



6th Year

March 7, 1977

Number 10

## Circus Performs for Pope

Pope Paul VI doesn't go to the circus, so on Feb. 16th, the circus came to him. Performers of Italy's famous "Orfei Circus" left their animals on the outskirts of Rome and attended the Pope's weekly general audience at the Vatican.

The clowns offered tricks and stunts, a brass band played "Va, pensiero" from Verdi's opera "Nabucco" and 11 year old Ambra Orfei performed with her doves. Three Spanish clowns played musical numbers, including "Granada."

The pleased Pontiff told some 3,000 persons attending the weekly audience that "this is, to say the least, an uncommon presence in a place of devotion."

He went on to say that circus performers were "particularly dear, whose country is the entire world."

Young Ambra Orfei told the people that "to perform in front of the Pope is so unusual I'd like my doves to understand what it means".

## STAR INJURED

Aerialist Linda Chandler fell some 25 feet while performing on the single trapeze during the George Hubler Int'l Circus at Poughkeepsie, N.Y.

The circus star broke her wrist and injured her leg and as a result will be grounded for three months. She is expected to be able to return to her husband's magic act in a few weeks.

AVAILABLE FOR LIMITED ENGAGEMENTS

*Paul V. Kaye*

# HOLLYWOOD ELEPHANTS

Contact

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## SHOW ACTS

The 9th annual Grotto Circus, at Decatur, Ill., was produced by George Hubler, with three shows presented on Mar. 5th and two on Mar. 6th. The show played at the Al Milliken University Gym.

Featured in the program were: Phil & Francine, aerial cradle; Dondi, baby elephant; Harriett Beatty, lions; Feller Boys & Dodo, wire; Phil & Linda Chandler, magic; Scott's Unrideable Mule; Vivian's Boxer Dogs; Eddie Ventura, aerial; The Vickinas and Aquilars, perch; Joe Sherman, producing clown and Florine Oler, music.

..... Allen Babcock

## PEOPLE

KIRBY GRANT (Sky King) was named Honorary Ringmaster for Senior American Days at Circus World Park in Florida.

FATHER ROBERT McCARTHY, pastor of the Holy Family Church at Watertown, N.Y.; is known as "The Carny Priest". He spends three months each year following the carnivals to serve its people.

LES THINIS, trampoline act, appeared on the Mike Douglas TV Show, from Miami Beach (Fla.) on Feb. 23rd.

MIKE MARTIN, former Beatty-Cole and Sells & Gray side show manager and magician, recently completed a 15 week tour with his "Holiday In Magicland" show. He is not set for an eight week tour with "The Happiness Show" which features magic, illusions, animals and larger than life costumed characters.

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After moving their home and offices from the Chicago area to Garden Grove, Calif., just south of Disneyland, the TNT & Royal Olympic Circus played its first California engagement with a 5 day stand in the large multi-level Westminster Mall, Feb. 16-20.

Equipment for the one ring show is spotlessly clean, brightly painted and impressive. The show plays indoor malls exclusively with owner Earl Tegge serving as ring master, his wife, Louise, on organ and son, Tim, on percussion. Tim also doubles as a clown.

Featured in the show this reviewer caught were: Tim Tegge, come-in; Overture; The Carlsons, juggling, plates, bells; Senor Jose Cole, one finger stand, etc.; Tim Tegge, change bag with lots of good funny business; and Wini McKay, aerial circle trapeze. Chester Cable's act works in some shows.

The fast-paced, half-hour show has plenty of audience participation with strong audience reception. Performances were at 11, 2 and 7.

..... Chuck Burnes

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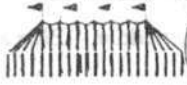


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## Miscellaneous

Before the circus animal people could sail from Jacksonville, Fla., for their engagement in Puerto Rico with Circus Odyssey, each person had to be signed aboard ship as a part of the crew, with Coast Guard approval.

Members of the Roland C. Butler CFA Tent in Arizona, will visit the Circus Vargas on Mar. 26th and the Phoenix Shrine Circus on Mar. 27.

## PEOPLE

CLAUDE ARWOOD has been hospitalized for several weeks and is improving rapidly. Cards and letters can be sent to him at: 3N305 Cardinal St., Addison, Ill. 60101.

IVAN HENRY is the entertainment director for Legend City, a theme park at Tempe, Ariz., which was acquired early this year by the Capell Family, veteran carnival operators.

## FOR SALE

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MOON WALK - Midway attraction

CONCESSION TRAILER - 33 ft. This is a combination concession and office with ticket window and living space. Lots of holding tanks. Concessions in rear of trailer. Trailer has 3 axles, is 2 years old and in excellent condition. Looks like a normal trailer going down the highway. No weigh station stops if pulled by a pick up or camper. Also have concessions left over from last season.

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# BILLY BARTON . . . .

