



5th Year

March 1, 1976

Number 9

A Double Feature Planned

A full-grown gorilla will be featured on both of the Hoxie Tucker circuses this year. "Mongo" will be with Hoxie Bros. Circus, while "Kongo" will be with Hoxie's Great American Circus. Both animals will be a regular part of the shows' menagerie-side show, and both will travel in their own private air-conditioned semi-trailers.

Work at the Miami (Fla.) winterquarters is nearing completion as the opening dates get close. All equipment has been newly painted and six new diesel tractors, plus a variety of animals were recently purchased for the enlargement of both shows.

Hoxie Bros. Circus will open at Plantation (Fla.) on March 22nd and (Continued on Page 10)



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The Hubler Show

On Feb. 14-15, the Hubler Int'l Circus played at Arlington Sr. High School in Poughkeepsie (N.Y.) drawing good crowds. Both shows on Feb. 15th were overflowing with kids, and they were sitting everywhere, including the space between the seats and ring curbs.

Circus music was provided at the organ, played by Marsha Hunt, while Phil Chandler served as the ringmaster. The show was sponsored by the Tri-Po-Bed Grotto.

Included in the program for the two days were:

- Clown Warm-up - Al Ross, Tom Sink and Dandee
- Marsha Hunt - National Anthem
- Johnny Ladder & Co. - Unsptd Ldr
- Miss Linda - single trapeze
- The Clowns - Sharpshooter
- Susan Sheryll - Afghan dogs
- Chandler & Co. - illusions
- Clowns and Ringmaster - The long distance call
- Aerial Ballet - Spanish web
- Al Vidbel's liberty ponies (8)
- Los Latinos - tight wire
- Intermission --
- Zoppe's Rhesus Monkey Act
- Al Ross - breakaway bike
- Karen Nyce - contortion/balance
- Great Huberto - inclined wire
- Princess Sonya - space wheel
- Al Vidbel - elephants (3)

..... Pat Bissonette

PEOPLE

HARRY MORRIS, former RBBB advance man and most recently a ticket taker at Shubert's Theatre in Chicago, is seriously ill and would enjoy cards and letters. Write him at: West Side Veterans Adm. Hospital, 820 So. Damen, Chicago, Ill. - 60612.

JOHN STRONG, Jr., is writing a book about Frank Lentini, a feature side show performer, with the help of Mrs. Lentini.

HARRY B. CHIPMAN is doing advance work for Wallace & Rogers Circus.

A Strange One

(The following item appeared in a recent issue of the Oakland (Calif) Tribune.

"Some wag with an odd sense of humor took out a billboard in Walnut Creek and listed the name and phone number of David Duarte who has a men's salon, as the one to call for free tickets to a circus. The circus is nonexistent and when Duarte tries to explain this to people who call they get a bit riled."

THE CIRCUS REPORT is published each week by Don Marcks, 525 Oak St., El Cerrito, Calif. 94530.

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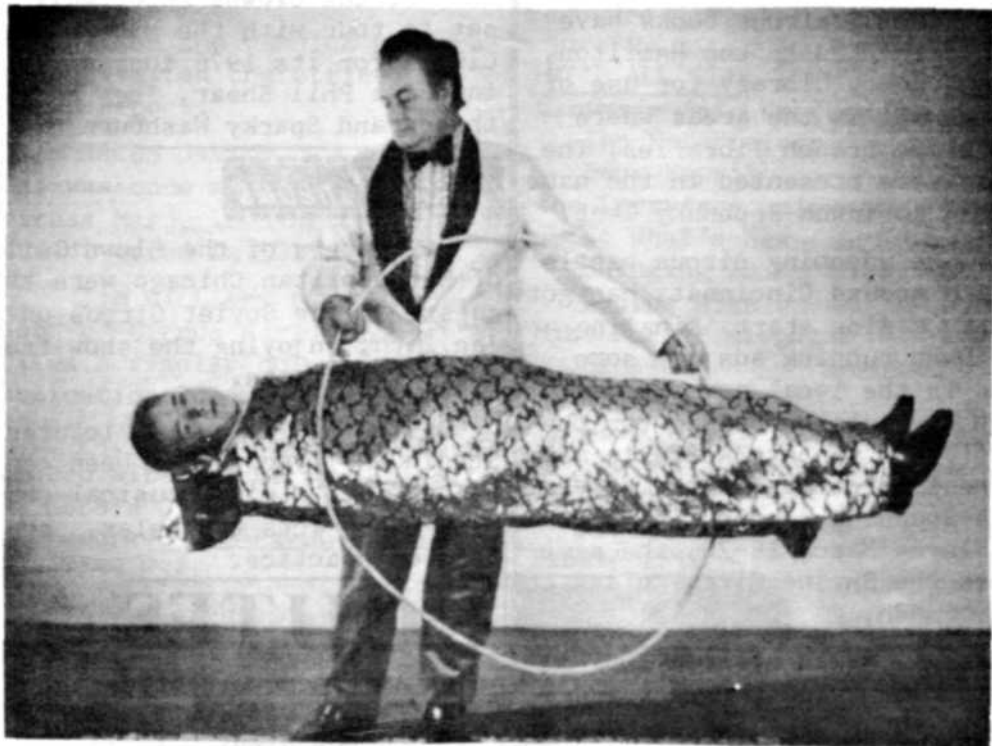
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OHIO REPORT

