



7th Year

March 6, 1978

Number 10

Camel Attacks Trainer

Circus ringmaster, announcer and performer Ken Benson, of the World Wide Jungle Wonder Circus, escaped serious injury when he was attacked by a camel on Feb. 13th, at Colorado City, Texas.

Benson had just completed his performance with the camel in the circus big top and was leading her to her halter-spot when the attack occurred. The camel butted Benson, knocking him against a truck and causing him to lose his balance. When he fell the animal started stomping him.

Two young boys who were in the circus backyard saw the attack take place, then rushed in to aid the downed performer. Later Ken said that if the boys had not come to his rescue and driven the camel off with sticks, he would have been seriously injured.

Rushed to a local hospital for treatment Benson was later released. X-rays revealed there were no broken bones, however, his rib cage was badly bruised and he was heavily tap-

ed up when he returned to the circus lot.

He will handle only the announcing chores until he has fully recovered from the attack.

In the meantime it has been reported that despite unusually cold weather the circus has been drawing good crowds for each performance. On Feb. 13th, there was snow on the show grounds.

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NEW STAR

Lu Ann Jacobs has been signed by the Royal Hanneford Circus for its 1978 performance. Her sensational aerial contortion on a revolving platform and single trapeze work combination is a high point of the show program.

Featured in the 'Aerial Champagne Cocktail' production number, Lu Ann enters atop a 10 foot high champagne glass. She performs with disciplined gracefulness that brings thunderous applause many times throughout her act.

CFA's past president, John 'Tiny' Phillips comments, "absolutely the most fantastic aerial act I have seen in a long, long time. She is going to be a great star."

The idolized Tajana says, "Lu Ann's act is one of the best I've ever seen, she is poetry in the air. I never miss her act."

..... MIKE NAUGHTIN

PEOPLE

JIM and BEVERLY ROYAL will tour with the Hoxie Bros. Circus this season. Beverly will do web and ladders and Jim will be ringmaster, while both will be featured in a magic/illusion number. New props and equipment for the act is being built in Chicago by JIM HAHN.

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Show Acts

The Tommy Scott Country Music Circus played DeLand, Fla., on Feb. 10th, presenting one show at 7:30 p.m. under sponsorship of the American Legion.

The one hour and 45 minute show, with no intermission, offered a wide variety of entertainment, including: Clyde Moore, a Grand Ol Opry star; singer/musician Scotty Lee; plus whip and rope artist, Don Strong. Music for the program was provided by the Georgia Peanut Band.

Advertising for the show indicates it has been on the road for 40 years and plays a total of some 350 towns each season. A heavy phone promotion campaign is used ahead of the show.

ATTENTION

A pictorial poster about Barbara, the elephant's run through the Maplewood Rest Home in Prairie du Sac, Wisc., last summer is available for \$1.50 each.

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Show Dates

Carden-Johnson Circus

Mar. 8 Lafayette, La.
11-12 Muscogee, Okla.

Hubert Castle Circus

Mar. 10 Bozeman, Mont.

Circus Vargas

Feb. 27-Mar. 1 Odessa, Texas
Mar. 3-6 Tucson, Ariz.
8-9 Corona, Calif.
10-13 Commerce

Cole All Star TV Circus

Mar. 6 La Fargeville, NY
7 Alexander Bay
8 Heuvelton

Dobritch Int'l Circus

Mar. 9 Bakersfield, Calif.

Hamid-Morton Circus

Mar. 7-12 Kansas City, Mo.

Hubler Int'l Circus

Mar. 11-12 Decatur, Ill.

Ringling-Barnum - Blue Unit

Mar. 7-19 Baltimore, Md.

Ringling-Barnum - Red Unit

Mar. 7-8 Fayetteville, N.C.
10-12 Columbia, S. C.

Royal Lichtenstein Circus

Mar. 7 Helena, Mont.
8 Bozeman
MAR 9-10 Billings

Royal Hanneford Circus

Mar. 7 Columbus, Ga.
8 Ozark, Ark.
11 Biloxi, Miss.

---- OTHER DATES ----

Dondi, the Baby Elephant

Mar. 7-12 Denver, Colo.

