

CIRCUUS REPORT

"AMERICA'S FAVORITE CIRCUS WEEKLY"



9th Year

June 9, 1980

Number 23



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REPORT

CARSON & BARNES CIRCUS

... by Karen Cart

The entire circus community, especially the management and employees of Carson & Barnes were saddened by the death of John "Elephant" Carroll. His home was Al G. Kelly-Miller Bros. and Carson & Barnes for over 30 years; everyone associated with either show will remember him. Although John had no immediate family, he had a large circus family and many, many friends. He will be sorely missed by all that knew him. There is a vacancy at the elephant picket line that cannot be filled.

The youngest member of the Carson & Barnes entourage is Barbara Elizabeth "Libby" Garcia, she was born Feb. 27th. Momma and Daddy are Jaime and Lisa Garcia. Jaime is big top supt and Lisa is on reserve seats. Grandma, Baraba Fulton is sure proud of Libby, as is Great-Great Aunt, Isla Miller.

Adrienne Moos, having just returned from a tour of Spain which she enjoyed immensely, joined the show at Nacogdoches, Texas, on Apr 21st. She is performing and working on reserve seats. Her parents, Don and Jackie Moos, have the cookhouse and pice car. Jackie is also purchasing agent and mail agent. The Moos' youngest daughter, Donna, will be joining the show as soon as school is out.

D. R. and Isla Miller celebrated their 46th wed-

ding anniversary on April 9th. Rumor has it that they both had forgotten it was their anniversary.

Kristin Byrd, 4 yr. old daughter of Geary and Barbara Byrd, is now participating in Wally and Chona Eastwood's unicycle act. In addition to Kristin, are Claudia Eastwood, 6 yr. old daughter of Howard and Chona Eastwood; Sasha Rawls, 7 yr. old daughter of David and Carol Rawls; and Diana Perez Rosales, 5 yr. old daughter of Chava Perez. Wally is superb on the unicycle, and the little girls' dancing is something to see.

On April 26th, Traci Byrd celebrated her 8th birthday with a wiener roast for her Carson & Barnes and Hugo school friends, at her home in Hugo, Okla. Her borthday is actually the 27th, but since the circus was only 50 miles away at Clarksville, Texas, she celebrated a day early in order to have all her friends together. The invitations read Hugo-Lake, but as it was cool and threatening rain, the party was held at the Miller-Byrd home. Traci and her 35 guests roasted wieners and marshallows over an open fire; then enjoyed ice cream cakes in the shape of "Snoopy" on the appropriately decorated patio. Everyone had a wonderful time, and all agreed they hoped Carson & Barnes would be close to Hugo on Traci's next birthday.

NOW AVAILABLE

Because of a misunderstanding I am no longer with Kelly Bros. Circus and as a result am now available for Shrine Circuses, Parks and Fairs, with my small 1910 Tin Lizzie Model T Ford, radio controlled comedy car.

LLOYD THE CLOWN (Lloyd Loan)

18 Valentia St., Huntington, W.Va. 25705

Phone: 304 - 522 - 2549

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REPORT**CIRCUS LITTLE, BUT GREAT - REAL**

... by Gene Kirkman

There's something special about a circus, but extra special under the canvas, the "Big Top". The Roberts Bros. Circus is one that still does it under canvas, a clean pretty 'big top' with its flags flapping in the breeze of spring. It is worth the price. It's just good clean family entertainment. That's what you get if you see the Roberts Bros. Circus. That's what it was at Yadkinville, N.C., on May 19th.

Weeds and grass grow where sawdust would have been in the old days, but the odor of cotton candy mingled with popcorn popping was a good smell and real.

This real circus was not like watching TV or an arena show. You were close to the show, you could feel the real people. There was Doris Earl, an owner with husband Bob, on the front door. Bob was away on advance work. You saw Jeff and Ginny Earl, an attractive hard-working, talented young couple, doing various and many acts. There was Bobby Earl with the "Moon Walk" and other jobs. Bobby Snyder at the organ, with his wooden "Pal Jimmy". Jo Mar the clown, in addition was selling souvenirs. Other troupers were the Macias Family and the Feirreria Family, both doing just great acts. If I was giving out awards my top award would go to George Rowe (not his show name) an illusionist.

It may not have been "The Greatest Show on Earth", but George and all the real people worked hard to put on a great show.

HELEN WILSON - Show Organist
(own Equipment) 704 - 786 - 4563

On The Cover

This week's cover picture is another of the very fine water color paintings created by Robert B. Johnson.

The scene is that of an early day circus, it is just getting dark and the tear-down is well underway. The two pole big top is in the background. The side show banners and top on the right are coming down, and a heavy wagon with four horse team, a camel and a lantern starts off towards the trains.

The performing horses are tied up between the trees on the left. Their tent has already been sent off to the train.

PEOPLE

JERRY BOOKER provided much of the circus background material for last month's production of "Carnival" at Mt. Tamalpais in Marin County, Calif. He also presented his giant horse 'Brigadoon' as part of the program.

JOHN CUNEO visited the Beatty-Cole Circus at Langhorn, Pa., late last month.

MAIL

Copies of Circus Report were returned this past week by the Post Office who says they can no longer deliver them as addressed.