.....by DON SANDMAN

The John Robinson-Loyal Repensky CFA Tent held their annual election of officers on Feb. 14th at a special Valentine's Day Banquet. Elected for the coming year were: Mike Crone, President; Joan Woods, First Vice President; Don Sandman, Secretary-Publicity; Gale Ahrens, Treasurer; Bob Hoban, 24 Hour man; Charles Stanley, Contracting Agent; Bob Merkle, Transportation and O. H. Frommeyer, Chaplain Emeritus.

Bill Goulding, CFA Chairman of the Book Committee, reported that some 20 circus books have been presented to the Hamilton, Ohio, County Library for use of the people in the areas where there are branch libraries. The books were presented in the name of the Robinson-Repensky Tent.

The upcoming circus battle in and around Cincinnati has got off to a slow start. Ringling has been running ads for some time in the local newspapers. They have also arranged for the display of Johnny Zweifel's miniature 1918 circus at the Northgate Shopping Center. It will be displayed March 16-20, the same dates the Shrine Circus plays at the Garden.

The Syrian Shrine Temple has put out window cards, and is running newspaper and TV ads for their show. The advance sale is reportedly very good and so all concerned expect good crowds at every performance.

BOB EMRICO, clown and magician, recently visited magician FELIX SNIPES at a date in Oregon last month.

CLOWNS

Circus clowns reportedly set to tour with the Mid-America Circus for its 1976 tour will include: Phil Shear, Joey Matheson and Sparky Washburn.

Miscellaneous

Members of the Clown Guild of Metropolitan Chicago were the guests of the Soviet Circus on Jan. 25th, enjoying the show from the "best" seats.

The old Columbia Pictures Studio (Hollywood) has been converted into a giant musical complex where acts can relax, perform or practice.

ROUTES

American Freedom Train

to Mar. 4 Dallas, Texas

6-8 Wichita Falls

Black Watch Troupe

Mar. 1 Spokane, Wash.

3 Minneapolis, Minn.

4 Ames, Iowa

5-7 Chicago, Ill.

Royal Lipizzan Show

Mar. 5 Abilene, Texas

6-7 Lubbock

BILLY BARTON



I MUST ADMIT that after two months HARD labor I sit back, drained. The files are empty. "Damn," I think, "I've nothing left to write about. This momentary insecurity is nullified by a knock at the door, the ringing of the phone, or a package of mail, OR the "special show" put on at the Cast Party in Detroit...

KATHY ENGLISH and ANITA KEP PO parodied WALLY & CHERYL..... Little KARL WINN burlesqued EDDY VENTURA....Don Basham WAS Tommy Hanneford - Hanneford made a speech later, while SIGNOR RAI stood behind him with a shovel.. ..and SIGNOR RAI did a take-off on SIR VICTOR, pausing mid-routine to camp: "Oh, I say! DO excuse me while I take my pill!".. ..The Topper came with HARRY DUBSKYS' excruciatingly hysterical lampoon on PHILIP MORRIS with oh so dramatic gestures and sepulchral tones.

What ever happened to BETTY PASCO? Selling antiques in Texas I am told...and to JEANNINE PIVOTEAU? Raising canines in Las Vegas....JIMMY CAVARETTA phoned to say the FLYING MEDALLIONS are not making the Kaye dates. The troupe goes to Europe in June.

Remember the flyer JEEP MILAN? His son, Chuck, is working with the FLYING DELLS. Watch for a really sensational announcement about a special flying act for '77. Unbelievable! CHARLES & SUSIE BRANAM are with TONY STEELE's new act - they also do a cradle act called THE TIFFANYS

....Reason TERRY CAVARETTA is in the Guinness Book of Records: More consistent triples caught by her than any girl-flyer in history!

