



Number 42

October 20, 1980

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9th Year



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## REPORT

### CMB PROMOTES CIRCUS

BY RON HURST

The Second Annual Bert Backstein Ring, CMB Show and Tell will be held Oct. 25-26 at the Hickory Point Mall in Decatur, Ill. The display will feature circus model builders from throughout the midwestern U. S.

Appearing the same weekend at the Mall will be the TNT & Royal Olympic Circus. Hickory Point Mall is located in Forsyth, Ill., on the north edge of Decatur - intersection of Highway 50 and Interstate 72.



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## PEOPLE

THE URIAS TROUPE, daredevil motorcyclists with Ringling Blue, will reportedly tour with Ringling Red next year.

THE PAULSONS (Paul MacCausland and Cheryl Reed) are with the David Smart Circus. Also appearing on that show is the CASTRO DUO, high wire act.

SEMON'S CHIMPS and the CUNEO tigers and elephants are expected to tour with Circus Vargas in 1981.

JOE HORWATH's Chimps will be touring with the Hubert Castle Circus next year.

DIETER TASSO, juggler, is scheduled to be working on several cruise ship tours during November and December.

MARGUERITE MICHELE, hair hang and MIGUEL AYALA, wire act, will be with the Ringling Red Unit again next season.

## Memo to Our Readers

Do you know someone who might be interested in Circus Report? If so send us their name and address and we'll send them a sample copy. It might just be that they'd like to become regular readers.

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## SPECIAL

### BIRTHDAY PARTY

A surprise birthday party was held for Mari Jo Couls on Sept. 29th at DeLand, Fla. The event was hosted by Edna Antes and Jimmy Cole.

Among those attending the event were Ayres and Kay Davies, Harry and Mary Rawls, Chris and Maria Rawls, Harry Hammond, Edna Antes and Jimmy Cole.

Harry Rawls presented all of the ladies with corsages and the dinner was finished off with a birthday cake, decorated circus-style with a red and white top, a center pole, ringmaster and several other objects.

## REPORT

### THE TALENT LINE-UP

The revised line-up of talent for the annual "It's Magic Show" at the Variety Arts Theatre in Los Angeles (Oct. 10-19) includes:

Ali Bongo, from England; Brandon Scott, from Mexico; John Salisse, from England; Marvyn Roy & Carol, from the USA; Petrick & Mia, from Czechoslovakia; Dorian, from the USA and Shimada, from Japan.

The annual show is produced by Milt Larsen and the performers will be backed by Jerry Rosen and the "It's Magic" orchestra.

## YEARS AGO

### AL G. BARNES-SELLS FLOTO CIRCUS

The Al G. Barnes Circus played Oakland, Ca. on Sept. 6-8, coming in from a one day stand at Sacramento. The show moved on a single train of 14 flat cars, 8 sleepers and 7 stock cars, with 55 wagons. There was one advance car out ahead of the show.

The colors were: Wagons and sleepers, red; flats and stock cars orange.

The show's stock consisted of: 96 baggage horses; 40 ring horses; 12 ponies; 14 zebra; 5 camels; 1 llama; 16 elephants.

Their tents are: 3 pole big top; 5 pole menagerie; 3 pole side show; 4 pole dressing top; 7 pole dining tent; two horse tops 7 poles each; 3 pole kitchen top; 2 pole blacksmith shop; 1 pole butcher shop; 2 pole marquee and two candy stands, 2 poles each.

Animals include: Ape, Monkey, Macaws, Deer, Ostriches, Birds, Buffalo, Seals, Leopards, Hyenas, Dogs, Hippo, plus four cages of lions and four cages of tigers.

The side show had 11 banners, bally platform, three ticket boxes, a seven piece band while the big show has a 16 piece band.

Seating includes 12 sections of starbacks with eight sections of grandstand seats, using letters A to H.

In all they gave six shows here to good business. After tearing down and loading up on the last night they headed out for Marysville.

# Show Dates

**Beatty-Cole Circus**

Oct. 22-26 Ft. Myers, Fla.

**Big John Strong Circus**

 Oct. 20 Woodlake, Calif  
 21 Porterville  
 22-23 Ridgecrest  
 24 Barstow  
 25 Victorville  
 26 Yucaipa

**Carson & Barnes Circus**

 Oct. 20 Harrison, Ark.  
 21 Batesville  
 22 Conway  
 23 Booneville  
 24 Mena  
 25 Idabel, Okla.  
 26 Durant

- End of Season -

**Circus Vargas**

 Oct. 21-26 San Antonio,  
 Texas

**Franzen Bros. Circus**

Oct. 21 Linden, Tenn.

**Hoxie Bros. Circus**

 Oct. 21 Covington, La.  
 22 Picayune, Miss  
 23 Hattiesburg  
 24 Atmore, Ala.  
 25 Milton, Fla.  
 26 Tyndall AFB

**Int'l All Star Circus**

Oct. 21 Butner, NC

**No Elephant Circus**

Oct. 25 New York, NY

**Sam T. Polack Circus**

Oct. 24-26 Charleston, W.Va

**Ringling-Barnum - Blue**

 Oct. 22-Nov, 16 Rosemont,  
 Ill.