THE CORONAS have resigned with CIRCUS WORLD for another year. A second unit, the CORONAS THRILL CIRCUS, goes on the road at that time also... playing dates such as West Orange (NJ) and then being stationed at Six Flags Over Texas for the entire summer. Next year the troupe introduces a double space wheel on one axle and a criss-cross aerial motorcycle which will work over a lake now being constructed at Circus World. STEVIE will also be aloft on her new Rocket Ship.

Talent inked for the West Orange date includes CIMSE dogs, IRENE & TONY FOSSETT, REX WILLIAMS, splitting a 6 elephant act into two rings of 3, plus 2 high school horses and his mixed animal display; BARON VON UHL, SATANI DEMON, BURGER'S Chimps and dogs, the HERNANDEZ TROUPE and the STOYANOFFS; ERNIE LANTERMAN and JIM GOURLEY will be in Clown Alley of at least ten. Musical director is TONY SHELTON.

FLASH !! Those of you who remember the famous SKATING VANITIES, a roller skating revue, will be interested to know that a brand new roller skating show is in the works for 1978. Young skaters, chorus and specialty, who are interested in touring may contact this show through me.

ROSE and FAY ALEXANDER open this month with Carden-Johnson....It's a GO for the Los Angeles Circus date again - this time, I'm told, it will be promoted by the building....JUSTINO LOYAL has put together a new riding act....Ditto the ZERBINI BOYS, Mario and Robert....GUNNAR AMANDIS is headed for Europe. Says he: "I'm not bringing acts back, I am sending them over." Well, that's a welcome switch...LA NORMA, who trained BRIDGET BALLENTINE, is breaking other starlets for the trapeze....JIM SWAFFORD visited with the Cuneo's in L.A., reports seeing the now retired BILLY WOODS, who bought an apartment bldg in the area...and informs me that John and Herta imported a new trainer from Europe, the famed JEAN MICHON....LILI KRISTENSEN played Louisville for Polack, reports that KIM's horse Pascha Macdar's hind leg walk is up to 45 ft....ANITA KEPPO and TOM DESIMINI are heading for the West Coast to do "something different for a change"..... CATHY ENGLISH is going out on her own this season (No, I don't know where or with whom)...REMO CRISTIANI is back on World of Mirth where his elephant act is the "free act" and where he has an elephant ride....TINA and JOHN HANSON report a ser-

ies of good dates set with their ROYAL DANISH CIRCUS....ditto the popular ROYAL PALACE CIRCUS produced by the DUBSKYS.

FRANK DAILEY, of Garden Bros., severely burned when the heater in his camper blew up last season, has recovered and will be back on the show. He received 3rd degree burns and went through a series of skin grafts on his hands and face....GARDEN will play the Montreal Forum twice in one season, just as he did last year....I've also been told the circus has added Atlanta and Harrisburg to its route....The Animal Package of JOHN and HERTA CUNEO will play the first full ten weeks, starting Mar. 5 at Allentown....The "Road Show" will carry the new ZERBINI Riding act and ERIK ADAMS and Co. and will feature two production numbers....MARLENE and ARTHUR GROTEFENT, formerly with Sells & Gray, will also tour with Garden Bros. this year. That show's band-leader, LEO MASCITTO, now has his green card, has moved from Montreal to Sarasota....RON MORRIS who has the Garden concessions, told me ABC plans a Documentary Special on KARL WALLEND, based on Ron's biography of the famed wire walker.

JENNY WALLEND framed a Variety Show for the local 6th Graders so they could pay their way to DISNEY WORLD.....JOE BAUER extended an invitation to me to visit GREAT ADVENTURE. Says I must see DAVE MacMILLAN's Flying Tiger Act - the trainer uses 22!....Lovely REBECCA NOCK's daughter, of Charlie and Dorothy, will appear in the HERRMAN's horse show, though still a part of the BAUER troupe.. Everytime I visited Ice America I saw JIM NORDMARK (one of the Ice Compressors belongs to him).... BOB WELZ, who juggles, skating on ice, has been with many circuses, including RBBB and EMMETT KELLY, Jr.....That ice show, by the way, moves on five semis....ROYAL HANNEFORD will have four production numbers this season. A King Kong likeness will be featured in the opening spec and the elephants will wear Shrine Fezzes in "Salute to the Shrine" main spec designed by PHILIP MORRIS..RAY ORSAK did the costuming for the aerial ballet and for TAJANA - and three top-notch arrangers did this year's music: KEITH KILLINGER, BILL PRUYN and CHARLES SCHLARBAUM.

EMMETT KELLY, Jr. Circus, after last year's Philadelphia upset, has regained its equilibrium and has a number of excellent dates set, including a round of

(Continued on Page 14)

## WANTED

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Anyone Interested Contact:

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## In Memoriam

**OBIBIE ESCALANTE CROUCH** (38) son of Floyd and Esther Crouch, died in Los Angeles, Calif., on Jan. 30th after a brief illness. He was an infant when Floyd and Esther were with the 1938 Hagenbeck-Wallace Circus. Survivors include his wife, 2 daughters and a son. Burial was at Calvary Cemetery in Los Angeles.

