



8th Year

March 5, 1979

Number 10

# Elephant People

This year marks the twentieth season that Axel Gautier has been with the Ringling Bros. - Barnum & Bailey Circus. All of that time has been spent with the show's elephant department.

Axel started out as an assistant under the renowned trainer Hugo Schmitt. He worked with Hugo for 11 years and then took over the herd when the elder trainer retired.

Axel and Donna met on the circus when both were starting their circus careers with the Ringling show. Later they married and today they have two sons — Michael and Kevin, and all are involved with the elephants. Both boys attend school in Haines City, Fla., and are good students.

For eight years the Gautiers traveled with the circus, but now they work at Circus World, a job that presents new challenges all the time. It is a 24 hour per day job, although Axel has a crew of eight elephant handlers to help him. If an animal is sick or there is a problem, Axel is right there to take control.

Elephants like to perform, says Axel. They love the circus as much as we do. However they also like their free time and respecting that time is important.

Elephants are just like people, he adds, each has a different personality and it takes

time to get to know that personality and learn how to react to it. Some elephants and people just don't get along, but elephants can also be considerate and loving.

For instance, once while on the road, Targa was making all kinds of noises and her trunk was dangling out of the train window. When one of the attendants went to see what all the noise was about he found that Targa was trying to rescue a dog that was perched precariously between the train cars.

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THE HIABUSHI BROTHERS, an acrobatic team,  
were featured on MERV GRIFFIN's TV Show on  
Feb. 22nd.

RAY MAREK will be with PAULETTE BRAUN  
on Bill Garden's "Showtime Follies" for the 1979  
season.

MURRAY HILL and his animals were signed for a  
March 4th appearance on TV's "The Osmond Family  
Show".

JACK ATKINSON and HERBERT R. FRIERSON,  
Sr., held their annual Beer and Hot Tamale party  
for the Ringling Red Unit in Birmingham, Ala., on  
Feb. 10th. Some 20 cases of beer and 40 dozen

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tamales were consumed that evening.

THE FLYING RAMOS troupe will be at the Tivoli  
Gardens in Copenhagen for the month of June. The  
act will return to Circus Circus in Reno in July.

SEÑOR WENCES, ventriloquist, was featured on  
the MERV GRIFFIN TV Show the afternoon of  
Feb. 23rd.

THE FLYING LES MAREKS got off to a flying  
start on this their premiere year, opening with the  
Hamid-Morton Circus at Hartford, Conn.

PAUL ROYTER, magician/illusionist, worked a Feb.  
28th date for the Los Angeles Press Club. Paul is  
now enroute to the mid-west for a three month tour  
with "The Magical World of Royter" show.

CAROL CHENEY and her elephant "Baby Tarra"  
worked at Knotts Berry Farm (Buena Park, Calif.)  
during the President's Holidays in February.

THE CIRCUS REPORT is compiled and edited by  
Don Marcks, 525 Oak St., El Cerrito, Calif. 94530.  
Phone: (415) 525-3332.

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Circus Vargas  
Mar. 8-13 Huntington Beach,  
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Cole All Star TV Circus  
Mar. 5 Williamson, NY  
6 Shortsville  
7 Ontario  
8 East Bloomfield  
9 Le Roy  
10 Hilton  
11 Alexander

Great All American Youth Cir.  
Mar. 9-11 San Bernardino, Ca.

Hamid-Morton Circus  
Mar. 6-11 Kansas City, Mo.

Wm. Kay Circus  
Mar. 10-11 Albany, NY

Lin-Rich Animal Circus  
Mar. 5-10 Spartanburg, SC

Monte Carlo Circus  
Mar. 7-11 Grand Rapids, Mich

Moscow Circus  
Mar. 8 Baton Rouge, La.

Ringling-Barnum - Blue Unit  
Mar. 6-7 Savannah, Ga.  
9-11 Asheville, NC

Ringling-Barnum - Red Unit  
Mar. 6-11 Richmond, Va.

Royal Hanneford Circus  
Mar. 5-25 Chicago, Ill.

Royal Lichtensetin Circus  
Mar. 5-6 Missoula, Mont.  
7 Bozeman  
8 Billings  
9 Bismarck, ND  
10 Fargo  
11 Feulkton

## --- OTHER DATES ---

Blackstone Magic Show  
Mar. 6-7 San Jose, Calif.  
8 Sacramento  
9 Fresno  
10-11 Claremont

Doll Show  
Mar. 9-11 Orlando, Fla.

