



Number 10

March 9, 1981

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Our 10th Year



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Review

DOUG HENNING'S "WORLD OF MAGIC"
a one hour NBC-TV special, aired Feb. 15th.

BY FRANK HERMAN

By fa, this was Henning's most ambitious production to date. Sets were the ultimate in ethereal beauty. Guest artists, Marie Osmond, Ricky Schroder, Shields and Yarnell, were effectively utilized.

Chorus opened by producing Doug from a tall half cylinder. He then produced Marie and Ricky from thin whirling discs.

Torn Tissue to baby chick in one.

Full stage with ABC block theme. Production of cute pup from build-up box, lion cub in a cage and finally a large baby elephant from box.

Full stage circus ring set. Ring surrounded by kids from audience. Henning vanished from box, replaced by Shields and Yarnell. Doug reappeared from Pyramid lowered from the flies.

Close-up magic for kids. Thurston rising cards, coins from cards, Miser's Dream production of coins that ended with Henning in the audience.

Gianta Gozinta box with assist by Ricky Schroder. Marie produced from Gozinta, followed by floating lit candle.

Wrap around vanish and exchange with Doug and Marie, Henning reappeared in the audience.

Puppet shop scene with Shields and Yarnell as life-sized marionettes. Clever half-man assembly of male doll and build-up of parts to

ACTS - Are you listed with us ?

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produce gal. Girl then used for the most spectacular levitation of the century. She rose, floated and twirled in every direction. Sequence ended with Henning vanishing and then being reproduced from spare parts put together by the puppets.

Hindu sack trick with adult male volunteer from the audience.

A very clean, full stage production of the Hindu Rope Trick illusion had Henning disappearing from the top of the rope and reappearing back in the basket.

Carnival Poster, balloon sequence with Henning and Yarnell. Routine included wonderful mime with floating balloon and finished with the production of Marie from expanding balloon.

Closing spec had Doug producing a full orchestra from a mini park bandstand climaxing with well done exchange illusion.

An outstanding show. I felt that the "no trick photography" should have been repeated throughout the show. Laymen will just not believe what they saw.

PEOPLE

GEORGE HUBLER has signed a contract with the Syrian Shrine Temple at Cincinnati, Ohio, to handle Circus Concessions for their annual Shrine Circus, April 20-26.

SIEGFRIED & ROY, magic stars of Las Vegas, are featured in the Jan. 1981 issue of the magazine Genii..

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Show Dates

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Circus Odyssey
to Mar 15 San Juan, P.R.

Circus Vargas
Mar 10-12 Lynwood, Calif
13-16 Orange

Cole All Star TV Circus
Mar 9 Turin, NY
10 Vernon
11 Utica
12 Rome
13 Remsen
14 Clinton

Garden Bros. Circus
Mar 13-15 Reading, Pa.

Ringling-Barnum - Blue
Mar 10-11 Fayetteville, NC
13-15 Asheville

Ringling-Barnum - Red
Mar 10-15 Richmond, Va

Royal Hanneford Circus
Mar 13-15 Greenville, SC

TNT & Royal Olympic
Mar 13-15 Seattle, Wash.

---- MAGIC ----

David Copperfield
to Mar 18 Lake Tahoe, Nev

Doug Henning
Feb 25-Mar 7 San Fran. Ca

The Magic Jeweler
Mar 13-14 Owensboro, Ky

Prf. Miller - Magic Time USA
Mar 9 Key West, Fla.
12 Pompano Beach
14 Lake Park
15 Coral Springs

Winter Carnival of Magic
Mar 13-14 Gatlinburg, Tenn

---- OTHER DATES ----

The Sikorskys
Mar 8 Philadelphia, Pa.
15 Baltimore, Md.

SAMANTHA



It's sure nice when they let me announce the circus. This just has to be the best job on the show.

Don't you just love this costume? Out here in the spot light, all dressed up, I feel like a million dollars and a real star!

Well, there's my cue, time to get started, so I'll see you later.

"Ladies and Gentlemen, we are proud to present for your entertainment and pleasure . . ."

