard acts) with Ringmaster Kit Haskett; Vignettes from the Pirates of Penzance, the Broadway musical; Vignettes from A Chorus Line; The Haggadah; selections from the N. Y. Shakespeare Festival; Webster E. Drake, Shirt Tales — Panda and Raccoon; Fred Flintstone; Barney and Friends, a revue Playing Safe by Ronald MacDonald; a musical sketch with Mickey Mouse, Robin Hood, Rabbitt and Friends; Vignettes from Annie and a half hour program of the Le Grande David Show with some 50 participants.

The Le Grande David Show rated front page publicity following the event in the Boston Globe and the Beverly Times.

What a wonderful day it must have been for all - enjoying non-partisan fun at the Capitol.

Circo Magico

by DON COVINGTON

Circo Magico Italiano is currently appearing in Tijuana, Mexico. An indefinite run began in late March and is expected to continue at least through the Easter holidays.

Owner/manager Franco Berosini has set up his European style vinyl big top adjacent to the downtown Bull Ring, an excellent location.

From first impression to last, this circus is first class all the way. The entire lot is encircled with portable fencing and encompasses the four pole European style square big top, a concession tent and a large menagerie tent. All trucks are late models and kept clean as a whistle. Each piece of equipment is labeled with the show logo and the motto "El Gran Circo Nel Mundo". The tops are all blue and white striped with a blue and white diamond patterned sidewall. Interior accents are red.

Entrance to the top is through a semi trailer, then directly into the spacious concession tent. The menagerie tent is not open to the public and houses the ten performing tigers, two black leopards, 12 twelve dogs, and two elephants featured in the show. Strings of white lights frame the entire big top, marquee and entrance trailers. Shows are presented twice daily at 6 and 9 p.m.

The interior of the tent provides seating on three sides of an elevated thrust stage complete with curtains and background scenery. Box seats ring the stage, followed by four rows of folding chairs (preferred seating), five rows of chairs (premium seating), then bleachers (general admission). Ticket prices in Tijuana ranged from approximately \$3.00 to \$9.50 U.S. There were no discounts for children.

The entire performance is presented on stage with the exception of one high act. Music is provided through tapes and is sequenced to action on stage. Lighting is excellent utilizing spotlights from a platform over the main entrance in the rear of the tent, lights flown from an overhead rigging and stationary lights surrounding the stage. Costuming is elaborate, colorful and sparkling. The overall effect of the show is that of a top Las Vegas style spectacular as much as a circus. The cast is young, enthusiastic

and talented. Timing is perfect. The prop crew is able to set the stage in minimum time, normally only a few seconds of black-out is required between acts.

The program in Tijuana opened with an elaborate dance/production number featuring the chorus of 5 male and 12 female dancers, special effects, several costume changes and entrances down graceful curving stairways above the audience. A troop of soccer playing bulldogs followed, providing pandemonium as they chased balloons from one side of the stage to the other.

The next portion of the program featured an illusionist who provided an astounding 30 minutes of non-stop magic ranging from nimble card and coin manipulations to full stage production illusions. The entire chorus assisted, the men dressed in tuxedos, the women in an ever changing array of dazzling costumes all color coordinated to the theme of the illusions. The pace never lagged and the overall effect was spellbinding. Silks were transformed to flowers, flowers to doves, doves to ducks, ducks to girls and girls to leopards. A fast-paced juggler appeared next followed by the show's three dwarfs who staged an adept boxing match which included some impressive acrobatic skills. The first half ended with an excellent French Can-Can highlighting the dancers augmented by acrobats and tumblers.

Following intermission, Franco Berosini entered the big cage for a display of affection training with his tigers. The charismatic Italian worked without sticks or a gun and only occasionally picked up a short whip for direction. He included putting his head in a tiger's mouth and wrestling bare-handed with one of the cats, in addition to more traditional rollovers, jumps and pedestal work. Senor Berosini has an amazing grace and air of nonchalance in the arena - making a potentially dangerous act appear to be just a light-hearted romp with his animals.

The dwarfs returned to distract the audience while the cage was being struck then attention shifted to the high wire where the Great Doval performed his graceful solo exhibition. Following passes on a bicycle and a high unicycle, Doval climaxed his act with a trip across the wire on stilts - an awesome

(Continued on Page 18)

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The Acts

The Yaarab Shrine Circus at Marietta, Ga., was produced by the Coronas Circus and presented at Cobb Civic Center on Apr. 9-18.