**Ringling-Barnum - Red**

to Oct. 27 Boston, Mass.

**Royal Lichtenstein Circus**

 Oct. 20-21 Shreveport, La  
 22-24 Jackson, Miss.

**Royal Palace Circus**

Oct. 22-25 Charlotte, NC

**TNT & Royal Olympic Cir.**

Oct. 22-26 Decatur, Ill.

**Texas Shrine Circus**

 Oct. 21-26 San Antonio,  
 Texas

---- MAGIC ----

**It's Magic Show**

to Oct. 26 Los Ang, Calif

**Kelmar's Showtime USA**

 Oct. 20 Norwalk, Ohio  
 21 Sandusky  
 22 Bettsville  
 23 Ada  
 24 Arlington  
 25 Waynesfield

**Prf. Miller's Magic Time USA**

 Oct. 20 So. Sioux City, Nbr  
 21 Wayne  
 22 West Point  
 23 Wahoo  
 24 Fremont  
 25 Columbus

**Tom Ogden**

 Oct. 23 New York, NY  
 26 Philadelphia, Pa

**Felix Snipes**

Oct 24-25 Lubbock, Tex.

---- OTHER DATES ----

**Century 21 Shows**

to Oct. 25 Mobile, Ala.

**James H. Drew Exposition**

Oct 20-25 Athens, Ga.

**Globetrotters - Nat'l Unit**

 Oct. 20 Three Rivers, Queb  
 21 Chicoutimi  
 22 Bai Comeau  
 23 Riminski  
 24 Montreal  
 25 Ottawa

**Hall & Christ Attractions**

to Oct. 26 Mobile, Ala.

**Kaye Hollywood Elephants**

Oct 21-26 Houston, Texas

**Los Latinos**

 Oct 21-26 San Antonio,  
 Texas

**Peking Opera**

Oct 21-Nov 2 Boston, Mass

**Royal American Shows**

to Oct. 26 Shreveport, La.

**Mr. Sensation**

 Oct 21-26 San Antonio,  
 Texas

**The Sikorskys**

Oct 22-26 Kansas City, Mo



# Billy Barton

**DATELINE:** Austin, Texas - The first of the five Texas Shrine Circus dates has come and gone and this is the first of a series of columns from the Lone Star State. It is still HOT in Texas, although it has begun to cool down at night (thank God!) but it won't be long until we begin to shiver with our northern contemporaries.

A few visitors were on hand for our opening in Austin, among whom were MACK and PEGGY MacDONALD and HANNAH and EMIL PALLEMBERG, up from San Antonio, GENE MENDEZ and his wife ELEANOR and ANTAR and BEVERLY WAZZAN, back in the USA after eight months out of the country. More on these folks later. Also visiting was Mr. MEDRO.

GENE MENDEZ and ELEANOR were enroute to Florida. Later this fall they will play the Hadi Temple Shrine Circus in Evansville. Gene's wife is essaying the understander in the wire act ala JOE SEITZ who is still working in Europe. So, Gene is once more doing those sensational double routines he invented years and years ago (way back in the early 50's as I remember) that have been emulated by so many high wire teams ever since.

THE WAZZANS say they are really glad to be back in the States and were enroute to California to continue their tour with the "Flintstones" - The Abba, Dabba, Do show, it's called. Their sojourn in the states is destined to be short-lived, however, as the troupe is due to go to the Orient very soon.

THE COMBACK TRAIL: Juggler YAHIA AWADA is back in action on the Texas dates after an 18 month period of recuperation from not one but two automobile accidents which incapacitated the young man which kept him inactive. He was forced to cancel several contracts but after his run with the Texas dates he returns to Las Vegas for a stint at the Flamingo.

ITEMIZING: YENDA SMAHA due soon in South Africa to play the same hotel date played recently by FRANCIS BRUNN and, like Francis, he has a sensational contract. . . That handsome young man about town, the Windy City's eligible bachelor MARC SCHULTZ, isn't so eligible anymore. He is to be married before the year is out. . . Word is STEVIE and SERGE CORONAS are expecting a new baby . . . LINDA SHAPPI says that every time she

comes to Texas she winds up with a new dog. Yep! you guessed it, she got another one in Austin. . . THE TANGER TROUPE flew in to Austin at the eleventh hour after closing with Gatti in Phoenix. Their bus and trailer had been driven in ahead of their arrival. . . MARCELLA's father and brother-in-law flew in from Mexico City for a surprise visit . . . During the Austin date one of CUNEO's White Tigers aborted two cubs - this makes the fourth time. . . THE FLYING LANES definitely retiring after their Baton Rouge fair date for EDDIE ZACCHINI. Pat goes to the airlines and David and Patti plan to relocate in California. . . DIME and CONNIE WILSON will play a solid route of indoor circus dates and then fairs for Eddie Zacchini in 1981. . . LOS LATINOS will be with Hamid-Morton. . . DAVIDE ZOPPE et al will be with M&M come Feb. . . JOANNE and PEE WEE PINSON start with the Cuneo elephant act (the 5 act) in Dec. and will spot date on Castle's double dates. . . Latest visitors at Bill and Trudy's Circus Farm included LINDA and BEN DeWAYNE and DON AND JOANNE ANDERSON . . .

