

THE CIRCUS REPORT

AMERICA'S
FAVORITE CIRCUS WEEKLY

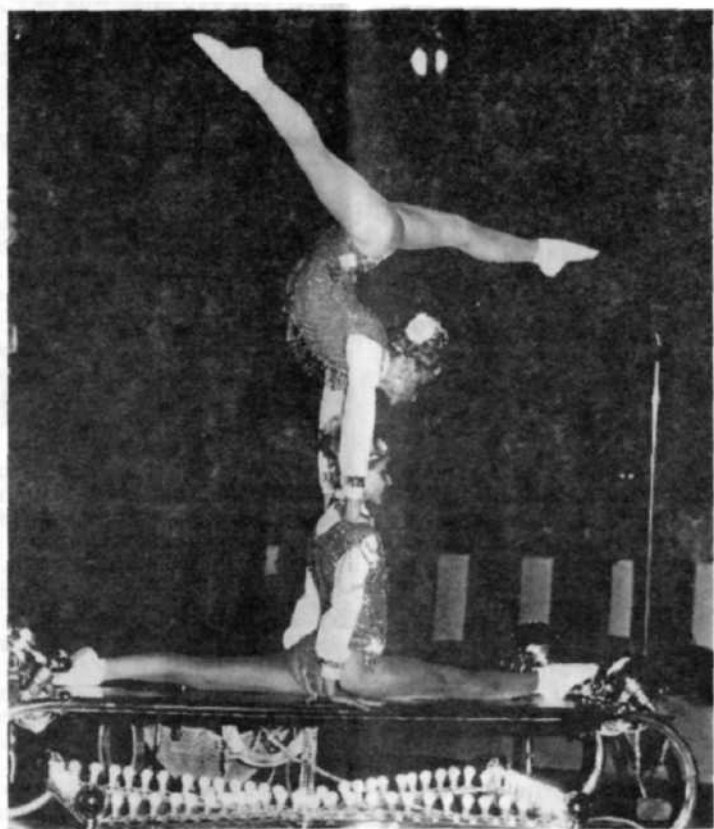
9th Year

Number 50

December 15, 1980



BILL WILLIAMS - COTTON CANDY



"... The Million Dollar Carlos Twins, from Berlin, Germany, former Olympic gymnastics contenders, perform atop a precarious perch with Circus Vargas."

... The Lawton (Okla.)
Constitution

"... Defying the natural flexibility of the human body, German circus performers, The Carlos Twins, provoked oohs and aahs from the amazed opening night audience at Circus Vargas."

... The Laredo (Texas) Times

"... The ground provided just as much excitement and perhaps even more talent, as a pair of German twins, both former Olympic-caliber gymnasts, performed a bevy of kicks, splits, rolls and contorsions that would have earned a '10' in any judge's score card."

... the Waco (Texas) Tribune-
Herald

"... the twins contorted their small frame bodies into perfect balance for one of the evening's best received acts."

... The Laredo (Texas) Times

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REPORT

EMMETT KELLY, JR. CIRCUS

BY JAMES A. CONLEY

This circus which was presented Nov. 27 to Nov. 30 at Knott's Berry Farm was entirely different from the one Emmett Kelly, Jr. presented last summer at the San Diego zoo. This time the circus was staged in the large "Good Time Theatre", complete with water curtain, dramatic lighting, novel ring curb, and artistic setting. The acts were booked by Chuck Burnes of the Knott's Entertainment staff. Chuck is well qualified, having had an extensive background in the circus business. He has done everything from trouping as a clown with RBBB to managing Rudy Bros. Circus.

Emmett Kelly, Jr. opened the show with the "sweeping up the spotlight" bit. The ringmaster, Mike Whitney, was flashily attired in a Vegas type dress suit that reflected highlights from the spots. This was his first experience in this capacity, having worked for some time in the park at other jobs in the entertainment department. He showed an aptitude for ringmastering when he had to ad lib to cover the long cross-over of Emmett Kelly, Jr. on both ends of an exceedingly long rope. Incidentally, this old gag was extremely well received by the audience.

The Ferges Troupe were on next, billed as "Traucherous Tricks on the Trampoline". The act consisted of two attractive girls and a man in a very stylish wardrobe, and a comic male who kept interrupting and getting into trouble on the trampoline. He ultimately lost his trousers while attempting a stunt, ran off stage in apparent embarrassment, only to re-

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turn in a more sophisticated wardrobe and to perform some very entertaining stunts on the trampoline. It was a fast moving act and got a lot of laughs from the spectators.