Copies are addressed to:

Patrick Wenzel	Wm. C. Shoop
Steven Gregg	Al Blacconeri
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Bruno Attractions

AGENCY

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Show Dates

Beatty-Cole Circus

June 9-10 York, Pa.
11-12 Hazelton
13-15 Muncie

Carson & Barnes Circus

June 13 Plainfield, Ill.
14 Downers Grove
15 Crestwood

Hubert Castle Circus

June 9 Nelson, BC
10 Trail
11 Penticton
12 Chilliwack
13-15 Vancouver

Circus Vargas

June 9-11 Eureka, Cal.
12-15 Eugene, Ore

Circus Variety Show

June 9 San Antonio, Tex
10 Houston
11 Fort Worth
12 Okla. City, Okla
13 Tulsa
14 Kansas City, Kas
15 St. Louis, Mo.

Hamid-Morton Circus

June 12-15 Providence, RI

Happytime Circus

June 9-21 Vallejo, Calif.

Hoxie Bros. Circus

June 9 Celoron, NY
10 Olean
11 Hornell
12 Elmira
13 Trumansburg
14 Vernon
15 Watertown

Hubler Int'l Circus

June 11-13 Granite City, Ill

Wm. Kay Circus

June 10-13 Boise, Idaho

Pickle Family Circus

June 10-11 Crescent City,
Ca.
14-15 Bandon, Ore.

Ringling-Barnum - Blue

to June 15 Philadelphia, Pa

Ringling-Barnum - Red

June 10-11 Lexington, Ky
13-15 Memphis, Tenn

TNT & Royal Olympic

June 12-14 Hopkinsville, Ky

Wenatchee Youth Circus

June 14 Portland, Oregon
15 Salem

---- MAGIC ----

Blackstone Magic Show

to Sep. 1 New York, NY

David Ginn

June 9 Victoria, BC

Manzini, Escape Artist

Jun 14-Sep 1 Lake George
NY

Pf. Miller's Magic Time USA

June 15 Merrillville, Ind.

---- OTHER DATES ----

Byrans Clowns

June 9 New Bedford, Pa
14 Pulaski

Burr's Fun-O-Rama

Jun 9-14 Haverhill, Mass

James H. Drew Exposition

Jun 9-14 Bluefield, W.Va

Foley & Burk Shows

Jun 9-21 Vallejo, Calif.

Gund Western Collection

to Jun 15 Stockton, Cal.

Gutis Family

Jun 12-15 Peoria, Ill.

Hall & Christ Attractions

to July 6 Honolulu, Haw.

Kaye's Hollywood Elephants

Jun 12-15 Orland, Calif.

Scott's Old Time Md. Show

June 9 Fergus Falls, Minn
10 Fargo, N.D.
11 Grand Forks
12 Grafton
13 Devils Lake
14 Bottineau

Tip Top Shows - Blue

Jun 12-15 W. Allis, Wsc

Tip Top Shows - Green

Jun 13-15 Mukwonago,
Wsc.

White House in Miniature

to Jun 15 Pittsburgh, Pa.

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EUREKA! the note book has been found... Among the Ringling Red items marked in it is that TEX and MARCY MAYNARD visited with DAVE KING and WALLY NAGHTIN in Binghamton (NY) where the train enroute to Rochester demolished a car driven by a Hobart College student at an unmarked crossing near Geneva, N. Y. The student, Kurt Manser, 23, was pinned in the car for nearly 20 minutes before being freed by volunteer firefighters. He was treated for bumps, bruises, and a shoulder injury and then charged with failure to yield the right of way at a railroad crossing. The Ringling show train was absolved.

CLOSEUPS: FLORENCE STEPHENSON Mac GARRITY, married to JIM MacGARRITY, mgr. of Ringling Red, tells me that their elegant and much admired mother is no longer working in the great Stephenson dog act which is now at Circus World. . . MIGUEL AYALAS is now doing his wire act on the show and beautiful wife MARGUERITE (or Margaret) looks great in the web number. She, by the way, is the sister to the VASQUEZ boys currently with Castle. . . The WAINWRIGHTS are back from Japan after a tour with PAUL KAYE and said they really enjoyed the date. . . LILLI-ANA has a new routine in her leopard act and son, KIM, is out of show business and doing well in private life. . . My pet name for ERIC WILNOW is "Marshall Dillon" . . . SHARON WARD sent me a picture of herself with a kangaroo while she was in Australia with Ringling's Monte Carlo show - apparently those stories of her being ill and not being on a Ringling unit were false. She looks hale and hearty to me! At any rate, the gal loved Australia and, while there, learned Japanese for her trek thru Japan with the show. Sharon will be home in Sept. . . At BILL and TRUDY's farm during the month of May were DIME WILSON, CONNIE too, JOANNE and PEE WEE PINSON and several others. . . CHUCK CLANCY and TOMMY BENTLEY escorted L.A.'s hostess with the mostest MOTHER BETTY to the Vargas show where Madame Escalante had a ball, adored the show, and said she nearly fainted with delight from the nostalgic smell of a tent show and never realized until that moment how much she missed being on one. PHIL went with them and they visited with AVA and REX WILLIAMS

and BILLY McCABE, who was celebrating his birthday. They were seated in Mr. Vargas' private box seats and sez Betty: "That handsome manager, Joe Muscarella, even brought us coffee." Betty postscripted her letter to say she would take care of the Bentley Bros. Circus office during the time Chuck and Tommy were on promotions . . . and also that since the column on her appeared, the calls and letters are coming still, including such folks as RAY HARRIS, her first swinging ladder "swinger", HAZLEL MOSS and COLLEEN ALPAH, whose mother was the wardrobe mistress on the Beatty show. . . MARLIO MANZINI, world champion escape daredevil, introduced his latest thriller at St. Frances College in Loretto, Pa. (Apr. 18) when he was hand cuffed and shackled to a bench and blindfolded while a trail of black powder was laid out leading to a charge of flash powder placed just beneath his feet. The powder was ignited and he had only seconds to escape before the fire reached him. His escape was successful and he received a five minute ovation.