Holiday On Ice - Int'l

Mar. 9-12 Abilene, Texas

Holiday On Ice - Nat'l

Mar. 7-12 Memphis, Tenn.

Ice Capdes - Eastern Unit

to Mar. 12 Chicago, Ill.

Ice Capades - Western Unit

Mar. 7-12 Kitchener, Ont.

Ice Follies

to Mar. 12 Cleveland, Ohio

Illusia Show

Mar. 10-12 Wilmington, Dela.

Sports Show

Mar. 9-12 Waterloo, Iowa

PEOPLE

JOHN STRONG reports he is feeling well and will tour with his circus on a regular daily basis. He hopes to see all his friends along the route.

LOOMIS DEAN, formerly with the Ringling-Barnum Circus and now with Time-Life in Paris, reports he visited with JOHN RINGLING NORTH and LOU JACOBS during the Monte Carlo Circus Festival.

JOHN HALL is no longer associated with Hoxie Bros. Circus.

JOHN MOLINARI, former circus band leader, is currently featured at 'Le Virage' restaurant in Walnut Creek, Calif.

THE ALEXANDERS, teeterboard, MARK WILSON, magic and KRIS KREMO, juggler, were featured on the Mike Douglas TV Show this past week.

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FAMOUS HUNT will open in early May this season, hoping to beat the April rainy season in the east, weather conditions which have severely hampered the show's operations the past two springs. The **CARDEN JOHNSON** combine bought the Hunt diesel tractor which Marsha replaced with four 3-900 gas tractors using automatic shift. The show's light plant, a source of many problems in '77 has been overhauled.

Famous Hunt's 1978 program promises to be a powerhouse featuring the horsemanship of **TREVOR BALE**, accompanied by daughter, **BONNIE**. The Bales will present several horse displays, including "Hoops and Hurdles", "Stardust" the "talking horse", and a dressage number. Bale will also work the show's mixed animal act, and present his two lions and a tiger, plus tiger-riding-horse, in a cage purchased by Marsha which belonged at one time to **HARRY THOMAS**. In support of these animal attractions will be: **LOS LATINOS**, tight wire, the Great **HUBERTO**, foot slide, **JANICE** and **MIKE ARIA's** bear act (formerly at Circus World), **BONNIE BALE** in a cloud swing number, **MARCELLA**, Spanish web, and "Dolly" the Hunt's baby elephant. Several ground and aerial act displays have yet to be signed to round out the program.

HOXIE TUCKER has made sweeping changes in both circuses for the coming season, most of them for the better — especially the program alterations for the Big Show which should be the most varied and interesting of several editions. New this year will be the **WAZZAN TROUPE** with three acts, revolving ladders, Arabic tumbling and an outstanding trampoline turn; the **FLYING VIENNAS**, an all-girl flying act, plus two girl cradle number; the **BILLY GUNGA** Family with three acts, hand-balancing, rolling globe and Billy's unique glass-act; **JIM LOYAL**, as ringmaster, also presenting an illusion number, while his wife will do web and ladder. (Jim and his wife debuted on the Great American last year). Returning will be Tom "Popcorn" Sink, producing clown, and **JOHNNY** and **LAURA WALKER** with the show's elephant herd, plus pony drill. **MICHAEL CECERE** will headline the performance with a vastly updated cat act, new wardrobe and added flash. Organist **HELEN WILSON** will cut the show.

On the **GREAT AMERICAN** changes are also earmarked: First the "Hoxie" name has been removed from the truck's and show paper; secondly, **JIM SILVERLAKE** has been installed as the show's manager, re-

placing **BILL HILL** who is scheduled for open-heart surgery. Some of the acts for this show include the **RUCKER's** numerous animal acts, the **LANG** Family, and the **DIAZ** Sisters. **DAVE MILLER** continues as the show organist, and **RICK PASCA** will work the show's 3 elephants.

JOE McMAHON will manage the Hoxie Big Show and is also in charge of routing both units (both shows will invade new territory this year) and under his command are the following agents and bookers: **RON BACON**, **AL MEREDITH**, **JIM RAAB**, **JOHN LEWIS**, **DICK GEORGIA**, **JAKE ROSENHEIM** and **JOE CARABETTA**.