The program as presented included: Pizza Clown, pre-show warm-up; Introductions and Legion of Honor; National Anthem; Jon Friday, ringmaster; Circus Overture with Joe Nappa and Mitzi Joyce, circus musicians.

The Bounding Keys, trampoline; La Gilda's uncaged leopards and black panther; Princess Morning Star, trapeze and foot walk; The Edwardo's Trio, bicycle troupe; George and his ponies; Yaarab Temple Shrine clown group; The Ruwills, upside down plate spinning; Comedy Car, Arturo Rescigno 'Pizza'; Janie Coronas, Dazzling Dobermans; The Wallenda Duo, high wire; The Tangiers, tumbling titans; Intermission.

Circus Band, overture; The George Hanford Family, riding act; Miss Evelyn, Lady in the Moon, aerialist; Hans & Sigrid, hand balancing; Yaarab Temple Clowns; Cathy and Miss Dianne with the Hanneford elephants; Clown of Mystery, Master Pizza and Tide; The Sensational Swaying Stars 'Fossetts'; Finale.

In Memoriam

DR. JACOB TAUB (77), a 48 year member of the Society of American Magicians, passed away on April 4th. He was the author of two recent books on card magic. Survivors include his wife, Estelle, 2 sons, 2 grandchildren, as well as brothers and sisters.

Reid Bros.

by WALLACE G. WINTER

When Reid Bros. Circus played in Coos Bay (Oregon) they were sponsored by the Hillah Shrine Club. After seeing the two previous years performances, I think this was the best program they have had. They play in small gyms, which makes this performance very close to the public.

The performance lasted 2 hours and 20 minutes and ran as follows:

Tiger act with 9 very large tigers; 2 leopards and 1 jaguar in an unleashed act; Dog act; Bird act; Boxing Kangaroo act; Riding act; 3 large elephant act; Magic act; Juggling act; Double trap and 2 single trap acts; Unicycle act; 2 clown numbers; Foot juggling act.

John and Betty Reid presented me with a cap and nylon jacket with their logo on both. (A tiger jumping through a fire hoop).

The Jack Bell Tent, CFA No. 90, held their annual Founders Day program on April 18th at Seattle.

The Castle Circus will be playing Bellingham, Wash., on June 24th.

Animal Delivery

by BOBBY GIBBS

On Mar. 31st, the writer delivered 'Tina' the former Reno, Neb. performing elephant to Larry Jefferies in Wills Point, Texas. She was purchased, along with the former Circus World Museum elephant trailer, from D. R. Miller.

Mr. Jefferies will be using them at his animal training school, where such circus animal as Lou Regan, and "Red" Joseph Hartman have been working this past winter, to train animals and acts for Mr. Jefferies.

Pee Wee Pinson accompanied Bobby Gibbs to the Texas farm and everyone had a nice cookout and a lot of jackpots were cut up.

CIRCUS MAGICO (Continued)

display of equilibrium.

An accomplished single acrobatic turn followed, featuring a one hand stand on a tower of blocks. The two young elephants arrived next to perform a fast-paced routine accomplished with minimum assistance from their trainer. The bulls moved from trick to trick without cues to the delight of the audience.

An unusual contortionist followed who performed a series of mind-boggling stunts on an elevated platform. The gentleman, introduced as being from Argentina, was carried onto the stage in a plexiglass box just large enough for him to twist himself into. After he unwound himself from that container, he demonstrated an amazing ability to twist and flex his body in ways that defy description.

Following a final appearance of the three dwarfs, the dancers returned for a production which again featured gorgeous costumes, lively dances, acrobatics and special effects. At the conclusion of this, the entire cast was recalled for a final bow. The gentlemen appeared in tuxedos, the ladies in gowns - an elegant conclusion to a most impressive show.

PEOPLE

KEN KARTER, ventriloquist, was featured on a variety show in the San Francisco area for the Northern California Black Music Association, on April 19th.



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Florida Notes

by "Circus Joe" Valenciano

Here is a report from the Glenwood Mobile Home Park in Tampa, Fla.

