



America's Favorite Circus Weekly

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The Spring Tour

The Lewis Bros. Circus, owned and operated by Jimmy Silverlake, opened its 1973 season with clear skies and a packed house at Freetown, Ind. on April 27th.

Following the premaine show the next jump was 45 miles to St. Paul, Ind. where the show hit cool weather and played to fair crowds.

The show's policy of presenting a 6 and 8 p.m. performance is working out very good. The two other Silverlake family shows (Fisher Bros. and Clark & Walters) are also finding this system is a success. Often they end up doing three shows in a single day.

Many Circus Fans have visited Lewis Bros. Circus and report "the show looks good and has a fine performance."

At South Vienna, Ohio, Lewis Bros. performers had to compete with a nearby passing tornado, which was plainly visible from the backdoor. Fortunately the storm moved in the opposite direction, as many of the spectators ran out of the tent to watch the serie twister dance along Highway 40.

M. WILSON SHOW

Acts appearing on the Mark Wilson TV Show "Magic Circus" on Sunday evening, May 20th included:

Mark Wilson - illusions
The Fergus Troupe - trampoline
The Murrillos - balancing
Ramar, the Gorilla

Time for Action

The director of the Knoxville, Tenn. Zoo has filed a complaint with the Federal government over the condition of a tiger that he recently purchased. His complaint charges the tiger's former owner, William Hampton, of the Inland Zoo and Livestock Co. of Norco, Calif. was mistreating the animal.

Guy Smith, III, says he was told the tiger was 5 yrs old when it was actually 14 yrs old. It was described, he added, as being a fine specimen, yet was in the worst condition he had ever seen.

The tiger, he charged, was shipped in an open crate, with no provision for water or food. The crate was described as being "inadequate" with no proper ventilation for the animal.

leopard attack

A performing circus leopard attacked an eight year old girl at Mt. View, Cal., on May 18th. The girl, Jeannette Shepherd, was visiting the circus with some family friends when the attack occurred.

Local hospital officials said the girl suffered cuts on her neck. She was in good condition, they added.

The circus was not presenting a performance when the attack took place. But rather it occurred during a rehearsal session with the leopard.

The animal was placed in quarantine at the Santa Clara Humane Society for a routine check in case of rabies.

playing in clover

Just imagine a billowing red and green tent (with some blue and gold trim) Listen to that music of the opening. Step inside and see the happy faces of the big crowd. Smell the green grass, mostly clover, that comprises the center of the athletic field at Gilroy High School (on May 17). John Strong at the mike announcing, and the circus unfolds for the next hour an a half, an all too short a time.

I saw ponies, dogs, a parrot and Nina the elephant doing things one expects of well trained and well cued animals.

Among the other performers was Chester Cable, in his usual good form and his overwhelming foot juggling number. Watching him perform creates memories that may never be duplicated.

Cotton candy, sno-cones and hot dogs were there for those who wanted them. The clowns offer joyous routines with magic, balloons and other things clowns are expected to do.

There are several new faces on the show this year, all very good. Some of the old faces are missing, but still remembered by those of us who have been following John Strong for many years.

John Strong truly gives us an 1869 circus in the year of now - 1973.

..... Vivian Carr

TV PLANS

The baby elephant "Tika", owned by Smokey Jones and presented by Miss Kari, will be featured on a TV special called "Rock in the Palace."

The show will be televised on June 1st, with a showing time set for 12 noon to 1 p.m. on the West Coast, and from 1 to 2 p.m. on the East Coast.

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NEW SHOW

A 20 date tour has been announced for the recently organized Canadian Circus, headed by Ross Marshall. The show will be featuring the Coronas Troupe in its program, as well as in several top key positions.

The tour, in Canada, will get under way on Aug. 13th at Woodstock, N.B., as a trial run. They will play sports arenas and hope next year to have at least 20 weeks.

The Coronas will be presenting the aerial motorcycle, high wire, unicycles and sawpole numbers at each performance. They will also serve as staff personnel, with Charles (Sr) coordinator; George, associate producer; Serge, boss props and supt.; Charles, Jr., floor manager and Rose, wardrobe.

Acts reportedly signed for the upcoming tour are:

The Rock Smith Flyers
Rex and Eva Williams - elephants
Albert and Jeanette Rix - bears
Fornasari Family - clown band, etc.
Timmermans - juggling and roly boly
Lucio Cristiani - riding and leopards
The Cassidy Girls - globes and ladders
Frank Varga - producing clown

Officials of the show include:

Ross Marshall - president
G. J. Goleff and M. M. Corney - v.pres
John Hummel, Jr. - secretary
John R. Murray - treasurer
Arthur Diegel - comptroller
David McLaren - musical director
Bill Doll & Co. - press representative

Rare Bones: Unearthed

TOKYO (AP)—The Chinese government reported today that the near-perfect skeletons of two 300,000-year-old elephants were unearthed late last year in the eastern province of Anhwei.