JOHN LEWIS was on the road for two weeks in Florida, overseeing the Great American Circus equipment leased from Hoxie by **RON MORRIS**. Touring with that unit were the **GEORGE HANNEFORD** Family, **TINO ZOPPE**, and **DAVE MILLER**, organist. Business for the unit was only so-so.

The **HOXIE** Gorilla show, managed by **CHARLIE** and **JESSIE MOYER**, is now with Circus Vargas where it is doing very good business. The Vargas show, which usually experiences unsettled weather during its early winter trek, this year ran the gamut from extreme cold and snow to lots of rain and high winds. Business, however, remained excellent, a "phenomenon" that remains a "mystery."

OTHER SHOW NEWS: **NORDMARK's** Magic Unit, scheduled to open Feb. 10th in Michigan, delayed its opening by a week due to very bad weather. The same bad weather plagued **JIMMY COLE's** school unit with the show losing days, and some of the acts like **BARRY MILLER**, often stranded, axle deep in snow, in truck stops . . . **BENTLEY BROS.** kicks off its season May 11th in Calif., playing 13 days out of 14. A strong line-up of acts is being readied, including **ADA SMIEJA**, the **PIETRO CANESTRELLI** Troupe, the **PAUL KAYE** Elephants, two dog acts, two dressage acts, the **YOUNG DUO**, cradle and trapeze, and **JIMMY DOUGLASS** providing lighting, ring curbs, back drop, sound, spec, clown alley and ringmaster. Look for this show to play a number of mid-western and eastern dates in the summer and have at least a two week tour in the fall in the Southwest.

SNAPSHOTS: **CONNIE WELDE** debuts her new uncaged act (two leopards and a jaguar) at the Garden produced Cincinnati Shrine date . . . **JOANNE** and

(Continued on Page 16)

Pot-Pourri

Agent Nick Falzone died on Feb. 7th . . . Lu Ann Jacobs' sequin and fur cape, which she wears for her stunning entrance, was a gift from sister Dolly . . . John 'Tiny' Phillips has been raving about his trip to Monte Carlo. . . Mike Naughton is handling some of the advance promotion for Royal Hanneford's 4th annual date at Rockland College, Suffern, N. Y.

Dorian Blake received delivery on a Vanishing Bird Cage which was custom built in England . . . Pat Bissonette is readying his clown props for a busy season . . . Frank 'Ho Po' Hannon, the Maine Clown contracted some new dates at the recent fair convention . . . Los Latinos, wire act, drew energetic ovations from the audience during Royal Hanneford's date at White Plains, N. Y.

.....Mike Naughton

PEOPLE

CLARK McDERMOTT and "The Cold Nose Five" worked the Citrus Fair in Cloverdale, Ca., over the Washington Birthday weekend.

HELEN BILLETTI Warburton, of the former high wire act "The Billetti Troupe" was so impressed with "The Great Wallendas" TV special on NBC (Feb. 12) that she called HELEN WALLEENDA to congratulate her for her work on behalf of the film. They both suggest that readers who watched the program should send their comments to: National Broadcasting Co., 30 Rockefeller Plaza, New York, N.Y. 10020 and ask for a sequel to the film.

CHARLIE CHARLES and his Family of bicycle artists are a regular feature in the Circus show at Las Vegas, Nevada.

CARLOTTA THOMAS has returned to Southern California after an extended stay in Sarasota, Fla.

SPECIAL

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The Circus

The Great Ron Morris Circus made a winter tour in Florida which was hampered by some unusually cold weather. The show was produced by Ron Morris and played: Palmetto (Jan. 14), Largo (Jan. 15-16), Seminole (Jan. 17-18), Tarpon Springs (Jan. 19), Winter Haven (Jan. 21), Bonita Springs (Jan. 24), Cape Coral (Jan. 26) and Avon Park (Jan. 27).

Equipment was leased from Hoxie Tucker and consisted of the Great American big top, seats, light plant, pit show, office and concessions. Elephants and the cat cat from Hoxie Bros. were also on the show.

The staff included: Ron Morris, producer; John Lewis, manager; John Walker, concessions; George Buttery, big top boss; Dave Miller, electrician; Leo Mascitto, musical director and organist; Les Claxton, drums; Michael Cecere, animal supt.; Vicki Hanneford, equestrian and performance director.