The Saxons were next. He works on a unicycle and goes through some very showy moves before doing club juggling as he rides the wheel. He is assisted by Brenda (on the ground) who styles and points up his tricks. They follow with club juggling showing very entertaining take-aways and club passing as well as ring juggling under U.V. lights. The rings change color as they are juggled and this was a big hit with the audience. He also rides a tight pattern between clubs while mounted on the unicycle. The Saxons sell extremely well to the customers.

Spielzeug consists of Gary Baker in a toy soldier costume and Vickie in an old fashioned dress. The toy soldier opens the act doing a mechanical walk to a large overturned drum where he does a handstand. He gets off the stand and appears to run down. The girl enters with a small rag doll, sets it on a toy block to watch her perform on the upturned drum. After her trick, she gets a large key, winds up the toy soldier, who is directed upon the toy drum, given a toy stick horse. The soldier then does a one hand stand using the stick horse as the stick upon which he balances. The girl then sets the rag doll on the drum and does a one hand stand using the doll for support. The act finishes with the toy soldier doing the well-known finger stand on the

(Continued on Page 12)

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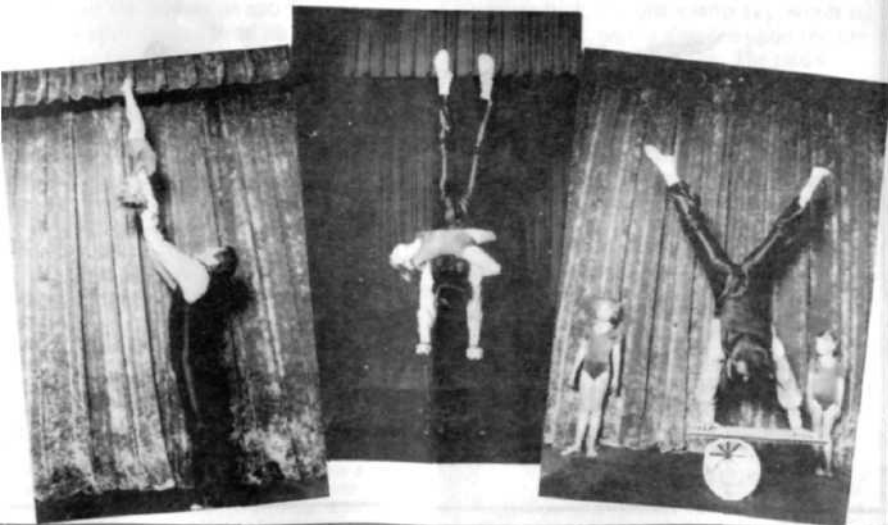
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Show Dates

Int'l All Star Circus

Dec 15 Douglas, Ga.
 16 Tallahassee, Fla
 19 Bradenton
 20 Ft. Myers
 - End of Season -

Wonderland Circus Revue

Dec 15 Cades, S.C.
 16-17 Kingstree
 18 Greeleyville
 19 Summerton
 - End of Season -

---- MAGIC ----

Pf. Miller Magic Time USA

Dec 16 Frederick, Md.
 17 Gettysburg, Pa.
 18 Greensburgh
 19 Johnstown
 20 Altoona
 - End of Season -

Circus Atayde

Dec. 14-Feb. 2 Mexico City

Royal Danish Circus

Dec. 11 Atlanta, Ga.
 14 Houma, La.
 16 Ocean Sprngs, Miss
 18 Slidell, La.

--- OTHER DATES ---

Flight Into Imagination
 Dec 15 Fullerton, Calif.
 17 Brea
 19 Pomona

Galactic Dragons
 Dec 15-16 Tucson, Ariz.
 18-19 Las Vegas, Nev.

Santa's Magic Sleigh (Red)
 Dec 15 Redondo Beach, Ca.
 16 Inglewood
 17 Culver City
 18 Santa Monica
 19 Westwood
 - End of Season -

Santa's Magic Sleigh (White)
 Dec 15 Downey, Calif.
 16 Norwalk
 17 La Habra
 18 Whittier
 19 Baldwin Park
 20 Montclair
 - End of Season -

The Sikorskys
 Dec 14-20 Chicago, Ill.

