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CIRCUUS REPORT

THE



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OUR 11th YEAR

Number 24

June 14, 1982



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PEOPLE

PAUL KELLY recently completed an interview with the 'National Enquirer Magazine' which will carry a story on what it was like to grow up in the circus world and to lose a leg at 6 years of age. Publication date is set for the first week of June.

LARRY and CARIN FRENCH with the Cristiani elephants are set to work the Mt. Clemens date and then they'll go into Storytown Park for the summer season.

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Show Dates

Beatty-Cole Circus
 June 14-15 Middletown,
 Conn.
 16-17 North Haven
 18-20 New London

Big Apple Circus
 Jun 18-27 Staten Island NY

Big John's Variety Circus
 Jun 7 Tulsa, Okla.
 8 Kansas City, Mo
 9 St. Louis
 10 Bridgeton
 11 Indianapolis, Ind.
 13 Des Moines, Iowa
 14 Omaha, Nebr.
 16-17 Denver, Colo.
 19 Salt Lake City, Ut.
 - End of Tour -

Big John's Tent Circus
 Jun 7 Toppinish, Wash.
 8 Hermiston
 9 Pendleton, Ore.
 10 Dayton, Wash.
 11 Pomeroy
 12 Othello
 13 Quincy

Carson & Barnes Circus
 Jun 6 White Hall, Ill.
 7 Hannibal, Mo.
 8 Ft. Madison, Iowa
 9 Bloomfield
 10 Ottumwa
 11 Knoxville
 12 Chariton

Circus Knie
 Jun 4-17 Rosentalanlage,
 Switz.
 18-20 Dornacherplatz

Circus Vargas
 Jun 14-15 Vallejo, Calif.
 16-17 Santa Cruz
 18-20 Salinas

Coronas Circus
 Jun 19-22 Denver, Colo.

Dobritch Int. Circus
 Jun 17-20 Wheaton, Ill.

Ford Bros. Circus
 Jun 14 Raymond, Albita
 15 Ft. McCloud
 16 Pincer Creek
 17 Clarkshome
 18 High River

Great American Circus
 Jun 14 Natrona Hghts, Pa.
 15 Indiana
 16 Bedford
 17 Hollidaysburg
 18 Tyrone

Hoxie Bros. Circus
 Jun 14 Monroe, Mich.
 15 Fremont, Ohio
 16 Norwalk
 17 Ravenna
 18 Conneaut
 19-20 Warren, Pa.

Knights of Columbus Cir.
 Jun 19-20 San Fran, Ca.

No Elephant Circus
 Jun 17 N. Brunswick, Vt.

Pickle Family Circus
 Jun 12-13 Santa Cruz, Ca.
 19-20 Santa Rosa

Ringling-Barnum - Blue
 Jun 8-20 Philadelphia, Pa

Ringling-Barnum - Red
 Jun 15-16 Dayton, Ohio
 18-20 Louisville, Ky.

Whizzer the Clown
 Jun 15 Columbus, Ohio
 18 Sandusky
 19 Marysville

Roberts Bros. Circus
 Jun 14 Sandy Lake, Pa.
 15 Harrisville
 16 Marienville
 17 Woodland
 18 McVeytown
 19 Newport
 20 Loganton

Swan Bros. Circus
 Jun 18-19 Lakeport, Ca.

Wenatchee Youth Circus
 Jun 19 Seattle, Wash.
 20 Edmonds

--- OTHER DATES ---

Bryan's Clowns, Inc.
 Jun 13 Mahoningtown, Pa
 19 New Castle

Burr's Funorama
 Jun 14-19 Stoughton, Mass

James H. Drew Exposition
 Jun 14-19 Richlands, Va.

Elliott Amusement Co.
 Jun 15-20 Woodhaven, Mich

Great Wallendas
 Jun 19-20 Denver, Colo.

Scott's Medicine Show
 Jun 14 Norfolk, Nebr
 15 Yankton, SD
 16 Sioux Falls
 17 Pipestone, Minn
 18 Huron, SD
 19 Aberdeen
 20 Sisseton

Tip Top Shows
 Jun 17-20 W. Allis, Wisc

--- MAGIC ---

Harry Albacker
 Jun 13-20 Brooklyn, NY

Pf. Miller - Magic Time USA
 Jun 14 Mongahalia, Pa.
 15 Tyrone
 16 Kittangine

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Show Visit

by *JIM SWAFFORD*

The writer, along with Doris and Ralph Horton, recently visited Circus Suarez during the show's engagement in Tijuana. We caught a 4:30 p.m. Sunday matinee and enjoyed it all.

The show has a new 3 pole, two ring tent, which is blue and yellow. The seats are so close that you can almost touch the animals as they are performing.

They have 12 lions from the Jewel New act, which was on Ringling, along with a 10 horse liberty act obtained from Gunther-Gebel Williams, and the cannon act that was obtained from Elvin Bale.

In all about 14 people did the show, which is quite flashy. They have one prop man, an American who used to work on the Beatty show.

