



"America's Favorite Circus Weekly"

4th Year

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Number 5

## Show Plans For 1975 Season

The opening date for Circus Kirk's 1975 tour has been set for May 26th, according to show owner Charles Boas. The circus will play one day stands in Virginia, Maryland, Pennsylvania and New England, he added, through Labor Day. The dates are currently being finalized by Larry Cimino, the show's Director of Marketing and Public Relations.

A new animal truck was recently received from the Freuhauf plant at Baltimore and a new concession wagon will be delivered in April. In the meantime the show's new canvas loader has been completed, which will permit the pole and seat semi to be reframed. The cookhouse semi was rebuilt at the factory and now offers improvements in the sleeping quarters and commissary facilities.

## tour starts

Anticipating a good 1975 tour, the Royal European Circus opened its season at Fort Meade, Fla. (Jan. 18-19) followed by a date at West Palm Beach. The show, according to its owners, the Stebbing family, will be playing dates in Florida until April when it embarks upon what is expected to be a long tour.

The circus uses a red and white striped tent, with seating for some 2,000 people. In addition

(Continued on Back Page)

tour starts

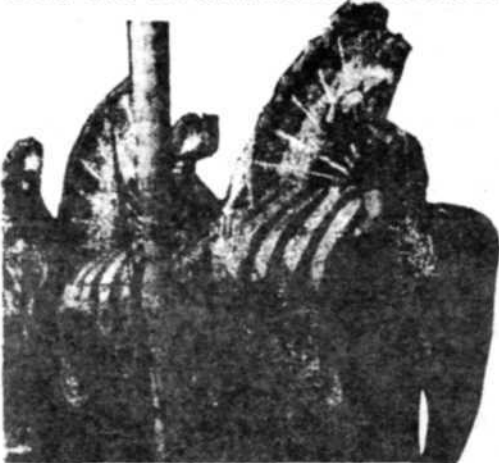
The midway is going to have a new look this year, says Boas. The old concession trailer will be converted into a novelty and jewelry stand, thus eliminating two small tops. A new larger animal pit show top has been purchased to house the expanded animal collection. The side show and bannerline will be enlarged

(Continued on Page 10)

## It's Beautiful

The 105th (Bi-Centennial) Edition of the Ringling Bros. - Barnum & Bailey Circus, presented by the Red Unit, is truly a beautiful show. In short, it is a glittering, red, white and blue eye-popper. The costumes and trappings are out of this world.

Their big spec, coming before the intermission, received



a standing ovation from the opening night crowd at Venice (Fla) on Jan. 3rd. It was obvious that everyone was deeply moved by the whole thing.

(Continued on Back Page)

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## SHOW ACTS

Acts appearing with the big Hanneford Circus, during its Jan. 18th engagement at the Florida Atlantic University, according to the newspaper ads were:--

The Famous Riding Hannefords  
Princess Tajana - wild animals  
Marina - aerialist  
Kay's Pet Revue

Plus elephants, ponies,  
monkeys, daredevil acts, etc.

## Thanks

Many thanks to all those who sent me cards and letters while I was hospitalized. I appreciate your friendship and concern.

**SPARKY**

D. W. WASHBURN  
79 Devine Street  
San Jose, Cal. - 95110

## Photo Titles

The names of the two young ladies on Page 4 are not known. The picture was taken on the Al G. Barnes-Sells Floto Circus of 1938.

The picture on Page 9 shows Gerry Mosley trimming the nails of an elephant on the Russell Bros. Circus of 1942.

## YEARS AGO

June 10, 1922 - Pittsfield, Mass

Ringling Bros.-Barnum & Bailey Circus arrived here today

Section One came in at 5:45 a.m. with 23 cars (3 horse cars, 17 flats, 3 sleepers and 55 wagons with 22 cages)

Section Two came in at 9 a.m. with 23 cars (5 horse cars, 11 flats, 7 sleepers and 33 wagons with one tractor).