**CECIL (C. R.) ROBERT MONTGOMERY** (74) died at his home in Tampa, Fla., on Feb. 16th. A native of South Dakota, he was retired, but had been with Ringling-Barnum, the Tampa Zoo and at one time operated his own show, the C. R. Montgomery Wild Animal Circus. Survivors include 2 daughters and 4 sons. Services and burial were at Albany, Oregon.

Pruitt's Miniature Circus was displayed at the Roosevelt Mall, at Jacksonville, Fla. on Feb. 17-19. It is an early day replica of the Ringling Barnum Circus.

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## Circus Stars

The program presented by the Royal Danish Circus at Punta Gorda, Fla., Feb. 22-27 featured:

Dan and Baxen, clowns; the Morgan Ashton Family and Little Harold; the Almiros Jugglers; Diana on Spanish web; Bongo, Gorilla Parody; Miss Tina, single trapeze; Morgan and Little Harold, clown gag; Rosita and Alberto, plate spinning; Mike Ashton, foot juggling; Les Thisis, trampoline act; Miss April, 110 ft. sway pole; Balloon O Rama.

## PEOPLE

**ROBERT MOMYER**, who in 1976 was assistant to the dean of RBBB's Clown College, and his wife **SANDRA**, who own and operate Magic International Productions, have expanded their work to include themed productions and promotions. Their primary interest, however, will continue to be their magic and illusion show - Magic International - where they perform as Roberto & Alexandra. They are presently designing and building life-sized puppets for a film being produced by 501 FILMS, a studio that specializes in industrial and commercial movies.

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# CIRCUS ODYSSEY

Circus Odyssey is presented in one ring, European style, and features a colorful lighting scheme utilizing show-owned footlights, lighted ring curbs and special effects, such as smoke and bubble machines. Hanging light banks and eight super-troupers were provided by Richard and Susan Logothetis, who flew to Puerto Rico to oversee their installation.

A dazzling spec with 35 dancing girls and the entire company of performers starts the program which punctuates its performance with at least six "flash" acts - The Vashek Duo, an outstanding aerial motorcycle team; Venio Venito, in an exciting, swaying sword balance; The Young Duo, cradle; Scalzo and Company with a startling "burning coffin" illusion; Prince Najvez with an Aztec production using 5 girls and fireworks that dovetails with the show's finale of the full cast, elephants, bubble machines, smoke and sweeping spotlights, and Cimse's revolving, lighted props for his unusual dog act.

Very strong standard acts round out the program. Well received are the Gutis with their jungle comedy; the Wazzans, spirited tramping; Vashek, in an inclined walk, which in this

building is long and high, with a headstand half way, after which he drops the pole and then continues on without; Bob and Rosa Gibbs' elephants; the Volvos, comedy revolving ladder; Scalzo & Co. illusions; and two completely different wild animal acts - Harry Thomas, suave and urbane with tigers and Prince Bogino, the famed black trainer, with a group of lions. Both acts use the same arena, Thomas opens the program and Bogino opens the second half. New is Kronos (Jerry Beahman) in a revolving aerial act with a rocket on one end, which closes the first half.

Clown numbers were developed by Jimmy Douglass and the six man alley features: Donnie Stambaugh (boss clown), Vern Woerner, Mike Perry, Joe Caputo, Phil Vantreeren and Richard Davis.

A local TV personality is the M.C. and the band of 15 musicians is headed by Willy Marambio, with Stanley Freidburg at the organ, both of whom are from New York.

Circus Odyssey is owned by Ed Migley, former manager for the Emmett Kelly, Jr. Circus and his show in San Juan is produced in association with Rafi Miranda.

..... Pablo Rodriquez

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## Puerto Rico Date

San Juan, Puerto Rico — The new Circus Odyssey, owned by Ed Migley and produced in Puerto Rico in association with Rafi Miranda, opened a four and a half week run at the Roberto Clemente Coliseum on Feb. 17th. The new show, produced by the youngest producers in the industry, encountered the usual overseas shipping headaches with some props arriving at the last minute and parts for the 8 super troupers arriving two days late. Despite these very minor annoyances the colorful two and a half hour spectacle was well received.

Business the first stanza was light, but 20% over attendance for the Emmett Kelly, Jr. Circus last year and far ahead of the Charles Garcia-Tito Batancourt promoted circus which had set in the same building from Dec. 17 to Jan. 2nd. The first Saturday matinee was also up over Ice Capades which is this building's number one winner. These reports were provided for CR by the Coliseum manager.

By George Washington's Birthday (a holiday in P.R. as it is stateside) business tripled and show-

## ELEPHANTS LOST FOR IVORY

In recent years, thousands of elephants have been slaughtered in Tanzania, the ivory shipped to Communist China to help pay for the railroad which the Chinese constructed from Dar es Salaam to the copper fields of Zambia.

ed healthy signs of topping an anticipated over all gross by the March 20th closing. Odyssey then treks to Ponce for a four day run before returning to the states and a tour of New England areas.