Owner, Tony Lyle went in the 4th of July parade last year, dressed as a clown and created his own funny make-up.

Daughter Tonya and son, Tony, Jr. were part of the Rex Bros. Circus at a North Tampa date. Tonya was a magician's assistant and Tony, Jr. was a clown.

In late Sept., the Lyle's spent some time at the Sarasota Sailor Circus, and while there they helped out with the taping of a TV Children's Show which at one point had a circus setting in its format.

A resident of the park, Kim Ann Cloud, made several visits with friends to Joe's Swiss Chalet, which contains the Buddy L. Tonka Bros. Miniature Circus.

Joe G. Valenciano, Golf Kart King, of 51st St., has just added a third kart to his collection. The new one is a "Pargo" one seater. The two others are hard to find models, a

white "Viking" and a dark blue "Allis Chalmers." The white Viking was used in a fourth of July parade, as Circus Joe and a friend clowned around in it.

PEOPLE

GENE and ELEANOR MENDEZ, high wire act, and THE FLYING CARROLLS, moved to Macao with the Cottle-Chipperfield Circus after the show closed in Hongkong on April 25th. The Macao date runs until May 31st, a period of 4 weeks.

IRVIN FELD, KENNETH FELD and ARNOLD BRAMOW, of the Ringling-Barnum Circus, paid a surprise visit to Circus Vargas at Indio, Calif., on April 19th.

PAUL M. TAMBOURY (Sad-Sam) and SUSAN A. MUNSON were married at St. Vincent de Paul Church in Petaluma, Calif., on May 8th. The couple will be residing in Petaluma.

6th CIRCUS WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS

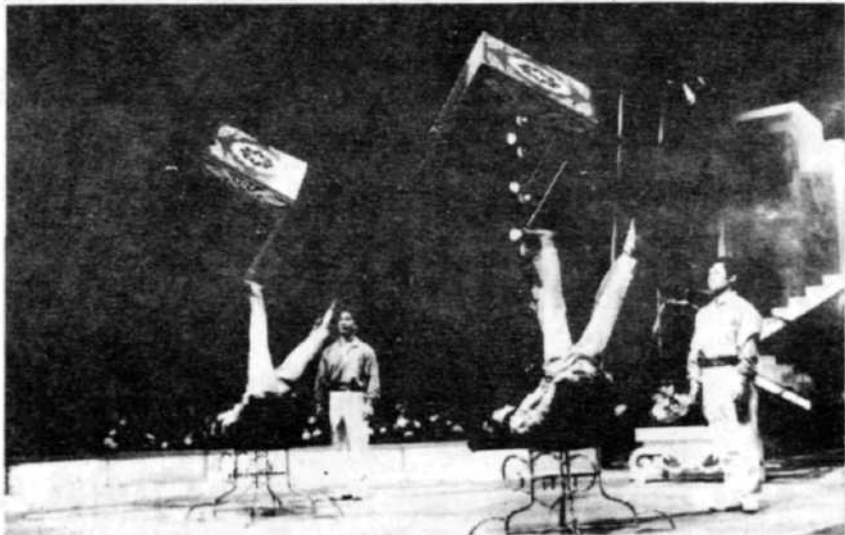
by DAVID JAMIESON

The 6th Circus World Championships, staged on Nov. 19-20 in London under Roberts Bros. Circus Hippodrome Big Top, broke new ground by including artists from the Soviet Union and the People's Republic of China who competed with acts representing Spain, Poland, USA, Bulgaria and Mexico, in four categories. The presence of acts from cultures so different to the West brought a new dimension to the Championships.

The Circus World Championships are masterminded by sports commentator and TV producer Adrian Metcalfe and it is the tele-

recent one. Nevertheless, the list of competing acts and winners over the past six years makes an impressive roll-call of talent and the latest competition extended the range by the inclusion of new categories.

The first category was Supertroupe, matching two top acrobatic troupes against each other. This was an interesting idea, though the two acts chosen were very different. The Parvanovi (Bulgaria) are the lively and good looking team of 11, one girl and 10 men and boys, who won the Gold Clown award at the 1980 Monte Carlo Festival. Their spectacular springboard routine is enhanced by stirring music, driving them on to higher and



vision programs of the event that make it financially viable.