IRVING HALL has been taken under the motherly wing of SARAH ZOPPE during the Texas run (ditto BETTY HUBER). . . Coming in from two different John Strong units were DON and JO YOUNG (Poco and Slo-Poke) and RON and PAM PERRY. . . Coming from Las Vegas were HEIDI and JACKIE KRAUSE (The Paulo Sisters), BRIDGET BALLENTINE and YAHAI AWADA. . . Also due in from Glit ter Gultch in Houston is Oresto. . . KLARA VALLA (Bertini) remarried in July - to a relation of the Smaha Family from, I think, South America. . . Daughter KLARINKA is on the dates with musician hubby LEO MASCITTO. . . SONJA ZOPPE and husband (and baby) have purchased Sonja's parents home and JOHN and SARAH will move to Florida. . . DAVIDE and SUSAN, meanwhile, will remain in Rochester (Ind). . . JOHN CUNEO was on tap for the Austin opener. . . TRUDY STRONG now has three Appaloosas in readiness for a new liberty act - she needs three more.

MACK MacDONALD and PEGGY, EMIL PALLEMBERG and HANNAH were spotlighted and announced during spec and received a round of hearty applause from the performers

(Continued on Page 28)

# NEW BOOK

**BEHIND THE BIG TOP** by David Lewis Hammarstrom. Published by A. S. Barnes & Co., \$19.95. 243 pages, 284 photos.

*In an age of film, television and radio, why would a show business personality choose to perform in a circus? And how is the American circus surviving in an entertainment era dominated by mass media?*

David Hammarstrom explores and answers both questions in A. S. Barnes' new publication "Behind The Big Top" - a sweeping, behind-the-scenes expose of a world Hammarstrom knows intimately and thoroughly. He understands the circus from the inside, having worked as a clown, puppeteer and press agent; from the outside, he has taken a hard, critical look at the circus and earned himself the reputation as America's foremost reviewer of the business. Just last year, he returned from the USSR where, at the invitation of the government, he researched the history of the Russian circus from 1917 to present.

Roughly the same period is covered in "Behind The Big Top", a book that at once evokes the drama and excitement of life in America's circuses and unmasks the fictions about the men and women who bring those circuses to our town. According to Hammarstrom, the past 50 years of entertainment under the country's big tops were riddled with controversy, struggle and compromise. Behind the magic of the circus is a story of hucksterism, graft, exploitation of employees, and often shoddy standards of showmanship. Unraveling the myth of the circus is a colorful cast of eccentrics, zanies, daredevils and such household names as the Ringlings, Wallendas,

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Emmett Kelly, Gargantua, Toto, Merle Evans, Arthur Concello, May Wirth, Gunther Gebel Williams, Dorey Miller, Irvin Feld, Cliff Vargas, Elvin Bale, Douglas Lyon and the Hanford family. Some imaginative contributors to the circus are genuine surprises; Hammarstrom reports that Igor Stravinsky and George Balanchine once collaborated on a ballet for elephants!

"Behind The Big Top" is written in a humorous, anecdotal vein, but its intent is serious: to provide a clinical examination of a cherished form of folk entertainment and to diagnose its current health in our culture. The prognosis is good if, as the author suggests, the circuses uphold the highest standards of theatrical entertainment and learn to promote themselves effectively.

Adding to the book's value as an archive are the numerous first-hand interviews Hammarstrom conducted while researching the book and a lavish illustration program that depicts the history of our circuses through nearly 300 photographs and a full-color insert.

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# Shrine Dates

COMPILED BY MIKE SPORRER

## Baker, Oregon - Shrine Club

- 1955 - May 28 - Bailey-Cristiani - H.S. Stad'm  
 1956 - Apr. 28 - Rudy Bros. - Jr. H. S. Gym  
 1957 - None  
 1958 - June 16 - Rudy Bros. - Ball Park  
 1959 - None  
 1960 - Aug. 1 - Rudy Bros. - H. S. Field  
 1961 - Aug. 1 - Rudy Bros. - H. S. Field  
 1962 - Aug. 22 - Ken Jensen - H.S. Stadium  
 1963 - July 12 - Ken Jensen - H. S. Stadium  
 1964 - July 17 - Ken Jensen - H. S. Stadium  
 1965 - July 7 - Ken Jensen - H. S. Stadium

## Vancouver, Wash. - Gateway Shrine Club

- 1956 - Apr. 12 - Rudy Bros. - Shumray J. H.  
 1957 - Apr. 18 - Rudy Bros. - Shumray J. H.  
 1958 - June 12 - Rudy Bros. - Kiggins Bowl  
 1959 - June 5 - Rudy Bros. - Kiggins Bowl  
 1960 - June 7 - Rudy Bros. - Kiggins Bowl

## Longview, Wash. - Columbia River Shrine Club

- 1955 - June 27 - Clyde Beatty - Fairgrounds  
 1956 - Mar 29-20 - Rudy Bros. - R. A. Long H.