GRACE MacINTOSH dropped by one day to squire SIR VICTOR and TONY FOSSETT on a shopping expedition to Canada....WALT KING escorted BOBBY GIBBS to Flint to buy a new TV - ALL the WAY to FLINT? IRENE FOSSETT has over ten wigs - yes! she has hair. Like a fuller brush dancing in a hailstorm!

LISA STEWART doing a single trap and neck loop til hubby's arm heals. TEDDY is working lights for Hanneford...ALLEN's PETTING ZOO on tour in California....LEO & CLARINKA MASCITTO in Baltimore awaiting the Allentown (Pa) opening of Garden Bros on Mar. 5....DOREY MILLER made another safari to Sarasota - this time returned with ten baby elephants!

DAVE (Midge) BURNHAM almost got run down by the lead bike in the Hollywood Number (and I'll never tell by whom!) and ZOPPE's fog machine stranded a member of the PLANET OF THE APES who couldn't see to get off

(Continued on Page 12)

THE CIRCUS

Some good acts and a strong band were assembled by Don Francisco for his Pan American Circus engagement at White Plains, N.Y., on Feb. 14-16. It was a one ring show that ran one hour and 50 minutes, with Al Youngman, bandleader and Mike Naughton, producing clown. The other clowns included: Bernie "Ko Ko" Kallman, Don "Sparky" Washburn and Scott Morris.

The program featured:-

Gary Allen - 8 female lions
 Clowns - Baby and Nurse Chase
 Ventura Duo - aerial cradle
 Cimses Pets - trained dogs
 Olinka - aerial feature
 Miss Nada - pony drill
 Clowns - Wash Day
 La Mafalda - sword/dagger balance
 Tino Wallenda - high wire
 -- Intermission --
 The Flying La Rays - flying act
 Clowns - The Balloon Chase
 Napoleon's Roman Riders - riding act
 Clowns - The Sharpshooter
 Murray Hill's elephants (3)
 Bicentennial Flag Display - Finale

.....Pat Bissonette

To The Rescue

The Chicago Police Dept. has been praised for its help in assisting a circus truck and some hungry animals stranded in that city. The big semi-trailer, carrying two elephants, six tigers and a lion, broke a rear axle on Feb. 15th, enroute to a Shrine circus at Madison, Wisc.

The animals were hungry and patrolmen brought in feed, while a relief truck was sent in for the animals.

Producing Syrian
 Shrine Circus

Cincinnati Gardens

Mar. 16 thru Mar. 21

FABULOUS
**HANNEFORD
 CIRCUS**

THRILL
 FIELD

WORLD'S GREATEST
 CIRCUS TALENT



LIVE

IN PERSON

PLANET
 OF THE
 APES



© 1967 Apjac Productions, Inc.
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TOMMY HANNEFORD
 Executive Producer

- + -

GLENN PARKINS
 Executive Director

The CIRCUS at a GLANCE

...by PAUL E. FITZPATRICK, M.D.

Both sponsors and audiences alike are well pleased with the 1976 edition of the Int'l All Star Circus, now playing in the Southern states. The show played College Park (Ga.) on Feb. 10th and Kennesaw (Feb. 14), where John Cooper (Shorty, the Clown) and Richard McGruff, joined them. Both are CFA's and COA's.

Owner Jim Nordmark sees to it that the CFA's 50 Anniversary is getting a plug at each show. Also at Newman (Feb. 8) and Kennesaw, the writer was introduced as the CFA President.

The show is managed by Hines Rucker, while the band is directed by Bob Amato, who also plays trumpet. Dick Stewart is organist and Brady plays drums.

The musical score consists of:
Overture -

No Business Like Show Biz
Another Opening Another Show
Be A Clown
Clyde Beatty Radio March

Terry O'Brien - Fanfare
Samba D'Orto
Sweetest Sounds I Ever Heard
Dear World
I Love You and Don't Forget

Clowns - Reducing Gag
Hot Tamales Rag
Pick-a-Chicken Rag
Miss Randy - Chimps
Thank Heaven for Little Girls
Abba Dabba
Kids
Talk to The Animals

Ventriloquist -
Stop It

Miss Ivy - single trapeze
March - by Schlarbaum
Killing Me Softly
Spring, Beautiful Spring
Blue Danube Waltz
Au Dagus
Hello Dolly