DIAMOND JIM PARKER

A recent communication from Abe Goldstein reveals he is 86 years young and still trouping, which I believe would make him the oldest, active professional circus clown in the U. S. "Korkey" as he is known, is the only living, original Keystone Kop from the early Hollywood days, and anticipates coming east to Pittsburgh, Pa. in March with his comedy magic show. Aby was known as a fantastic come-in clown and one of the very few left working as a cop clown.

There was a change in line-up during the just closed Zacchini circus at the Florida State Fair in Tampa, as clown Jimmy Estep was added in place of Haps Phelps. The circus was unusually strong for a fair date and the setting was perfect, under canvas with green-dyed sawdust track and regular sawdust in the rings. This was the first time I had ever seen a Zacchini production and it was first class from start to finish.

Without a doubt, Ben Williams works the best single elephant act (Anna May) in the business and recently added Mikki McDowell, a striking blonde beauty, thus enhancing the act. This young lady has just started working with Ben and comes across as a real pro. What an act, it gives you goose bumps watching such professionals.

Buckles and beautiful Barbara Woodcock were also there visiting and seemed to enjoy not having to suit up and work. The Corky Plunkett family are always an asset to any show and June still leaves them laughing during the tram poline act. Christopher James remains the classic tight wire artist he has always been and really commands attention. The Welde Bears, the Vasquez Flying Act, the Dolly Sisters, the Hernandez Teeterboard Troupe, all gave their very best and nothing but praise was heard from the towners leaving the tent.

Cold and wet weather plagued the fair for part of the run but the circus tent played to capacity crowds in-as-much as it was a free attraction.

Clown Danny Chapman does a beautiful come in with his little dog and Dime and Connie Wilson, assisted by Jim Estep, did a colorful balloon come-in - other clown production numbers were handled for the most part with Dime on the mike.

A surprise for me was the outstanding announcing and singing by Ringmaster Bill Bor-

an. I had never seen the gentleman before and his singing ranks among the very top, as well as his announcing ability. They had an outstanding circus band, which set the whole atmosphere for the entire circus performance. According to records, fair attendance was up this year but the carnies were sure bitching as most of them were off 40 to 75% as people were just not spending the money.

"In Matthew's Mysterious Trunk Are Lots of Clues That Lead Him to the Greatest Show on Earth" is the title of a new children's circus book just out by author Katherine Lainer and features veteran clown Bobby Kay. I have not received the book yet so cannot really comment, but hopefully it will have some terrific photos of Bobby.

Walter Hall (Wally) former Clyde Beatty-Cole Bros. Circus side show performer is now busy swallowing swords at Circus World, and is happy over the new wardrobe they have made for him. Wally is 6 ft. 11 in. tall so you cannot miss him in your visit to Circus World.

Jerry Lipko and his Comedy Chimps are inked for the Montreal date, Mar. 17-23, at the Olympic Village Complex. He is starting advance publicity for Les Productions Vegas Lee on Mar. 11th. Following that he has a string of dates for Eddie Zacchini at Fort Pierce, West Palm Beach, Nashville and Terre Haute.

Dick and Laural Lunsford have had a change in plans and left Florida last week to join the Gopher Davenport show in Texas, and will not be with Ron Bacon as previously reported. At the time of Dick's departure he was not sure of his capacity but you can be assured he is "generally useful" in all departments with his extensive tent show background.

Jan. 28th was the Ringling-Barnum Blue Unit dress rehearsal at winterquarters in Venice and yours truly was a guest of Tim Holst and Ross Wandrey. Since I was not able to catch the Blue Unit last year it was an all new show for me this time. It certainly was a very fast-paced, colorful show and I thought the Blue Unit circus band was outstanding. Ursula Botcher and her polar bears continue to be one of the show's highlights as they are so huge and can be seen so well from the seats. A beautiful addition to this year's Blue Unit is lovely Bonnie Bale who not only assists her brother,

(Continued on Page 23)

Report

ROYAL HANNEFORD CIRCUS

BY AL HOUSE

The Royal Hanneford Circus, produced by Tommy and Struppi Hanneford, played to six full houses at the Westchester County Center at White Plains, NY, Feb. 14-16. Three shows on Saturday were featured, with IBM having the 10:30 a.m. show.