SAMANTHA



We're off for the holidays and would you believe it - I met this guy who said he was a magician and needed me to help him in the act.


I expected a real peachy and glamorous show, being a real magician's assistant. It never occurred to me that he wanted me to play Santa and worst of all to make my entrance via the chimney.

But, what's a girl to do once she's given her word. You just have to go along with the idea.


It might be fun when all of the children shout "Hey, Santa!" Afterwards there is a party and the magician says I'm invited, so that should be fun, too.

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Billy Barton

DATELINE: Dallas: On Nov. 22, the anniversary of Kennedy's assassination in this city, another star burst from its place in the firmament to soar off into the infinite, when MAE WEST closed her eyes at 10:30 a.m. on Saturday morning and died peacefully and painlessly.

Like my mother, Mae West had suffered first a mild and then a massive stroke, but unlike my mother who continues in grave condition, Mae returned to her Hollywood apartment and was doing well. On the morning she died she was having trouble breathing, a doctor was summoned who said nothing further could be done and the entertainment industry lost another of its Great Originals.

Inexorably we are losing our legends. Only a handful of illustrious greats are left, some of whom like Dietrich and Hepburn and Kate Smith are not in good health. Soon, they and Garbo, Swanson and Bette Davis will be gone. Who will replace these unique personalities?

Is it because these stars entered an era when movies were new that their personalities became so indelibly stamped on the industry? Or was it a time when rampant competition demanded only the absolute best from a performer? To remain a star one had to have something very special, not the least of which was talent. And this applied to every show business medium, not just the motion picture industry.

Mae was a kind and generous woman, her manner was gracious, she exuded warmth, was vitally interested in others. In private life she was nothing like the brazen and brassy sex symbol sashaying across the screen. That Mae West was her act. Oh yes, some of this spilled over, but only when she knew her visitor wanted her "on stage", or when she was making a point, being sexily funny, or witty, as was more often the case.

This wonderful woman gave me her wisdom, her love, her friendship. And I am richer for it, for having known her. Rest in Peace, my dear friend.

My first autograph party at Barber's Book Store in Ft. Worth was attended by circus folks wishing me well - PAT and GWEN DAVISON, BILL and TRUDY, WADE BRUCK, EARL MICHAELS, MACK ESHLEMAN, and SANDY YOUNG with her friend PAT CRUMMETT. Author-columnist MILT HOPWOOD was also on the scene and I was surprised by

an enormous basket of fall flowers from Wade and Margaret Burck and Mack Eshleman.

MILT HOPWOOD, of the Ft. Worth News Tribune, himself an author, also a sportscaster and sports columnist, penned a rave review of my novel. His great book "Great Texans in Sports" is now in its third printing. He is now working on a new book "Great Women in Sports."

Well, the surprise visit paid by RICHARD ROSIO to KEITH KILLINGER and Rosio's story that he was escorting a Greek Heiress around the USA turned out to be, so I am told, by eyewitnesses, something quite different. Evidently, the girl was from Florida and Rosio, calling himself Daniel Fleming, was up to his games again.

SNAPSHOTS: REX and SANDY YOUNG's friends, the CRUMMETTS (Don and Pat) invited Bill and Trudy, Bobby and me, to their home for a sumptuous dinner party. Unfortunately Bill, working on the interior of the Strong's semi, couldn't make it. . . REX golfed every day he could during the layoff, some times joined by another golf enthusiast FRANK GALAMBOS. . . FRANK and DORIS, incidentally, will do their aerial motorcycle act next season. The Galambos will again be with Hamid-Morton. . . WADE BURCK's appearance on Those Amazing Animals was Aired Nov. 16th and was not the last show of the series as I reported earlier. Nevertheless ratings for the show continue downward. . . Shots of the BAUERS, ENRICO WALLEDA, DAVE MERRIFIELD were especially well done but those sensational airplane sequences stole the show (The Daredevils). . . Clown DENNIS STEVENS visited the King Bros. Circus at Saraffa. Word is that show goes out again in 1981. . . My condolences to GLENN PARKINS whose mother passed away in October.