# In Memoriam

**RINGLING (Rusty) RICHARDS (47)** died of cancer on Aug. 12th, after a lengthy illness. For the past several years he was a concessionaire at California fairs and prior to that operated circuses on his own and with his brothers.

- 1957 - Apr. 22 - Rudy Bros. - R. A. Long H. S.  
 1958 - June 11 - Rudy Bros. - Fairgrounds

## Astoria, Oregon - Clatsop County Shrine Club

- 1955 - May 23 - Ward Bell - Under Canvas  
 1956 - None  
 1957 - Apr. 6 - Rudy Bros. - Armory  
 1958 - June 7 - Rudy Bros. - Gyro Field  
 1959 - Apr. 7 - Ken Jensen - Armory

## La Grande, Oregon - Shrine Club

- 1953 - July 13-14 - Gil Gray - H. S. Stadium

## Bandon, Ore. - Coos-Curry County Shrine Club

- 1959 - Apr. 2 - Ken Jensen - H. S. Gym  
 1960 - Mar. 31 - Ken Jensen - H. S. Gym  
 1961 - None (Mar. 23 - Gold Beach - Jensen)  
 1962 - Mar. 29 - Ken Jensen - H. S. Gym

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BY LLOYD E. JONES

THE MAGIC CASTLE gets a full column plus an overflow inside in the Sept. 30th issue of the Wall Street Journal. A staff reporter tells of the Larsen brothers main enterprise and describes many of the features that have made it a success. Membership is reported to be at the 4,000 mark, with many considered Associates with a stiff entrance fee of \$500 and dues of \$100. Qualifying magicians are charged only \$100 and annual dues of \$45, and the annual income runs over a million dollars.

According to reports reaching me, the Larsens have closed out their association with the Mayfair dining and show spot which featured old time vaudeville and Victorian type acts.

No mention is made of their other venture, the Society for the Preservation of Variety Arts and the big theatre, now restored that houses the 27th annual "It's Magic Show" running from Oct. 10 to 31st, with 18 performances. (We'll cover that later).

In Reno at the Cal-Neva the rumored Johnny Thompson show has opened to mixed reviews. Titled "Les Sorcery", admission is a surprising

# André and André

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\$2.50. Yes, that's right. One gets a show with a plot, excellent dancing and the best in magic with the Great Tomsoni the funniest act around and flawless dove productions to astound, Max Maven was also a show stopper until Oct. 4th, when he was replaced by Mike Caveny, who offers a new face with novel and entertaining magic.

The show is sado-machistic with weird, black magic as the theme. The Michael Darrin Dancers are outstanding, the singer Valerie Formost, good but all around appeal is limited. Show is expected to run through November and can be recommended to vaudeville lovers and magic minded people. It is dedicated to Edgar Allen Poe.

By the way, the big new Abbott Catalog contains no prices, they are in a separate 11 page section with the current list dated April 1980. Let's hope inflation doesn't require a revised list soon.

On the other hand, Tannen's catalog lists all of its prices. Bold or Foolish? Anyway, catalogs are mainly intended as a reference. Our "Thayer" series of catalog instruction sheets proves that point. Just try and get any of the tricks in the current three volumes for those original prices!

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## PEOPLE

ART "Doc" MILLER reports some of those 1947 Sparks show wagons, later used on the Clyde Beatty Circus, are still in use on the Strates show.

LLOYD E. JONES is attending the "It's Magic" Show in Los Angeles, where he is also visiting with friends in that area.

BILL WILLIAMS (Cotton Candy) worked a special birthday party show earlier this month in Marin (Calif) where the booking was handled by the Hal Morris Agency.

DOLLY COPELAND, former RBBB performer, is featured in a special article in the big July/Aug. 1980 issue of White Tops magazine.

LEE EDWARDS, illusionist, will present his Buzz Saw, Cremation and Hanging illusions as part of the WOLFMAN JACK Show at the Oct. 24-26 Knott's Berry Farm program.

REV. AUSTIN MILES, the Show Business Chaplain, and his family, attended the RON and JOY HOLIDAY opening at the Brighton Hotel Music Hall, Atlantic City, Oct. 2nd.

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# REPORT

## SOME RBBB NOTES

BY JON FRIDAY

The Sept. 23-24 Ringling Red Unit engagement at Wings Stadium, Kalamazoo, Mich., was a 'Red One' with straw houses at shows that I caught. It was the first time for Ringling in Kalamazoo for several years and I think it was the first time in Wings Stadium, which is only 38 feet high.

Because of the low ceiling, the Carl Wong sway pole act was out. The Carrillo Bros., high wire and other aerial acts including the clown on stilts were a little closer to the arena floor than usual.