Flintstones On Parade  
to Mar. 18 Sydney, Aust.

Holiday On Ice - Int'l Unit  
Mar. 7-11 San Antonio, Tex.

Holiday On Ice - Nat'l Unit  
Mar. 6-11 Memphis, Tenn.

Ice Capades - Cont'l Unit  
Mar. 6-8 Kingston, Ont.  
9-11 Peterborough

Ice Capades - Eastern Unit  
Mar. 2-11 Chicago, Ill.

Ice Capades - Western Unit  
Mar. 6-11 London, Ont.

Ice Follies  
to Mar. 11 Cleveland, Ohio

Evel Knievel Thrill Show  
Mar. 5 Launceston, Tasm.  
6 Hobart  
7 Burnie  
10 Adelaide, S.Aust.

Lilli-Anna's Leopards  
Mar. 10-11 Poughkeepsie, NY

Los Latinos - wire act  
Mar. 5-25 Chicago, Ill.

Loomis' Magic Capades  
Mar. 6 Cortez, N.M.  
9 Farmington

John MacKay - clown  
Mar. 10-11 Albany, N.Y.

This Is Magic - Holveck & Co.  
Mar. 6 Tracy, Calif.  
7 Dublin  
8 Willits  
11 Grass Valley

Vashek Duo - aerial motorcycle  
Mar. 1-4 Greenville, NC



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THE BELLS are ringing (Ma Bell, that is) and from my "direct line" come the following reports:

CLIFF VARGAS phoned to say that his show has been having the best season ever in Southern California and that he has the best performance he's had in years. Business has been exceptional with only three slack days since opening on account of rain and cold. The new seating has been installed and all three rings of liberty horses, under the direction of JOHNNY HERRIOTT, are in use. Cliff is already making plans for new programming in 1980 when he plans a display of dog acts for the first time. A mixed exotic group is now being broken by WALLY ROSS.

STEPHANIE SHAW says the Wallenda Circus lost only one town on its West Virginia route and will be playing Clarksburg and Parkersburg, in addition to Warren (Oh) and Natchez (Miss). Stephanie intimates she may have a special news flash for me later in the season. Meanwhile the Wallenda high wire act, featuring gorgeous RIETTA has been playing sports shows and will appear at the Moslem Temple Shrine Circus.

JOE BAUER jangled to say he is off to Europe very soon and had as his house guest recently, LOUIE KNIE, who booked BARRY SLOANE for the Circus Knie season beginning March 10th (Booked naturally through Bauer-Hall). Joe told me the new FARRELL BROS. high wire act is a real thriller.

JIM GROGAN came on the horn to report the DAVE MERRIFIELD Helicopter sensation was NOT cancelled from the EVEL KNEVEL Aussie tour. If any cancelling was done it was by Jim and Dave. They had been in negotiation for the tour since last July but continual foul-ups with contractual clauses and last-minute efforts to secure special permits decided the pair to forget the whole thing! The Merrifield 'Copter attraction returns to TOMMY BARTLETT's show at Pigeon Forge (Tenn) opening mid-May and running until late October. The act will then repeat the Louisiana State Fair. Also returning to the Bestest Show

will be DEITER TASSO and Dancing Waters.

JANICE ARIA rang up to tell me they finally bought a third bear for their delightful bear act. . . More bear news came from WALLY NAGHTIN who purchased two Syrian bear cubs and says that business for Ringling Red is good and that those reports coming out of Florida suggesting the CANISTRELLIS are having problems on the show are FALSE. Wally remarks the trampoline act is going great and the troupe are getting along fine. The only problems encountered by the Canistrellis were physical and minor. . . FIRST MARCO broke his toe and was out for several days, then FREDDIE sprained his finger, and BELMONTE injured himself slightly in the Elephant Leaps . . . All are A-Okay now.

SNAPSHOTS: AERIALETTA has moved to her "farm" 40 miles from Tallahassee, a little town in northwest Florida called Greenville. . . AURELIA and CARMEN HALL, BILL and TRUDY STRONG, and BILL and DONNA KNEISELEY are back from their winter in Mexico - Welcome home, you'all. . . ED MIGLEY's Circus Odyssey plays a series of college dates in New England in April and May. . . BENTLEY BROS. will play the Firemen's Circus again this season in Cincinnati (Oh). . . ROYAL HANNEFORD returns to the park for the summer near Cincinnati where they played successfully in '78. . . RON KELROY still nursing his leg injury. . . The Shrine Circus date that GEORGE HUBLER makes in Hagerstown (Md) July 21, will be the first such Shrine date that I know of, or at least since I've lived in the area (the town is only 9 miles from my home).