The major portion of the program was presented by the George Hanneford family with dogs, web, trapeze, ponies, baby elephants, trampoline, riding act and mixed animals (llama, elephant, pony). The Hoxie elephants were presented by John and Laura Caudill, plus Michael Cecere's lion act, Tino Zoppe, high wire, and clown Col. J. P.

Visitors seen on the show lot were Manuel Ruffin (Prince Bogino), Bob Noell, Ralph Shaup-pauker and Karl Wallenda.

... Thomas P. Quinn

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April 6th thru 9th - Wichita, Kansas

April 10th thru 16th - O P E N

April 17th thru May 26th - Enroute California

May 27th thru June 8th - O P E N

June 9th thru 14th - Denver, Colorado

June 15th thru 21st - O P E N

June 22nd thru 25th - Wheaton, Illinois

June 26th thru August 1st - O P E N

August 10th thru 20th - Honolulu, Hawaii

August 28th onward - O P E N

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REVIEW

International Magic Spectacular, a Jim Nordmark production, is on the road! It's C.B. convoy from Sunny Florida experienced mid-west icy roads, snow, frozen gas lines, frozen water tanks in the sleepers, but there was the scheduled opening in Ypsilanti, Mich., on Feb. 17th followed by Grosse Pointe and Monroe before heading into Ohio and Pennsylvania. A previously scheduled week in Michigan was literally "blown" by the blizzard. Those dates have been rescheduled during the week of March 20th.

Joe Eddie is the versatile magician and manager of this magic show with musical production numbers, dancing girls, and several variety acts. The mystery of magic is presented in several segments built around colorful themes. The opening unit, "Star Wars", the first part finale, "South America" and the "Circus" are exceptionally fast moving production numbers combining magic, comedy, music, dance and colorful set pieces and props. Special mention should be made of the three circus wagons - a calliope and two tabs, beautifully designed and executed. Other units include a Disco number and the Magician Pirate King and his Women. Following Lynann Dixon's Levitation, a Finale features the entire cast, winking lights and flying pigeons.

This magic show may well be the largest on the road, moving on the following show owned equipment: a one ton '78 G.M. flat bed with a 45 KW generator pulling a 28 foot Wells Cargo trailer that is loaded; a one ton '78 G.M. truck with body pulling a 32 foot Country Aire trailer (sleeper for men); and a 1974 Concord Motorhome (girl's sleeper). There are also several privately owned campers and motorhomes.

Bob Allen, general manager for Nordmark was on hand for the opening headaches, then flew back to Sarasota two days after the opening.

The production staff accompanying the show besides Joe Eddie, includes Betty Eddie, illusions and bookkeeper; Barney Bowman, stage manager; Norman Bittle, mechanic and electrician; Billy McCabe, wardrobe designer and department; Carol Guillette, lighting director and Corky Corbett, stage technician.

PEOPLE

CAROL FREES, of Mount Vernon, Wash., has a 2 year old lion 'Sabu' she wants to sell. The animal was purchased when a baby to start a game preserve, but circumstances have changed and now the lion is for sale.

HAROLD HIATT reports he recently visited the Ringling-Barnum Blue Show in Greensboro (N.C.) and says they have a strong performance with great wardrobe. The opening night performance there drew 9,900 people, the largest opening night crowd the Big Show ever drew in that city.

THE DAVISONS, juggling and rola bola; ANDRE & ANDRE, teeterboard; and ANITA KEPPO, rolling globe were featured with the TNT & Royal Olympic Circus when it played San Jose (Calif.) on March 1-5.

JIM HOWLE, former Ringling clown and artist, recently had his paintings on display in Florida. He hopes to take the paintings on the road to the west and southwest. Jim also has recently appeared on the TV Show "To Tell the Truth."

JOHN STRONG, Jr. will be handling advance publicity for the Big John Strong Circus this season. He will stay ahead of the show all season and his side show will be operated for him as a feature on the circus midway.

Those in the show include: Line Dancers - Marion Bicotta, Lynann Dixon, Bonnie Redding and Jill Voelker. The Campa Family delights with both their musical and family unicycle presentations. Others in the cast include Kung Fu Chan, Wilhelm Caser, and Leota Mallory. (My apologies for any names omitted).