The Campas (3) do three acts, a Suarez brother does the lion act and works the liberty horses. There is a trampoline act, a flying act and a line of 8 girl dancers.

Show Date

Members of the Carden Int'l Circus played a date as a stage show for the Northwest Lions Club in San Antonio, Texas on May 12th. The show was produced by Bob Atterbury. Ringmaster was Al Leonard, David Conors, prop boss and Paul Giacalone, musical director.

The program included: Lion Club introductions; The Rolling Dars; Miss Belinda, sword balance (vocal by Paul Giacalone); Bob Top and Edna, roller skating (doing their act at ground level); Miss Marki, doves (vocal by Al Leonard); David Conors and Ari Steeples, double display of rola bola; Al Leonard, illusions; Frank Galumbo and family, rolling globes; Mark Vosa, birds and Edwardo's Gypsy Bears.

The clowns did three numbers: Photos, Boxing and Washer Women.

JOHNNY BROWN, the magician, was featured at the Convention Center in San Antonio, Texas, at the Annual Convention for the Texas Credit Unions.

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New Book

by *GEORGE BINGAMAN*

"STEAMBOAT CALLIOPES" by Leslie C. Swanson, Box 334-CA, Moline, Ill. 61265 and sells for \$3.00.

Seeing several calliopes in operation this year my attention has been invited to Swanson's "Steamboat Calliopes", a book primarily about the "steam-powered carrilon" of the river showboats, excursion steamers. Circus people will find interesting material on the use of the calliope in tanbark and tinsel entertainment from the days P. T. Barnum obtained rights for its use in his show. He set up a steamer on a parade wagon about the same time Sands & Co. used this instrument in their smaller circus. The first use of

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a calliope in a parade is cited at 1859.

Those of us who have seen calliopes recently as many enjoyed the Clovis Watkins' steamer at the Smithsonian and Robert Bruce's air calliope on the Museum of American History's front lawn under canvas are reminded of the rarity of this majestic instrument which announced its presence to the entire town at the circus parade's end and to the entire populace of the river valley when "Here Comes the Showboat" heralded the arrival of floating entertainment to the umdram life of river people.

The reviewer recalls happily playing a calliope three years ago in a Circus Model Builder's street parade in Allentown, Pa., Believe it or not, I almost got knocked off the rear end of the vehicle carrying Lu Lower's marvelous instrument. What this probably means is that "we can't go backwards" But we can enjoy Swanson's "Steamboat Calliopes" as he recalls those nostalgic moments when the muses played their songs on the Ohio and the Mississippi.

You'll enjoy the many photographs and the recounting of Swanson's romantic life behind the steamer's topside "steamer" rain or shine in "Steamboat Calliopes."

PEOPLE

DAVE "Skinhead" LEWIS took his Circus of Fun to the Little Caesar's Family Inn at Pontiac, Mich., in April.

Show Visits

by ALLEN BABCOCK

This writer has visited the Hoxie Bros. Circus several times in the past month and it is all the previous reports have indicated.

It was especially nice to be able to visit with Guy A. Buswell, of Franklin, NH. He is 88 years old and loves the circus. He's kept pretty busy sewing on the old 1 center pole round top as well as other duties.

He started out on the Wheeler Bros. Wagon Show and some of the other shows he has been with are Downie, Walter L. Main, Ringling, Wallace, Biller, etc.

He has done a variety of interesting jobs in his life and was involved in three wars.

Another interesting person on the show is J. F. Waynick, who retired as chief electrician for the American Tobacco Co., a few years ago. He is now traveling with the big Hoxie show.

Some other interesting, retired, folks on the show are Arthur and Bee Stone, the circus clowns. Arthur was a professor at Louisiana Tech until his retirement in June 1975.

On May 10th, at Taylorsville, Ill., Jim Silverlake worked the elephant act, along with Gary 'Teck' Corbett, who had joined to replace Joe Frisco, who had left. 'Teck' is now doing the elephant act on his own.

Mario Gaona is doing the catching in the flying act as his catcher left. That leaves his daughter and son to do the flying.

Going to the lot at Canton on May 13th, the trailer with the fork lift, pulled by the stake driver truck, turned over on a sharp curve. The truck stayed upright, but the trailer was in pretty bad shape and the fork

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lift had a few minor problems that kept it from being used that day.

Russell Smith, who along with his wife, Doris, have the dressage horse, goat act and comedy mule, gave up his mule act on that day to weld on the trailer to get it back into shape.

At Lincoln on May 14th, Byron Burford, the art professor at the University of Iowa, visited, on his way to Franzen Bros. Circus where he will be during the summer, as the show's drummer.

Several fans visited Hoxie Bros. at Springfield on May 15th. They included Charlie Bellatti, Randolph Ricketts, Dave Williams, Vernon Richardson and Michael Howard.

One fan who is usually around is at home too ill to visit shows. He is Norman Schular, 917 No. 8th St. Springfield, Ill. 62702, and he would love to hear from friends.

Hoxie Tucker and Jim Silverlake visited Wayne Franzen's show at Carbonville when the Hoxie show was at Springfield, just 48 miles apart.