PROGRAMS: For the Garden Bros. Circus Canadian Tour which ended May 10: Overture, Razzle Dazzle, Lilli-Ana, Carol Wainwright, display with the Freddie and Andromeda, Rumpy, display with Wilnow's Collies, Horton's Bears and Ian Garden, Jr.'s ponies, Princess Tanya and Gorilla Fantasy, Aerial ballet featuring Mister Sensation, Intermission, Toyland Spec, Pirates of the Air, Smiley Daley, comedy bike, display with the Bruski, the Wainwrights, the Kursawes, The Flying Lanes, Clowns, Stebbing's elephants, Finale. Visitors during the run included Oopsis the clown, now living in Canada; Mrs. Dorothy Cole, now living in Hamilton, Ont.; Aerialetta, the Pinsons, Bill Stebbing, the Jordans, Christine Fossett and Roy Wells.

AMARILLO, Texas: (Hubler): Eddie Schmitt, tigers; Winn Bros.; Walter Family, Javanna's Baboons; Aerial Ballet; Michele, slide for life; Ben Williams with Anna May and leopard; Sir Erwin, comedy bike; Rotinit Sisters; John Winn, balancing; Buckles and Barbara Woodcock, elephants; the Astros, aerial motorcycle; Ringmaster Count Nicholas, music by Jessie Griffiths.

ROCK ISLAND: Rix Bears, Thomas Duo, cra-

REPORT**SYRIAN TEMPLE SHRINE CIRCUS**

... by Don Sandman

Tommy Hanneford and Glenn Parkins, Hanneford Circus, Inc., presented the Syrian Temple Shrine Circus under the big top at Old Coney Island, Cincinnati, Ohio, on May 2-11.

Under a six pole big top from Florida Tent Rental, the Harold Barnes company, the show was well laid out with 5 rings and looked beautiful on the lot. As you entered from the front, the ticket booths were on both sides of the midway along with novelties and programs, all leading to the menagerie tent (George Hanneford's) just beyond the marquee. Entering thru the marquee and into the menagerie the patrons were able to see all the working animals from the show before they went into the big top, except the elephants which were stacked out behind the tent in the open where they could be viewed from a safe distance. Inside the big top, both before and after the performance elephant rides were offered to the patrons.

The performance included: A Patriotic Welcome with its conclusion being the slide for life by the Great Huberto; Royal Bengal and Siberian tigers presented by Tajana; The Castros, high wire; the Hanneford mixed animals presented by George Hanneford, Zoppe's dogs, Diane's dogs, King's Animals; Aerialists, Diane Hanneford, Miss Tina and Belinda Maynard; Gaylord Maynard and his horse Chief Bearpaw; Anderson's Liberty Horses, George Hanneford's liberty ponies, Anderson's Liberty Horse; Clowns and the Strongman; The George Hanneford Riding Act, The Tommy Hanneford Riding Act, Zoppe Riding Act; Los Argentinos, perch; Sladek, chair bal-

ancing; the Tangiers Troupe, acrobats; Spec "Alice in Wonderland"; Intermission with the clowns posing for pictures and a winky blinky pitch.

The second half started with the Flying Gaona Family and the Flying Valentines; Western dressage by Nellie Hanneford, Miss Anderson, Gaylord Maynard, Don Anderson, Mark Karoly; Clowns, Gorilla Parody; Elephants presented by George Hanneford, Walt King, Tommy Hanneford; Elephant Chandra with the teeterboarding Mark Karoly; Flag waving finale with all of the show personnel.

Staff for the show included: Tommy Hanneford executive producer; Glenn Parkins, executive producer; Keith Killinger, musical director; Al Leonard, vocalist; Philip Morris, director; Gertrude Hanneford, aerial director; Senor Rai, ringmaster; Dwight Hansen, prop boss; David Jones, lights; Wally Jones, producing clown; Ray Orzak, costume designer; Cheryl Jones, wardrobe mistress; Harold Katzsu, animal supt. Ed Kenyon, transportation; Walt Davis, canvas supt.

Mother Hanneford had her arm in a sling, but she's just as spry as ever and insists on working every performance. At 90 plus years, she says when she quits working she won't be around anymore.

PEOPLE

MANZINI, escape artist, worked at the 9th Ave. Street Festival in New York City on May 17-18, presenting his levitation of a girl completely surrounded by spectators.

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HOTLINE

May 22 - New York City - Three performers were injured as a result of falls during a performance of the Ringling-Barnum Blue Unit at Madison Square Garden.

Luba Yantchevi suffered a fractured spine and her husband, Nedco Yantchevi suffered minor injuries. The accident occurred as they were finishing their high wire act and were to descend to the center ring via a rope. They missed the rope and fell 30 feet to the floor.

Julio Farias, of the Flying Farias, missed a trick and fell about 25 feet to a net, then bounced another 10 feet to the floor, where he landed on his head.

May 22 - South America - Johnny Peers, a clown with the Tihany show, suffered a broken back as a result of a fall when the cable of an aerial motorcycle act collapsed.

The cable had just been set-up when they were to make a test run, and Johnny offered to ride the trapeze which is hung below the cycle. The wire collapsed as they reached its highest point. The other performer suffered only an ankle injury.



ELEMENTARY SCHOOL SHOW

The Oak View Elementary School of Fairfax Va., held its 12th annual physical education show at nearby Robinson Secondary School fieldhouse. Directed by physical education teacher Jim Moyer, assisted by Miss Cheryl Thompson, over 500 Oak View students in grades 1-6 performed a variety of activities before an appreciative audience of some 2,500 spectators.