This fast paced, well balanced show has excellent family appeal and exhibits continuous flash with its lighting, unique and colorful costumes, and musical unity. International Magic Spectacular stands shoulder to shoulder with the fine International All Star Circus, which has toured several years from the Nordmark office.

..... Bob Reinhart

No Contract

Reports from the Pacific Northwest indicate the Nile Shrine Temple will not be sponsoring a circus this year.

From 1939 to 1968, the Temple sponsored Polack Bros. Circus each year, except for the war years of 1941-43, when there was no circus presentation under the Shrine Club.

In 1969, the Temple started sponsoring Ringling-Barnum Circus, with either the Red or Blue unit playing in that city.

For several years there have been reports and indications that the Shrine Club would like to discontinue their sponsorship of circuses and it apparently has reached a final stage at this time, when the Shrine Club did not renew its circus contract.

Meanwhile, the Afifi Temple in Tacoma (Wash) has announced they will have the American Continental Circus for their annual Shrine Circus presentation which is scheduled for March 31-April 2nd.

The Tacoma Temple first started sponsoring a circus in 1934, when the Eastern States Indoor Circus played the city April 30-May 5. After the war, from 1946 to 1954, the Shrine booked their own acts, then in 1955 they sponsored the Ward Bell Circus. From 1956 until last year the organization regularly sponsored Polack Bros. Circus.

TV Spot

March 8 - NBC-TV - "Highlights of the Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey Circus."

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ACTS SET

Agent Rose Adair recently set the following acts for upcoming dates:

April 2 - Emmett Kelly, Jr., Circus - Baltimore - Cimse's Wolfhounds; Cowboy Joe Phillips and Golden Mist; Lipko's Chimps; Mutley, the computer dog; Karinas, comedy trampoline; Sir Chadwicke Chase, comedy auto; Charles Merrill, illusions; The Dionnes, perch; The Michelles, balance; Ray & Yolanda & Michele, juggling.

April 21-24 - Emmett Kelly, Jr. Circus - St. Johns, Newfoundland - The Pinson's elephants; Wilson's aerial cradle; Joanne's canine and equine revue; Charles Merrill, illusions; Jo Anne and Toma, dressage horse; The Dionnes, perch; The Michelles, balancing; Ray, Yolanda and Michele, juggling.

April 29-May 7 - All American Circus - West Orange, N.J. - The Karinas, comedy trampoline; Jo Anne's equine revue; Pinson's elephants; The Dionnes, perch; The Michelles, balancing; Ray, Yolanda and Michele, juggling and Jackie Marnes, vocalist/ringmaster.

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Miscellaneous

The Strike, as called by Shop, Mill and Maintenance workers at Six Flags Over Texas, was officially called a 'Lock Out' by Six Flags officials. The disagreement was resolved by a Federal Negotiator on Feb. 17th.

The work stoppage did not affect the on-going construction of the park's new Double-Loop Roller Coaster, called the 'Shock Wave'. The roller coaster is being built by independent contractors and will premiere on April 15th.

PEOPLE

STEVE BAKER (Checkers) and GARY RAY (Patches) provided an entire show featuring themselves and their performing dogs, as a fund-raising event for the Heart Fund Campaign in the Dallas/Fort Worth, Texas, area. The event was well publicized, with special fliers handed door-to-door by Heart Fund volunteers, distribution in local malls and sent out via local Bank's monthly statements. The event included an appearance on a TV Talk Show on Feb. 8th.

GENE MENDEZ, high wire artist, and ELEANOR CARROLL recently returned to the U. S. after an extended tour with Circo Atayade in Mexico City.

Show Folks

The annual Zohak Grotto Circus here at Decatur, Ill., has been scheduled for March 11-12, and it will be produced by George Hubler. This is the first circus of the season for our area and we certainly look forward to it's arrival, especially after the long dull winter.

Some of the acts that will be appearing in the program are: Jorge Barrera, lions; Al and Joyce Vidbel, elephants and ponies; Joselito, high wire; Prince Navjez, aerial; Miss Aerialetta II, trapeze; the Elkins Sisters, acro/dogs; Jo Ann Jennier and Sunny, the seal; the Klementis, bicycle act; Joe Sherman, producing clown and many other performers, as well.