Section Three came in at 9:45 a.m. with 24 cars (7 horse cars, 16 flats, one sleeper and 49 wagons, plus two autos and two chariots).

Section Four came in at 11 a.m. with 25 cars (7 horse cars, 5 stock cars and 13 sleepers).

## Shrine Circus

Circus acts advertised to appear with the 37th annual Tri-poli Shrine Circus, at Milwaukee (Wisc.) on Feb. 18-23 included:--

Jose Barrada - African lions  
Les Medinas - aerial displays  
Arley's Canadian bears  
The Edwardos - bicyclists  
The Flying Dells - aerial act  
Erick's chimps on motorcycles  
The Dromedary camels and the Lippizan Stallion Horses  
Josalito - high wire artist  
The Swaying Swedes - sway poles  
Miss Kaylena's doves



# A Strange Answer

"Never believe what you read in the newspapers," is the advice of Her Royal Highness Princess Anne's private secretary.

The recommendation was directed to Irvin Feld, president and producer of Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey Circus. Feld had read a news story that Princess Anne was contemplating giving up her stable of prize winning horses, and he had made an offer to buy the royal steeds for the circus.

## ROUTES

### Circus Vargas

Feb. 1-5 San Antonio, Texas  
6-9 Austin

### Circus of Wonders

Feb. 3 Armona, Calif.  
4 Lindsey  
5 Corcoran  
6 Huron

### Al G. Clark & Dailey Bros.

Jan. 27 Aransas Pass, Ark.  
28 Rockport  
29 Gregory  
31 Mathis  
Feb. 1 Orange Grove  
2 San Diego

### Cole All Star TV Circus

Feb. 3 Mayville, N.Y.  
4 Cuba  
5 Arcade  
6 Frewsburg  
7 Enroute  
8 Hilton

### Happytime Circus

Feb. 8-9 Ukiah, Calif.

### L. N. Fleckles Circus

Jan. 10-14 Saginaw, Mich.  
31-Feb 16 Hartford, Conn

A cablegram from Princess Anne's private secretary read, "Thanks for the offer. Not needed. Never believe what you read in the newspapers."

Feld obviously believes what he reads in cables and withdrew the offer.

### Polack Bros. Circus

Jan. 11-19 Flint, Mich.  
24-26 Roanoke, Va.

### Ringling-Barnum - Blue Unit

Feb. 3-5 Venice, Fla.  
7-9 Lakeland

### Ringling-Barnum - Red Unit

Feb. 5-9 Greensboro, N.C.

### Royal Lipizzan Stallion Show

Feb. 3 Savannah, Ga.  
4 Macon  
6-7 Columbus  
8-9 Tallahassee, Fla.

### ..... OTHER ROUTES .....

### American Circus Poster Expo

Feb. 9-Mar. 9 Buffalo, N. Y.

### Jose Greco Show

Feb. 7 Oakland, Calif.  
8 San Francisco

# PEOPLE

ART "Doc" MILLER has been handling billing for the West Palm Beach (Fla.) Fair and will soon work other fairs, including the big one at Miami.

COTTON ROSSER's Golden State Rodeo will be featuring a Roman chariot race this year.

D. W. WASHBURN (Sparky, the Clown) is resting at his home in San Jose (Cal). He'll go back into the hospital for additional surgery about the middle of the month.

DICK GRIFFITH, former wild west performer with the 101 Ranch Show was hospitalized in early January with a throat ailment,

CHUCK CHISM, who was with the 101 Ranch Wild West and the Clyde Beatty Circus, was released from a Long Beach (Cal). hospital last month.

# ROUTES

Ice Capades (Eastern Unit)  
to Feb. 9 Washington, DC

Ice Capades (Western Unit)  
to Feb. 4 Winnipeg, Mann.

Kramien's Magic Capades  
Feb. 3-4 Tucson, Ariz.  
6 Nogales

Philadelphia Sports Show  
to Feb. 2 Philadelphia, Pa.