On May 16th, my wife and I went to Pana to see the show and there was a little excitement on the lot a couple of hours before show time. A tiger got loose, but the show folks quickly got it back into the cage.

Medicine Show

by JOHN MCGINN

My wife and I recently caught the "Doc" Tommy Scott's Medicine Show and if you have never seen it you've missed something. They really do sell snake oil.

It was worth attending just to get to talk with "Doc."

This is a 90 minute show of fun with the neatest and best dressed performers anywhere, no matter what it was they were doing.

The show opened with a pitch selling the Snake Oil (it's real) and Medicine (just like in the 1800's).

Then, "Doc" Tommy Scott and the Snake Oil Band played some great toe tapping and hand clapping music. This was followed by John Palmstrom, a very versatile young juggler, who had some great moves and was very good.

Texas Jim sang some cowboy songs and Modern Annie Oakley did some great trick shooting, assisted by Cowboy Jim.

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Little John sang some western songs and was followed by the Masked Rider, comedy bull whip with two young boys (it was hilarious, cutting paper with the whip).

Really Knice was next with western songs and then came a Magic Act: Houdini and Miss Donna. He puts a small dog in cage and a gorilla comes out, runs into audience and captures girl, lots of fun.

Darrell Sayer (he looks like Bo of the TV show Dukes of Hazzard) sang western songs and was followed by John Palmstrom on a unicycle.

Big Donna sang songs accompanied by Old Blem and Darrell Sayer. Then came Prof. Bo-Jo, balancing on an 18 ft. high pole on a stand.

A Banjo Duel with Mandolin, playing Orange Blossom Special was presented by Little John and David.

For the Finale, the whole cast came out and played and sang country western tunes and the whole audience was hand clapping and foot stopping, hooting and hollering, a great finish, for a great 90 minutes of entertainment.

Indoor Show

by JIM CONLEY

Big John Strong's indoor tour has started. Fans from the Los Angeles area traveled to San Bernardino (Ca) to see the second show of the season. It is a fast moving, well-rounded presentation.

The MC is Rolloick Montebank, formerly known as "Swami." He has acquired a good deal of polish and does an excellent job of introducing the acts.

The show opens with the clowns Chrissi and Flippo (Rosa Douglass and Phil Kavanagh). Flippo is on stilts and Chrissi dances with him. The appearance of the tall clown and his short partner gave a pleasant surprise for the opening.

They were followed by the Rolling Diamonds doing their roller act on a raised platform. The addition of the young son doing a routine with a Pink Panther dummy as large as he is really pleased the young members of the audience.

They were followed by the clowns and a doctor gag. Hunt Bushnell's Strings-N-Things marionette routine consisted of a sexy snake, singing daisies, an ostrich, a disembodied puppet and a roller skating duo.

Chrissi and Flippo did a juggling routine that showed the benefit of a lot of practice. Magician Mike Martin closed the first half with a Square Circus Production, Dove in a Balloon, Duck Pan, Pigeon Cage Vanish, a Zig Zag Illusion and a seldom seen version of the suspension of a lady.

Diana Hansen opened the second half doing foot juggling with an assortment of highly visible props.

Rolloick Montebank and Marchal did a sword-swallowing act and this was followed by Bushnell's Exotic Bird Revue. Parrots and Macaws roller skate, ride scooters

and jeeps, play the three shell game and operated a one-bird ferris wheel while Bushnell made informative comments about the birds.

The clowns next did a mind reading gag, followed by Mike Martin with a milk in the light globe routine and the Sub Trunk.

Little Ginger, daughter of the Montbanks, did an acrobatic routine with her father which had much appeal due to the very young age of the performer. Roulette did a trapeze act from a free-standing rigging. The act was well lighted with the show-owned equipment.

The Finale, included everyone of the acts coming on stage to the rousing music played by Neal Armstrong on the organ and Randy Bradle on drums.

Altogether it made a very pleasing, fast moving show. Some of the fans thought it was Big John's best indoor show to date.

The show played to a large audience in San Bernardino. The four week tour is expected to cover almost 1500 miles.

Big John reports that business for his tented show is picking up after several unprofitable weeks.

Show Date

Glenn Parkins and Tommy Hanneford will produce a free Circus under the big top for the 1982 Upper South Carolina State Fair at Greenville, SC, Sept. 2-11.

This is the second year the Hanneford Circus has produced the program. Deggeller Attractions will field the midway for the second year and Creative Outlet, Largo, Fla., will coordinate the fair's promotion program.

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Dancing Stallions

by AUSTIN MILES

The most elegant tribute to horses ever conceived must be The Kingdom of Dancing Stallions. The new multi-million dollar permanent entertainment facility is located just one block from Knott's Berry Farm in Buena Park, Calif. The complex which includes an antique carriage display and public access to the magnificent solid brass stables, was designed by the beautiful Edith Evans Williams who also staged the production. This superb horsewoman also stars in the spectacular.