ROSEMARY MARINO and BEVERLEY HEIGHAM were enroute to the Maine Fair Convention the last week of January when their car stalled due to water on the roadway. They pulled into the breakdown lane and were struck from behind by another car.

(Continued on Page 16)



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## SAM T. POLACK CIRCUS . . . by Sally Payne

Sam T. Polack started his 1979 season playing for the Kosair Shrine Temple in Louisville, Ky., Feb. 7-11 playing at the Louisville Gardens amid snow. But it proved to be a tonic rather than a deterrent as far as business was concerned, which was up 30% over that of last year.

The publicity via newspaper and TV was unusually good this year and featured many big spreads in the papers.

Sat. Feb. 3 - 4 days ahead of opening the paper had a nice write-up about Jimmy Rison, including a photo it told about his 47 years of coming to Louisville in the capacity of business manager, promotional director and co-ordinator for the Kosair Shrine Circus. At 70 years of age, he now limits himself to Louisville and Tampa. He started working for Polack Bros. on a full-time basis right after World War II.

Sat. Feb. 3 - The evening paper had a small item about the circus coming for the annual Shrine Circus program, also a photo of Jeanette Rix kissing one of her bears.

Tues. Feb. 6 - The evening paper carried a photo of a bear in a cage, being brought into the building and was captioned "Breaker one-nine, this bear's no Smokey."

Thurs. Feb. 8 - The morning paper had an article about a "A-3 Snow Circus" the 3rd straight year the circus was greeted by snow, but it didn't worry Boom Boom Browning, band director, or Al Dawley, ringmaster or Sam Polack, producer. The paper also carried a picture of Al Dawley.

Thurs. Feb. 8 - The evening paper had three large pictures taken inside the building showing the arena, Albert and Jeanette Rix and Jeanette and a bear.

The most interesting part of the publicity was the TV cameras being on the job this year. At the opening matinee they were shooting footage of most acts and especially the bears. Then on Feb. 8th, between shows the local station did an interview with Jeanette Rix and also showed the bears in their cages.

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• "Slipped in the shower."

Business was capacity all the way. The Louisville Gardens seats 5,732 and there were three turn-away crowds. They were already inside the building when it was discovered there were no more seats, so many roamed the corridors buying food and drinks.

Of special interest for this old timer was the use of banners above and behind the bandstand. It the old days the bannerman was pretty important. He not only sold the banners but painted them as well and they were hung in the big top, between the quarter poles.

An outstanding notation should be made that **Karl Winn, Jr.** made his debut in Louisville, doing the "Walk of Death", going up the inclined wire, backwards, while Hans Winn walked up with him, going forwards.

The program ran 2 hours and 25 minutes and included: Clown come-in with Joe Sherman and company; Miss Roberta, neck slide; Albert and Jeanette Rix, bears; Frank & Estreleta, high perch; Clowns at the Wedding; Karl Linares, poodles; The Winns, Walk of Death; the Morgan Ashton Family, risley; The Fulbrights, dressage horses; Clowns, Fire House; Martin Lamberti, one finger stand; Great Francarro, single trapeze; The Vasquez Troupe, flying trapeze; Sandy's ponies; The Navarros, unicycles; The Vasquez Troupe single trapeze; The Morganos, the odd family; Clown Tooth Ache; Willy Lenz, chimps; Miss Loni and Barbara Van Voorden, foot juggling; Martin Lamberti, juggling; The Dolly Sisters, triple cradle; Lee and Jeannette Keener with the Diano elephants; The Winns, aerial motorcycle.

The band was directed by Wm. "Boom Boom" Browning and props were handled by Ronald Kelroy. Members of Clown Alley included: Joe Sherman, John MacKay, Les Schmitt, Billy Ford, Eddie Busch and Phil Granger.

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The city of Oakland (Calif.) hosted the annual regional conference of the Puppeteers of America the weekend of Feb. 16-19. Some 75 puppeteers were on hand for the event which included public shows for the first time.