Among the activities presented were circus bicycle, tumbling, pyramids, rolling globes, balancing unicycling, German gym wheels, quartette adagio, juggling, gymnastics, rola bola, stilt-walking and various types of dancing.

Assisting with the circus acts were two former Florida State University "Flying High" Circus performers, Mr. John Kuck and Miss Joann Grant.

REPORT

MAGIC TOUR

... by Nick Kit

Larro's Magical World of Amusement and Mickey Hades (both of Alberta, Canada) recently played a tour of several towns and cities in Alberta, all to good crowds.

On April 18-19, the two hour show played Vegreville, Alberta, at the Composite High School Auditorium, offering two matinees and two evening performances to sold out houses for all four shows. On April 26-27 the show played Sherwood Park at the high school auditorium to real good crowds for both matinee and evening performances.

Mickey Hades, of Calgary, was the MC and a good full hour of the finest magic productions and vanishes of all types were presented. He also does a very good routine with giant-sized linking rings, cut and restored rope, a fire eating routine, card on the sword, etc. His finish was the changing of a small stemmed flower to a large Giant-sized Botania.

Larry Pankiw, of Larro's Magical World of Amazement presented seven illusions - including Sawing a Lady in Half, the Zig Zag, Mixed up Lady, Blade Cabinet, Substitution Trunk and many others. He also did a dove production and vanish, the vanish of a large radio and other magic.

The show was well routined and rehearsed, and ran a full two hours with never a dull moment throughout the production.

In addition to Mickey Hades and Larro, the show carries six additional people. Larry's wife, Marlene, Al Parks, Jr., Shawna Soracan, Blanch Parks, Al Parks, Sr. and one other person. There were many costume changes throughout the performance for all assistants, as well as for Larry and Mickey. The background music was geared and synchronized to suit every illusion and each magic trick.

On hand as guests in the crowd at Sherwood Park were Vera and Nick Kit, of the Dr. Kit Show (Magician and Hypnotist), who have just completed an 8 month tour of Idaho, Wyoming, Arizona, New Mexico, Texas and Oklahoma.



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We have commenced tapings for the third season of the C.F.T.O.-T.V. & C.T.V. series "CIRCUS!". Next tapings June 9th and Sept. 15-16-17. Need top quality acts which have not yet appeared on "CIRCUS!" for us and for fall tour commencing July 25 and season of '81.

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SORRY! Due to limited time in my office and the volume of mail we receive, all mail not necessarily answered but will be held on file for future reference.

In Memoriam

ROBERT E. (Bob) ADAMS (59) show promoter and agent, died May 15th at Sarasota, Fla. He served in Africa during World War II and booked dates for many circuses including the Kelly-Miller, Carson & Barnes, Bartock, Hoxie Bros. and Diamond S. Rodeo.

He toured with the national company of Jesus Christ Super Star and also promoted numerous concerts. His career included several years as a disc-jockey and talk-show host and he managed radio stations in Georgia and the Virgin Islands. For the past six years he was General Agent for the International All Star Circus of Sarasota.

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MCCULLEM "Tommy" TUNKINS (76), a World War II veteran and circus man, died at Tampa, Fla. on May 11th. He spent most of his life in the circus world, starting in 1927 working in the cookhouse on Sells Floto Circus. Later he worked for Hagenbeck-Wal-lace, Cole Bros. and Dailey Bros. Then he became a porter for Royal American Shows, after which he went to work at the Tampa Showman's Club.

Survivors include his wife, Coma, sisters Mrs. Virginia Jackson and Mrs. Jo Ann Singleton, brothers Sam P. Bernard and Juluis Bernard.

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— Leave Number Where We Can Contact You —

in the **NEWS**

EMERSON STILL BITTER

Ralph Emerson, of Newington, Conn., who operated a wild animal farm there for 25 years, was forced to sell his property six years ago when the state scheduled a highway through the area.

In 1974, the State Dept. of Transportation acquired 38 acres of Emerson's property. Now the controversial highway plans have been abandoned and the property lies idle. The state wants to sell it.

City officials would like to have the city buy the property for use as an industrial park site.

Emerson says he is still bitter about what the state did to him. "Next to my family that animal farm was my greatest love," he says. "Kids and grownups from all over would come to visit the animals and have a fun time."

Back then the animals were valued at \$40,000 to \$50,000 and today they would be worth at least twice that much. The cost of starting up another animal farm on the property would be prohibitive for him.

"In today's market it would cost about \$100,000 for the animals and another \$100,000 to

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replace the animal cages and structures," Emerson said. That doesn't include the land cost. If someone has \$1 million or more, he said, he would encourage them to open an animal farm there.

"It's an ideal spot for a zoo, with rolling hills, a pond and plenty of shade trees," that were untouched by the bulldozers, Emerson said.

"I get sick every time I drive by there and look at the place," he added.

PEOPLE

MARTIN (Lancelot Goodperson) REEVES presented his "Bionic Security Guard" routine at the Scottish Rite Children's Hospital in Dallas on May 18th. Also taking part in the presentation were BILL (Willie) POWELL, WOERNER (Peppy) BENDORPH and CARL (Squeaky) SMITH.

GEE GEE ENGESESSER's elephants toured with Garden Bros. Circus while she built a pit show for a Canadian summer tour.

Get well soon, Dad

from

Joanne, Marvin and the Boys

PEOPLE

BOB EMERICO, Hi Fi the Clown, has been set to play the Alaska State Fair on Aug. 23-27.