Hsinhua, the official news agency, said the elephants were the first "Paleoxpon Namadicus" ever found in China.

A Monkey Pulls The Switch

London

Minutes before a circus show was due to be staged at a concert hall, all the lights in the auditorium went out. Frantic electricians located the fault. A chimpanzee had thrown the master switch.

PEOPLE

PETE KORTES is looking for side show acts for July dates in Hawaii.

DAVE TWOMEY visited the John Strong Circus at San Mateo, Calif. last week.

KEN MILLER (Clown) is pictured in full color on the cover of the Royal Int'l Circus program book.

BEVERLY ALLEN visited the Royal Int'l Circus at Tulare, Calif. on May 21st.

ENIO DOMINICI, sword balancer, worked with Polack Bros. Circus during that show's San Francisco, Calif. engagement.

BOBBY BEROSINI's featured gorilla died last week.

RICHARD CARR joined the clowns on John Strong's Circus at Gilroy (May 17) and ended up in the hair growing machine.

CHET THOMAS (a promoter with the Hargrove Productions) will marry Maria Arrieta in Chicago, Ill. on June 2nd.

BROWNIE SILVERLAKE, owner of Clark & Walters Circus, recently underwent surgery at Madara, Ind. It is expected that he will be back on the show in about six weeks.

LUMIA, The Lady Clown (Dorothy Sunshine) operates a clowning school for youngsters at Hudson, N.Y. She was formerly on the Emmett Kelly Jr. Circus.

HANABEL, a lady Clown, works as "Moppet Greeter" at Kiddie Land Coney Island, N. Y. It's her second year on the job.

HENRY SELMAN, of Brooklyn, N.Y., has been clowning with the Pan American Circus.

MIKE NAUGHTON (Tosco, the Clown) has just returned from 2 weeks in England. His first job back was at the Riverdale Presby. Church and all went well until a gust of wind blew his juggling plates all over the Henry Hudson Parkway, in the Bronx, N. Y.

BERNIE (Ko Ko) KALLMAN is a member of Clown Alley on the Beatty-Cole circus.

CHESTER CABLE is off the road this week while building a stage and additional seats for the John Strong Circus.

sawdust trail by M. L. Dupont

A baby bison was born at the La. Purchase Gardens & Zoo in Monroe, La. last week.

Mattel, Inc., parent firm of Ringling Bros. & Barnum & Bailey, reported a \$32.4 million loss for the past fiscal year. It is their second year loss in a row.

The current issue of True magazine has pictures and a short article about the Circus World Museum.

Fisher Bros., Carson & Barnes and King Bros. criss-crossed each others route in Oklahoma and Texas. Often they drove through the same towns.

Dave Knoderer, drummer and side show manager on Clark & Walters Circus, has purchased a 44 key calliope and a 14 ft. Wells Cargo trailer to carry it in. His sister, Paula, will join the show to play the calliope.

Kenny Dodd, is producing clown and mail agent on the Beatty-Cole Circus again this season.

Dutch LeClair is now working advance for Clark & Walters Circus.

Rudy Bros. Circus will follow RBBB's Blue Unit into Boston, Mass. The Ringling show was there May 15-28, while Rudy will play there June 8-17.

Dodo, the Clown (CFA's M. L. Dupont) worked the opening of the La. Purchase Gardens & Zoo at Monroe, La. on May 6th.

Bucky Steele's elephants won a considerable amount of publicity when they decided to take a nap at an intersection in Omaha, Nebr. Needless to say traffic was tied up for some time until the bulls were gotten up and moved off the street.

PAUL HUDSON, formerly of the Ringling Show, is working promotions at Cleveland, Ohio, for Hargrove Productions.

FRED REID (CFA of Phoenix, Ariz.) made a miniature reproduction of the John Strong Circus, which John proudly displays in his private trailer.

CLASSIFIED

WANTED - CIRCUS LITHOGRAPHS for my collection. Truck and Railroad Shows. Shows most wanted: Mighty Haag, Gollmar, Christy Bros., Sparks, Sells-Floto and Gentry Bros. Will pay premium price. R. G. Gore, 332 West 23rd St., Jacksonville, Fla.

FOR SALE - Circus photos and other show items. For list write: J. Beardsley, 122 North Bassett St., Madison, Wisc.

WANTED - Ringling-Barnum program for 1920 and RBBB route sheet for 1927 and 1938. Write to: Don Marcks, 525 Oak St., El Cerrito, Calif.