Included in the special public shows were:

Bob Baker, creator of many of filmland's special effects, who presented his 'Marionette Varieties.'

Rene, creator of the popular Pillsbury Doughboy, for TV commercials presented 'Fiesta in Miniature.'

Johan and Alison Vandergun presented a comedy about circus clowns called 'Clowning Around.'

Percy Press, Jr., of Britain, presented an old-time Punch & Judy Show.

Jim Gamble, a commercial jet pilot and puppeteer presented his 'Wonderful World of Puppets'.

Coad Canada Puppets offered a special showing of puppets and their development.

**A Tribute**

VICTOR JULIAN has gone upstairs. And with his passing, the world of entertainment has lost a sterling performer who established a standard of jeweled excellence, long to be remembered. His attainments were often imitated, never equalled.

Victor's specialty act was more than just a fashion show with hind-leg dogs in elegant costumes. It was a masterful presentation that commanded international acclaim because of the conservative, well-bred mannerisms by which the artist himself gained acceptance in the popular culture of show business.

Victor Julian was both a great artist and a great person. He set his standards high and encouraged others to emulate his exemplary conduct as a gentleman and his classic expertise as an entertainer. His generosity was well-known. He frequently helped other performers. He viewed a theatrical or circus performance as quality teamwork between participants rather than a mere tournament or contest.

There is sadness amongst those who were proud to enjoy his acquaintance. For forty years I have said "If only I could be as great as Victor Julian!" How could this ever be? As an artist, in his own field of endeavor, Victor Julian stood alone.

..... HAL HAVILAND

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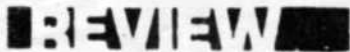
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CIRCUS AMERICA... by Paul

*(Reprinted from Variety magazine, Jan. 31, 1979)*

With an accent on quality, not quantity, the Capital Centre has packaged a fast-paced one ring circus that features a pleasant variety of top-flight and entertaining acts. A U. S. tour of most of them, under the banner "Circus America," is being contemplated for late 1979 or early 1980.

"Circus America" blends some ace American performers such as Zacchini and several members of the Wallendas, with other acts from Europe and Mexico. The DiLellos, a clown family from Italy, makes its U. S. debut with a variety of comic routines that includes some versatility with numerous musical instruments.

One of the most impressive aspects of the show is the number and variety of thrill acts included. Aside from the netless Wallendas, an aerial troupe from Mexico called the Flying Espanas performs an assortment of mid-air twists and somersaults, the Bauer family exchanges spots on swaypoles, while the Sensational Leighs have a thrilling space wheel act.

Wild animal trainer David McMillan, a permanent fixture at New Jersey's Great Adventure Theme Park, makes his first U. S. circus appearance ever with an ensemble of tigers that make leaps of 25 ft.

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**THE CYCLEDELIC CYCLISTS** (Danny Castoldi, Chuck Craw, Scott Floyd, Karl Krause, Darrell Medley and Tony Medley) presented their unicycle and juggling turns at Knott's Berry Farm on Feb. 10-12 and Feb. 17-19, booked by Warren C. Wood & Assoc.

**AUREILA NOCK** and her son **JOHN**, recently returned to the States after a month's tour of Europe, and while there they visited an Italian circus and had an audience with Pope John Paul II with whom they talked about circus life. Pope John Paul is a circus fan.

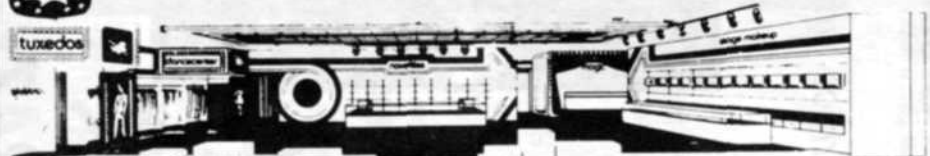
**GIOVANNI IULIANI**, the artist who was responsible for creating the Gattini Circus image, has completed a circus cut-out book featuring the Gattini big top and entrance. He has also created a new 64 page activity book which will replace the former circus coloring book that was sold on the show. The new book will carry photos of all the performers.

or more. For comic relief, Norbu, the almost human gorilla, leaps through the audience in a truly magical performance. Show's ringmaster is Michael Davis, whose repertoire includes several Broadway credits. Adding balance to the show are the Cristiani elephants.

