



3rd Year

December 2, 1974

Number 48

Multi-Unit Show Operation

What must surely be the most complicated promotion ever planned gets underway this week as John Strong launches four big holiday units. Each unit will travel its own separate way, yet on occasion some will merge to play a big date at specific spots where the advance promotion calls for a larger show.

One unit played in Wisconsin last week (Green Bay on Nov. 29 and O'Connell on Nov. 30) with promotion handled by Rose Baker. Among the acts appearing on this unit were: Bill Bishop,

magic; Tex Goetsch, chimp; Sue Belvin, dogs; Ron Perry, juggling/wire; and Paulette Braum, baton twirler. The unit operated under the management of Earl Tegge, of Chicago.

PAL Show OK

Enthusiastic crowds greeted all five performances of the PAL Circus at San Francisco's Cow Palace the weekend of Nov. 16-17. The show was produced by the USA National Circus, directed by Simone Finner, of Hollywood.

Each performance was introduced by Police Sgt. Spelman, and a local color guard unit. The big band did an exceptional job with a minimum of rehearsal time.

Featured on the program
(Continued on Page 12)

On Friday (Dec. 6) a large show will be presented at St. Louis featuring: Robert Zerbini; The Wendanys; The Wal-Tims; Bill Birchfield; Bill Rivers; Jimmy Troy; Tex Goetsch; Tom and Robin Bishop; Sue Belvin; Chester Cable; Harry Jenkins Jr. and Sr; Polly and Nolly Tate; Tom Taylor plus Gregg Homer and Sparky (D. W. Washburn).

This unit will then split
(Continued on Page 8)

The Graduates

The largest class in the history of RBFB's Clown College, a group of 48, graduated at the circus winterquarters in Venice, Fla., on Nov. 16th. The unique graduation program, which served as an audition for the students, featured more than 60 fast-paced clown gags, productions, skits and other numbers associated with clowning.

Some 17 men and 3 women were awarded contracts to tour with the big circus in 1975. They will join the circus for rehearsals early in January before the two show units open.

The Clown College was founded in 1968 and since that time there have been a total of 248 graduates, with 129 of these joining the circus. Today all but six of the RBFB clowns have graduated from Clown College.

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Ground Breaking This Week

Ground breaking ceremonies for the start of construction of Phase I of the new Ringling Museum of the Circus building will take place at Sarasota (Fla.) on Tuesday, Dec. 3rd.



Special guest, Emmett Kelly, as "Wearie Willie" will attend the event and assist in turning over the first shovel of dirt. He will be introduced and presented with a silver shovel by John Hurdle and James Clark, of the Museum.

Circus music will be provided by the Chime Bell Wagon and the recently restored Harp & Jesters calliope, which are a part of the Museum's collection.

The building, designed by Sidney R. Wilkinson, will be fashioned after a 19th Century Parisian circus amphitheatre, with ornamental porticos and Corinthian-capped columns. It will encompass 21,000 gross sq. ft., with a 22 ft. high tiered roof.

The Phase I project is expected to be completed in about nine months, with major areas of the present exhibits to be open at all times. Phase II of the museum's expansion is expected to create new interest and bring new contributions to the museum, making it one of the truly outstanding institutions in the country.

PEOPLE

ED SMITH has signed a contract with RBBB for his second tour in 1975. He'll be clowning

Star Signed

Well known radio and TV personality Arthur Godfrey, has been signed to appear with "The Wonderful World of Horses Featuring The Royal Lipizzan Stallion Show" according to Gary Lashinsky, owner and producer of the show. Mr. Godfrey will appear as a guest star when the show plays in Miami, Lakeland, New York, Jacksonville, Orlando, West Palm Beach and St. Petersburg.

Mr. Godfrey has been an avid lover and breeder of top quality horses all his life. Horse lovers everywhere know of his performing horse "Goldie." During his appearances in the show arena he will be equipped with a wireless microphone through which he will maintain contact from horseback with the audience as he and "Goldie" execute many exciting high school maneuvers.

with the Blue Unit.

MARY HAMILTON, of Ashtabula, Ohio, is a second mother to the Flying Farfan family which toured with the RBB show.

ROUTES

Allen's Xmas Zoo
Dec. 7-24 Oxnard, Calif.