HAL TAYLOR's Circus Marionettes and **BOB HOUSTON's** Mini Circus and Museum have combined to offer special circus presentations in Philadelphia thru June 30th.

CLIFF "Tiny" KREUGER, Wisc. State Senator toured with the Seils Sterling Circus in the '30s.

H. "Bert" **BELL**, of Vancouver, BC, is making up special circus historical scrapbooks from the Circus Report and other circus publications.

ANGELA WILNOW and Her Collies worked in the Dobritch Int'l Circus at Mt. Clemens, Mich. (June 7-8), booked by Howard Schultz of Chicago. They are now enroute to the Royal Danish Circus where they will play Atlanta and Pine Mountain, Ga.

MARK HORTON is recovering from surgery in St. Paul, Minn. He will join his brother **REX** at Enchanted Forest, NY, for the summer.

WALT STIMAX and family have left the Hoxie Bros. Circus and will be working their acts at Canadian Fairs prior to playing fall dates on the west coast.

BETTY WENDANY'S FUNS-A-POPPIN

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CIRCUS QUIPS

. . . by **KARL J. BISCHOFF**

THERE IS NO JUSTICE for most show people. If you make your income tax out correctly you might go on welfare, if you don't go to jail.

THE old quarrel between **NORTH** and **SOUTH** has spread to include **EAST** and **WEST** and is now called **Circus Routes**.

SOME circuses might find it hard to get good men because some are **ONE ULCER MEN FOR TWO ULCER JOBS**.

STRANGE - some showmen who are old enough to *know better* are always looking for a girl not quite that old.

SOME SHOWS play towns so small that everybody knows whose check is good and whose husband isn't.

WASHINGTON TUBBS II



MAILBAG

... from William Wotsch

The Les Kimris appeared at our Cleveland Arena when we had the Al Sirat Grotto Circus there in Feb. 1940. This was a high act, a fellow riding a motorcycle around a platform with a girl hanging by one foot on a trapeze suspended below the motorcycle.

I recall talking with Terrell Jacobs in the dressing room. One day as the lions were run thru the wooden chutes to the arena, so the cages could be cleaned, the steel arena door was ajar and two lions roamed out into the arena floor. There followed a few minutes of excitement, but then it was over as they chased the lions back into the performing arena.

The elephant which were kept in our Pilsner Cellar area, pulled the covering off the overhead pipes during their stay there.

Lee Powell, who played the title rol of the Lone Ranger in the movies of 1938 was there. He rode his white horse around the building, with just the spotlights shining on him.

Some of the Pallenberg bears were on the show I remember almost every night after the performance the trainer would walk a bear up the stairs to the American Legion Club for a bottle

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of beer. This club was on the second floor, in the front of the building. The bear would stand by the bar and have his beer, along with the rest of us. After that the bear and trainer went back down to the cage area.

Miscellaneous

The Royal Crown Circus played dates at Lancaster, Calif. (May 16-17) and El Cajon, Calif. (May 23-24).

San Francisco's Barbary Coast Gallery presented a "Circus in America" show of posters and paintings during the month of May.

By Crane

GEE WIZ!
NOT
HAPPENED
TO HIM?
TRAIN WRECK?

POOR OLD HAP. I'VE
ALWAYS FELT MEAN 'BOUT
THAT. NICE BOY, TOO.
BUT ONE NIGHT I SAW
HIM WITH ANOTHER GIRL
AND — WELL, I MUST
HAVE LOST MY
TEMPER.



NOW BE A GOOD
OYSTER, GOZY, AN'
TELL BILLY I
BUSTED A LEG
OR ANYTHING AN'
CAN'T MAKE TH'
DATE. PLEASE,
GOZY.



REG. U. S. PAT. OFF.
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In Memoriam

WILLIAM (Bill) BALE (69), show owner and performer, died in a hospital at Columbus, Ohio, on May 23rd. He operated his own Bale Buckeye Circus for several years and toured his own magic/illusion show for 17 years. He was also active in a variety of theatre productions and served as chairman of the Theatrical Arts-Dept. of Ohio University.

A veteran of World War II, he served in the Pacific, and was a Past Commander of the American Legion. He managed Mandrake's Magic Shop in Finley, Ohio, and was the creator of his own one man show "Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde."

Survivors include his wife, Evelyn, a son Col. Wm. F. Bale, a daughter Mrs. R. E. Warner, a brother Frederick and four grandchildren.

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MAGIC

... by FRANK HERMAN

Except for a comedy wrist tie it's been thirty years since I dabbled in the field of escapes. In the days before I got lucky with the "Skipper Frank" TV series I fed my family with super market shows.

To gather a crowd and impress store managers I needed a gimmick that was sure fire and the "Surfboard Challenge Escape" was born. Jim Conley built me an over-sized surfboard that was rimmed with metal lined holes. This with a long length of chain was left on display for minute inspection a week before my Saturday magic show.

Customers were invited to bring their own locks and chain me to the board in any fashion. The stunt got a lot of publicity and product sponsors were pleased with the extra display

that their products got in conjunction with the giant surfboard.

If the 'Art of Escapes' series of books by John Novak had come along in those days I am sure that I would have delved deeper into this exciting, money making field. I have never met Novak but I look forward to meeting him. I enjoyed all of his series but particularly enjoyed his treatises on the Strait Jacket and the Sub Trunk

In his "Escapes from a Strait Jacket" is everything you wanted to know and didn't know who to ask. He covers legit and gimmicked jackets, all the thrill angles like being suspended from a burning rope, to a very commercial stand-up routine that includes a ton of laughs. John's writing style is bright with a no nonsense or pipe dream approach. He does not just impart secrets and methods but includes the hints that provides audience pleasing exhibitions.