Excluded from "Circus America" are a side show and filler acts that most circuses depend on. This one is top-notch throughout.

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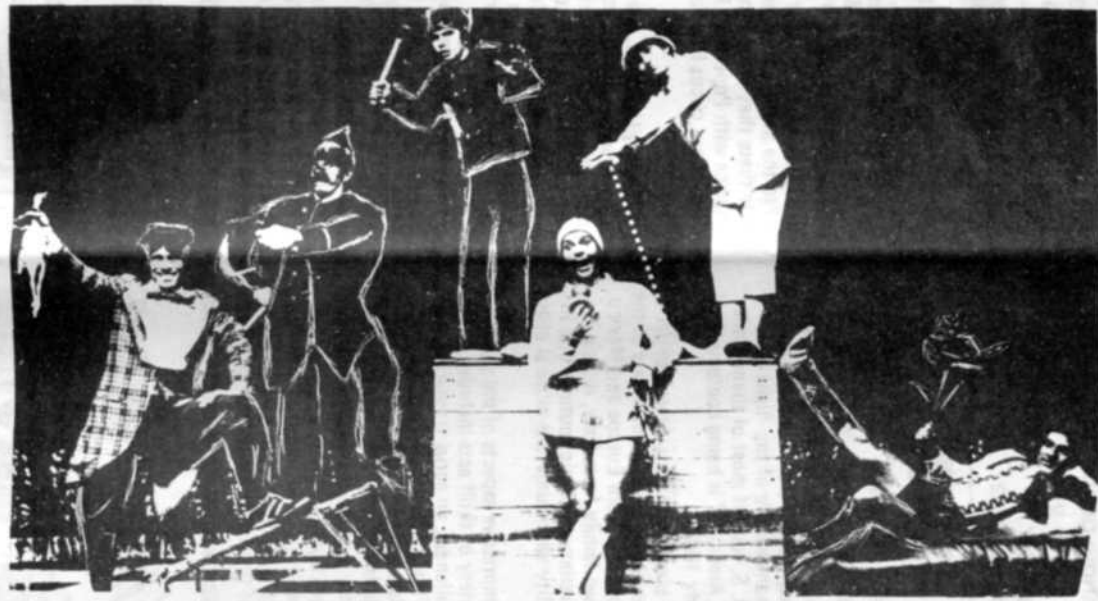
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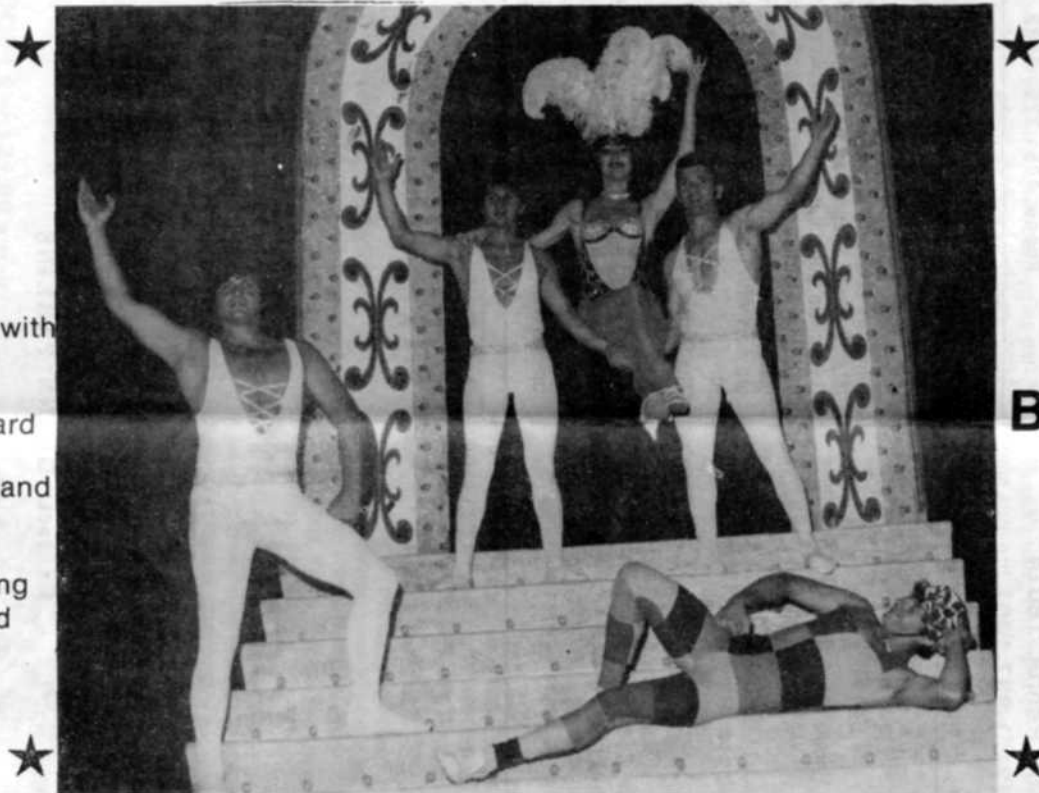
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FROM OHIO... by Don Sandman