Beatty-Cole Circus
Dec. 2 Ft. Myers, Fla.
3 Naples
4 Port Charlotte
5 Sarasota
6 Pinellas Park
7-8 Tampa

Big John's Eastern Circus
Dec. 6 St. Louis, Mo.
7 Champaign, Ill.

Big John's Indoor Circus
Dec. 6 St. Louis, Mo.
7 Kansas City

Big John Strong's Circus
Dec. 2 Tucson, Ariz.

Hanneford Circus
Dec. 7-8 Canton, Ohio

Royal Lipizzan Show
Dec. 3-4 Toledo, Ohio
6 Canton
7-8 Columbus

..... OTHER DATES

Caterpillar Xmas Show
Dec. 8 San Leandro, Cal.

Golden State Rodeo
Dec. 7-8 Parker, Ariz.

Henry Mancini Concert
Dec. 2 Pittsburgh, Pa.

Ice Capades
Dec. 3-8 Portland, Ore.

Kramien's Magic-Capades
Dec. 7 Grants Pass, Ore.

Texas bird spec a big production

Among top production numbers on the Texas Shrine Circus circuit is the Bird Spectacular, featuring two bird acts, four live female "birds" in cages above the staging area and 14 girls in bird wardrobe working webs. Special musical arrangements by Al Youngman and vocals by Youngman and Ernie McLean set the stage for the spec.

Caged "birds" are Jo Ann Pinson, Tina Munoz, Fritzi Huber and Bev Wazzan. Web girls include Ailee Kay, Beth Nufes, Gina Schrecker, Carin Cristiani, Jeanette Jordan, Cheryl Toca, Julie Ventura, Helen Wilson, Margaret Duke and Shae Chandler.



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Circus Review**

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Chimp Is Blamed

Seven Berkeley (Cal.) residents have filed a \$450,000 suit against a neighbor whose pet chimpanzee, they charge, gave them all hepatitis. All seven claim they came down with the disease as a result of playing with the chimp, which was a popular fixture in the neighborhood.

The suit charges that Jack Goldberg purchased the chimp from a New York animal importer, but failed to notify California health authorities that he planned to keep the chimp as a pet. This was a violation of the California law, the suit states, which requires that wild animals brought into the state must be quarantined and checked by vets to be sure they are not carrying an infectious disease. The chimp, they alleged, "possessed dangerous propensities" to hepatitis.

Last spring, it was stated, Goldberg asked a neighbor to care for the chimp while he was at work. They cared for the animal, fed him, kept him cleaned and took him to visit neighbors and to play in the park.

The entire family all came down with hepatitis, which they claim was passed on to them by the chimp. Two other parties in the suit are asking for loss of wages, saying they were unable to work because they had to be at home to care for those who were ill.

None of those named in the suit required hospitalization, but all incurred extensive expenses in treating the disease, the suit charges.

The chimp was taken to the Stanford University Research Center. Berkeley officials are investigating the outbreak of

PEOPLE

LEONE and TARNYIA, aerial stars, will make their first Australian tour in 1975-76.

BOB EMRICO, clown, has purchased a new walk-in van truck for the 1975 season.

PARLEY BAER had a major role in the movie "Punch & Jody" which premiered on TV last week.

the disease and wonder if other local residents might be suffering from the disease.

The strain of hepatitis with which the chimp was allegedly infected rarely is symptomatic in chimps as it is in humans, the latter developing a characteristic yellow pallor. It is distinct from the strain which commonly infects humans, but works in much the same way, infecting the liver.

Show Titles

The following show titles were used during 1974:---

Allen Bros. Magic Circus
1442 McLendon Ave. S. E.
Atlanta, Ga. - 30307

Allen's World of Magic
Box 17675
Tampa, Fla. - 33612

Allen's Pet Zoo
Box 91
Pixley, Cal. - 93256

Americana Circus
1040 University Road
Des Moines, Iowa - 50265

American Continental Circus
Box 508
Orange, Cal. - 9266
(also used title "Canadian
International Circus")

American Nat'l Circus
4967 Bilmoor Ave.
Tarzana, Cal. - 91356

Bale's Buckeye Soc. Circus
16 North Vine St.
Westerville, Ohio - 43081

Barnes & Daily Circus
R.R. 1 - Box 197-A
Medora, Ind. - 47260

Beatty-Cole Circus
Box 1570
Winter Park, Fla. - 32789

Beck's Circ-o-rama
Route 2
Powell, Tennessee

Carden-Johnson Circus
Rte. 2
Willard, Mo.