KEITH KILLINGER went into New Orleans to get the band organized for TOMMY HANNEFORD and then returned for our closing week in Dallas. . . DIAMOND JIM PARKER is staying in Giltown. . . High wire walker

DANIEL ACOSTA, a frequent visitor during the FW date, is suffering recurring health problems from that terrible fall. Meanwhile he is packaging a new high wire act featuring two girls doing the same hair-raising routines normally done by men, and, of course, those done by Acosta himself. . . CHRISTOPHER JAMES

(Continued on Page 10)



and the PLUNKETTS played the Hadi Temple Shrine Circus in Evansville over Thanksgiving. . . ERNIE McLEAN was bed-ridden for several days with a severe cold. . . HEIDI and JACKIE KRAUSE went to Florida. . . A new coffee table book on clowns, printed in Canada and released by MacMillan is out and features a number of photos on REX YOUNG and a full page color pix of BLINKO (Ernie Burch). Most of the photos, however, are of European clown performers. . . You can look for a new column logo in 1981, created by that ingenious PAT DAVISON. . . That catastrophic MG'M Grand Hotel fire only made the fire officials tougher at the Convention Center in Dallas (where they have always been strict) and made it difficult for those of us using fireworks, flash pots or anything involving open flame. . . Ft. Worth/Dallas residents (performers and fans) who find my book gone at Barber's two stores in FW, or at Cokesbury's in Dallas, can acquire same at the main public libraries. . . At Murder by The Book bookstore in Providence my book is a major best seller, selling out two large shipments already. Step-by-step it is being distributed nationwide. Mainly the momentum was braked by spending too much time in Texas, so now I know all future engagements must be kept shorter. . . Show business has finally become a sideline.

IRONIC ITEM: A member of the Hella Temple Shrine Patrol, WILLIAM McKEE, was shot to death by his wife during the crucial and much heralded showing of the "Who Shot J. R." segment of the TV series "Dallas." The Hella Temple, is of course, also in Dallas.

NOT SAFE ANYWHERE: During an activity at the Will Rogers Coliseum in Ft. Worth a man emerged to find both back wheels of

his Thunderbird missing. The wheels were stolen in a lighted parking lot with plenty of people about including BILL STRONG who was rebuilding the interior of his semi and nobody saw or noticed anything until David said to Bill, after the parking lot was cleared of all but a few vehicles, "Dad, doesn't that car look as if it doesn't have any back wheels?" It did not.

CLOSEUPS: SANDY YOUNG has been taking art lessons on the sly and showed Trudy, Bobby and me at least six framed canvases she had painted in oils. Some of them are very good. She'd been taking lessons from her friend PATSY CRUMMETT, also an artist, and an art teacher.

Well, high-flying HERBIE WEBER and MARCELLA returned from their tour with SID KELLNER's new opus "Old Time Vaudeville" and here's all the dope: Sid, who's had his problems the past few years, is finally back, after trial and error, on the Promotional Ball (and as everyone knows when Sid hits his stride there isn't a better promototer anywhere). His new promotional endeavor, the Vaudeville Show, is a sure-fire winner, attracting good sponsors and large audiences. The current show featured MOREY AMSTERDAM (72) who closed the second half and worked anywhere from 45 minutes to an hour. Featured in the program were: JERRY LAYNE, vent and MC, the youngest member of the cast; CHARLIE RAINO (not so young) with comedy juggling; JOHN E (in his seventies) with dead-pan comedy songs; JOHNNIE ROMANO (95) tap-dancer whose energetic terpsichore brought the house to its feet for a standing ovation. This old-time star appeared with Charles Chaplin around 1900 and with

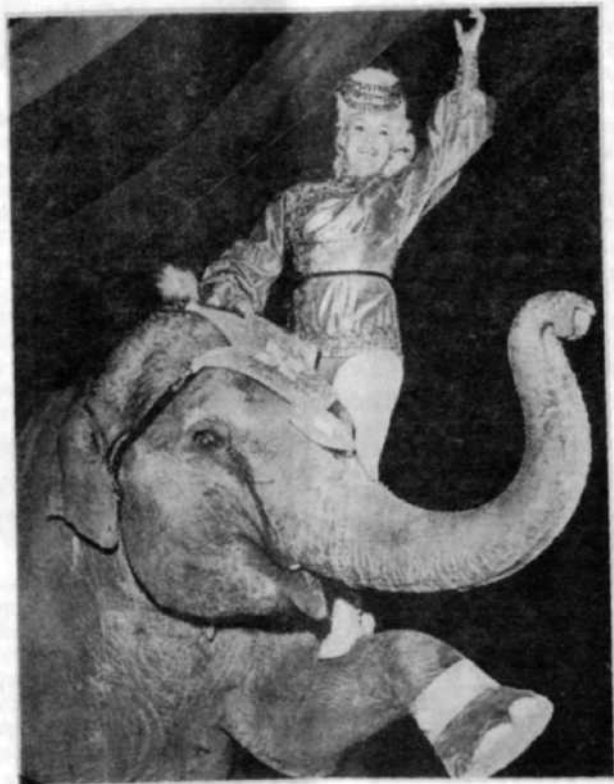
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Rudolph Valentino in the 20's! And, of course, the LOS LATINOS appearing second from closing (and NOBODY knows how old Herbie is except Herbie and he ain't talking).