Members of the Harold Barnes Tent CFA held their first meeting of the year at noon on Feb. 11th, in Springfield, then drove to Dayton to attend the evening performance of the Chinese Circus of Taiwan. It was an enjoyable performance, well balanced and well attended.

The program featured the following numbers: Dragon Dance, Mirror Ball, Circle of Fire and Knives, Chopstick Dance, Comedy Tumbling, The Golden Eva, Chinese Kung Fu, Chinese Black Magic, Lion Dance, Water Bowl, Magic, Ladder Balancing, Aborigine Dance, Electric Magic, Tower of Chairs, Human Pyramids.

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The company is managed by Richard Ling, Production Manager is Hai Ken Hsi, Sound by Lee Yu Chen (all on tape), Costumes by Hai Ken Mei and Stage Manager, Hai Ken Tsai.

Ringling's Blue Unit plays Cincinnati late this month (Mar. 28-April 1) and the CFA, CMB and Cincinnati Downtown Council is working on plans for a variety of displays to help promote the circus. If all goes as planned then Cincinnati will look something like the old days with plenty of paper and displays around town.

The Syrian Temple Shrine Circus is set for April 17-22 at the Cincinnati Gardens with Tommy Hanneford. That same week the Antioch Shrine Temple will hold their circus in Dayton with the Hubert Castle Circus. Hamid-Morton plays in Troy on Mar. 29th, and the Monte Carlo Circus will be in Dayton on May 11-13.

# SOME OPEN TIME

## Tommy Hanneford's Rocket Cannon Act

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## PEOPLE

SARAH and JOHN ZOPPE, Sr. visited friends and MARIO, BETTY and JOHN ZOPPE, Jr. in Florida in January.

CAROL and DON PHILIPS, unicycle/juggling performers, caught the JACK MANSELL Revue "1001 Nights" at St. Petersburg, Fla. recently and report the show featured: the Mansell Dance Line, vocalist DOLLY MANSELL, the LOS ARGENTINE GAUCHOS, RON & JOY HOLIDAY, illusionists, LILLIANA, foot juggler and British comics DEREK DENE and SUSAN MICHAELS.

## on Tour

The program offered by the Holiday Hippodrome Show at its opening performance in Wichita Falls, Texas on Jan. 29th featured:

Don Philips & Co., unicycle/juggling; Bradbury & Co., illusions; the Keppo Duo, rolling globes; Randa, foot juggler; Van Noys, comedy bikes; Bradbury's balloon sculpture; The Boothroyds, comedy; Jack and Sharon's (Vidbel) chimps; Miss Christina, portable trapeze and Danny Carey, hand balancing.

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## SPECIAL

The Flying Gaonas will join Tarzan in the Sunday color comics, beginning in April, for an African adventure of several months duration.

Russ Manning, illustrator-writer of the Tarzan cartoon strip and Star Wars, a cartoon strip that will debut in many of the nation's newspapers on March 11th, is a personal friend of the Gaonas.

He says it will be the first time in the 50 years of the Tarzan strip has been in existence that the names and likenesses of real people will have been used.

Manning says the Gaonas will fly over a river full of crocodiles (without a net), and after their catcher Lalo Murillo has been shot down by a blowgun dart, Tarzan will catch them.

The Flying Cadonas were the ones who swung through the trees in the first Johnny Weismuller picture, "Tarzan of the Apes", in 1932, Manning reports. It was their flying that made the film such a success.

## CLOWNS

A company of 21 clowns, offering new skits and acts, is now featured at Circus World in Florida. The circus pranksters meet and greet the theme park's visitors, as well as participating in daily clown parades and helping those who wish to makeup as a clown for the day.