The the last two years, only two acts in each category have taken part and so the great feeling of competitiveness, apparent in the early Championships, has tended to be missing. Acts are considered for the event by the organizing committee, which includes as talent coordinator agent Roberto Germain of the Noel Gay Agency. Some acts considered are unable to take part owing to their long-term contracts with circuses or cabarets. Others decline the invitation, the idea of circus athletes in a competition with one another being after all a comparatively

higher human pyramids and by the artists' own smiling personalities and team spirit. The main top mounter, 14 years old, but already highly professional, somersaulted from the springboard to five men high in fine fashion. Other such acts use a steel perch pole held by the men in the pyramid for extra stability; not so the Parvanovi - and their act was more impressive for it.

The Sarach Troupe (USSR), the first act from the Moscow State Circus to be seen in England for 10 years, in contrast was a much slower style. The five men and two

(Continued on Page 25)

Show Acts

by DAVID E. REID

The American Continental Circus played Medford, Ore., April 17th, sponsored by the Hillah Temple Shrine, Ashland, Ore. The show was presented at the Jackson County Exposition Center Building.

The program: Circus overture, W. Reynolds, leader, trumpet; sax, organ, drums.

Kay Rosaire's mixed wild animals; Clowns with The Dog Catcher; Ruben Duo, cradle; Mareiva Duo, cradle; Mr. Fred & Co., novelty act with trunk and contortion; Goldfinger, one finger stand; Acadis, balancing and one finger stand; Super Locos (5) comedy knockabout/tumbling; The Armondos, juggling; Maridons, high wire (2 girls, 1 man) Adams' Chimps; Georgina's Menagerie (camel, llamas, pony, monkey; Lemke's Chimp

act; Aerial Ballet with 10 wen girls and South American decor; Dancing Gauchos; Intermission, with elephant rides and book pitch.

Erik & Bobbi, dog act; Clowns with Hot Dog gag; The Porredon Perch; Dino, Ramon and Rafael, rola bola; The Flying Valencias (5); Wozniak Troupe, teeterboard; Elephant act presented by Tommy and Pom Pom Donoho. The announcer was Mike Piel.

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WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS (Continued)

girls performed a perch act which was amazingly innovative, producing some startling routines. One girl performed a Marinelli bend at the top of one perch balanced on one man's forehead, while this man was on a platform held by three other men. The finale of the act was a column with four people and three perches! Needless to say, safety lunges were worn, with such extremely difficult tricks. They were used, too, occasionally, and one sympathized with the artists, working very near to the cupola of the big top, whereas normally they would perform in a building in which there would be more room for maneuvering.

The panel of judges comprised of circus directors Tommy Roberts (Great Britain), Arturo Castillo (Spain), Liana Orfei (Italy), Bernhard Paul of Circus Roncalli (Germany) and Max Schumann (Denmark), marking out of 100, they gave the Parvanovi 45 for both content and presentation, for a total of 90, and the Sarach 43 for content and 35 for presentation for a total of 78, a lower score than I had anticipated. The Parvanovi received their Supertroupe gold medals from the British Olympic swimming gold medalist Duncan Goodhew.

In the foot juggling category, there was a contrast in style. Chen Wenzu and Zheng Jianhui are two lady members of the Chinese acrobatic theatre of Chunking. Working in unison, they manipulated earthenware chamber pots, tables and rugs with a sureness and dexterity and also with that modest charm and artistry which is a feature of so many Chinese acts.

The glamorous Consuela Reyes (Spain) provided a fast-paced display, with up-dated Beethoven musical accompaniment, including one sequence where she juggled five balls between her hands and her feet.

The judges gave the Chinese act 33 for content and 37 for presentation for a total of 70 points, and 41 and 37 for a total of 78 to Miss Reyes.

The third category, Russian pole acrobatics, gave a unique chance to see and compare two acts which have enjoyed a high reputation in recent years. The Trio Dymek originally from Poland, but now residents of the United States, feature the statuesque blonde Iolanthe who somersaults and piro-

uettes on the flexible pole held by her two partners. Their routine features a double back somersault, as does that of the Four Koziaks (Poland). The graceful Lydia Koziak also performs a forward somersault with one and a half twists, on this occasion blindfolded. The overall quality of Lydia's work, particularly her rock-steady landings and the well choreographed presentation were well received by the enthusiastic audience who showed their disapproval of the judges with boos and jeers when they gave the Koziaks only 38 for presentation against 41 for the Dymek. For content, the Koziak received 45, the Dymek 41, so the Koziaks were the winners by just one point. (Incidentally, the judges' marks are written down before they are displayed on the electronic scoreboard so there can be no question of a judge changing his or her marks!).