Sour grapes speculation all winter regarding the fate of this new circus proved groundless. Acts have been paid on time, their treatment has been far and away the finest by any show ever to hit the island. Hotel rooms (with kitchenettes) are provided, plus chartered bus transport to and from the coliseum. Also paid are the taxes and round trip transportation for performers, animals and equipment. Besides the beautiful mid-summer like weather, other fringe benefits include sightseeing tours, parties and an incredible show schedule of only 8 shows a week, with one day a week off;

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# ROUTES

## CARSON & BARNES CIRCUS

- Mar. 1-2 Huntsville, Ala.  
 3 Atalla  
 4-7 Birmingham  
 8 Fayette  
 9 Columbus, Miss.  
 10 Clarksdale  
 11 Helena, Ark.  
 12 Pine Bluff

## CIRCUS ODYSSEY

to Mar. 20 San Juan, Pto Rico

## CIRCUS VARGAS

- Mar. 8-10 Garland, Texas  
 11-14 Abilene

## COLE ALL STAR TV CIRCUS

- Mar. 7 Clifton Springs, N.Y.  
 8 Weedsport  
 9 Cato  
 10 Phoenix  
 11 Mexico  
 12 Baldwinsville  
 13 Central Square

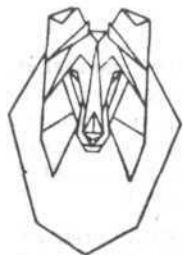
## RINGLING-BARNUM - Blue Unit

- Mar. 8-9 Fayetteville, N.C.  
 11-13 Columbia, S.C.

## RINGLING-BARNUM - Red Unit

- Mar. 8-13 Richmond, Va.

Stewart Bros. Circus, out of Kansas City, Mo. was purchased in 1926 by the Mighty Hooge Show. The show moved on 30 trucks, had a two ring big top with a 12 piece band and a full side show, with a 3 piece band inside.



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## Circus People

A total of seven performances were presented by the Royal Hanneford Circus at White Plains, N. Y. (Feb. 19-21), reports Mike Naughton.

The program featured: Opening Spec, "Jungle Jive"; Tajana and tiger; The Basham Sisters, Roman ladders; Kim Norman and Nancy Giordano, aerial ladders; Madeline, hair hang; Tiger and an elephant; The Marconis, foot juggling; Manuel, one finger stand; Isabella, bicycle balance; The Sanger Riding Academy; Aerial Ballet with Nancy Giordano, aerial lyra; Signor Rai & Co., illusions; Morris Sisters, Zig Zag; The Riding Hannefords; Satani Demon, fire eating; Spec, "Circus Comes to Town" (features floating fez) followed by intermission.

The second half included: Dave Maas, slack wire; Ramos, slack wire; Kim Norman, birds; The Lancelots, high wire (4); The Hanneford elephants (4); Finale, entire company.

The band consisted of Charles Schlarbaum, Jerry Maas, Brian Maas and local musicians. Signor Rai and Philip Morris divided the duties of ringmaster, while Clown Alley featured Mike Naughton, Wally and Cher.



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# PEOPLE

F. A. "Babe" BOUDINOT, traffic manager and general agent in charge of advance crews for the Ringling-Barnum show for years and until the end of their canvas tours, is with the Blackstone Theatre in Chicago. He annually makes visits to see former Ringling show personnel.

F. B. "Bev" KELLEY, former RBBB press and publicity chief, now lives in Oklahoma City after living for years in Philadelphia. He keeps active working advance for many touring shows from Broadway.

CHARLIE SCHULER, former Cole Bros. and RBBB press agent, lives in retirement at Dune-din, Fla. He was listed on the RBBB programs through last season as a staff member. He still helps that show on its more difficult railroad jumps.

GEORGE "Red" WHITE, side show talker and manager on such shows as Al G. Barnes, Hagen-beck-Wallace, RBBB, Clyde Beatty, Tom Mix and Beatty-Cole, is a stage hand working in Las

During the 1926 season the Pullman & Mack Circus toured mostly in Kentucky. The show's manager was O. T. Clark, while the side show was operated by D. Ray Phillips.

Vegas, where he and his wife Barbara now live.

EDDIE HOWE, veteran circus press agent, just recently went on the road as advance press agent for United Artists' hit film "Rocky". Last fall he bought a home in Anaheim, Calif., where he resides with his wife and family.

WILLIAM L. "Bill" OLIVER, former contracting press agent and manager of No. 1 Advance Cars on many major circuses, is almost blind and lives at the Elk's National Home in Bedford (Va.) He enjoys mail which should be addressed to him at the home.

GENE LYNCH, former RBBB staff member, lives in semi-retirement at Sarasota, Fla., with his wife Despi. He works as a ticket seller at the Sarasota Dog Track during the racing season.

KENNETH "Sheik" GWINELL, former RBBB veteran is ill and hospitalized at Sarasota, Fla.