Rucker & Co. - magic/illusions
That Old Black Magic
Arabian Coffee

The Terry Duo - rola bola
El Sombrero
Ca Chitta Samba
Cae' Cae' Samba
Mar Samba

Rucker's Uncaged Leopard
Jungle Queen
In A Persian Market

Intermission
Candyman

Second Half - Overture
Ringling Bros. Grand Entry
Randon's Dogs
Aquarius Theme
Funky Junk

Upton Duo - cradle act
March by Schlarbaum
Serenata
Wintersports Galop

Patti Rucker - foot juggling
It's Alright With Me
How High the Moon
Look For A Star
Samba de Orphue
El Cumanhero

Danny Kerry - hand balancing
Tchaikovsky Symphony # 5
Tonight My Love
My Hero Waltz

(Continued on Page 13)

ROUTES

Carden-Johnson Circus

Mar. 4-6 Odessa, Texas

Hubert Castle Circus

Feb. 28-Mar. 5 Minneapolis,
Minn.

Circus Vargas

Mar. 4-14 Houston, Texas

Cole All Star TV Circus

Mar. 1 Albion, N.Y.
2 Nunda
3 Canandaigua
4 Hannibal
5 Lyons
6 East Rochester

Garden Bros. Circus

Mar. 5 Allentown, Pa.

Hamid-Morton Circus

Mar. 2-7 Kansas City, Mo.

Tommy Hanneford Circus

Mar. 3 Augusta, Ga.
4 Rome
6 Athens

Holiday Hippodrome

Mar. 1 Dalton, Ga.
2 Cleveland
3 Rockwood, Tenn.
5 High Point, N.C.
6 Greenville
7 Fayetteville

Hospitalier Circus

Mar. 4-7 Lansing, Mich.

Hubler Int'l Circus

Mar. 6-7 Decatur, Ill.

Kaye Cont'l Circus

Mar. 1-21 Chicago, Ill.

Ringling-Barnum - Red Unit

Mar. 2-7 Charlotte, N.C.

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Stebbing Royal European Circus

Mar. 2-7 Punta Gorda, Fla.

John Strong Circus

Mar. 1 San Marcos, Calif.
2-3 Oceanside
5 La Punte
6 Hacienda Heights
7 Lompoc

In Memoriam

One of the world's tallest men, Rayford Johnson, died on Feb. 23, of a heart attack, at Perris, Calif. Johnson, who was 55, stood 7 ft. 7 in. tall and had been in poor health for the past several years. He suffered from emphysema and poor circulation, especially in his legs.

Born in Lauderdale, Miss. Johnson became a circus side show feature because he was unable to get a conventional job. People often kicked me in the shins, he recently said, just to see if I was walking on stilts.

YEARS AGO

Pittsfield, Mass.

July 23, 1925

The Ringling Bros.-Barnum & Bailey Circus went through here this morning, enroute from Springfield (Mass) to Albany(NY)

They are on four trains and the trains went through between 5 and 8 a.m. with the last train going through at 6:30 a.m.

FOR SALE

3 Arabian geldings; liberty act matched dapple greys - recently came off the road.

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SAWDUST TRAIL

According to columnist Jack O'Brien, RBBB is planning a third show that will tour on a world-wide route.

Did fans notice the square end top used in TV's recent Roman Circus? It was larger and different than the usual one ring tops seen in Europe.

Do-Do, the Clown, reports his contract with the LA. Purchase Gardens has been renewed for 1976. He appears there each Sunday for 4 hours.

Gene Keeney, formerly known as "The Magical Geney" is out ahead of Bill English's Circus Classic booking for the Magical Land of Oz.

Ringling's Red Unit will come into Monroe (La.) for a weekend date on June 25-27.

Those of you wondering what's happened to agent J. C. Rosenheim will be interested to know he is working for Bob Snowden's Int'l Cavalcade of Stars.

This reporter has been asked to be CFA State Chairman for the State of Louisiana.

... M. L. Dupont

COMMERCIAL ART WORK - Business cards, letterheads, envelopes, etc. - Beverly Allen, P.O. Box 91, Pixley, Ca. 93256 - Phone: (209) 757-3501

From Here and

Kay Rosaire's lions, Zamperla's Riding Act and Hoxie's elephants are off to the Shrine Circus at Miami.

Fornasari Musical Clowns and Zamperla Family are off the Coronas date in West Orange. Co-producer Napalitano is leasing the Pan American Circus title from Don Francisco for the date.

Buck Nolan and Joe Schmidt, Jr. are getting set to tour with Circus Galaxy this season.