The Negotiations Game

A three day stand scheduled for Monroe La., has been cancelled by RBBB's Blue Unit. That date has now been replaced by a July 20-22 stand at Alexandria, La.

The change in towns was announced after circus and civic center officials were unable to reach an agreement on the question of sales percentages. The major problem, said a civic center official, concerned the sale of concessions. The circus wanted 100% of the concessions and we just couldn't do it.

Last year the Red Unit played Monroe, La., and grossed about \$80,000 for their five shows. Their share of the concession money amounted to \$9,000.

CIRCUS SHOW

Again this year the circus program at The Circus World Museum (Baraboo, Wisc.) will be presented under the big top. The show runs about 40 minutes and is being offered twice a day. After July 1st there will be three shows a day.

Featured in the 1973 program are the Torreanis Troupe, and Johnny Cline, who is presenting his liberty horses, elephants and ponies. Jim William (Happy, the Clown) and Paul Luckey, ringmaster and announcer are also a part of the show.

HAMID-MORTON CIRCUS

.. by PAT BISSONETTE

When the Hamid-Morton Circus played Cherry Hill, N.J. (May 10-13) they were sponsored by the Camden County Assoc. for Retarded Children. The four day stand drew good business and was well received.

The program is a fast moving show, produced by George A. Hamid, Jr. Music for the program is under the direction of Al Youngman, while Mike Klucker (clown) was serving as substitute announcer.



Clowns on the show include Gary Peterson, producing clown; Joe "Skippy" Schmitt; Donna Schmitt; Chris Minot and Ralph Duke. Their Restaurant and Love Mating Machine skits are hilarious.

Acts presented here were:

Bill Golden - wild animals, ends with a tiger and lion riding an elephant, and a lion kissing him.

Miss Kaylena - doves of all colors
Princess Ming Wong - hair hang/balancing
Los Galambos - aerial feature
Golden Mist - horse and cowboy routines
Dianne's goats Duke's liberty ponies
The Great Cardona - could swing
Herta Klauser - bears
Ayala - teeterboard troupe
Carlow, The Wazzans, DuVal - balancing
Herta Klauser - elephants (5 plus baby "Tina" in specialty routine)
Web Number - Hawaiian Holiday
The Phillips, The Dukes, Cimse - dogs
Reynoso Bros. - Pirates of the Air
Antar & Co., The Ayala Troupe and Danny & Trina - risley acts
Jet Space Car - a thriller as car dashes down track, makes a loop and lands in a canvas tub.
Finale - entire show company

Oakland Tribune Thurs., May 10, 1973 19-K
Australian Camels Sent to America

SYDNEY — Fifty-two Australian female camels have been shipped to North America for placement in zoos and circuses in the United States. Canada and Mexico. The camels are descended from herds brought to Australia in the last century, when they provided the only sure transportation of supplies in the arid interior.

ROUTES

Allen's Petting Zoo
 May 30-Jun 10 Sacram'to, Ca

Beatty Cole Circus
 May 28 Philadelphia, Pa
 29 Glen Burnie, Md.
 30 Annapolis
 31 McLean
 June 1 Rockville
 2 Aberdeen
 3 Englewood, N.J.

Hubert Castle Circus
 May 28-Jun 2 Calgary, Albta

Circus Kirk
 May 28 Woodbridge, Va.
 29 Ashland
 30 Louisa
 31 Stowardsville
 June 1 Culpeper
 2 Gaithersburg, Md
 3 Silver Springs

Clyde Bros. - Blue Unit
 May 29-30 Marquette, Mich
 31 Iron Mountain
 June 1-2 Houghton
 3 Escabe

Clyde Bros. - Red Unit
 May 29 Peterborough, Ont
 30 Niagara Falls
 31 St. Catherines
 June 1 Stratford
 2-3 Windsor

Fisher Bros. Circus
 May 28 Grandfield, Okla
 29 Walters
 30 Ryan
 31 Ringling
 June 1 Maritta
 2 Tishomingo
 3 Caddo

Hamid-Morton Circus
 May 31-Jun 3 Paterson, NJ

Happytime Circus
 May 30-Jun 3 Ukiah, Calif.

Hoxie Bros. Circus
 May 28 East Chicago, Ind
 29 Aurora, Ill
 30 Elmhurst
 31 Streamwood
 June 1 No. Chicago
 2-3 Milwaukee, Wsc

Kaye Continental Circus
 May 28-29 Jackson, Mich

King Bros. Circus
 May 28 Ft. Riley, Kans.
 29 Houlton
 30 Seneca
 31 Hiawatha
 June 1 Clarinda, Iowa
 2 Craston

Lewis Bros. Circus
 May 29 Noblesville, Ind.
 30 Roachdale

Miller-Johnson Circus
 May 26-28 Kansas City, Kans.
 29-31 Omaha, Nebr.
 June 2 Waukegan, Ill.
 3 Appleton, Wisc.