A major effort has been made by Hanneford to dress up the performance. His opening number, despite a relatively small number of performers, is well lit, has running lights festooned from the upper reaches of the building, and colorful sparkling lights at the rings.

The performance lineup was as follows: Opening number, a Spec; Bill Golden with tigers; Pitch for Spinning Lights; Sladek, chair balancing; Dana, traps and web; Melvin & Irma, comedy bareback act; Gorilla Parody; The 5 Gaonas, teeterboard; The Hanneford Riding Act (6 girls including Nellie Hanneford and 4 men plus Tommy); Dogs "Poodles of Paris" presented by Gerard Soules; Spec/Illusions with Snow White; Mark Karoly, dressage; In-

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termission.

The second half was: Flying act (3 men and a woman, Julio tries a triple); Lisner Duo, perch act; Plate Spinning in two rings by Tillie and Gerard Soules; Elephants (4), Mark Karoly works them on horseback, also ring acrobatics and teeterboard; Finale and presentation of a bouquet of roses to Mrs. Hanneford.

The No. 5 display with Dana on traps is a production number called "Winter Wonderland". Al Leonard sings well and there are 3 females who work web that come out on roller skates (as if it were an icy pond), sakte around, and are dressed as snowgirls in parkas. The web sitters do the same and are also in parkas. The parkas are shed as girls and sitters do their work. Music is appropriate and well done.

The web production is quite well done and in good taste. The show has four productions: Opening Spec, Dana on traps, Karoly's dressage to close the first part of the program and the Finale.

The costumes were done by Senor Rai and are well conceived in design and color. The Kay Parker Duo (organ and drums) was augmented by two trombones and two trumpets for the date.

The presentation to the Hannefords on Sunday afternoon went well. Dave Orr, along with the Bridgeport, Conn., CFA tent presented flowers to all the ladies of the troupe and a plaque to Mrs. Hanneford, and made Tommy and Struppi and Mrs. Hanneford Honorary Members of the Eddie Allen-Bill Browning-Count Po Po DeBathe Tent. The program was short and sweet, with all parts well organized and run.

in the NEWS

PROMOTER SUES STAR

Concert promoter Robert L. Woods, who does business as Wildwood Productions, has filed a suit in an Oklahoma Court against country and western performer Johnny Paycheck and his band.

The promoter is asking for more than \$300,000 in damages and charges that Paycheck and his band allegedly performed on Dec. 12th, while intoxicated or under the influence of drugs.

The suit charges that Paycheck "performed intoxicated or under the influence of drugs . . . and totally failed to perform in a professional manner as a professional entertainer."

A Lawton (Okla.) newspaper review of the concert called it "one of the most disgraceful performances ever seen."

The suit asks for a total of \$379,400, including \$300,000 for alleged damage to Wood's reputation and destruction of goodwill he built up in the community.

PROMOTER/JAYCEES IN TROUBLE

A judge in Columbia, S.C., has ordered South Carolina Jaycees to stop selling tickets to a Magic Show production, which is scheduled to be sponsored by them. A temporary restraining order was also issued against representatives of North American Productions, Ltd., of Central City, Pa., promoters of the show.

Both parties were ordered to appear in court to answer a complaint filed by the consumer fraud division of the attorney general's office. The complaint said the groups had violated the 1972 Solicitation of Charitable Funds Act. A spokesman said the Jaycee groups have "not registered as charitable organizations which intend to solicit funds within the state nor paid any registration fees required by law." However, a Jaycee official said the paper work was being taken care of.

The Jaycees are listed as non-profit corporations with the IRS and the state tax commission.

The attorney general's complaint said the Jaycees "agreed to excessively high fund raising costs" for the magic show, giving North American Productions 35% of the gross receipts of ticket sales.

The production company, which uses tele-

HOTLINE

Feb. 17 - Boston, Mass. - An employee of the Ice Follies, Tai Chan, was shot in the leg when a handgun in his jacket was accidentally discharged. Chan was unloading equipment in the rear of the Boston Garden when he picked up his jacket, which had the gun in its pocket. The jacket slipped, he dropped it and the gun discharged.

The bullet lodged in his lower right leg and was removed at the Massachusetts General Hospital. Officials said his condition was reported as "good".