Carson & Barnes Circus
Box J
Hugo, Okla. - 74743

Castle's Int'l Circus
1960 Peavy Rd.
Dallas, Texas - 75228

Chambers Bros. Circus
112 Perrin Ave.
Union, S.C. - 29379

Charles Bros. Circus
Box 10186
Sarasota, Fla. - 33577

Children's Magic Circus
Box 205
Sarasota, Fla. - 33578
(in mid-season names was
changed to: Int. All Star
Circus)

Circus Africa
Box 2505
Naples, Fla. - 33940

Circus Berlin
1820 So. Ashland Ave.
Chicago, Ill. - 60608

Circus DeLock & Wild West
218 East Craig St.
Toccoa, Ga. - 30577

Circus International
5321 Rochester Road
Chicago, Ill. - 60618

Circus Int'l Review
Box 1593
De Land, Fla. - 32750

Box 613
Gonzales, Texas - 78629
(also used title Al G.
Clark & Bros.)

Dairyland Circus
(PNE Epox at Vancouver, BC)

Daredevil Circus
(Nov 3-8 Phoenix, Ariz)

Dixie Bros. Circus
3501 Toulouse St.
New Orleans, La. - 70119

Earl Bros. Circus
5619 Antionette St.
Sarasota, Fla. - 33580

Early American Circus
1645 Rucker Ave.
Gilroy, Calif. - 95020

Europorama
223 West Main St.
Medford, Oregon

Fairyland Round-Up
Box 830
Brandon, Fla. - 33511

Fisher Bros. Circus
Rte. 1 - Box 452
Donna, Texas - 78537

Fleckles & Co. Circus
2400 E. Devon St.
Des Plaines, Ill. 60018

Flying High Circus
Florida State University
Tallahassee, Fla.

Fort Pierce Circus
Box 760
Fort Pierce, Fla.

Emergen Bros. Circus

Berosini Int'l Circus
(played mid-west dates during month of October)

Big Top Productions
227 W. Sylvania Ave.
Neptune City, N.J. 07753

Book Bros. Circus
14921 Grand River St.
Detroit, Mich. - 48227

Borger Bros. Circus
4845 North Damen St.
Chicago, Ill. - 60625

Boston Tea Party
(show staged by RBBB Red Unit children at Boston)

Birdwell Circus Prod.
1027 Eastman St.
Zanesville, Ohio

Buckeye Society Circus
1027 Eastman St.
Zanesville, Ohio

Burr's Funorama Circus
R. D. 213 Elm St.
Blackstone, Mass.

Caltech Circus
Calif. Institute of Technology
Pasadena, Cal. - 91109

Circus Kingdom
662 Independence Ave. S.E.
Washington, DC - 20003

Circus Kirk
Box 181
East Berlin, Pa. - 17316

Circus Royale
(Aug 13-17 Altamont, NY)

Circus Vargas
13666 East 14th St.
San Leandro, Cal. - 94578

Circusland on Parade
Box 222
Talavest, Fla. - 33588

Circus World on Parade
Rte. 4 - Box 550
Mission, Texas - 78572

Clyde Bros. Circus
Box 14682
Oklahoma City, Okla.

Cole All Star TV Circus
Box 1690
De Land, Fla. - 32720

Continental Circus
Box 10186
Sarasota, Fla. - 33577

Dailey Bros. Circus

Franz Bros. Circus
Nelsonville, Wisc.

Gamma Phi Circus
Ill. State University
Normal, Ill - 61761

Garden Bros. Circus
505 Eglinton Ave. West
Toronto, Ont., Canada

Garden Int'l Circus
1507 Laurel St.
Sarasota, Fla. - 33577

George Matthews Circus
604 Ferry Street
Martinez, Cal. - 94553

Great Y Circus
1020 La Cresta
Redlands, Cal. - 92373

Hamid-Morton Circus
Steel Pier
Atlantic City, N.J.

Hamilton Mini-Circus
Mar 28-30 Hamilton, Ohio

Hanneford Circus
705 Sarasota Bank Bldg.
Sarasota, Fla. - 33577

Happytime Circus
Box 269
Windsor, Calif - 95492

JOHN STRONG OPERATION (Cont'd)

up to present a show at Kansas City and Champaign (both on Dec. 7th). The Kansas City Unit will be managed by Chester Cable, while Betty Wendany will be managing the show at Champaign.