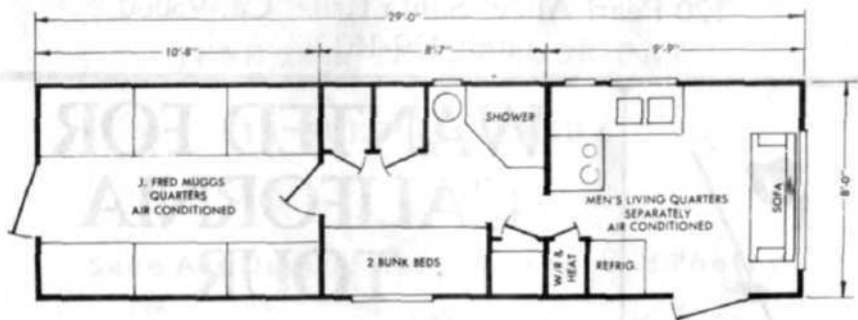
Gunther Gebel-Williams walked two 'baby' elephants in the spec instead of riding with a tiger on a large African bull, probably due to a lack of backstage area/which also gives the ice shows problems.

Circus buffs might like to know that tented

dressing rooms were used for men and ladies and also an adjacent garage and some of the mini-wagons became temporary dressing facilities here. It's fortunate the weather was balmy as the previous week had been very cool with frost and freezing temperatures.

The newly combined Ice Follies and Holiday On Ice will send one of its three units into Wings Stadium, Nov. 4-9, so I assume this is part of a package deal with Felds, for both annual R-B Circus and Ice show at Wings Stadium; but that remains to be seen.

Ice Capades has been sending its International Unit into Wings Stadium in mid or early March for several years, but I doubt that Kalamazoo is big enough to support two ice shows per winter. Holiday on Ice Int'l has been showing Grand Rapids Civic Aud. for Phil Simon for something like 27 years, that involves putting a tank/rink into the auditorium and the floor space there is limited and the Shrine circus has traditionally been a one ring, and one stage set-up, but they have plenty of height.



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## PEOPLE

**DAVE HOOVER**, wild animal trainer with the Beatty-Cole Circus, is the subject of a film presently being made for public TV. It is called "Profile of Dave Hoover" and covers his work on the road and the training of his animals.

**MIKE** and **DON BARBATO**, father and son organ grinder team, worked the Los Angeles County Fair (Pomona, Calif.) this past month

**BOB OWEN** (Spiff the Clown) is doing a series of Clown Lecture/Workshop programs for schools in the east. He toured with the American Continental Circus this past summer.

**CHARLIE SLAVIN**, comedian, was featured in an "Irish Variety Show" presented at San Rafael, Calif., on Oct. 12th.

**WILLIAM SCHMOLL** (was with Ringling in 1937) and **FRANCIS GREEN** visited the Carson & Barnes Circus at Lancaster, Ohio, on Sept. 18th.

**JAMES** (Jimbow) **DECKER** clowned for a church program on Oct. 1 and 3, and will be working a Street Fair, Oct. 25-26, in the Dallas area.

**CHECKERS & PATCHES** (Steve Baker and Gary Ray) worked the Tyler, Texas, Fair, doing their clown numbers and dog act.

**BOB BARNES**, of Jefferson City, Mo., re-

## BETTY WENDANY'S FUNS-A-POPPIN

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ports Circus Vargas played there on a grassy parking lot at a race track.

**DAVID COPPERFIELD**, illusionist, was a guest on the John Davidson TV Show which was aired on Oct. 6th.

**THE RUWILLS**, **ERIK** and **BOBBI ADAMS**, **DeMILLE**, **The KEPPOS**, all with Showtime Follies, visited the Carden-Johnson Circus at Alexandria, La.

**BOB STODDARD** worked hard to promote "Clown Day" at the Dallas Fair. All newspapers were sent articles, plus the names of local clowns for personal tie-ins.

### Miscellaneous

The Pickle Family Circus played a benefit date at Martinez, Calif., on Oct. 4-5.

Scientists have discovered a new species of malaria transmitting mosquitos in Thailand. The mosquitos reportedly breed in the footprints of elephants.

## Magic Time USA

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PATTI ANTALEK

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## PEOPLE

CHUCK JONES, busy Southern California illusionist, flew to Toronto recently to tape a segment for the TV show "Bare Touch of Magic."

LORI MILES, formerly "Lorilini the Clown" is playing the female lead in the Cumberland County Playhouse production of "Dracula" at Vineland, NJ.

PATTI RUCKER was hospitalized for a few days recently at Lansdale, Pa.

MARI JO COULS and JAMES M. COLE plan to catch the opening of the Beatty-Cole Circus at its first indoor date this month.

VASHEK, high wire, WELDE's Bears, HERRIOTT'S horses and DAVE HOOVER's wild animals are among those performers with the indoor Clyde Beatty-Cole Bros. Circus.