..... Allen Babcock

Elephants

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BILLY BARTON (Continued)

PEE WEE PINSON gifted GEE GEE with a blue-eyed Siberian husky pup . . . The CAMPA Family are with Nordmark's Magic Opus and will stay with that unit until the King show opens in April . . . BONNIE and CLYDE have released a single record of "Dirty Dan, the Used Car Man" on the Nashville NCS label. The tune, composed by Billy, is also featured on their Bonnie & Clyde album . . . Producer GEORGE HUBLER and Aut Mori Circus Chairman MAC MCGUFFIN flew to Vegas during February to look over talent for the annual Youngstown Grotto Circus which features "high line" talent every year . . . ED MIGLEY owner of the CIRCUS ODYSSEY will bow his 1978 season with a run of Police Sponsored dates in Rhode Island during April and May . . . Royal Hanford's WALLY and CHERYL JONES stopped over to visit Yrs. Truly enroute from Columbus (SC) to White Plains (NY) . . . ETHEL JENNIER purchased a pickup with 4-wheel drive with which to battle the ice and snow of winter dates . . . CFA'r LARRY KENT is getting "itchy feet" to go on the road "full time" . . . JOHN LEWIS advises it is not so that Hoxie is getting rid of his side show animals, that the veteran showman intends to combine side show acts with a managerie for the Big Show this season. . . HARRY RAWLS will be concession manager for Beatty-Cole . . . BOB HENNIGAN returns as the Great American office manager (his wife does web and ladder) . . . WES and FLORINE OLER return to Bill Garden's SHOWTIME FOLLIES, meanwhile the Olers are playing dates for Hubler and did some fairs for GEORGE HANFORD.

BEVERLY HEIGHAM and ROSEMARY MARINO walked out of their Boston area home on snow depths which actually covered the roof of their car and shoveled the white stuff from roof and hood to keep it from caving in. They told me the weather was the

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PEOPLE

Flying acts set to appear at the new Circus Circus Casino, soon to open in Reno, Nev., are:

THE FLYING DEL-STEELES, under the direction of Bill Woods (catcher), with Tony Steele (comedy), Eduardo Palacios (triple somersault) and Sue Palacios.

THE FLYING RAMOS, featuring Sergio doing the triple somersault.

KIM CORDES (11) and MICHELLE CONNOLLY (12), of Concord, Calif., have set what they believe is a world's record - 24 hours on stilts. They hope to have the event entered into the Guinness Book of Records.

ORLO H. WACH, retired circus owner, has not been feeling too well lately and would like to hear from fans and friends. Write him at: 8111 East Garvey Ave., Space 5, Rosemead, Calif. 91770.

worst they had ever experienced: a full-fledged hurricane WITH a blizzard!

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Circus Acts

The 70th annual Moslem Temple Shrine Circus at Detroit (Mich) was held Feb. 3-19, produced by L. N. Fleckles. Dorothy Winn was the director, with Al Youngman, musical director and Ernie McLean, ringmaster.

The program featured: Overture; Grand Entry; Elizabeth, Lydia and Rosemary, trapeze; Wade Burck, with the Hawthorn tigers; Miss Tina, an upside down walk; "Bagheera" white tiger riding an elephant; the Trio Les Moines; Eric's canines; Pap's Pups; Cimse's Russian Wolfhounds; Aerial Ballet; Herman and Petunia, comedy; The Clowns; Los Argentinos; Martin Lambert; Eric Acadis; the Great Segura; Venio Venito; The Kneisleys; The Burketts; The Pharaohs; Clown act; Derrick Rosaire and Tony, the horse; The Albanis; The Flying Lar-Rays; Clowns; the Rodriguez Troupe; Adam's Chimps; Pam Rosaire's Chimps; The Great Norbu; Johnny Luxem's Sensational Wheel; Martin, juggling; Arturo, juggling; Hortobagyi, risley; Bruski's unicycle; Pablo's Pretties; Clowns; King's, Hawthorn and Cuneo's elephants; Shrine Clown Band; Roger Zoppe's Arabian Riders and the Quassars.