The Grand Riding Hall is the most elaborate in the world. The ultra-plus carpeted seating area surrounds the 80 x 130 ft. performance arena. The ceiling is lushly draped with velvet with three 9 foot crystal chandeliers, the acoustics perfect and every seat is excellent.

The expert blending of the taped music and lighting along with exquisite period costumes make this offering top drawer in every respect.

Tickets are scaled at \$6.00 and \$8.00 with \$4.00 tickets for children and senior citizens. Show runs approximately one hour featuring 36 white stallions and 15 people. Performances are Tuesdays thru Sundays at 2 and 8 p.m.

The program ran as follows: Overture; Introduction; Honor Guard; Pas de Deux; Training session (steps and movements); Fiesta in Seville, Vita Mexico; On the Long Rein, an exceptional display of horsemanship with the stallion performing classical movements; The Airs Above The Ground; Edith Evans very skillfully riding one horse

HOTLINE

WARD HALL's new show "Wondercade" closed after its shows on May 29th, due to a lack of business. The move to close the show and bring it back to quarters was generally blamed on the poor economic situation.

Miscellaneous

Strong winds and rain at Washington, Ill., forced Hoxie Bros. Circus to cancel the remainder of its show at intermission time. Those attending the show were told their tickets would be honored at the performance in nearby Eureka, just 8 miles away.

and guiding two others through their paces on the long line, then her celebrated waltzing horse number, working with hands free, only with leg cues; The world's only 12 horse Quadrille brilliantly choreographed; The Grand Finale.

All the riders are fresh, good looking and expert in their field, cueing their mounts so subtly that it looks like they aren't even necessary, that they are along just for the ride.

It isn't necessary to be a horse buff to thoroughly enjoy this production. The sheer beauty, fantasy and pageantry will keep your heart singing long after you have left the arena. You will want to see this more than once.

Edith Evans Williams is to be congratulated for this most worthwhile entertainment venture.

PEOPLE

ANTAR WAZZAN has the novelties, working for **JOHN FRAZIER**, on the Big Apple Circus in New York.

WAVY GRAVY, clown, and The Lost Circus presented an evening of entertainment at the Julia Morgan Center in Berkeley, Cal. on June 2nd, as a benefit for a local area summer camp.

BILL BACKSTEIN, picked up the Carson & Barnes Hippo and truck at Ironton, Mo., and drove it up to Chicago for the big Circus parade over the holiday. After the parade he drove the truck back to Missouri.

DON YOUNG and **JO McMILLAN**, are at Adventureland in Des Moines where they are working as clowns.

AUSTIN MILES visited Circus Vargas at its engagement in San Fernando, Calif., and then caught the American Continental Circus at Valencia, Calif. He is currently head-

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quartered in California, staying at the home of **BOBBY YERKES**.

KIT SOMERS, juggler, who was hospitalized in New Jersey as the result of an auto accident has been moved to his home in San Diego, Calif.

JOE RETTINGER, **MARILYN GRIFFIN**, **NICHOLAS** and **MAXINE FIRFIRES** (she is the daughter of Buck Jones), and Mr. and Mrs. **HARLEY C. BOISEN** visited Circus Vargas at Santa Barbara, Calif., and chatted with **CLIFF VARGAS**, **JOE MUSCARELLO**, and **EVA** and **REX WILLIAMS**.

IN MEMORIUM

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Franzen Bros.

by ALLEN BABCOCK

On May 17th, this writer and Fran Hunt, of Titusville, Fla., visited the Franzen Bros. Circus at Virginia, Ill. We had just pulled on the lot when Wayne and his covoy of trucks came in from the opposite direction.

Also visiting there were Vernon Richardson, Charlie Belletti, Dave Williams and Mike Sorrell.

Wayne has another great show this year. His top that was new in '81 is still in fine shape. His '82 programs had just arrived and it has several nice photos of this year's performers, an up-to-date program, with a combination program and coloring book.

There were two large and enthusiastic crowds at Virginia. I understand that Wayne has had good crowds all thru Illinois this season, which is good, especially considering what the economy is. The lot was a nice

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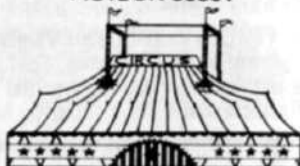
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grassy one and the weather was ideal.

The Franzen program ran as: Clown Band with David Myslewick and Howard Nash; Cat act presented by Wayne Franzen; Morales, balancing; Wayne with Tonto, the horse; Amy Muller, aerial ballet; Wise the Wizard, magic; Clowns; Animal Fantasy, a camel and llama, presented by Wayne; Intermission.

Clowns; Salute to Higher Horse Sense with Tonto and Wayne; Pedro Morales Family, flurry of frenzied footwork; Wise the Wizard, magic; Wayne and Okla the elephant; Amy and Harry Muller, Aerial duo; Clowns; Wayne and liberty ponies.

The band consists of Bob Alma, organist, Paul Neibauer, trumpet and announcer and Byron Burford, drummer.

Jim and Sandi Windland have the concessions.

Byron was busy lettering on the side of a show truck and has a few more to do.