# ACTS

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# Headliners

The program for the Tripoli Shrine Circus, at Milwaukee, Wis., produced by L. N. Fleckles, features:

The Lodi Duo, aerial cradle; Guy Gossing's tigers; The Albanis; The Edwardos; De Mille, wire; Randy & Sylvia; Martin, juggler; Jorge's Unpredictable Car; The Storybook Animals; Sebastian's Poodles; Gee Gee's ponies; Happy, the Clown and a spotlight; Aerial Ballet with The Girl in the Moon; Mister Rhythm, trained horse; The Wheel of Destiny; The Flying Lar-Rays; Ronald MacDonald, clown; The Rosell Troupe, high wire; Sabo's Chimps; Clown boxing act; The World Wheelers; The Reynoso Bros., Pirates of the Sky; Lamberti, balancing; The Hortobagyi Troupe; The Hernandez Troupe; Clowns and the Dentist; Gary's elephants; King's elephants; Gee Gee's elephants; The Sensational Swaying stars; Hugo Zacchini's Apollo Rocket.

The show's staff included: L. N. Fleckles, producer; Dorothy E. Winn, general manager and

# Miscellaneous

An all Mexican Circus, produced by Fuentes Garca, which will be promoted and agented by Federico Rodriguez, is expected to open a six month U.S. tour at San Antonio, Texas, on March 11th.

Funs-A-Poppin, the animal/variety show operated by Betty Wendany has been enjoying good business in the Southern California area.

Beagle's Trained Animal Show, of 1926, was operated by Harry Beagle and toured in the mid-west area. The show traveled on 5 trucks, offered 20 acts, plus four clowns. The band was directed by Johnnie Frazie. The program included the Fisher Family of acrobats/wire/aerial

director; Al Youngman, musical director; Al Dawley, announcer and equestrian director; Ernie McClain, singer; Ron Kelroy, prop boss and Eve Kelroy, wardrobe.

Clown Alley consisted of: Happy, Yo Ho, Ko Ko, Blinko and Goofee.

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# Set For Long Tour

The 1977 season for the American Big Top Circus (formerly Dailey Bros. Circus) got underway on Jan. 10th when the show opened at Blessing, Texas. After a ten day swing through the Rio Grande Valley the show moved into the south central part of the state.

This year the circus has a brand new big top, a 60 ft. round end with three 30 ft. middle sections. The top is green and white striped and was made by Norfolk Tent & Awning Co. A matching 20 ft. x 30 ft. marquee is on order.

The midway consists of four carnival flat stores, moonwalk, Bert and Marie Pettus' food concession trailer, ticket office trailer and Mel Silverlake's giant snake exhibit. No side show is being carried at this time.

Rolling equipment includes: Semi/grain hauler trailer - poles and seats; Semi/van trailer - living quarters, props, two light plants; Semi/van trailer - workingmen's sleeper, two elephants and a camel; Semi/van trailer - lead stock and an elephant; Straightbed - water tank, stake driver, stakes; Straightbed - ponies and pulls bear den trailer; plus five privately owned units. All show trucks are painted green and white with no lettering.

Performance, under the direction of Mel Silverlake, who also serves as announcer, runs one hour and 15 minutes and includes:

Single elephant; Isom Null, juggling; Eddie Lutz, menage horse; Peanut Pitch; Gloria Null, swinging ladder; Educated Chimp; Clown gag; Isom Null, illusion; Single Pony; Isom Null & Co., Jargo; Elephant ride (50 cents); Gloria Null, web; Mel Silverlake, monkey; Isom Null, whips; Midway announcement; Mel Silverlake, pony drill.

Show personnel includes: John (Gopher) Davenport, owner/manager; Mel Silverlake, big show announcer; Peggy Null, organist; Brownie Silverlake, snake exhibit; Gloria Null, big show tickets; Clara Stevens, front door and purchasing; Jimmy Lee Long, canvas boss, assisted by two men; Eddie Lutz, lead stock and water man; Isom Null, marquee and Kenny Penter, electrician and mechanic.

# Headliner

(The following item is reprinted from Hy Gardner's "Glad You Asked That" column in response to a question as to whether Karl Wallenda ever gets nervous.

"Yes," Karl conceded, "several times in my 72 years. Like the time I walked the wire with my wife on my shoulders - when she was seven months pregnant!

"Another time, after I fell 40 feet in a matinee performance I was nervous before I did the evening show that same night.

"I was also nervous that night of April 5, 1928, when I opened with Barnum & Bailey in Madison Square Garden. At the end of our presentation the audience applauded and whistled. I ran out of the arena, sure I'd be cancelled the next day. But I wasn't. I was told that was the way an audience in America showed how much they liked the act. In Europe, whistling was like booing is over here.

Come to think of it," he told us. "my most nervous time was months after I (only 16 at the time) had an affair with a woman appearing in the same variety show I was in, in Germany. I was suddenly informed the woman was the most hunted female spy of World War I, Mata Hari. I knew her as Margaretha Gertrud Zelle. She was later executed, I heard."