"Metamorphosis and Other Escapes" by John Novak concentrates on the substitution trunk illusion in all its aspects. He covers the flashy speed presentations and the serious challenge styles. Again he thoroughly explains the various types of trunks and boxes, cabinets, sacks, hand cuffs, and all the elements that are used to enhance this popular illusion. Showmanship and publicity angles abound.

Novak has written other books on escapes that cover chains, ropes, hand cuffs and other exotic restraints. He has the great advantage of doing his own drawing to illustrate his lucid writing style. The books are published by Mickey Hades, Box 2242, Seattle, Wash. At \$7.50 all are recommended values. Hades is one of the world's largest publishers for mystery entertainers, a couple of dollars will bring you his list of exciting titles.

I have been on a lecture tour that encompassed 6,000 miles from coast-to-coast and then a bout with the flu that laid me low.

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REPORT

SHRINE CIRCUS ACTS

Acts working the Shrine Circus at Wilmington, Del., May 22-25, which was produced by Bauer-Hall Enterprises were:

The Rolling Diamonds, roller skaters; The Charlies, hand balancing; Coco & Co., clowns; The Bisbini's, comedy mule "Caesar"; Miss Diana, foot juggler; Dondi, the elephant, presented by Phil and Francine Schacht; The Original Gutis Family, Jungleland Fantasy; the Cyclonians, cycles; Uncle Frank's Ham 'n Egg Revue (pigs, chickens, ducks); The Bisbini Trio, unsupported ladders; Satani Demon, fire manipulator.

Also working on the date was Boom Boom Browning, musical director.

In Memoriam

MICHAEL S. DONOHUE (23) former side show performer, died as a result of injuries suffered in a car accident in Germany on May 7th. He was on duty with the U. S. Army when the mishap occurred. He worked as a sword swallower, fire eater, ticket seller and canvasman with Sells & Gray, Ward Hall and Circus Vargas.

Survivors include his wife, Rita, father Jack Donohue (the Human Balloon) and his mother Rose Eakin (Serpentina), as well as three sisters.

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SPECIAL

NEW CIRCUS TENT IS BLESSED

The Rev. John DeGiorio (right) and Rev. David Tetrault, are shown in the picture on the opposite page as they throw Blessed Water on the new Beatty-Cole Circus big top.

The Blessing of the new circus tent also included a Blessing for the circus people. It was more than simply seeking divine approval of the tent that serves the circus, for it was a reflection of the religious nature of circus folks. As he blessed the tent Rev. John M. DeGiorio prayed:

"We are your fools for Christ, wiping away tears with the roar of laughter, calming fears with the thrilling surprises that life holds for us all, healing pain with the shouts of excitement for all the greatness you have given us and all the wonders you do for and with us. We are your people and you are our God."

Towards the end of the service Father DeGiorio included his blessing of the people. Before making his tour around the tent throwing Blessed Water onto the new canvas, he called on God to "bless . . . the artists, the entertainers . . . those who uplift. Bless them and keep them from harm."

PEOPLE

DAVE TWOMEY's Happytime Circus played the May 15-18 Chowchilla, Calif., where some 36,266 people passed through the fair gates.

STU MILLER reports his Magic Time USA show is drawing good crowds at each date.

HAPPY BUSTER the Clown visited friends with the Royal Hanneford Circus when that show played at Beaumont, Texas on May 20-21st.

FRANK and JANET BURGER are planning to open a Petting Zoo in New Jersey where their many animals will be on public view.

BRUCE ANDERSON, aerialist and high act performer, worked a date at Arcadia, Calif., on June 6-7.

MONTY MONTANA was one of the feature acts appearing on the Tony Randall Celebrity Round-Up Show at Madison Square Garden on May 9th.



REPORT

THE BLACKSTONE MAGIC SHOW

... by Dan Waldron

The Blackstone Show opened on Broadway May 19th to reviews which bode well for the box office. Billed as "Blackstone, the Magnificent Musical Magic Show" it is installed at the Majestic Theatre, right across the street from the hit show, "Barnum."

"Had even the cynics in the crowd gasping with wonder," said the New York Post. "The creme de la creme of magic acts," And "Harry Blackstone is a master of the magical arts ... His timing is formidable, and his sense of rapport with the audience would make graduates of R(oyal) A(cademy) of D(ramatic) A(rts) weep with envy."

"We've seen it all before but never better," said the Daily News. "What it has mainly is Harry Blackstone, suave son of the famous Blackstone, an heir to his full bag of tricks. And what a splendid assortment they are!" Even the staid New York Times admitted:

"Given the ground rules, one can enjoy this magic act - and be bamboozled by the mysteries." "Blackstone is a master of his profession."

Variety gave its savvy show business appraisal, noting among other things that Blackstone's prestidigitational extraganza doesn't miss a trick in its determination to please the audience, and ends the long review: "Blackstone is a hocus-pocus hoedown that just might turn into a bigger Broadway hit than anyone expected."

With a top ticket price of \$22.50 it will need all the drawing power it can get; but by New York standards that's normal arithmetic. Present plans call for a summer-long run, ending around Labor Day.

BILLY GUNGA and family, who started the season with February dates in the east, joined the Big John Strong show for a series of indoor dates this month. On July 5th they go to South Africa, India and London, then return to the States for their annual fall engagements. Late this year they plan to vacation in the Philippines.