The final category, Flying Trapeze, has been the traditional climax of the Championships but bad luck had dogged the category this year. The original acts booked the Michaels (last year's joint winners with the Jimenez) and the Segreras, both had to withdraw, the Michaels due to injury,

The Ramos (Mexico) arrived in London to compete but ace flyer Serge Ramos dislocated his shoulder while performing in a TV show recorded at Roberts Bros. Circus on Nov. 15th and so had to withdraw. The remaining act, the Flying Bells (Mexico), three men and a girl, therefore closed the show with a good routine, though not as outstanding as some of the superb flying acts seen at the Championships. If this judgement sounds a little harsh, particularly as both male flyers in the Bell can accomplish the triple, it should be taken as an indication of the rising standard of the world's flying acts these days.

The Championships owe a lot to the organizing ability and diplomacy of the ringmasters, including Norman Barrett, and were accompanied by a fine big band (including a harpist, a rare sight indeed in a circus) directed by Kenny Clayton.

The tickets for the show went to pay for young children's play facilities in the London Borough of Fulham and Hammersmith, and the TV shows of the event will be seen on various stations in 1982.

Clown Club

by *CHUCK CRESPO*

Chuck "Chuckles" Crespo, formerly of Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey, Clyde Beatty-Cole Bros. Circus is back in Chicago. He is performing for cable TV and night clubs. He has also joined a new clown group with Sgt. Mike Acosta who was featured last year on Real People for his work as a clown with the Chicago Police Dept. The vice president of the club, George Cincotta, is also a clowning policeman. The group in all has six police officers who clown all over the city of Chicago, for the police dept. and other events.

The president of the group is Norman "Dino" Volpe who has been clowning for ten years. The base of his clowning started with the Veterans of Foreign Wars. He brought his clowning to all events in this organization. The VFW even honored him with a life membership in the organization for all his time and effort put into clowning. He will also be appearing in the Loyalty Day

Parade to be held in Chicago on May 1st.

The group is called 'Crazy Clowns Galore of Chicago' and they are now awaiting their confirmation for the alley in the Clowns of America.

Weight Loss

A UPI report from Auburn, Ala., indicates that 'Stacey' a 3200 lb. elephant with the Hoxie Bros. Circus was under study by the Auburn University clinic for large animals.

According to the report, the elephant has been losing weight for about a year. Dr. Jay Humburg, of the University, said that he was not too concerned about the weight loss. "Really, 500 lbs. isn't that much for an elephant," he added.

Dr. Humburg said the circus brought the elephant to the clinic because she was losing weight. He said that he was conducting a series of tests but had not discovered the cause.

Royal Lichtenstein

by BRUCE HAWLEY

About an hour before sunset on Apr. 21st, on the lush-green campus of Fairfield University in Fairfield, Conn., a white-faced female performer in white tights pranced into a red and yellow circus ring which was placed against a backdrop of a colorful square dressing tent and the rigging of a Roman Rings act, and with her flute, in pied-piper fashion, musically signaled the opening of a performance of the Royal Lichtenstein Quarter Ring Sidewalk Circus.

She was quickly joined by four other performers of this, the World's "Smallest Complete Circus", who were also attired in white tights and white makeup.

In the spirit and style of a medieval circus, these five human performers, along with their five animal companions, quickly captured the attention of a few hundred college students and professors who were passing by the campus center.

The delightful one-hour performance of this San Jose, Calif., based circus included all of the basic acts of a traditional circus. The opening "spec" was followed by an exhibition of foot balancing by Robert Lee and a dog and clown act by the clown-ringmaster Nick Weber, James Larson, a gymnast from Dartmouth College, then gave a strong performance on the Roman Rings, and the entire troupe participated in a fairy tale skit that was laced with contemporary

political humor. Then came the monkey act, juggling, the bear act and a Houdini-style escape trick. The finale consisted of a dog and pony routine which was preceded by a demonstration of fire eating by Mr. Weber.