# In Memoriam

VICKI KING (49) former show aerialist and the wife of Floyd King, a circus owner and agent. A native of Louisville she joined Cole Bros. Circus when 18, then later toured with King Bros. She died at Macon, Ga. on Jan. 3. Survivors include her husband, two sons, two daughters, parents plus a brother and sister.

C. J. (Slivers) Madison (67) well-known elephant trainer died Jan. 20 after heart surgery at Sacramento, Calif. He started his show business career at an early age when he joined the Barnes show. Later he traveled with Ringling-Barnum, Polack Br, Clyde Beatty and worked for MGM Studios, Jungleland, Benson's Animal Farm and for the past 10 years he was with the Nugget Casino in Nevada. Survivors include his wife, Jo; a sister, Mrs. H. Hopes and two brothers, Pink W. and O. D.

LUCIUS C. RICH (61) known as Bozo Kelly, the Clown, died at Milford, Conn. on Jan. 6th. He had been a clown for over 50 years and was a recipient of the Barnum Festival Medal. Survivors include his wife, Cora, a son and two daughters.

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## HISTORICAL FACT ....

The Hilliard & Main Circus of 1888 was owned by Wm. Main and Harry Hilliard. The show's ring master was Harry Mack.

## Miscellaneous

The PAL Circus at San Francisco's Cow Palace drew 31,031 people for two shows.

Early reports indicate the Sells & Gray Circus will open in Florida on March 26th.

The Al G. Clark & Dailey Bros. Circus has already started playing dates in Texas.

Franzan Bros. Circus plans to open their 1975 season in Texas, then will work their way north into Wisconsin.

Ads for the Hanneford Circus (Florida Atlantic University on Jan. 18) and RBBB's Red One (West Palm Beach on Jan. 17-21) were running in the same newspapers last month.

The Tripoli Shrine Circus will be held in the Milwaukee (Wisc.) Arena on Feb. 18-23.

## POSTER EXPO

The American Federation of Arts, Wilder Green, director, has announced that the American Circus Poster Exposition will be displayed in Buffalo, N.Y., from Feb. 9th to March 9th.

The exhibit, which features old-time circus posters from the collection of Ralph Trower, will be displayed at the Erie County Savings Bank, One Main Place in Buffalo.

## PEOPLE

FRANK DEAN has written several magazine articles about the old west during his winter lay-off time.

BOB SCOTT has his trained Brahma at the Ascot Speedway on Jan. 18-19. He recently finished some film and TV work.

JOHNNY and BARBARA LUXEM have their Wheel of Destiny act on Circo Americano in Puerto Rico.



Pictured above is "Slivers" Madison, who passed away on Jan. 20th. He is shown here in a recent picture with famous clown Emmett Kelly.

# POLACK BROS. CIRCUS

LOUIS P. STERN

The Quality Name In The Circus World

Good crowds attended every performance of the Polack Bros. Circus during its Flint, Michigan engagement (Jan. 11-19) and the response has been that it is a strong show. Of special interest is the announcement in the program that the Elf Khurafeh Temple's Shrine Circus for next year will run nine days starting on January 17, 1976.

Acts featured in the show's program include:-

The Atos Group - trampoline  
 The Apollos - aerial cradle  
 Bill Brickle's Poodles  
 Laszlo Donnert Family - clowns  
 The Flying Dells - flying act  
 Miss Francesca - single trapeze  
 Kaylena's Doves  
 The Jordanas - upside down unicy  
 The Klementis - bicycles  
 Mlle. Jacqueline - Star in Moon  
 Lamafalda - sword balance  
 Napoleon's Roman Riders  
 The Ringmaster's Magic  
 The Smahas - Dressage horses  
 The Polack Bros. elephants  
 Tarzan Zerbini - wild animals  
 Tiger Riding a Horse  
 Baby Mike - tricycle/elephant

The circus' executive staff consists of:-

Louis P. Stern - owner/manager  
 Sam T. Polack - general agent  
 Opal M. Paige - auditor  
 Viola MacLeod - Chicago secret'y  
 Arthur Barrett - conc. manager  
 Don Nothdorft - ringmaster  
 Wilma Rench - organist  
 Robert Hynds - prop supt.  
 Parley Baer - Public Relations.