March 20, 1980

Dear Mr. Ashton,

I want to compliment you on your very fine clown act. I attended the American Continental Circus while it was here in San Angelo, Tx. March 17th. The entire performance was very good. I see the show every year when it is here and it continues to be stronger each year.

As a member of Circus Fans Assn. of America, I see quite a few shows each season and I must say that your particular act was very impressive to me. I thought it was the highlight of of the entire performance. Seems to me that there are fewer and fewer really good acts of this caliber around any more.

Please tell the other folks with the show, that I enjoyed the show and always look forward to it each new season.

When in San Angelo, If I can ever be of any service to you, your family or anyone with the show, please feel free to call on me.

Sincerely,

Dudley
Dudley Hamilton
1905 Wilson
San Angelo, Texas 76901

SPECIAL**SHRINE DATES**

Eugene, Oregon - Eugene Shrine Club

(Compiled by Mike Sporrer)

- 1952 - Sept. 12-13 - Polack Bros. Western
 1953 - Sept. 10-12 - Polack Bros. Western
 1954 - Sept. 16-18 - Polack Bros. Western+
 1955 - Sept. 15-17 - Polack Bros. Western
 1956 - Aug. 16-18 - Polack Bros. Western
 1957 - Sept. 18-19 - Polack Bros. Western
 1958 - Sept. 16-17 - Polack Bros.
 1959 - Sept. 15-16 - Polack Bros.
 1960 - July 8-9 - Polack Bros.*
 1961 - July 11-12 - Polack Bros.*
 1962 - May 15-16 - Polack Bros.
 1963 - May 15-16 - Polack Bros.
 1964 - May 22-23 - Polack Bros.
 1965 - May 21-22 - Polack Bros.
 1966 - May 27-28 - Polack Bros.
 1967 - May 5-6 - Polack Bros.
 1968 - May 17-18 - Polack Bros.
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 1970 - May 22-23 - Polack Bros.
 1971 - May 21-22 - Polack Bros.
 1972 - May 12-13 - Polack Bros.
 1973 - May 11-12 - Polack Bros.
 1974 - May 11 - Polack Bros.
 1975 - May 17 - Polack Bros.
 1976 - May 22 - Polack Bros.
 1977 - May 21 - Polack Bros.
 1978 - Sept. 26-27 - Hubert Castle*
 1979 - Aug. 24-25 - Hubert Castle*
 1980 - Mar. 18-19 - Hubert Castle*

(*) Indicates date was at the fairgrounds. The other dates were played at McArthur Court located at the University of Oregon campus.

PEOPLE

CLARK McDERMOTT and his Cold Nose Five act worked the June 4-8 St. Louis Circus, and are currently set to work the Kansas State Fair.

BILL BURGER has rejoined Big John's Fiesta de Circo and will be out ahead booking dates for the remainder of the season.

ART BRANNING will be in charge of getting the Beatty-Cole Circus ready for its 1981 tent tour, after the show plays a series of indoor winter dates.

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REPORT

BIG JOHN'S FIESTA DE CIRCO

... by Fifi Reed

"Ladies and Gentlemen, Children of all Ages! Edward Russell presents Big John Strong's Fiesta de Circo!"

And with those words, on a grassy lot under blue skies at Williams AFB at Chandler Ariz., May 18th, the show came alive under the very capable direction of one of the masters of circus ringmastering, Ed Russell. He has selected an excellent group of performers to treat the public to some of the best of real, traditional circus performing. A combination of experienced, polished pros and exciting newcomers provides an hour and a half of well paced fun and excitement. It is rewarding to watch the faces of CHILDREN OF ALL AGES, as the magic of the performers takes over.

The thrills start with rides on Neena, the elephant for those brave enough to dare and there were many. The show then gets underway with the following acts.

The Hiawatha Liberty ponies presented by Wil-

liam Schreiber; Juggling by the Perrys (Ron and Pamela), Chryssi and Flippo (Rosa Maria Douglas and Phil Kavanaugh); Cradle Act, Sugar & Spice (Chris Kennington and Ron Pace); Canines presented by Sandy Strong and Bill Schreiber; Play Ball with water balloons by the clowns Pee Wee, Chryssi and Flippo; One Finger stand by Margo; Spanish web with Pamela and Crystal, Wild West Juggling by Roadrunner Red (Jay Evans); Intermission with color book sales; The Riano Duo, slack wire; Senorita Jacqueline, on bounding rope; Clowns with Long Distance call; Llamas presented by Mr. Bill and Miss Sandra; Princess Yoshinuma, hair hang; Clowns and the Watch Repair; Neena the elephant presented by Rajah Ronnie Ronjipur and Crystal.

The equipment and props were sharp and costumes as glittery and glamorous as any on much larger shows. Above all, the enthusiasm and skill shown by the performers brought them much well deserved, enthusiastic applause by almost straw houses at both performances.

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BILLY BARTON (Continued)

dle act; My-Immiba's Baboons; Flying Gaonas; Ben Williams; Los Julios; Woodcocks elephants; the Paulsons, revolving motorcycle.

SNAPSHOTS: First it was TITO GAONA and LEE MERRIWEATHER, now it's PAT LANE, of the Flying Lanes and the gorgeous TV star of CTV'S CIRCUS, SHERISSE LAWRENCE. The singer, by the bye, has a recording contract in Nashville and flew to the states to see tall dark and handsome Patrick. . . WHODUNIT? Who put that vaseline all over RUMPY's eggs during his egg-clown gag which so flabbergasted the young man that he said right out loud and before he realized it: "Somebody put grease all over my balls." . . And, speaking of funny tales, Rumpy tells one that still makes me giggle . . . during his tenure on Ringling the band had just settled on to the bandstand when a kid went by and blew a whistle, with the band going straightaway into the overture which had the entire cast running like mad people trying to get into position on time. Rumpy says it was the longest circus overture ever heard.