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PEOPLE

Mr. and Mrs. **MERVYN RAY JONES** and infant daughter, visited Roberts Bros. Circus at Lima, Ohio. Mervyn, who used to troupe as Buzzy the clown, retired from show business on his 18th birthday and is now in the tire recapping business in Traverse City, Mich. He was visiting his parents Mr. and Mrs. **ROBERT STEPHENS**, with Roberts Bros. Circus;

BOB OWENS, **BETH BROWN**, **MARION SERNS** and **TOM STRASSER** have been handling the advance for the Big John Strong Circus in the Pacific Northwest.

CAPT. DON LESLIE, sword swallower and **TATTOOED MAN**, was featured in a photo report in the Lowell Sun (Lowell, Mass.) on May 26th.

RICK LEGG made a fast trip from his producing clown duties on the Hubert Castle Circus in Manitoba to fill in for **VERN WOERNER** and **DON BRIDWELL** on the **JIMMY DOUGLASS' M & M Clown Alley**, after which he returned to the Castle show.

GEORGE "Red" WHITE, former circus side show manager, recently visited some of his former circus buddies in Florida.

THE AGUILARS, risley-teeterboard act, is appearing at Knott's Berry Farm in Buena Park, Calif.

The Big Apple

by CHRIS AUDIBERT

The Big Apple Circus, Prospect Park, Brooklyn, NY, May 21st - 7 p.m. show.

Let me start off by saying "you have to see this show to believe how good it is."

It is a European style with 4 girder poles supporting the blue and red top. The backyard is mobile homes with one blue, 4 push pole vinyl dressing top.

But back to the big top. The ring curbs come right to the poles. The box seats at \$7.00 each, are folding chairs right at the ring curb, and the rest of the seats are blues but no matter where you sit its a good seat. The back curtain has the six piece band above it, on a shelf and they play circus music.

Opposite the curtain are two manual spot lights at the top of the bleachers. Over one of the two entrances is the light controls on a platform.

Out front is the ticket/office wagon blaring canned music, a midway diner and a concession stand.

Now to the show: The spec opens with a stilt walking clown pulling the strings on another clown "ala marionette" and with a lady clown to bring the marionette alive who then does a bit of low wire walking, following which the performers come into the ring. Incidentally, the band preceeds the spec with a beautiful rendition of "Entry of the Gladiators" that makes the old blood pump for joy.

Act two is a cloud swing by Alexander Pavlata, very good.

Act three is David Muller now out of his marionette outfit, coming on for his low wire act.

Then comes the lovely Mary Ruth Her-



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riott, with John assisting, with the French Poodles. Beautifully done and well received by the audience.

Act five is Tisha Tinsman on the Spanish web, a beautiful gal and does a fine job.

Act six was an unexpected tumbling act by six black youths who really will be grabbed by one of the big shows as they are good. They call themselves "The Back Street Flyers."

Act seven should have been the bull act, but they substituted John Herriott and his horse. Sitting next to the ring curb for this one was a delight as you could watch the

(Continued on Next Page)

THE BIG APPLE (Continued)

horse's feet as John put it through its paces. Well received by the audience and then we were granted an intermission with time to go out front for souvenirs and food.

Act eight was the Bertinis, 6 people on unicycles, the teeterboard part was simply to get the youngest feller up to a two high atop a ten foot bike. Really good showmanship.

Act nine was hand balancing on blocks atop a pedestal by Jim Tinsman, nicely received.

Act ten was Benny Williams in loin cloth, ale Tarzan, working Anna Mae, a big bull, doing several routines I've never seen before. They got a big hand for this act.

The flying trapeze act of the Flying Toralba's didn't work due to a strained shoulder of the catcher.

Interspersed throughout the show, but not listed in the program were clown acts by Mike Christensen and Barney Tubin. The juggling act of Paul Binder and Mike is a real show stopper. Paul Binder is the ringmaster

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and announcer, working in red tailcoat and top hat.

Every act was top-notch and the small crowd applauded long and loud. A full house must sound like thunder.

My hat is off to Paul Binder and the Big Apple Circus. Fans shouldn't miss this show or they will be sorry.

Shrine Circus

by *NORMAN ABRAHAMS*

The annual Mecca Temple Shrine Circus was held in White Plains, NY, May 14-16. The show was a Hamid-Morton production and it was one of the best circuses I have seen in several years. It was fast moving, well paced and timed to perfection with Bob and Carol Atterbury doing their usual terrific job.

Featured in the show were: Earl Michaels, ringmaster; Prince Marcan with 19 jungle beasts; The Maymers, aerial act; Monsier Harold, plate spinning; The Davide Zoppe Family, unsupported ladder; Susan's Royal Afghans; Zoppe's Monkey Revue; Miss Gina's Royal Palace Leopards; Sir Harry Thomas, one finger stand; The Walkers with elephants.

Capt. Ernie "Boxcar" Young was the producing clown with Ho-Ho and Goomey as his assistants. This trio uses fresh and funny material.

The Mecca Temple Shrine Clowns worked the come-in and during intermission, for the fourth year. Mr. Lollipop the Klown heads this fun organization.