ACTS

A SARASOTA SHOW

Acts appearing in a program produced by the Amandis Agency at the Hyatt House in Sarasota, Fla., on Feb. 12th were:

Gina's Leopards (Dubsky); Diana, foot juggler (Hansen); Erik Adams, Jr. Chimps; Hand-balancing by the Dubskys; Cuccilo, comedy trampoline; The Haucks, juggling; Erik Adams, dogs; The Rolling Diamonds, (Hansen).

Clowning between acts was handled by Alfredo Landon.

REPORT

HORSE SHOW COMING

The Lipizzan Stallions from Vienna, Austria, will make a brief tour of the eastern U. S. in late 1982. It will be the groups first appearance in this country since 1964, which reportedly prompted the formation of similar shows here.

Tentative plans call for the Lipizzan Stallions to appear at Madison Square Garden in New York City in late November 1982. After that they will play dates at the Capital Centre in Landover, Md., followed by an appearance at the Spectrum in Philadelphia, Pa. The group may return to New York City before going back to Vienna.

phone solicitation to sell ticket; was accused of selling more tickets than auditoriums where the shows were to be held had seats.

PEOPLE

LAWRENCE KELLY is the singing ringmaster with the Ringling-Barnum Blue Unit this year.

HARRY and LINDA HERRMANN and their Lippizans were pictured in a story/photo report in the Sarasota Herald-Tribune on Jan. 28th.

PHIL (Flippo) KAVANAUGH will tour with the *Big John Strong* for only the early part of the show's season. Later he and ROSA (Chrissy) DOUGLASS will be attending the CFA Convention in Arizona.

PHIL HYDE is collecting photos of cat acts and needs help. You can write him at: 528 Sylvan Drive, So. Williamsport, Pa. 17701.

THE WAZZAN TROUPE is presently on tour with the Garden Bros. Circus.

EUGENE C. LAMBART reports that the JACKI ALTHOFF Bears and Chimps have been signed for the 1982 season with the Hubert Castle Int'l Circus. Also signed are the PLUNKETTS, trampoline act and CHRISTOPHER JAMES, wire act.

MR. RYTHM, the Dancing Horse, was featured at the Oxmoor Mall in Louisville, Ky. this past month. He will appear with the Shrine Circus in Des Moines for HOWARD SCHULTZ and then goes to the Astro-Dome in Houston.

MARIO DE MARCO is preparing a photo book on BOB STEELE and is looking for information about his circus work. Write to Mario at: 152 Maple St., W. Boylston, Mass. 01583.

THE ROLLING DIAMONDS and DIANA, foot juggler, will work fairs for Gastoni Attractions and both acts are set for WAYNE McCARY's Super Circus at the Big E in Springfield, Mass., Sept. 16-20.

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ROY ROGERS and DALE EVANS recently celebrated their 50th year in show business.

THE FLYING GAONAS, formerly with the Ringling-Barnum Circus and the Monte Carlo Circus, is the headline act with Fuentes Circus in South America.

JACK TAVLIN, former owner of Cole Bros. Circus, lives in New York City where he is kept busy with his advertising business.

TARRA, the Roller Skating Elephant, celebrated her 7th birthday with a party in Ojai, Cal. which won her front page coverage in Southern California newspapers.

MARY K. HENRICKS, mother of TOM HENRICKS, who is well known to circus people, fell recently and broke her left leg. She would enjoy cards and they should be sent in care of Tom Henricks, 1539 South Ave., Toledo, Oh. 43609.

DICK "Spats" WILLIAMS keeps busy doing clown and magic shows, and he also appears on WGTU-TV in Traverse City, Mich.

ARCHIE CHAN and TAI CHAN, both of who were formerly with the Ringling Band, are now selling program books with the Ice Follies.

BOB BARKER, the TV host, will serve as MC for the Academy of Magical Arts Show in Los Angeles, Calif., on March 21st.



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Set of stage-size Cups & Balls, at least 5" high, with (say) 4 3/4" mouth diameter, heavy aluminum or spun brass, preferably undented. Send description and price to **Gerald Burns, 2422 Vagas, Dallas, Texas 75219.**

SPECIAL

WHY NOT SEND HIM A CARD TODAY?