..... Clarence Hastings

PEOPLE

CARL LOOPER, of Savannah, Ga., had his model circus and litho collection on display when the Ringling-Barnum show played that city. The Savannah (Ga) Morning Press carried a special circus story with photos on Feb. 12th.

JIM MIGHHELLS is working the former Harriett Beatty cats at King's Animaland in Richmond, Mich. He hopes to add several cats to the act before it is completed for showing.

WALTER RAUDENBUSH, who had the top on the Cole Show, Jimmy Cole and Kelly-Morris has been with the City of Ormand Beach (Fla.) for many years.

JIMMY DOUGLASS, INGA WILLIAMS, MIKE and PATTI WUDTKE, BONNIE and BILLY EARL, BRAD FRANK, GEE GEE ENGESSER, plus KATHRYN and AYRES DAVIES all recently visited the International All Star Circus at Daytona Beach, Fla. (Feb. 5).

ART CONCELLO, FRANK LAWSON and BOB DOVER flew in to visit the Circus Vargas show at McAllen, Texas.

THE CIRCUS REPORT is published each week by Don Marcks, 525 Oak St., El Cerrito, Calif. - 94530. Phone: (415) 525-3332.

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— NO COLLECT CALLS —

PEOPLE

WYMAN BAKER was a partner with JACK BAKER and both appeared as "Dr. Silkini" in different areas, working units of the Ghost Show. Wyman is back in show business with RAY WINDER, a former Silkini assistant and monster. Winder's company is Atlantic Southern Productions and VINCE CARMEN's show 'Razzle Dazzle' is playing most of those dates. Recently Wyman and Ray visited the Carmen show and demonstrated their dancing hank number.

GLENN PARKINS, executive director of the Royal Hanneford Circus and PHILLIP MORRIS, who produces Hanneford's production

numbers and operates a costume shop, were both former Ghost Show performers.

TERRY KIRWALD RUSSELL, son of former Great London Circus performance director ED RUSSELL, has given up show business after 5 years as Ed's right hand man. Terry is now installing carpet in the San Francisco Bay Area.

ED RUSSELL has the season booked with the Carson & Barnes Circus as performance director starting in March. In April and May he will tour for 8 weeks with the Hubert Castle Circus, returning to complete the season for C&B, until November. In December he is booked solid with John Strong's Christmas unit, as the show magician.

Sawdust Trail

ROGER MOORE, CFA of Dallas and member of the Ed Millette Tent, resigned from his job with a local finance company to become part of the advance for the Hubert Castle Circus. He got started on his new job on Jan. 1st, and we wish him well.

The TNT & Royal Olympic Circus is scheduled to play a Mall in the Dallas Area on March 21-25. The monthly meeting of the local CFA tent will be held in connection with the show and members plan to treat the show folks to a covered dish supper.

Tex Dreyfus, Houston CFA'r, reports he and a Mr. Miller spent an enjoyable morning visiting the elephant herd on the Circus Vargas lot at Galveston, Texas. Tex is well known for his interest in elephants, and reports they had to leave the lot before seeing the show due to bad rains and fog in the area.

DoDo, the Clown, has recovered from his recent heart attack and recently made his first appearance since Dec. 3rd. His hour clown pro-

gram on Feb. 4th went well and the audience was very receptive.

This writer finds it hard to believe that circuses in Europe are declining as recently reported in a show business paper. There is so much talent and circus folks are thought of so highly over there that it seems hard to think shows are on the decline there.

With the purchase of the George Matthews Circus and Fisher Bros. equipment by DOREY MILLER, of Carson & Barnes, the sale of NEIL FRANZEN's outfit and with Circus Kirk in the hands of receivers, there will be four less shows on the road in 1978. Show business is on the decline in this country.

C. C. DAY reports from Donna, Texas, that when Circus Vargas played the area it day-and-dated a carnival on the same lot. The weather was rainy and cold for the four day stand.

This reporter and CR extend their sympathy to Wm. 'Bill' Hooper on the loss of his mother on Jan. 24th. Bill is Southern Vice President of the CFA and is a hard and devoted circus worker in that area.

..... M. L. Dupont

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