Hamid-Morton Circus

by GEORGE C. BINGAMAN

The 1982 Hamid-Morton production of the Zembo Temple's 35th annual Shrine Circus in Harrisburg's (Pa) Farm Show Arena on Apr. 12-18 featured fresh and new eye appeal and a welcomed change of format in George A. Hamid Jr's star-studded array of circus thrills, chills and skills. Gone, but not missed, was the traditional opening parade. The aerial ballet was replaced by comedy high wire a-la King Arthur the Lion and Goldie. Arthur Duchek and Isolde presented a new type high wire act including microphone dialogue with delightful comic wit, a loveable lion costume for the walker and a dazzling wife-partner Isolde whose beauty and acrobatic polish counter-balanced the comic change of pace. Two aerial wire-bicycles, one semi size and the feature a super-small (smallest in the world) mini bike, carried Goldie across and back in a series of delightful acrobatics.

Hamid also enhanced this year's production eye appeal with the sparkling colored-blinking ring curb lights, high ceiling blinking string lights flanked by blinking stars and a revolving luminescent globe which shot stars through the arena ceiling when spotlighted.

H-M's '82 talent was splendidly diversified featuring many kinds of performing animals - cats and lions, horses, dogs with a cat, uncaged leopards, monkeys, Josip Marcan's 16 tigers, two lions, one white tiger opened the show in the big cage offering jump overs, roll overs, a group of sit-ups, comic tricks, held in the mouth and a lion ride to cap the performance. Prince Marcan is relaxed, giving an impressive cool charge of his magnificent cats.

The Smaha European Horse Fantasy offered Lipizzans galloping and prancing in three rings of equestrian excellence presented by Tony Smaha, Jr., Inga and Susan. The airs above the ground featuring the capriole capped a superb demonstration of the Austrian school of horsemanship.

Susan Sheryll's Royal Afghan Champions, the first of two outstanding Zoppe animal acts, featured high leaping canines entering in a magnificent royal red coach. The ca-

nines leaped high over an illuminated multi-colored blinking-lined jumping standard. The riding Persian cat added the feline touch to a gorgeous display of dog artistry.

Miss Gina's Royal Palace Leopards presented by Gina and Harry Dubsy, offered three sleek and graceful spotted uncaged leopards, to the mesmerization of the awe-struck crowd thrilled by their beauty and skills. Sit-ups, jumps, plank walks, flaming hoops, arched walk-overs - all displayed the jungle cats at their best.

Zoppe's Rhesus Monkeys, the only act of its kind, offered stellar simian comedy thrills at its best. Mocking the trainer, knocking him down, doing it "Their own way" - all added to the amazing jumping and acrobatic skills of these small apes who were able to get the best crowd response of this '82 edition.

Johnny and Laura Walker presented five Cuneo elephants in a fast moving, highly skilled presentation of ponderous pachyderms. Bombay, Tess, Billie, Joyce and Delhi were smartly bedecked with red head harnesses, red ankle bands and white cuticles. Johnny moved them expertly and Laura polished off the performance in the famous Herriott fashion.

Hamid's '82 had lots more than the great animals. Julia Ventura electrified the show with an opening spine-tingler aerial slide for life. Davide's Unsupported Ladder was outstanding equilibristic excellence coupled with Susan's acrobatic assistance on the attached mount. In a second ring Monsieur Harold (Dubsy) held them spellbound in a high class plate spinning. Performing aloft the Raymills, coming from Paris, exhibited European-like class cradle featuring the break-a-way trapeze. The Fkying Lunas - Victor, Tony, Rosie, Enrico - provided flying trapeze thrills winding up with Enrico's triple. The Ventura Duo and the Rosamunds opened the second half with two fine aerial cradle thrillers.

My top award goes to the twentieth display, two rings of super balancing - the best I've seen in years! Les Weldons returned to the balance platform capping a series of equilibristic marvels with an unbelievable head balance on the top of an open end of a bottle! Then to follow was a hand stand descent with Micheline drap-

(Continued on Next Page)

PEOPLE

CARLOS and TERESA FARFAN are at Home in Las Vegas, after their recent tour of European circuses.

JEFF McBRIDE, magician, has returned to New York City where he is working spot dates, following his engagement in Toronto.

JERRY GOODSPEED, ventriloquist, is working on the cruise ship "Carnivale."

JOHN & GETA, dance team, are presently working a club date in Puerto Rico.

EVERETT HOAG, mime, is working local parties in and around Manhattan (New York)

RICKI DUNN, pickpocket, is working at a California park for the summer season.

JOEY JORDAN, juggler, has taped a TV commercial which will be released this fall. He served as technical advisor and instructor for the new rock opera "Thor."

STEVE SHAW, is the dance captain at the Playboy in Atlantic City, NJ.

HAMID-MORTON CIRCUS (Continued)

ed around his chest and back! Sir Harry James (Dubsky) this thriller with his one finger stand, only to top it by balancing himself on one hand on top of one side of an unsupported ladder.