SCOTT BEACH and GEOFF HOYLE, of the Pickle Family Circus, are featured in a movie now being made in San Francisco with RUTH BUZZI and CAROL BURNETT.

MONTY MONTANA, Jr's Buffalo Bill's Wild West Show will play at Newhall, Calif., for the summer season next year (June 6-Sep. 7).

ADA SMIEYA and her tigers will be featured at the Circus World Museum in Baraboo next summer.

JON FRIDAY has been set as ringmaster for the 1981 tour of the Hubert Castle Int'l Circus which opens its season in Michigan in January.

## Miscellaneous

The Pickle Family Circus won a half page of photos in the Oakland, Calif., Tribune on Oct. 9th, for its nearby date in Martinez.

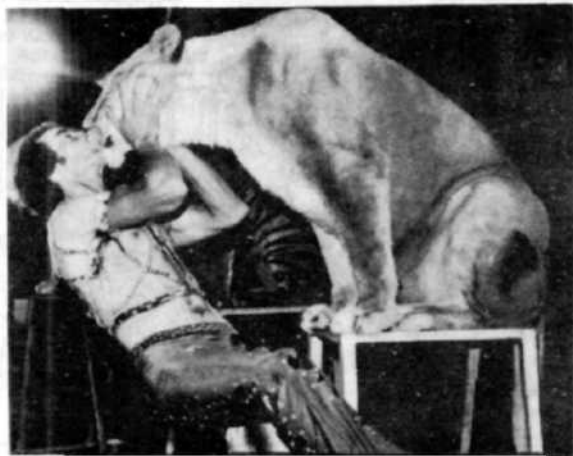
**T**HU STILL IN BANDAGES AND UNABLE TO WIPE OUT THE MEMORY OF HIS THRILLING AND NEAR-FATAL ACCIDENT OF LAST WEEK, WASH IS ABLE TO RETURN TO WORK





Here are a few additional photos of the 1980 edition of Circus Vargas, taken earlier in the year.

That's ringmaster Joe Pon at the top left, and the sensational Franconi Duo are pictured to the right. In the photo below wild animal trainer Wayne Ragen plays with one of his pets.



# WANTED

JIM GROGAN, Sole Owner and Operator of Helicopter Charters, Inc., and Grogan Helicopters, Inc., would like a MALE or FEMALE aerialist doing Single Trapeze, Roman Rings, or Perch for -

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P. S. I am no longer associated with "The Dave Merrifield Helicopter Trapeze Act" in any capacity.

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## REPORT

### ORAK TEMPLE SHRINE CIRCUS

The Orak Temple Shrine Circus at South Bend (Ind) was produced by Carden-Johnson, with performances presented Oct. 4-5, at the Morris Civic Auditorium.

In addition to the pre-show Shrine Band Concert, the program featured: *The Dimwits*, acrobatic comedy; Talking gag with Hank the clown; *Countess Von Albert* and her Amazing Dobermans; Clown Talking bit; The Burkett Duo, hanging perch; Paul Bachman, juggling; Hank the Clown and Balloons; Joe Horwath's Chimps; Intermission; The Claytons, whips and rope spinning; Paul Bachman, unicycling and juggling; Miss Lydia, single trapeze; Mario Von Albert & Co., balancing; Kramer & Co., illusions (Palanquin, Sawing of a Lady, Vertical Sword Cabinet, Cremation, Crystal Casket); Clown with Swan Balloon, animal; Dondi the elephant with Phil and Francine Schacht.

The Carden-Johnson unit was under the direction of Don Johnson. Show organist was Steve Steffani and the announcer was Kent Clayton.



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## CIRCUS QUIPS . . . . .

BY KARL J. BISCHOFF

**IF POLLUTION . . .** gets any worse you can expect some showman to come up with a new elephant act . . . walking on air.

**AFTER** looking at the price of eggs for breakfast on some shows it's hard to believe they came from a little scratch feed.

**BEFORE CREDIT CARDS MOST SHOW PEOPLE** always knew how much they were broke.

**THEY SAY . . .** that the dollar is weak in the world market . . . IT AIN'T doing so good on some shows either.

**ONE THING . . .** about the early alarm on some shows that is sounded early in the morning it never arouses a showmans better NATURE.

**FAMOUS TALES AND FABLES . . .** Make any deal . . . our salesmen are instructed to write every order.



## MAILBAG

FROM TOM PICCARD

On my trip South, I stopped in St. Augustine (Fla) and met George (Bumpy Anthony) Hulme and his wife Eva. Bumpy is fighting a painful and crippling battle with old age and arthritis. The many falls and stunts he performed in the name of show biz have taken their toll. But

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Ask for

LEE ECUYER

it has not changed his youthful outlook on life nor has it dulled his mind.

I spent quite some time visiting and he seemed to enjoy recalling many events of his long and famous career as a clown. I'm not old enough to have seen him work, but from what I have heard from many others who worked with him he was one of the greatest.

Eva and Bumpy are two super people and he feels that most of his old friends are gone now but surely there are still some out there, if so Bumpy would like to hear from them. Write to him at: P. O. Box 1674, St. Augustine, Fla. 32084.