Ringling's Blue Unit
 May 29-Jun 3 Providence, R.I.

Ringling's Red Unit
 May 28-Jun 5 Philadelphia, Pa

Royal International Circus
 May 28 Vallejo, Calif.
 29 Petaluma
 30 Roseville

Rudy Bros. Circus
 May 29-30 San Luis Obispo, Ca

Sells & Gray Circus
 May 28 Galax, Va.
 29 Wytheville
 30 Verona
 31 Harrisonburg
 June 1 Front Royal
 2 Sterling Park

John Strong Circus
 May 28 Lakeport, Calif.
 29 Redding
 30 Woodland
 31 Manteca
 June 1 Turlock
 2 Oakdale
 3 Sonora

..... CARNIVALS

American Eagle Shows
 May 27-31 Mead, Nebr.
 June 2 Nebraska City

D. L. Manning Shows
 May 28-Jun 2 Jefferson, Pa.

Don's Amusement Enterprises
 May 28-Jun 3 St. Cloud, Minn

James H. Drew Shows
 May 28-Jun 2 Oak Hill, W. Va.

Mid-South Shows
 May 28-Jun 1 Selma, Ala.

Rose City Rides
 May 28-Jun 2 Herculanem, Mo

Bill to Make Tiger Official State Fossil

SACRAMENTO (AP) — The sabre-tooth tiger would become the official state fossil of California under legislation sent to the Assembly floor by unanimous vote of the Assembly Governmental Organization Committee.

The committee voted 8-0 for the bill by Assemblyman Alan Sieroty, D-Beverly Hills, after hearing testimony from Dr. Giles Mead of the Natural History Museum in Los Angeles that fossils of the sabre-tooth tiger were discovered in 1881 in the LaBrea tar pits.

He also said the scientific name of fierce prehistoric predator with the long upper teeth is *Smilodon Californicus*.

The proposal was introduced at the request of the Southern California Paleontological Society.

If enacted, it would give the sabre-tooth tiger a place in California Blue Book, the official book of the state, alongside the official state fish, the state rock, state animal, animal, state insect, state reptile and others.

Tobby's Amusements
 May 28-Jun 2 Carthage, Mo.

..... OTHER ROUTES

Grand Ole Opry
 May 27 San Francisco, Cal.

Roller Derby
 June 1 Oakland, Calif.

Rose Festival
 Jun 1-10 Portland, Oregon

Three Caballeros (Disney)
 May 29-Jun 3 Vanc, BC, Canada

Small World (Disney)
 May 30-Jun 3 Salt Lake City,

Holiday on Ice
 thru Jun 3 Mexico City, Mex.

Royal Lipizzan Show
 May 29-30 Rochester, Minn.

notes

Capell Bros. Shows have bought the Siebrand Bros. Circus and Carnival.

A New York columnist reports Miller Johnson Circus will play at Flushing Meadows in New York starting Sept. 8th.

RBBB held auditions for potential new clowns at Madison Square Garden early this month.

Some 115 students have been enrolled in the circus school at the Circus World Museum. The session starts June 1.

Allen's Petting Zoo now has five kiddie rides in addition to its large assortment of petting animals.

Equipment and personnel of the George Matthews Circus has started moving into the mid-west for their opening date in June.

The Children's Magic Circus, currently touring in the east reports that Circus Fans are always welcome on the show.

Business for Polack Bros. at San Francisco, Cal. was reported as being "very good."

De Wayne Bros. Circus cancelled its scheduled date at Bothell, Wash. on May 21st.

show stars

Two entertainment programs have been announced for the Alameda County Fair at Pleasanton, Calif. this year. Both stage shows will be on a free basis during the Fair's July 1-15 run.

Headlining the stage show for July 2-5 will be recording star Bobby Vinton. On that same show will be the comedy team of the Snyder Bros.

For the week of July 6-15 Ken Curtis (Festus, of Gunsmoke) will be featured on the big stage. Also appearing on the second show will be the Margo Dancers and Lou Jacklich, an accordionist.

Readers Please Note!

The children's magazine "Jack & Jill" has a four page article about the Ringling-Barnum Circus, in full color, with photos on each page!

The issue, dated May 1973, is on sale at most local super markets, and sells for 50¢.



The John Strong Circus drew good business at its San Mateo, Calif. stand on May 21-22. This was followed by three shows a day at Pleasanton May 23-25.