As the sun was setting at the end of this performance, the performers passed the hat for donations and the show quickly struck its tent and headed into the night for the next performance in Bethlehem, Pa.

PEOPLE

BILLY FORD and EDDIE BUSCH, spent a vacation in Atlantic City and also report that they visited Hoxie Bros. Circus during the show's Macon, Ga., date.

Mr. and Mrs. ADEN LOWRY, of Sedan, Kansas, and Dr. and Mrs. HOWARD KILLOUGH, of Winfield, Kansas, attended the National Clown Convention in Albuquerque (NM) April 13-17. Killough is National Chaplain of the organization.

THE KLEMENTIS, bicycle act, is featured at the Scala in Madrid, Spain. They'll be there thru the end of August.

In the news

Monday, Dec. 28, 1981 - The Bulletin in Philadelphia, its Atlantic City Report, Charles Librizzi column about shows and acts presented in Atlantic City, comments about the best and worst acts in the casino productions. "The most breath-taking act belonged to Douglas MacValley's Gravity-defying cyclists in the Globe of Death wire cage in the Revue 'Playboy Fantasy'."

Douglas MacValley's Globe of Death, Unit No. 2, with Guillermo Diaz and Orlando Casrillon made a successful debut this year with the George Hubler Circus, followed by Garden Bros. Circus and will continue the 1982 tour with different shows and will be featured this summer at the Storytown Amusement Park, Lake George, NY, booked by Tibor Alexander.

Atlantic City magazine "Entertainer of the Year Awards" nominate Douglas MacValley Globe of Death for the 1982 Award "Best Act", and Playboy Motorcycle, best production number, also Peter Jackson best producer.

Douglas MacValley will be the Stunt Coordinator for the special event produced by Playboy in Atlantic City on the beach in front of the hotel. The show will feature Douglas MacValley's Globe of Death and will be a Thrill Show with television celebrities as host and will be taped for the Playboy cable TV in California.

Because of the success of the show 'Playboy Fantasy', with Douglas MacValley's Globe of Death, the Playboy Hotel has extended for one more year the act's contract with an option for Peter Jackson to continue to present the show at the Cabaret Theatre, new numbers will fill the 60 minute revue, including McValley's newest stunt act.

Humberto Fonseca recently made his debut in America with Douglas MacValley in the Globe of Death. Humberto will be doing MacValley's new stunt for the Playboy revue.

At Seattle

by MIKE SPORRER

The Seattle Shrine's Nile Temple held its 38th annual circus, March 19-21, at the Seattle Center Coliseum. The show was produced by Tarzan Zerbini this year with the Zerbini/Castle blue unit, a complete new show.

This year the Shrine reportedly doubled their advertising budget and doubled the attendance. Business on Friday was soft, but Saturday and Sunday crowds were well ahead of last year.

Sorry to say there was no program book, leaving the crowd to wonder who the acts were. At the Sunday matinee Herbie Weber slipped and fell from the low wire, but was able to continue. He is a real pro and returned to the wire to finish the act.

Following the matinee, Circus Fans from the Jack Bell Tent No. 90, held a donut and lemonade party. Performers and working people enjoyed the treat as it is one of the only two towns where circus fans come out to make the circus welcome. On hand to visit were Bob and Irma Dunham, and we look forward to their visit next year.

Any fans thinking about visiting the Seattle area will find we have a solid line up this year of shows - Wenatchee Youth, American Continental, Ford Bros., Circus Vargas, John Strong, and Ringling Blue. This sounds like a king sized year. The Hubert Castle Circus will return in June after playing dates in British Columbia.

2nd Unit

Roberts Bros. Circus of Sarasota, will field a second unit to produce a free circus in con-



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junction with the Spring midway event at Fort Bragg, NC. Dates for the show are May 27th thru June 5th.

According to Paul Robinson, Creative Outlet, Largo, Fla., the circus under canvas will be produced by Bob Earl and will perform twice daily and three times daily on weekends. Additional free entertainment will also be booked.

Deggeller Attractions will field a ride midway, and the event will operate on a "Pay-One-Price" format similar to that being used by many amusement parks, with one ticket good for all rides, circus, and other free entertainment.