Footnote: Although Wallenda's wife accompanied him to the Fontainebleau for his spacewalk, she was too nervous to watch. Karl himself was so jittery, because of the breeze and showers, he even considered taping the segment. However, pro that he is, he did it live.

Later, over a double martini, he said: "I will never stop walking. God will have to make me stop."

Captain James Davis was called away from his off the road duties and pressed into service on the show, handling the three elephants - Jenny, Susie and Tommy. He spent ten days with the show caring for the bulls until a suitable handler could be obtained. This is his second season of civilian life since working for Mel Silverlake's Fisher Bros. Circus.

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## Pot-Pourri

Visitors at the Royal Hanneford Circus during its White Plains (N.Y.) date included: John Phillips, Joe Menshun, Fred Griffin, Irma Stevens, Rose Adair, Nick Falzone, Tommy Sink, Phil Dunlap and Rosita Barr.

Jerry Maas is arranging new musical scores for Mike Naughton's "Michelangelo Paint Co." act. ...Dave Maas (14) will retire from the slack wire in March, but father Jerry and brother Brian will remain with the Royal Hanneford band.

Kim Norman is working the Wood's bird act.... Signor Rai is traveling solo this season.....Nancy Giordano, debuted her beautiful aerial lyra at White Plains....The Chandlers, Tom Sink, The Dubsy's, Scotts, Herbie Weber and others will work George Hubler's winter dates.

Illusionist Dorian Blake recently finished two weeks of Magic shows in the Northeast....Patty Antalek's dogs and chimps will continue with the corporation shows in '77.....Tommy Sink will be producing clown on Hoxie Bros.

..... Mike Naughton

## In Memoriam

EARL MOSSMAN (88) died recently at Portland, Oregon. He was known as the "Mayor of Broadway" in Portland and had been a vaudeville and stage star for many years. Known by showfolks everywhere, Mossman had a wide acquaintance with circus people and at one time was a headliner in traveling stage shows with circus acts. In 1964 he was appointed the Honorary Ringmaster of King Bros. Circus during its tour in Oregon and rode the show elephant during each performance.

### BILLY BARTON (Continued)

Music Theatres in Florida....Talent set by ROSE ADAIR includes WELDE's BEARS, PRINCE NAJVEZ, CIMSE's Dogs, MARCO POLO and VENO VENITO. JOHNNY WALKER nominates the "Big 3 of the Pasadena Super Bowl": BUZZY (Cuttin): The Worker - RED (Gates): The Thinker - CAMEL-RIDER: the Drinker.

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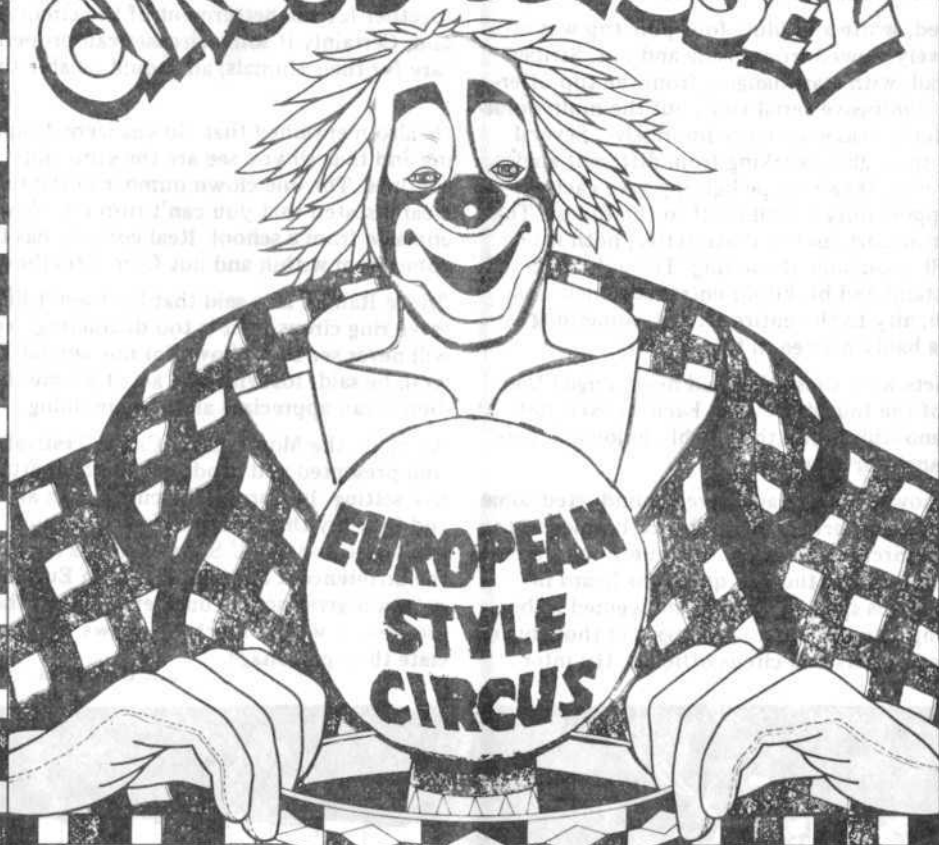
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## REVIEW

CBS-TV improved its ratings by presenting the Monte Carlo Circus Festival's top stars in a program that could easily have run 90 minutes instead of its allotted 60 minutes.