Gary Allen's lions and The Flying Lar-Rays work Rochester for the M&M show.

.... Mike Naughton

Show Guests

Visitors seen backstage at the recent Detroit Shrine Circus included: Ian Garden, Ron and Arlene Morris, George DaDeppo, Claire and Henry Barrett, Stanley Book, George Hubler, Grace MacIntosh, Chuck Marine, Tarzan and Jackie Zerbini, The Hall Family, Dennis Zoppe, Bob Atterbury, Paula Boelsem, Leonard Nimoy (film star); George A. Hamid Jr., Gunnar Amandis, Patt Gibbs, Anna Hixon, Chick Johnson, Rassinini, Peggy Kaltenbach, Dr. Levy and Family, Phil and Linda Chandler, Ed and Sue Kenyon, Dick Kolriser (Donkey Ball game), Jon Friday and Mac McGuffin.

HOXIE BROS. (Continued)

will use the same round, one ring big top acquired in 1975. An enlarged side show top, built by the Leaf Tent Co. has already been received.

Show features will include: a show-owned lion act, worked by 18 year old Michael Cecere; the Cortez Troupe of four high wire stars; the Flying Columbians; the Diaz Family; Gary and Zoe Anna Henry; Bradd and Sheilla Frank; Tom Sink; Phil and Linda Chandler; Fred Kitchen, bandleader; Roger Boyd, Jr., side show manager; Margaret Anne, world's smallest lady and The Baron, fire eater and sword swallower. John Hall is general manager and Jim Silverlake is superintendent of the show.

Hoxie's Great American Circus opens at Westchester (Fla.) on Mar. 28th and will use a new 80x160 ft. big top built by the Leaf Tent Co. The tent is red with blue and white trim. All twelve show trucks will also be red, white and blue.

The show features include: the Alberto Zoppe Family of acts (dogs, mechanic, uncaged lion); Billy Gunga Family; Bill Banister; Donna Wilson, the McKays and Rick Paska, elephant man. Bill Hill is general manager and Charles Moyer is bandleader.

KATE HANNEFORD and ROSA GIBBS were both confined to a hospital at Greenville, S.C., with pneumonia.

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BILLY BARTON (Continued)

the stage (Same idiot who was on the bike: ME!).

RASSINI a daily visitor with EDDIE VENTURA in Detroit - it WAS his act, y'know....PETER HAUBNER practicing Chari-Vari with the RAMOS TROUPE....KEPPO SISTERS to split, amicably, after Cincy date in March - Iris to free-lance; Anita to remain with Tommy Hanneford.

"Dress" dog acts come and go but the gentleman (and I DO mean gentleman) who started it all - Sir VICTOR - goes on forever. His season is fully booked which just goes to prove - you can't TOP the original!

Speaking of imitations - TONY FOSSETT says that due to the rash of gorilla parodies he plans to be the almost-human Kangaroo next season....QUASSARS to Grotto Circus in Youngstown this month.....JIMMY DOUGLAS made Rochester for M&M....and GLENN PARKINS' stolen car episode is straight out of the UNTOUCHABLES...involving secret meetings, informants, police action and A RAID that netted nothing - the birds had flown!

Before I forget: Congratulations to JOHNNY HERRIOTT, recently named a "Circus Celebrity".....Acts buying 5th Wheels (or trailers BEWARE of Mobileliner Tires. Hard to get adjustments, replacements! BILLY WOODS blew eight in one season - other acts growling bitterly, so watch those tires, OK?

DUBSKYS ROYAL PALACE Circus began its tour Feb. 29 - runs thru Dec. 5. Show plays shopping centers and sponsored dates in New England, the east coast and in the south. Featured is 6 yr. old JANA and her doves....MARIO BOGINO (son of Carla Wallenda) is with them doing unicycle and clowning....

A 4 yr. old deaf child was mauled by a young, tame 800 lb. lion at the Luthern School for the Deaf in Detroit. Another child pulled the lion's tail. Unfortunate part of the incident was that TV newscasters linked the mauling with the Shrine Circus which had Shriners hopping to squelch the furor. The girl suffered a broken rib and lacerations and is now on the road to recovery.

The 1976 USSR SPORTS ACROBATIC TEAM is on tour in the U.S Entertainment section of a Detroit newspaper headlined: RUSSIAN ACROBATS REALLY FLIPS - BOX OFFICE FLOPS, which is a shame because it is a marvelous show. PAULA BOELSEMS, well known on the west coast is the "Women's Technical Chairman." She and RUSS SAUNDERS (active in film stunt work) have performed together and they were in Saarbrücken, West Germany last year as official USSAF delegates. We hope the show fares better in other cities on its tour.