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Sedalia, Missouri 65301

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# in the NEWS

## NO FUNDS - NO PARADE

(The following item has been rewritten from an Oct. 4th release by Associated Press, that was date-lined Baraboo).

A lack of funds has wiped out all hopes for a repeat of the big July 4th parade held in Baraboo, Wisc., this past summer.

William L. Schultz, director of the Circus World Museum, reports that parade organizers were unable to get sufficient financial commitments to hold a 1981 parade.

However, Schultz remains optimistic about the chances of staging a 1983 parade to commemorate the centennial of the start of the Ringling Bros. Circus in Baraboo.

Baraboo firms had chipped in \$30,000 to help pay for last summer's parade, which featured the many, horse-drawn wagons from the Circus World Museum, operated by the Wisconsin Historical Society.

Donations toward the 1981 parade came to only \$6,000 when the decision was made not to hold the event this coming year.

## AVAILABLE

### BOOKING FOR REMAINDER OF 1980 AND FOR THE 1981 SEASON

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## Notice

ED MIGLEY reports the Shrine Circus dates for both the Irem Temple at Wilkes-Barre, Pa and Aleppo Temple (Boston) have been signed and committed to Circus Odyssey. His show has just purchased a new 1981 Loadstar tractor and 45 ft. Southern semi which will be used to haul the expanded circus equipment.

## In Memoriam

VIVIAN JACOBI (78) died in her sleep, on Oct. 1st, at her home in Covina, Calif., where she lived with her sister. Burial was at Forest Lawn Cemetery in Covina.

## GREAT CIRCUS BOOKS

Circus Moves by Rail . . . . .	\$35.00
(signed by Fox)	
Tom Mix and Tony - pb . . . . .	6.50
Circus Lingo (McKennon) pb . . . . .	5.00
History of Circus (Speaight) . . . . .	20.00
Barnum Presents Jenny Lind . . . . .	20.00
Circus Art of Andrew Ducrow . . . . .	25.00
Pop-out Card - Shows Coney Island Joint . . . . .	3.00
Burgess - Circus Techniques - pb . . . . .	6.00
Wildsmith - Circus (Juv.) pb . . . . .	4.50
Sanders - How to be Comp. Clown . . . . .	11.00
Yulsman - Color Photo Simplified (Photographer 7 yrs RBBB)	5.50
Colorful World of Circus (signed) . . . . .	7.50
Behind The Big Top (signed) . . . . .	17.50
(Carousels) Where Horses Gone? (Juv.)	4.50
What Happened at Circus (Beatty)	6.50

**FRANK BARRY**

707 S. Warnock St. Phila. Pa. 19147

**BILLY BARTON (Continued)**

... **BOBBY HUBER**, with the Zoppe riding act all season playing rodeo dates, is due to join the riggers in San Antonio.

**SAD NOTE: TONY SMAHA, Sr.** continues to languish in a comatose condition and Inga and young Tony call every day to check on Papa Tony's progress. His eyes are now open but he is recovering from a bout with pneumonia. . . **MAE WEST**, who suffered first a mild stroke and then a second, more severe one, is out of intensive care. Her speech is impaired, according to reports, and it is very doubtful this marvelous woman will ever be active again. . . Also in serious condition, suffering from cancer, is another American institution, the legendary **KATE SMITH**.

**SNAPSHOTS: FRANK COOK**, past high wire comedic great, now has a trailer park in Dade City, Fla., called "Manny Mansions RV Park" . . . **SATANI DEMON**, will not be in Baltimore after all - obviously - since he's in Texas! He tells me he bought a second motel in Wildwood (NJ) right across the street from the one he already owned. That's one sure way to eliminate competition! . . . Little **FRANKIE GALAMBOS** blows the bugle call for one hour and then half-hour. . . **JACKIE** and **HEIDI KRAUSE** (Ronritas) are playing their first date all on their own and on opening night their parents sent the girls a huge bouquet of flowers. Don't worry, Mom and Dad, your girls are doing well and we love them! . . . **CIRCUS VARGAS** will day and date the San Antonio Shrine Circus. . . **MACK ESH-LEMAN** is running the pie-car and makes terrific tuna fish and egg salad sandwiches.

**BILL** and **TRUDY** report seeing **LINDA** and **LOLLY ZACCHINI** when they visited the Fair in Memphis, also **Galla Shawn**, and **Buzz Cuttin** - all four were on the midway

# ATTENTION

## ANIMAL BUYERS AND SELLERS

I will have a semi truck going to Cape Girardeau, Mo., for the wild animal sale.

Anyone needing animals hauled please contact me.

### BILL RIVERS

## 714-877-2827

with concessions. The circus produced by **Eddie Zacchini** had the following talent: **Frank** and **Estrelita**, **The Flying Lanes**, **Fay** and **Rosie**, **Dime** and **Connie**, **The Kolmedys**, **Cristiani's** leopards, trampoline and juggling, also **Keith** and **Kathy Killinger**, **Leo Mascitto** and ringmaster **Carl Strong**.