Popping into the Strong's Circus Farm were Linda and Smiley Daley. It's getting to be the crossroads of the circus world. . . BRUSKIS will play St. Louis Shrine, then go to Gaslight Village in Lake George for the summer. . . AL and JOYCE VIDBEL also play a park for the summer. . . The WILNOWS and LILLI-ANA making dates for SANDY DOBRITCH. . . Bentley Bros. will do several more Gay Galas this season, in the East, in Aug. and Sept. . . ROD MACKENZIE married EVA PEREZ on May 19. . . RIETTA WALLEUDA to debut a new solo aerial act with the rigging designed as a full dimensional star. . . TUFFY NICHOLAS sporting a Cadillac and an Airstream. . . DAVID CHABIRA's best gal, JOYCE, worked in REX HORTON's bear act and stooaged for SMILEY and LINDA DAILEY whose daughter SHANNON,

incidentally, was a big hit in the Toyland spec and is quite a little actress. . . THE FLYING LANES now a trio since Leslie returned to Florida. . . The PIRATES, David and Roger, each sporting new house trailers - David a Holiday Rambler and Roger an elaborate 5th wheel - on two different occasions each had us to dinner. . . St. Louis Shrine will have the Flying Lanes and the Flying Aztecas. . . WAYNE and CAROL WAINWRIGHT layed over after the Garden tour ended to catch themselves on CTV CIRCUS. . . RICKEY GARDEN spent several weeks in Copenhagen visiting ROSA FORNASARIE (Hmmm). Well, after all, it is Spring! . . FRANK DAILEY flew off to Boston to visit his mother. . . Hollywood stars can envy GUNTHER GEBEL WILLIAMS on Ringling Red who has a full luxurious railroad car, plus a special dressing room trailer to dress and relax in at the buildings, and a special semi for his giraffe, and his private auto. He deserves it all. The super-star, now in his mid-forties, has the appearance and the energy of a man half his age. . . BRENDA GALLOWAY was on hand for the Red Unit in her hometown of Rochester, having a few days off between the STU MILLER dates. Mother BEVERLY had just picked up daddy BILL fresh in from the M&M Nebraska dates. . . The AERIAL PAULSONS, motorcycle thriller, enroute to David Smart's Super Circus, opening June 16 at Battersea Park in London. Also on the bill will be the Flying Marilees. That's the show I was supposed to be on but changed my mind. . . No, and it doesn't work any better - my mind, I mean. However, that isn't the only place I was due to be and won't. Sandy had me in the program at Mt. Clemens to close the first half, but neglected to tell me about it and I booked myself elsewhere.

BIG MYSTERY: GALLA SHAWN was contracted to appear in Omaha and Lincoln for GRACE

(Continued on Next Page)



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Several novelty acts have been booked into Las Vegas revue shows by Simone Finner Enterprises including: Jean Claude, French foot juggler at "Razzle Dazzle", Flamingo-Hilton Hotel; Leonardo, plate spinner and Johnny Lonn, Sweden's Clown Prince of Magic with the Doug Henning Show at the Las Vegas Hilton Hotel.

In Memoriam

REV. JAY H. PARKER Sr. (82) long active in senior citizen, religious and community affairs, died at Elmira, NY, on May 17th. At one time he hosted a radio show called "Religion in the News."

He was a friend of many show people and booked acts into Eldridge Park, as well as offering show folks a place to layover on their off time or while enroute to some show date. Ill health forced him to give up his work at the park and there were no acts booked there last year.

BILLY BARTON (Continued)

McINTOSH but never showed up. The point is NOBODY knows where she is or what happened to her. AND everyone is wondering, AND concerned. So, Tiny, if you read this, please let us know WHERE YOU ARE. Nobody is angry at you, just worried.

Organist JESSIE GRIFFITHS supplies us with the following humorous story: BUCKLES WOODCOCK, enroute to Amarillo was having tire trouble. After having the semi trailer inspected and assessed for axle problems and then getting an okay he purchased a new Firestone tire, ran 90 miles, and it went to pieces. He went back to the dealer for a replacement and was refused, so . . . Buckles called up the News Media, TV and Radio, and told them what happened. Then he unloaded Anna May, hung the ruined tire on her trunk, and proceeded to present it to the Firestone store. A very shook-up merchant made the tire good!

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MAILBAG

... from Sheila Sloan

Have just returned from Sarasota after spending some time with Barrie at Great Adventure Park in New Jersey.

While there, Joe and Elizabeth Bauer gave a barbeque party for the performers of "Circus International" for Mother's Day. Of course all the Bauers were there along with David McMillan, the Hernandez Troupe, the Les Moines, the Flying Torraldos, Barrie and myself. We all had a good time.

The day before I left we had some real excitement at the park. It was a day off and almost everyone had gone to the beach. A forest fire broke out and was raging about 400 yards from the trailer park and we were advised to evacuate.

Well, Joe and Barrie had to rush and get all of the lights, water lines, sewer lines, telephones and things disconnected, then get things moved out. Three hours later everything was under control and we could start moving things back into the park again.

You can imagine the surprise everyone had as they started returning from the beach.

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Miscellaneous

TV's "The Big Show" has reportedly been cancelled with no further plans for its being continued.

Some 60 sightless children attended the Shrine Circus at Cincinnati, Ohio, as guests of the local "Pioneers" Club. Also attending the circus were some 25,000 youngsters, who were the guests of the Shrine Club.