The thrills were not over before the final display. The Sensational Leighs wound it up with their perilous heart-stopping balance wheel, the first of its kind. Leigh and Nancy created this unique form of circus thrill act and had just returned from three years with European circuses, spending last year with Europe's finest, Switzerland's incomparable Circus Knie.

Captain George 'Boxcar' Young's comedy car space shuttle - or what have you - provided a super size dose of comedy and was to return as Count de Bathe emerging from his fire-housed hotel quarters in a motorized bathtub, as he brushed his back amidst his bath. Yoho and Company assisted as did the Zembo clowns, who had their own act.

The '82 Hamid-Morton Circus featured fine band music conducted by virtuoso Dan Conn and assisted by Joe Dallas, heading up a team of nine windjammers which included trumpets, sax, guitar, trombone, drums and percussion.

Ringmaster Earl Michaels returned to his home town martialing his circus troops in effective array, featuring several uniform changes and an acceptable new role in vocalizing those fine Hamid-Morton special lyrics. Michael effectively pointed out the special tricks and persons. I appreciated his special announcement, acknowledging the presence of Harry Thomas, who was visiting and performs throughout our country with twelve fine Bengals and Siberians.

Hamid-Morton 1982 is high class circus!

The pictures which appear with this circus report were taken by the writer and are indentified as:

- 1 - Les Weldens, The Raymills
- 2 - King Arthur the Lion and Goldie
- 3 - Zoppe's, Susan, Justino, Davide
- 4 - Smaha's European Horse Fantasy,
I.t.r.: Susan, Tony, Jr., Inga
- 5 - Johnny and Laura Walker
- 6 - The Flying Lunas



1



4



2



5



3



6

Carson & Barnes

by BOB STODDARD

Lots of news on the Carson & Barnes Circus when the show played Cleburne.

The new tent is here but won't be erected until July. It is 42 ft. longer than the old tent - which is already the longest tent in America.

The newest attraction is a hippo that was purchased from Hunt's Int'l Wildlife Park in Grand Prairie, Texas.

Since the departure of Johnny and Laura Walker, Don "Okie" Carr has returned to head the elephant department.

Pat White, who was to present the lions and tigers, had a baby just before the season opened, at Isabel, Okla., where a killer tornado passed within two miles of the circus. She'll be joining the show in May when they play Hugo, Okla.

A large group of Peruvians are on this year's roster.

Only one flying act right now, but the Gonas will join in May with their teeterboard act and flying act. Contract negotiations continue with another flying act.

The top of the cookhouse tent had a large shredded section that looked like it fell off

the back of the truck and was dragged a long ways before the driver discovered what had happened (you guessed it, that's what happened).

The new programs were beginning to be delivered the following day in Mineral Wells so here is a line-up of displays that I wrote down as called by the ringmaster, Jim Royal:

Four single rings of trapeze; Lions and tigers presented by Don Carr; The Rolens and Tino Ferreira, rola bola; The Golden Olden West, spec number; Five rings of beautiful menage horses featuring Joanne Pinson, on Lucky (albino stallion), and Toma, a registered Morgan in the center ring.

"Don't Fence Me In" a tent full of ten beautifully costumed cowgirls and ten Indian maidens, plus their escorts fill the top with a variety of circus skills, featuring Rosario Bautista's hair hang in the center ring.

Luciana Loyal, bareback riding act; Four rings of liberty horses with Joanne Pinson in the center ring; Clown Band, seven questionable musicians, introduced as the Fort Worth Symphony Orchestra, and it looked as if the crowd believed it.

Four rings of masters of balance, featuring Fernando Bautista and his wife, Irene, in the center ring.

"42nd St. and Times Square" - five rings of single elephant acts put through their paces by five nattily dressed beauties to the music of New York, New York.

The Boxing Clowns; Color book pitch.

Three rings of aerial cradle artistry with the Loyal Duo, Avila Duo and Fulton Duo; Animals - two rings of camels, one ring of mules, a ring of ponies and the Pinsons in the center ring, this time with their eight dogs and a pony. I believe that their high diving dog has a record of 25 ft. or more.

Two rings of clowns; Potpourri of Pulse, Quickening performers, four rings full of jugglers and Indian clubs, et al, centering on the Zunigas.

Ponderous pachyderms, 14 of them; the Captains of Hilarity, clowns and Moses Ferreira, comedy balancing act.

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(Continued on Next Page)

In Memoriam

GERRY MOSLEY (De Wayne) died of a heart attack at her home in Canyon Country, Calif., on May 25th. She was a co-owner of the DeWayne Bros. Circus and had been associated with various circuses since 1940, including Russell Bros. and the Clyde Beatty Circus. Survivors include her husband Cliff, a daughter Suzanne and a niece Barbara Warkmeister.

HOTLINE

May 29 - Perris, Calif. - A 600 lb. lioness attacked her owner and ripped off her right arm when she reached into the animal's cage. Eileen Pasternak, 33, was attending to the lion and reached into the cage. The lion reportedly lunged at her and tore the arm off at the shoulder.