A third unit, with John Strong at its helm, opens in Houston on Dec. 9th, while the West Coast Unit, will be managed by Ed Russell, and opens on Dec. 11th at Visalia (Calif.)

At Kansas City the show will feature: George Roe, magic; Kevin Whitehead; Robert Zerbin; Sue Belvin; Bill Rivers; Chester Cable and Anden's poodles.

Acts scheduled to join the west coast unit include: Bernice and Frank Dean; Happy, the Clown; George Perkins; Tom Hanford; Ed Russell; etc.

In March a John Strong unit will open under canvas in Southern California. Another unit is scheduled to open in February, while John's "Circus of Wonders" show will start its 1975 tour at 29 Palms (Calif.) on Jan. 18th. All dates for this latter show have been booked by John Strong, who is putting the show into the small west coast cities that he played several years ago.

During the 1975 tour, John Strong will personally be traveling with and working with the "1869 Circus." This show will be playing dates arranged and book-

Show Staff

The staff for the PAL Circus at the Cow Palace (Nov. 16-17) included:

Producer - Simone Finner - USA National Circus
 Ringmaster/announcer - Roy Kabat
 Stage Mgr. - Chester Cable
 Clowns - Bob-O Hinton, Dave Twomey, Danny Ashley, Jess Monefeldt, Karl Winn, Jr., Mike Winn, Mike Twomey, Ken Twomey
 Special Wardrobe - Golden Gate Costume Co.
 Musical director - Allison Bell
 Aerial Director - Del Graham
 Scenic Effects and Special Lighting - Terry Shepherd
 Stage Crew - Chester Cable, Jr., Harry Ellis, Mike Twomey, Floyd Baker, Don Marcks, Andy Warren.

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ed by Holloway Productions, they start in Northern California on May 12th, include an eastern tour, coming to a conclusion in the Northwest in September. Just ahead of these dates the circus is expected to open in February, playing engagements in the Imperial Valley area of California

Soviet Circus Is Big Business

"We are now a circus power - a great circus power," says Mikhail P. Tsunakov, head manager of Russia's All-Union State Circuses Administration. "It wasn't always this way," he adds, "and while circuses were popular in olden times they were largely presented by foreigners."



The circus, before it was nationalized under the Communist system, on Aug. 26, 1919, was, according to Tsunakov, not very well attended because of its "crude and vulgar performances that were at best nerve-racking." Often, he said, they were centers of "ignorance and lawlessness."

Today the Russian Circus, often called the Moscow Circus, can present 73 simultaneous performances in 58 permanent buildings and 15 tents, plus 50 traveling troupes. In all the circus employs some 12,500 people, with 3,400 of them classified as "artists."

Since 1965, the government has allowed the circus to borrow money to build their permanent buildings. Since that date they have built 30 buildings, have nine under construction and have 13 others on the drawing boards.

One reason for pouring money into the circus, says Tsunakov, is that the people like the circus. In 1960 circus attendance amounted to 33.9 million, by 1966 attendance jumped to 41.5 million and today it is about 61 million.

The government, of course,

wants the circus to reflect life as they see it and each circus performance does just that. The show itself offers proof that a man should be strong, honors the USSR space flights, and helps to preserve some of the nation's heritage. The magician ends his act with doves and flowers, a symbol of peace; clowns "protest against those things which disrupt our lives."

Young children compete for a place in the 435 pupil state circus school, then will eventually graduate into a specialized circus skill. Full-fledged performers will earn up to \$33 a performance, and appear in 30 to 36 performances per month. All animal and travel expenses are taken care of by the circus, and after 20 years of service, a aging performer is given a full retirement pension.



45 Parrots in Rabbi's Car

Federal authorities last week arrested a Los Angeles (Cal) Rabbi and his wife at the Mexico-U.S. border. The two were charged with violation of a law that prohibits the importation of parrots into the U.S.

A spokesman for the U. S. Public Health Service said inspectors found 45 parrots in the Rabbi's car when it arrived at the U.S. inspection station. The parrots were found under some quilts in the back seat.