BY AL HOUSE

Circus great and Hall of Famer, Ernie Schlee Millette, retired after a long second teaching career in the Newark, N. J., area, is now in his 90's and at the Hartwyck Nursing Home, 1340 Park Ave., Plainfield, NJ 07061, where he has been confined for the past few months.

His hearing is good, but his eyesight is failing. However, all letters sent to him are read by the Home's employees to him.

Those of you who know him from the circus or his educational career, please drop him a line or send a card. He would appreciate hearing from any and all people.

Millette has only a cousin from the Newark area to visit him, so letters would be most welcome.

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HOTLINE**TWO CHARGED IN CIRCUS FIRE**

Police have arrested two circus employees on charges of negligence in the Feb. 7th big top fire that killed 75 people during a matinee performance in Bangalore, India.

Initial reports indicated that an electric spark caused the fire, but officials now report that circus manager Bhaksaran Nambiar and a dog keeper using the show name "Lallu" were taken into custody and charged with rash and negligent acts which police believe caused the fire.

Williams Bros. Circus

WOULD LIKE TO THANK ALL THOSE WHO ANSWERED MY RECENT AD FOR HELP.

HOWEVER, THE SHOW WILL NOT BE GOING OUT THIS SEASON.

HAVE NEW INTEREST. WILL BE SELLING THE CIRCUS EQUIPMENT.

CARL F. CONLEY

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in the NEWS

CHIMPS GO AFTER A SNACK

While their master was away, a pair of chimps broke out of their cage and went into the Bob Parsons home in Pixley, Calif., looking for a snack.

Neighbors saw the chimps cavorting around the house and called the Tulare County firefighters, who came out to try and get the animals back into their cage.

However, a dispatcher said, the chimps got mean, so the firefighters left them in the house and simply locked the outside doors so they couldn't get out again.

The chimps had opened the refrigerator door looking for food and were sitting on the floor eating potato chips when the firemen left.

PEOPLE

LOU ANN JACOBS, aerialist, won the award of outstanding act in the 1980 program of Circus Atayde in Mexico City, Mexico.

MURILLO & ULISES, balancing act, were guests on the John Davidson TV show which was aired the afternoon of Feb. 24th.



"Yes, now that you mention it, I do recall buying ten head of horses sight unseen."

SPECIAL

CONCESSION SEMINAR

A free forum for the Greater St. Louis, Eastern and Southwestern Missouri, and Central and Southern Illinois area on the operation of concession stands for Youth Baseball, Parks and Recreation, Municipal Parks, Campground areas, Swim Pools, Volunteer Organizations, Church and School groups and Retail Stores was scheduled for March 8th, 1 to 4:30 p.m. at the Rodeway Inn, Jefferson and Market in St. Louis, Mo.

Audience participation included: Special Snack Bar sales and promotions, ways to plan profitable menus, money safeguarding procedures, training and operation of equipment, and ideas exchanged between operators. Also scheduled for discussion were training aids and sources of hiring skilled and trained food service employees.

MAILBAG

FROM WILLIAM WOTSCH

Back in 1928, Cleveland played host to several circuses during the year. Most played under canvas, but one showed indoors.

The Hagenbeck-Wallace Circus appeared at the Cleveland Public Auditorium, April 14-22 (a total of 8 days). Some of the circus equipment was kept in the yard just west of the auditorium.

On June 4-5, Ringling Barnum played on the Lake Front, and that same month, on June 27 the John Robinson Circus played a one day stand.

Miller Bros. 101 Ranch show played at the Lake front, Aug. 20-21.

There was lots of room on the lake front back in those days. And 1928, was a good year for circus fans in Cleveland.

PEOPLE

AUSTIN MILES is making numerous radio and TV appearances plugging his tell-all autobiography "The Real Ringmaster" which was published by New Leaf Press.

MARVYN ROY, known as "The Magic Jeweler" is touring with the Liberace Show. Watch for his route in Circus Report each week.