The new clown company includes 11 recent Clown College graduates, some of whom are: Jim Arneberg, of Tacoma, Wash., Matthew and Michael Houbrick, of Spokane, Wash., Robert Bone, of Paducah, Ky. and Ellen Cox, of Lakeland, Fla.

"The clowns are a major focal point at Circus World," says Ron Severini, who with his wife Sandy is Circus World's clownin' coordinator and dean of the Clown College.



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**Miscellaneous**

An unexpected snow storm, of 12 inches, forced the Ringling-Barnum show to cancel its 2 and 6 p.m. performances at Greensboro, N.C. on Feb. 18th.

The "Space Wars" stage show, produced by Philip Morris, will open for a three week tour in Louisiana on March 12th. Featured performers will be: The Amazing Conklins and Col. Bill Boley.

Ring 144 of the Int. Brotherhood of Magicians held a special reception for magician Harry Blackstone and his wife Gay, at Morris Costumes following their appearance at Charlotte, N.C. About 200 people attended the event.

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M & M CIRCUS . . . by Paul Horsman

Caught the M & M Circus at Rochester on its opening day and thought they had a terrific show. Everything looked fresh and new and there were some great acts.

The program featured: Spec "Holiday Hullabaloo"; George Barreda's lions; Mr. Sensation, aerialist; Pop-pino Duo, comedy wire; The Juggling Jewels; The Navarro's, unicycles; Bisbinis, unsupported ladders; Ethel's Greyhounds; Gee Gee's Ponies; Clowns with Buck Nolan; Jo-Ann, seal; Miss Bridget, sword balance; Mafalda, sword balance; the Carlos Duo, perch act; Clowns; Dubsky's chimps; Dubsky's leopards; Joselito, high wire; the Flying Lanes; Clowns; the James Zoppe Bareback Riders; the Young Troupe, trampoline; Dubsky's risley; Cook's comedy car; Miss Aerialetta with ten girls on web for aerial ballet number; Gee Gee's Cossack Elephants; Leigh's Space Wheel.

Jimmy Douglass was equestrian director and announcer. Boom Boom Browning directed the band and Manual Navarro was in charge of props.

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305 - 751 - 0206**JOHNNY CANOLE**Altoona, Pa.  
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814 - 943 - 0003**BILLY BARTON (Continued)**

Rosemary suffered a slight concussion and a chipped tooth, Beverley suffered fractured ribs. Both girls were hospitalized for two weeks and only recently went back to work at their BETTER BOOKING office. The car was severely damaged and, needless to say, the girls missed the convention.

In writing this column I was interrupted by a phone call from CHERYL JONES telling me that our beloved VICTOR JULIAN had died that morning (Feb. 10) in the Self Memorial Hospital at Greenwood, S.C. He had collapsed during the previous matinee (Feb. 9) with the Hanneford Circus in Greenwood and was rushed to the hospital. Cocque, who's been with Victor for years, finished out the engagement. Cause of death was not immediately apparent at the time of Cheryl's call but she said she would contact the paper with detailed information at a later date.

That the business is stunned by Victor's passing goes without saying. He was a wonderful, gracious gentle-

**The Circus**

Acts featured with Circo Atayde in Mexico were: Ervin; Olmedas; Carmelo; Astillita, Jr.; The Kneisleys; Miss Isabel; Ta-Kyun; Kolmedys; Machabankys; Alberto Atayde; Hnos. Mendez; Hnos. Ibarra; Josip Marcan; Da Gloria; Desiree; Miss Elsa; Elizabeth; Liza; Ramon Esqueda; Hargittas; Los Gomez; Alberto Atayde; Los Arguello; Javana; My-Imba; Charles Troupe; and The Quasars.

man whom we all loved and whom we shall certainly miss. His life touched ours in many ways - large and small. He was a man of wit, soft-spoken and gentle, who originated and carried "dress dog acts" to the ultimate.

There will never be another Victor Julian; and for that we feel sad. While he lived, however, he brightened our lives. That is what we must remember.

See you down the road, luvs.

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**PEOPLE**

**DORIAN BLAKE**, illusionist, has added **DENNIE REAGAN**, stage manager and **DAVID STOWE**, promoter/agent to his company.