When TONY FOSSETT was injured recently, yours truly was

(Next Page Please)

PEOPLE

GEORGE ROWE, magician, recently concluded an engagement at Harrah's Tahoe Hotel (Nevada)

DAVE ORR, who has worked for 14 years with the Federal Bureau of Prisons, takes on a new job this month at the Federal Correctional Institute, at Danbury, Connecticut.

FRANK and BERNICE DEAN recently visited the offices of Circus Report.

JACOB JAVITS, U. S. Senator, was once married to circus heiress Marjorie Ringling. They were divorced in 1939.

JIM WILLIAMS (Happy, the Clown of Circus World Museum), writes a regular column for the publication "Clown Chatter."

PAT QUILLEN has been appointed director of marketing for RBBB's Circus World. He formerly worked for Carowinds and Opreyland USA.

TOM and ROBIN BISHOP (aerial performers) have been visiting with W. C. WOOD of the Great Y Circus at Redlands, Calif.

BILLY BARTON (Continued)

breaking in to replace him in the Gorilla Parody UNTIL some wisecracker cracked: "What will they call him - the 'Almost-Male Gorilla!'"

See you down the road, luvs.

Grotto Circus

This year's Grotto Circus at Decatur (Ill.) has been scheduled for March 6-7, and will be produced by George Hubler.

Some of the acts announced for the show program are: Victor Julian; David, Susan, Johnny and Sonja Zoppe; Baron Von Uhl; the Lucky Bros. and the Amandis teeterboard act.

... Allen Babcock

INT'L ALL STAR (Continued)

Clowns - Safe Cracking Gage

The Entertainer

Beux Esprit

The Terry's - unicycle

So What's New

Swinging In

Riding High

Mike Rice - elephant

Camelot

Blue Danube

Hindustan

The Merry-go-round Broke Down

Camelot

Hindustan

Finale Exit - This Is My Country



The ideal way to keep up on show news is to read CIRCUS REPORT each week.

It's just \$12.00 for the year -

Write: Don Marcks, 525 Oak St.,
El Cerrito, Calif. 94530

What's Going On

The annual Damascus Temple Shrine Circus here at Rochester (N.Y.) ran Feb. 18-21 and was produced by the M&M Circus.

The program featured:

Gary Brunke's lions (8)
 The Pharaohs - aerial cradle
 David & Co. and Mario & Co. on unsupported ladders
 Don Philips & Co. - juggling
 Gina and her uncaged leopards
 The Charleys, Les Michaels and Andre, Andre & Co. - acro
 The circus elephants (9)
 Circus Clowns at school
 The Dionnes, The Aguilar and The Dubslys - perch acts
 Victor Julian - dog revue
 Carmen del Molino - aerialist
 Anson Williams - TV star

-- Intermission --

The Flying Lar-Rays - aerialists
 The Circus Clowns
 Feller Boys & Dodo - tightwire
 Bradd Frank - dressage horses
 The Gutis - comedy
 Janos and Lipko - chimps
 Johnny Laddie - rhesus monkeys
 The Wal-Tims, Royal Hungarians and The Vickinas - risley
 The Obandos - high wire
 The Circus Horses
 Johnny Zoppe - Outer Space act

..... Dave Davis

HISTORICAL FACT

For its 1925 season Lowery Bros. Shows, out of Shenandoah (Pa.) operated with two 3 ton trucks and one advance truck.

HAL HAVILAND

"UNDER THE BIG ORANGE"

Feb. 25 - Huntsville, Ala. Circus Vargas still fields the top quality show of all big American tented circuses. Opening for the 1976 season, here in Alabama's Space City is quite in keeping with it's Jet Age charisma and revolutionary new under-canvas-circus techniques.

Innovative mechanized and motorized equipment, experienced personnel in all departments, excellent programming, top-notch performance and costuming, plus superior long-range promotional activities, are the key-note of this year's continuation of the 1975 Circus Vargas success story. The show's 1975 season ran for 53 continuous weeks, an all-time show biz record breaker, overlapping into calendar 1976.



BARNUM
& BAILEY
GREATEST SHOW ON EARTH



WELL, I HAPPN
T' KNOW SHE'S
MARRIED AN
GOT A SON IN
'COLLITCH



ANOTHER ROMANCE
NIPPED IN THE BUD