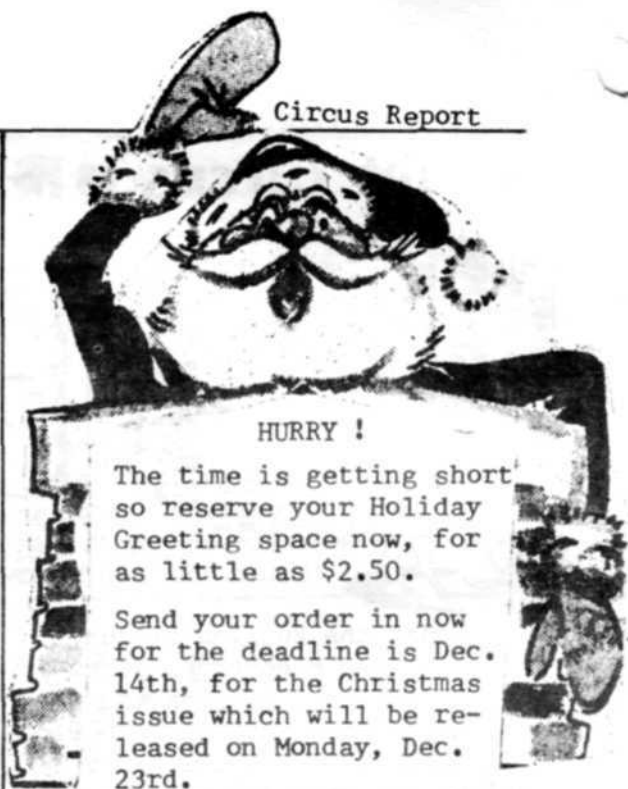
The big green birds, officials said, are worth about \$2,250. After a period of quarantine they will be turned over to someone, he said, or they will be destroyed.

In Memoriam

ALBERT WHITE, famous circus clown who appeared with all of the major circuses at various time, died of cancer on Nov. 15 at Sarasota, Fla.

Miscellaneous

TV's "Manhunter" show last week (Nov. 20) was the story of a carnival owner who kidnapped young girls and then sold them to a Madam in Chicago.



Capacity Biz

When Kramien's Magic-Capades played Spokane, Wash. (Oct. 27) at the Kennedy Pavilion, at Gonzaga University, the show drew some 3,500 for the night performance and 2,500 for the matinee. The event was sponsored by the Jaycees.

The magic show now has a warehouse full of illusions and Kramien expects to take delivery of a new prop truck before heading south.

Plans to tour in Alaska during November and December were cancelled for dates in the Pacific Northwest, plus time to prepare Magic-Capades for its Southern tour.

Real Bargains For Thrifty Collectors

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ART "Doc" MILLER, Box 1073, Gibsonton, Florida - 33534

rbbb find

Ten year old bicyclist Barry Lappy, called a "wizard on wheels" will be a featured act on RBBB for 1975. Barry performs on all sorts of bikes and uni-

cycles, all made by his father.

Barry started his professional career less than a year ago with Billy Smart's Circus and was discovered by Kenneth Feld while performing with the Hungarian State Circus.

Miscellaneous

RBBB's opening night benefit show at Oakland, Calif., netted the local civic theatre a total of \$17,943.

The Wallenda produced Shrine Circus at New Orleans, La., got plenty of newspaper coverage throughout its long run.

Three tigers escaped from the Knoxville, Tenn. Zoo (Nov. 23) and one was killed when it attacked the zoo vet.

PAL SHOW (Cont'd)

were:--

The Saxons - unicycles
 The Willers - balancing
 Jim Dandy - unicycle
 The Astro Stars - aerial cradle
 The Clowns - levitation
 Karl Winn - Death Walk
 Steve Holmes - cowboy horse
 Loni Ironberg - trained horse
 The Jumping Jacks - trampoline
 Happy's Goat review
 Patti Antalek - chimps (2)
 Eloise Berchtold - mixed animals
 -- Intermission --
 Sheila Winn - slide for life
 Loni's trained dogs and pony
 Steve's dog riding a pony
 The Clowns - Painting Sketch
 The Flying Viennas
 The Saxons - juggling
 Miss Loni - rope spinning
 The Willers - juggling
 Judy Johnson - dive of death
 Eloise Berchtold - elephants
 The Winns - aerial motorcycle
 Santa Claus' greeting
 Exit March