I am distressed to hear that **JESSE REYNOSA** fell overboard from a fishing vessel and was drowned. Those are the only details I know at this time.

A minor accident occurred opening day

(Continued on Page 30)

THE VARG-ELEPHANTS  
c/o Circus Vargas  
P. O. Box 620  
Lakewood, Calif. 90712

Dear Ms. Tata:

We the undersigned are forced to refute your claim in the Sept. 22nd issue of the Circus Report claiming Buke as the only performing and breeding elephant in the country.

Now, Mr. Buke may have a great publicity agent, but we lucky ladies of the ring have not one, not two, but three, hot-blooded, (yeah! Gardner) rip snortin', all-he-man male pachyderms right here in Vargas City.

*This smile across our lips and gleam in our eye did not come from the peanuts the kids throw us either.*

And, as everyone knows, these guys perform in the ring almost as good as out of it.

We are sorry to burst your illusion, but Gardner, Petely and Tusko (he's the cuddly one) have gone ahead with their own breeding program without being in conjunction with the U. S. Government. (Does that mean they have to have a permit for that too?).

Most sincerely,

X X X X X X X X X

Toppsy, Sue, Gip, Toosh, Hatti, Kate, Lottie, Minnie and Boop

P. S. Sorry we cannot send a sperm count, but at a time like this who keeps score?

Expectantly,

X X X X

Lottie, Toosh, Toppsy, and "it wasn't my fault" Gip

**BILLY BARTON (Continued)**

when the flying act spreader broke and a hook struck one of the prop men (Charlie) in the head and required a number of stitches. The wound was ugly and deep but Charlie was back on the floor the next day with only a small bandage and a large headache.

**SIGHTS TO BEHOLD:** Bill Strong playing "Farmer Bill" every ayem, getting up early to feed and tend the stock. . . Betty Huber cat-napping in a laundry cart. . . Rex Young drinking generic beer (Generic beer??) . . . Sarah Zoppe, standing in the pouring rain screaming at son Davide to let her out of the dog pen. Now, Davide, is that any way to treat your mother?

**JOANNE PINSON** is making absolutely gorgeous rhinestone necklaces, bracelts and ear rings which sister Trudy carries mounted on a large board and which all the gals are going ga-ga over. The creations are really great and do not "catch" on wardrobe or in one's hair and thus become unfastened.

The newest BEASLY nominee is **HERBIE WEBER** now called **FIDEO BEASLY**. How he acquired his Beasly name is like this: I

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Send Photos and Description

asked him one day just before finale why at our age he and I were still playing circus and in Herbie's customary droll manner he replied: "We're just like old trick dogs. They don't know why they're still out there either!". Between San Antonio and Ft. Worth the perennial Herbie will fly to San Francisco to play a vaudeville date for Uncle **SID KELLNER**.

**HANNEFORD** Circus has signed **DANUSKA** for the 1981 tour (as I reported earlier) and has commissioned **GEORGE da DEPPO** and **SENIOR RAI** to design a winter themed aerial ballet. Danuska and her husband will also be doing their aerial perch. . . Tommy is currently negotiating for a sensational new comedy car act with a different approach and not yet performed in the USA. . . It is now official that **BILL GOLDEN** will be working the Hanneford tiger act and there exists the possibility that Tommy will revive the Sanger Riding Academy; and despite her protests don't eliminate the possibility that **STRUP-PI** may yet re-emerge with her **PRINCESS TAJANA** trapeze act.

Author/publisher **JOHN McCONNELL** recently reviewed with me the results of some

(Continued on Page 31)



INTERNATIONAL

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JOHN WINN, President

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— A COMPLETE 2 HOUR SHOW —

## BILLY BARTON (Continued)

of his research for the history of the Hanneford family, the book he has penned, and so far this research has taken him to 22 states, Canada, Mexico, England, Ireland and Scotland. He has talked to over 110 persons and has compiled hundreds of hours of interviews on tapes along with the originals of countless documents. And, you kids think writing books is easy !!!

RON and PAM PERRY enlightened this old Beasleyite that on Barton Springs Road in Austin is a fabulous park named after Uncle Billy Barton. Since the cat is out of the bag I may as well confess: Uncle Billy is a blacksheep Beasley. It was he who masterminded the at-

tack on the Alamo, having had for first cousins John Wilkes Booth Beasley and Benedict Arnold Beasley - Uncle Billy Beasley is actually the illegitimate off-spring of Chief Sitting Bull Beasley and developed his craft at the knee of Daddy Bull Beasley during the highly imaginative and successful raid on General Custer Goodbody.

SEE you down the road, luvs.

The Post Office reports they are no longer able to deliver *Circus Report* to the following people, who apparently have changed their address and left no forwarding notes.

Mary Bieszczat  
Diane Wilson

Fess Reynolds  
Kent Clayton

## NOW BOOKING ACTS for 1981 - 1982 Tour

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