**SANDY ALAN**, 7 ft. 8 in. girl and **PATTY MALONE** who is less than 4 ft. tall, were pictured in a recent AP wirephoto release which mentioned the upcoming NBC-TV special "Side Show."

**PIERRE JEAN**, popular Parisian singing ringmaster with Cirque Gatini (Quebec Unit) has returned to Montreal after a visit in Sarasota where he was the guest of **KAY ROSAIRE**.

**BOB COMMERFORD's** Animal Attractions "Pets On Parade" were at the West Hartford Armory (Conn) on Feb. 10-11. Also working that date was **ALFRED E. PILZ**, concessionaire from New Britain, Conn.

**DOMINEAU**, will return as ringmaster for the Gatini Circus (Maritime Unit). He is a former illusionist and hypnotist performer and has been master of ceremonies for many big time stage shows.

**EUGENE NOCK, Jr.**, 18 years old, won the Florida State title of Weightlifting Champion and he has also won the Hartford, Conn. Weight Lifting Championship. Next year he is planning to enter the Mr. America Weight Lifting Championship Contest.

**DANNY CASTOLDI, CHUCK CRAW, DALE DANIELS, SCOTT FLOYD, KARL KRAUSE and DARRELL MEDLEY**, performers from the Great All American Youth Circus, of Redlands, Calif., presented a trampoline, unicycle and hand balancing acts for the Riverside (Calif) Fraternal Order of Police annual variety show on Jan. 3rd. They were booked by **WARREN C. WOOD & Associates**.

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## SPECIAL

Mr. and Mrs. TIM PRAHL (Janice Chandler) welcomed a new arrival, Jaime Lynn, 8 lbs. 11 oz. on Valentine's Day, Feb. 11th.

Mrs. Prahll was formerly with the Johnny Cline elephants and liberty horses, and is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Ray Chandler, of Thousand Oaks, Calif.

Mr. and Mrs. Prahll will leave Thousand Oaks soon for Fairbanks, Alaska, where her husband is employed.



## HAMID-MORTON CIRCUS

by Hal Haviland

The program presented by the Hamid-Morton Circus at the Armory in Hartford, Conn. (Feb. 14-19) offered the following numbers.

The Knops, single trap; Tabak, hair hang; Wade Burck with the Cuneo tigers (16 tigers, 5 whites); Phillip's dogs; Ron Perry, juggling; Dime and Connie Wilson, clowns with Steam Roller; Knop's perch act; Joe Phillips, with horse Golden Mist; the Nock Family in juggling routines; Clowns with Jargo Giraffe; Les Mareks, flying act; White tigers riding elephant; The Rianos, tightwire; The Nocks, wire act; Clowns balancing a tray; Horworth's Chimps (prize fight bit); The Six Tabaks, teeterboard; the Cuneo Elephants (5); Nocks triple high sway poles.



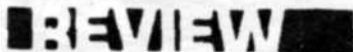
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## CIRCUS VARAS... By Andrea Dahlin

(Reprinted from the *Hollywood Reporter* of Jan. 23)

Opening the show with the usual parade of performers and animals, including a woman and a tiger on an elephant, the Circus Vargas has a pleasant two-hour show for the family.

Animals always draw a lot of attention and Harry Thomas' Bengal tigers are no exception; while Thomas snaps the tigers through their routines, he also displays affection with them rather than intimidation. Miss Janet and her frisky Samoyeds make a charming act. For horse lovers, the Herriotts do two performances: the liberty horse act and a "Saturday Night Fever" tribute with dressage steps.

Among the aerial acts is Senor Antonio, who balances his weight on one finger and then swings on the trapeze, while on his head. The Abulet Brothers gracefully prance on the high wire and do some daring leap-frog feats. In separate arenas the Padillas and Rose Duo perform the typical trapeze stunts. Twirling and spinning mid-air from high perches the Burketts and Rose Duo are a favorite act.

The progression from act to act is well paced to the audience's attention. Clowns often intercede with brief comical stunts. Horace & Moe, a gorilla and trainer parody, are fun to watch, particularly Horace as the uncooperative gorilla.

In the center arena the able Tanger Troupe is a welcome change of pace with their executions of flips, cartwheels and even human pyramids, all performed in a quick, rhythmic flow.

Other acts include Los Gauchos, bolo dancers; Rex Williams and the elephants and an aerial motorcycle ride done by Monique and Julian.

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