The red, white and blue, four pole top was attractively viewed from inside and out. Striped sidewall, with stars hanging from the top offered an impressive aerial view, but the multi-colored interior was even more impressive. Several super spotlights, working from different angles, along with theatre type lighting gave each act the opportunity to sell itself to the fullest. The only ring curb used was attractive, both inside as well as outside of the ring. The gold trimmed bandstand and backdoor entrance added class and dignity to the entire setting, something that is badly needed in this country.

The acts were those that had been judged the best of the four day event. Each worked fast and smoothly, for a thoroughly enjoyable performance for everyone.

The show's host, Chad Everett, conducted some interesting interviews with Prince Rainier and various circus performers. His questions weren't the usual run of the mill questions heard in other circus specials. Instead he seemed to be probing into the inner workings and thoughts of the performers and circus officials. His inter-

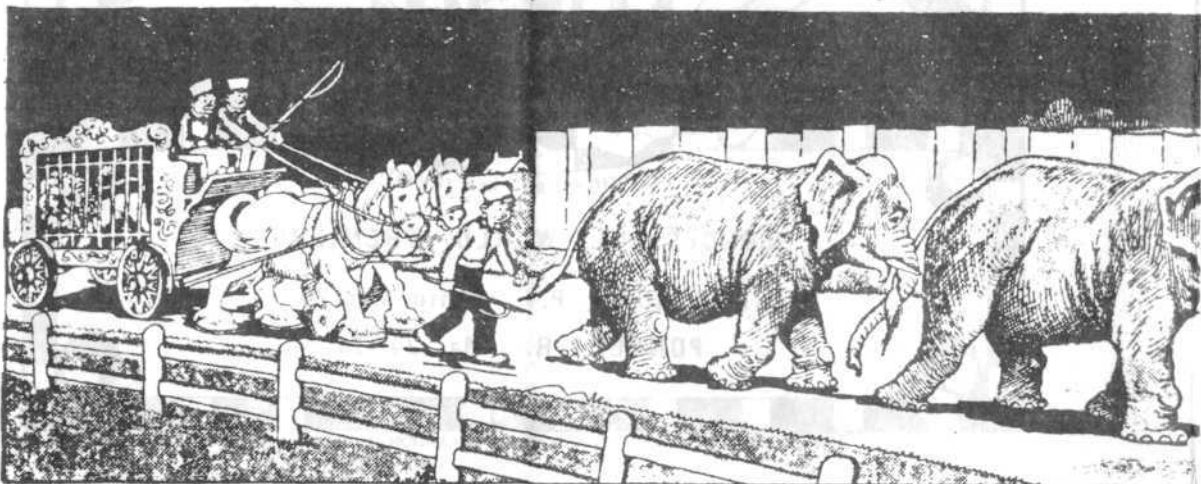
view with Prince Rainier showed a man deeply involved with the success of the circus world. The Prince discussed the harassment of circuses and their animal keepers by humane groups, which has now reached a world-wide involvement. It is time for the circus people to work together for the betterment of the circus, he said. Certainly if some circuses can properly care for their animals, all should be able to do this.

He also mentioned that clowns were disappointing and that all you see are the same old routines. The one clown number in the show clearly stated that you can't turn out clowns enmasse from a school. Real comedy has to come from within and not from a textbook.

Prince Rainier also said that he doesn't like the three ring circus, as it is too distracting. You will never see such shows for our annual Festival, he said, for with one act at a time the audience can appreciate all they are doing.

All in all, the Monte Carlo Circus Festival was well presented and produced, with an attractive setting. In Europe the circus is an art form and they try their best to show it as such. Both in Europe and the U.S. the circus is big money, the difference it appears, is that in Europe the patron is given some consideration and they are treated with respect, by shows who appreciate their patronage.

..... B. Frank



# ROUTES

## CARMEN'S WONDERLAND OF MAGIC

Mar. 5 Kingsport, Tenn.  
6 Johnson City  
7 Bristol  
10 Greenville, Miss.  
11 Greenwood  
12 Thibodux, La.

## KEN GRIFFIN (Magic)

Mar. 7 Crane, Texas  
8 Big Lake  
10 Dublin  
11 Sonora

## ICE AMERICA

Mar. 3-5 Poughkeepsie, N.Y.  
6-7 Plattsburgh  
9-10 Concord, N. H.  
11-12 Cape Code, Mass

## PROF. MILLER & Co. (Magic)

Mar. 7 Lexington, Miss.  
8-9 Belzoni  
11 Cleveland

## SPORTS SHOW

Mar. 10-13 Waterloo, Iowa

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# TROUPERS

Sarasota, Fla., former winter quarters for the Ringling-Barnum Circus, now is the retirement area of dozens of that show's former personnel. Included are: Unus, Ardelty, Kelly, Moroski, Wirth, Loyal, Concello and the Wallendas.