The new 1975 program cover and route card were designed by George Da Deppo, of Detroit. (the routing card heading is shown at the top of this story).

#### NEWS NOTE ....

The Globetrotters drew some 27,600 people for its two shows at Detroit, Mich. in January.



**CIRCUS KIRK (Continued)**

while the Petting Zoo will again be placed at the head of the midway.

The decision to expand the show's midway is based on current economic forecasts, Boas said, which we believe indicates an upturn in the economy by May. "A variety of midway attractions at reasonable prices, with plenty of flash will be the key to maintaining revenues in 1975," Boas told Circus Report.

Appointments of personnel were announced by Boas this past week. Dave Fulton will return after a year's absence to be bandmaster, while assistant manager Dan Ritzdorf has been named superintendent. John McFadden will handle the duties of performance director and announcer, and Mike Straka will be in charge of the side show. Ron Be-

**HOSPITALIZED**

ETHEL LUCKEY was hospitalized on Jan. 21st following a heart attack. Cards and letters may be sent to her at: St. Clare Hospital, Room 317, Baraboo, Wisc. - 53913. Ethel is calliope player and organist at the Circus World Museum, where her husband, Paul, is ringmaster.

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rkland will continue as master carpenter and Scott Godfriaux is the chief mechanic.

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# sawdust trail

Ex-Governor Ronald Reagan recently announced he would hit the "Sawdust Trail" to carry his message to the people - I had the title first Governor!

Do-Do, the Clown, worked a Xmas Show for the Army Reserve, then became Santa for several nursery school shows.

Cliff Day, who was with the Carson & Barnes Circus last year has been visiting in Texas and isn't sure what show he will be with this year.

Word has it that both the

Shreveport and Alexandria (La.) Shrine circuses will be moved to April instead of September to beat the RBBB show.

Circus Vargas is booked into the fairgrounds at Birmingham (Ala.) for 5 days in February.

Dave Knoderer, last year on Barnes & Daily, is breaking a new liberty act at Hugo (Okla) and he's also doing some painting for Carson & Barnes.

Plans are underway for the promotion of a new school show, playing in Louisiana. The show will feature Paul Hodges, as the Great La Mont, magician, and also Do-Do the Clown.

.....M. L. Dupont

## WOW! IT'S BETTER THAN STEALING!

Have had to move to Stuart (Fla.) and thus lack space for my circus collection.

Must dispose of more than a ton of items -- regardless of the value.

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ART "DOC" MILLER

Box 2594

Stuart, Fla. - 33494

## Miscellaneous

This year the Antelope Valley Fair (Calif.) will pay \$12,000 for three rodeo performances as compared to the price of \$8,000 paid last year.

### TOUR STARTS (Continued)

tion to the Stebbing family acts (ponies, chimps, elephant) the circus features other acts, and at West Palm Beach these included Scott's Unrideable Mule and Football playing dogs; The Royal Hungarian Troupe; Gina's uncaged leopards and the Barry Sloan family of stiltwalkers, plus clowns Rosco and Young Stebbo and Harold Simmons. The show's announcer is Bob Kenny, whose wife has a dove act. They also present illusions.

### IT'S BEAUTIFUL (Continued)

Gunther Gebel-Williams is still the star of the circus, and appears in five numbers. This includes his tiger act (he has 18 cats) and the elephant number. It keeps him going all the time and his big feature is an act with three tigers, two horses and an African elephant.

The thing that people will really be talking about though is that "spec". The show's producers deserve a lot of credit for creating this the biggest and flashiest presentation of many years.

.....L. Wilson Poarch