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REPORT

TOBY TYLER'S ONE HUNDRETH

BY NELS JULEUS

In 1881, James Otis Kaler's first book appeared. This was "Toby Tyler, or Ten Weeks With the Circus," and it immediately became one of the most popular children's books on the circus ever written. The story of the 10 year old runaway had appeared in serial form the year before in Harper's Young People.

A rereading of the book by someone with a strong interest in the circus might prove disappointing, because Kaler offered a very limited, and sometimes negative, view of circus life. Most of the action takes place in the back lot or in the side show tent, where Toby was befriended by feature attractions Sam Treat, the human skeleton, and Lilly Treat, the fat lady.

Toby was by far the most successful of Kaler's 150 books, many of which have circus themes. The two sequels, Mr. Stubbs' Brother and Old Ben are less circusy and more moralizing than Toby. A circus blow-down is the subject of Kaler's *Found by The Circus*. Kaler wrote, as well, *The Wreck of the Circus* and *Sawdust and Spangles*. But the best of the lot for its depiction of the late 19th century circus is "The Clown's Protege". The young hero, Jim Barker, is a virtual prisoner in *The Great and Only Circus*, held captive there by the villain-

ous clown, Joe Maginly.

Kaler had gained his knowledge of the circus first hand, when he spent a season with Barnum in order to prepare a series of articles for Frank Leslie's Weekly. Kaler was given his choice of two jobs with the show. He was offered work as press agent or treasurer. Typically, Kaler chose to be treasurer, because, he said, he had never handled money and wanted a chance.

Kaler started his career as a reporter for the Boston Globe when he was 14 years old; and at his death in 1912, he was Superintendent of Schools in South Portland, Maine.

Toby Tyler has appeared in many editions over the years. The book was adapted for the stage by Tom Taggart in 1941 and has twice been made into movies. The first version with Jackie Coogan in the lead, was called "Circus Days" and was released in 1923; the second version, starred Kevin Corcoran and was produced in 1960 by Walt Disney.

Toby's ten weeks with the circus has lengthened into a hundred years. Perhaps, Toby's option will be picked up for a second century.



REPORT

HOLIDAY HIPPODROME STAGE CIRCUS

by Ed Rogers

Bill Garden's Holiday Hippodrome stage show appeared in three dates in Arizona recently, with engagements in Scottsdale, Chandler and Prescott on Jan. 31 and Feb. 1 and 2.

At the Scottsdale date, played at the high school, the show came up against the Parada del sol Parade and Rodeo, which caused attendance to be not up to par. At the Chandler date a much larger audience enjoyed the performance and reports are that at Prescott the show was greeted by a capacity crowd.

Lineup included: The Ruwills, with upside down plate spinning, a unique offering which drew hearty applause; Magic and Illusions with the Amazing Mr. Bradbury and Barbara, featuring doves from nowhere and the Zig-Zag Girl; The Pork Chop Revue (trained pigs) presented by Linda Kimes Penny and Grumpy Kimes in a seldom seen and delightful animal act that was a real crowd pleaser; Danny Carey with an exhibit of strength, control and endurance that was a marvel of polished precision and included hand balancing on chairs and wooden blocks; Buddy Arden was next with balloon animals and delighted the small fry with the rubber sculptured shaes which he awarded them after pitting the boys against the girls in a balloon blowing contest. Arden (Floyd Bradbury) exhibits great know-how and the ease which comes with years of experience as an entertainer in his handling of the volunteer kids from the audience.

Following intermission, Miss Christina (Oler) performed on the single trapeze, and this dainty brunette is as talented as she is lovely; next

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more magic as Bradbury saws the charming Barbara in half and restores her in a twinkling; Randa Lynne (Carey) presents oriental foot juggling with such ease that she almost makes the seemingly impossible feats appear easy; and the show closes with Hans and Sigrid and their adagio acrobatics, a graceful show of strength and balance on an elevated mirrored platform that was the perfect finish to a great show.

Music was provided by Floyd Bradbury, organ and Phil Oler on drums. Unit manager is Floyd Bradbury.

This is the 13th year for Garden's "Holiday Hippodrome" unit and with a show this strong, it is easy to see why they have no problem playing the same dates year after year.

Wardrobe of every act is outstanding, props are attractive and the show presents a prestige appearance.