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CARSON & BARNES (Continued)

producing; Richard "Buckles" Peralis, stilt walker; "Flip" Flippen; "Chipper" Parrish; Brian Davis, Barry Brazell and Ricky Macias.

The Cleburne audience liked what they saw - and showed it. Two excellent houses for the one day stand on a perfect shirt sleeve spring night in Texas, sponsored by the Kiwanis Club.

If every town was like this, for the whole circus season, it would truly be a wonderful circus world.

From the office wagon

by BRADD and SHEILA FRANK

A CIRCUS CO-OP: Should Circuses Organize?

Throughout history there's been vain attempts to organize or unionize most to all aspects of this business - from billposters to performers to owners. Ringling shut its doors several times over union disputes, while smaller shows have had their battles as well.

Later years brought about agreements with the AGVA (American Guild of Variety Artists) that eventually wound up before a Federal judge over the Right to Work laws.

Show owners have banded together several times over the decades with the latest being the formation of the CPA (Circus Producers Assoc.) some years ago that had as its main goal the preservation of phone promotions. With the growing power of animal welfare groups, several attempts to organize by animal trainers seem to have fizzled. At this time the only active circus groups are the CFA, the CMB and the CHS, with the former the only group actively set up to

try to combat anti-circus legislation.

Although the world is smaller due to the vast communication networks, it's grown more complicated as well as more sophisticated. People are finding they are in need of help from others and that they just can not operate alone as in the past.

There's an on-going argument that most unions with years of demands have brought about our present economic conditions. True that consumer prices are tied closely to employee and union contracts, but, after all is said and done, organized labor as well as professional groups and such, despite their emulation, have brought about safer working conditions, health care benefits and scores of other concessions for the worker. This is not to say a union is circusdom's salvation.

Although, a union, as such, for circuses and its generam members may not be the whole answer, perhaps a co-op organization could provide the needed benefits for all circus people.

First, what is a co-op? Webster defines it as an operating enterprise that's member owned with each member owning shares and all working jointly together for the mutual benefit of the whole. As for benefits, many come to mind with the first being insurance. Ask any show owner what the fastest rising expense is in outdoor show business and he'll tell you its insurance coverage. Public liability, property damage, workmans compensation, vehicle coverage, to name a few takes an ever increasing bite out of the price of a ticket. Workmans Comp. which some shows manage to circumnavigate thru legal loopholes, is sometimes the only coverage a performer has. Thru group co-op coverage this could be expanded to year round family coverage with many added and much needed benefits.

The cost of equipment and parts has out-risen ticket sales dramatically. Think about the potential purchasing power of a circus co-op to mass purchase trucks, travel and equipment trailers, tires, automotive accessories, etc., for its members. Animal and show owners would jointly benefit, both on the road and in quarters thru hay, grain and meat purchases obtained in bulk. Mass purchases of canvas sewn in a co-op owned plant would bring down the high cost of

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(Continued on Next Page)

OFFICE WAGON (Continued)

tents, while adding extra revenue from the sale of canvas products to non-show business people and firms. Lumber for seating, another skyhigh expense, could also be lowered thru direct buying at the mill rather than the lumberyard, plus a universal building code for all circus seating would about acceptance from all fire and safety inspectors nationwide.

Booking and routing of shows could be simplified thru a central computerized location which would mean both towns and committees would be assured of fresh entertainment every year, and acts could be given long term contracts. Training animal acts would be profitable again as member show owners would get the use of needed large and small animal acts. In Europe, most shows seem to be swapping their animal acts amongst themselves, as circuses generally play the same spots yearly and this practice gives them more variety.

The concession department, the life blood of any show, would prosper with bulk buying of novelties and food supplies, both new and closeout items. Shipments from a central co-op location would assure members of a one-location shopping center for their needs and supplies, offering a 24 hour a day one phone call service.

A well run and efficient co-op would bring about stronger opposition to anti-circus and animal regulations and their supporters both nationally and locally, and would bring about a much closer working relationship with other show organizations. Several of these, such as pro rodeo associations, are well out in front of the unorganized circus profession combating its foes while making strong use of its supporters and commercial

endorsers.

With a screening and licensing arm, a circus co-op would weed out unqualified agents and promoters, so-called animal trainers and seedy show owners and circuses that have been a blight to this industry for so many years.

Advertising and commercial endorsements, posters and paper, and sponsors, both local and nationally, would be easier to sign and more efficiently put to use. The benefits of a show co-op are as limitless as one's imagination. Other non-show business co-ops have been in operation and business for years. There are farm and ranch, as well as electrical co-ops around the country, plus many successful builder co-ops that benefit their members with many services that in the end bring down consumer prices.

All of outdoor show business, not just circuses, are at a critical crossroads of their existence. With the rising costs of living, the typical American family is more concerned where they spend their entertainment dollars and more are taking advantage of the growing cable TV market.

For what it costs a family of four to attend a live show just once, they can spend that same amount, and many times a much lesser amount on a month's HBO without leaving their living room.

It's for this very reason that today's show owner must imaginatively compete with his competition and actively work with fellow show owners and performers towards a common goal - survival!!