Thirty years ago, Bev Kelley, circus publicist, wrote the following poem for publication in the 1947 RBBB route book.

The poem is worth re-printing probably because it typifies the feeling of most ex-circus folks, no matter what show they were on.

.. Eric Wilson

## TROUPERS RETIRE

by Bev Kelley

They saved enough to quit, live in a town -  
Old troupers, leaving circus trails at last.  
And yet, when evening's curtain has rung down  
And silence cleaves the quiet, sheltered cove,  
They hear the phantom wagons rumbling past.

The hollow sounds keeps rolling through their  
dreams,

And when a storm knocks at the window pane,  
And through each tiny crack the north wind  
screams,

They hear instead as on a canvas dome,  
Drum-tight, the soft tattoo of summer rain.

Still, hoping with determination grim,  
They vow to live the life that others do.

And when the organ peals a stately hymn,  
Inspiring with majestic, solemn surge,

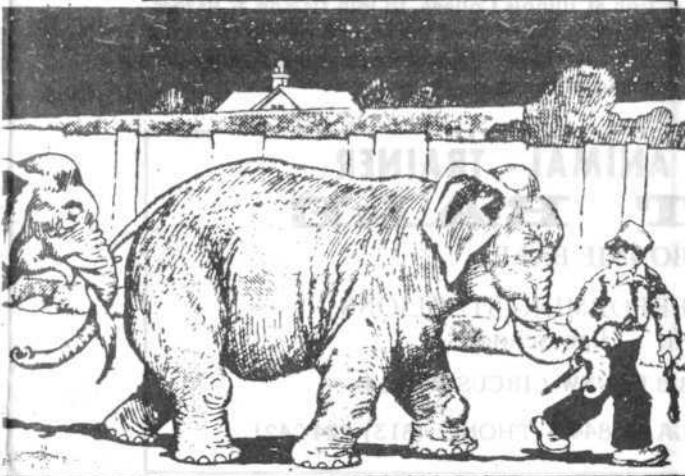
A ghostly calleyope comes piping through.

This is the promised land, the golden day;  
This is the bright mirage that blinds the eyes  
Of circus troupers whose bright roadway lay  
Beyond the boundries of a village street -  
Abreast Apollo's sun steeds in the sky.

The snorting, charging stallions of the sun!  
The spinning, flame-flecked wheels that pace  
the dawn

Of seeming, endless seasons never done;  
Like winding, spangled caravans that pause  
In sunlit hours, then load and thunder on.

They saved enough and left the show, retired,  
And built a house to hold them 'til they'd die;  
They boasted that had all their hearts desired,  
And never looked back down the winding road  
But in their dreams the wagons still roll by.



## CORRECTION

A glaring error appeared twice in the Feb. 21st issue of CR, when the site of the Hubert Castle produced Saladin Shrine Circus was moved from Grand Rapids to Detroit. The error was not the result of writer Jon Friday, but rather was caused by a mixup of copy as the paper was being set in type.

— \* —

The Zoo Story in the Jan. 31st issue of CR reported that a brown bear had been killed at the Central Park Zoo, actually it was a polar bear. A man who later was determined to be intoxicated decided that the bear was "tame" and climbed over the 6 ft. guard fence and stuck his arm through the bars, apparently with the intention of petting him. The bear grabbed his arm with its teeth and the man started pulling back and screaming. The police officer who responded tried at first to make the bear let go, as he was regularly assigned to the zoo, and had no desire to shoot the animal. He clubbed the animal several times with his night stick, thinking the bear might turn and grab the stick. When this didn't work, he fired the pistol close to the bear's ear, thinking the sudden loud noise might make it back off. Finally, he saw no other possibility and shot the bear once, killing it. The man who started the whole thing was taken to a local hospital, where the only treatment he required was stitching, an indication that the bear was not really trying to hurt him, since he could easily have ripped the arm off.

CLAUDE ARWOOD (12) has his own juggling act which is frequently featured on shows in the mid-west area.

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## PEOPLE

DANNY DANIELS, Organist, Comic and Juggler, has been busy with his One Man Variety Show playing Industrial and Automotive shows through Ohio and Michigan. Circus being his first love, he will again this year play circus dates during the summer under the big top.

AL HOUSE reports that a bad storm hurt attendance for the Royal Hanneford Circus date at White Plains, N. Y., Feb. 19-21. Sunday was the worst day, he added, and the Felix Adler CFA Tent Meeting was cancelled.

CHARLES BELLATTI, recently resigned as director of alumni affairs and public information at Illinois College, to join Carson & Barnes Circus as director of the show's public relations and advertising. He will work about two weeks ahead of the show.

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