Members of the Roland C. Butler Tent, CFA, attended the Scottsdale show and included Fred Reed, Carol, Bob and Mark McCall and Ed Rogers. Visitors at Chandler were Leo and Pat Rink with twins Alan and Bryan and Ed Rogers.

DIAMOND JIM PARKER (Continued)

Elvin, in the Wheel of Death, but also presents her cloud swing. Bonnie has lost a tremendous amount of weight since I saw her last season, and boy I have to give her credit, as she looked stunning at dress rehearsal.

Watching Charly Baumann put his tigers thru their paces is like watching a painter doing a masterpiece as Charly is in a class all by himself.

There are no slow moving pachyderms under the direction of Axel Gautier and the "Elephant Calypso" moves right along. His sons have really grown and the oldest, Michael, appears as tall as ole Dad from the ring, making them truly an all out circus family.

And now to the clowns - unfortunately time did not permit backdoor visiting but there is one clown I regret not being introduced to as he is exceptional. His make-up is a cross between Mortimer Snerd and Schlitzie the pin-head and whenever he entered the arena floor everyone in the audience had their eyes on him. Whoever he is, he has got it - very unique

and extremely funny - he really does not fall into a specific category, although I would say he was an Auguste. For a walk-around he was the front half of a two man animal suit and really has animation down pat. He uses large flappy ears, which normally I hate, but on him with his make-up and animation it is a perfect combination. I hope he stays with it as I believe him to be one in a million. Good luck, whoever you are, you were the talk of our section during rehearsals.

Of course I hear so much about Johnny and Betty Zoppe, Jr. and the Circus Galaxy spec and I can truly state they are sensational and a perfect presentation for their act.

People try to get you to compare one unit against the other and it is hard to judge them in that light as both units are unique, colorful and awesome. I will chicken out in picking one over the other as I loved both of them and the best advice is that if you are lucky and both the Red and Blue play in your area, try and see them both as you will not be disappointed in either. I am thankful I could.



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just completed some beautiful painting and scroll work on the building fronts. This must be one of the best looking and cleanest winter quarters of any traveling show.

A concerned friend of the circus is wondering what has become of the contents of the Circus Hall of Fame? He, like so many others, have donated things to the Hall of Fame, not to be sold or put into someone else's collection, or who knows what. If anyone has information about this material, please let us know through *Circus Report*.

During the Holiday Season there was a Rock & Roll group playing the area, and they were called "The Sound Circus."

PEOPLE

SEAN MOREY was the magician who used CRYSTAL GAYLE as an assistant in her Dec. 4th TV special called "Crystal".

MAILBAG

from "Circus Joe" Valenciano

This writer saw Harold Barnes and Walt Davis, of Florida Tent Rental, at the Eddie Zacchini Circus on Feb. 10th, at the Florida State Fair. They provided the huge two pole top which was used for the Monte Carlo Circus at the Circus World Park, for this event. Also they erected another big show tent at one end of the grounds for Pepsi Cola, where the musical entertainment was featured.

Harold and Walter are former members of the well-known Beers-Barnes Circus, which was a very nice show.

Mr. Zacchini really knows how to put on a big circus. The house was packed, and the patrons were not disappointed. It was an action-fast-paced program. I sure hope this fine circus will be repeated for many years to come.

For people who like to view some colorful show art work be sure to see the winter quarters of the Mighty Blue Grass shows. They've

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PEOPLE

WILLIE TYLER and LESTER, vent act were guests on the Mike Douglas TV Show which was aired on Feb. 23rd.

HARRY ANDERSON, magician, and the BROSINI ORANGUTANS were featured on the John Davidson TV Show on Feb. 23.

DAVID COPPERFIELD, magician/illusionist, was a guest on the John Davidson TV Show on Feb. 24th.

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CLYDE BEATTY-COLE BROS. CIRCUSP. O. Box 1570
Winter Park, Fla. - 32790**Miscellaneous**

The Ringling School of Art's Library and Studio complex were dedicated late last year and then were opened to students.

The Feb. 1st issue of the Tampa (Fla) Tribune carried an ad which offered the Greater Tampa Showmen's Assoc. building as being "For Sale".



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