PERRY JOHNSON maestroed a nine piece band, ED RUSSELL is booking spots around Los Angeles for a Spring tour, and this tour played Napa, San Francisco, Santa Cruz and Watsonville. Sid, by the way, now has new offices in San Francisco's Orpheum Theatre building. The Vaude show may possibly come east next fall. I hope so.

Other news on the Kellner front is that MATT and GEORGE are doing fantastically well with promotional operations of their own involving Labor. They put out their own newspaper and recently bought a radio station in Walnut Creek. This station, apparently, broadcasts only at night, is called the JAZZBEAU Network and features AL COLLINS talk show, on from midnight to 5 a.m. The boys have luxurious new homes, and best of all, girls, they're still eligible bachelors.

LOVEY, Sid's ex-wife, now remarried, suffered a massive heart attack this past summer, was given up for dead. Only shock treatment brought her back. She told Herbie she felt as though she had floated through a pitch black tunnel and then, suddenly, emerged in a burst of light. She is fine now.

Seen in Sid's office one day was RUDY JACOBI. . . DON MARCKS, who created Sid's programs, was just too over-worked to catch the show. I'm told that, in addition to getting CR out weekly, Don is involved in a heavy work schedule which keeps him hopping.

And, finally, veteran clown HARRY ROSS has retired and is selling his props. Harry, who is 76, is being treated for a skin cancer on his back.

BACK TALK: Depressed over Mae's death,

PEOPLE

GAYLORD MAYNARD's wonder horse 'Bear Paw' got front page coverage in the Aug. 27th issue of the Ottawa Journal. The photo shows the horse kissing his trainer.

EMMETT KELLY, Jr. Circus (Continued)

drum. It is a most unusual dressing for this kind of act and makes for interesting variety in the show. Gary Baker and Vickie have just finished the season with the TNT & Royal Olympic Circus.

The Shurrays are from the Redlands "Y" Circus. They work from a trapeze and rings. They do a variety of stunts including a little iron jaw and finish with a helicopter head spin. The wardrobe was sharp and the audience found them quite acceptable. They are young and will undoubtedly gain more polish with more shows under their belts.

The Circus Band consisted of leader, Don Beamsley on the electronic organ, Art De Paw, trumpet and Roy Roten, drums. They managed to make the three pieces sound like a big band. The whole thing made a nice package quite in keeping with the standard maintained at Knott's Berry Farm.

The performance ran a fast 43 minutes and producer Chuck Burnes said he would tighten it up to a speedy 39 minutes after the first show.

the precarious situation with my mother, I remarked to Bobby as were driving to a restaurant that my father and uncle had lived into their early seventies and that my grandfather had lived to the age of 76. "I don't have much time left," I said, and then brightened, adding, "well, at least I'll outlive Herbie Weber!"

Bobby glanced sideways at me and said, "What do you want to bet?"

SEE YOU down the road, luvs.

REPORT

BRITISH CIRCUS SEASON OF 1980

BY JACK NIBLETT

1980 is not a year which will be remembered with affection by most British circuses.

Economic conditions, aggravated by inflation and unemployment, atrocious summer weather, the lack of foreign tourists, all contributed to poor business generally and a few early closings.

Gerry Cottle's Circus went bankrupt in early summer and came off the road; it came out again in a revised form for a few weeks late in the season. Then, surplus equipment was sold, and the circus announced its intention of moving to South Africa.

The much publicized Hassani Circus (Circus without Animals) had a checkered career with many cries for help, but stayed out until the end of September, although its future seems very doubtful.

Jimmy Chipperfield's Circus World experienced poor business in the early weeks of its tenting tour. However, a summer-long engagement at the Great Yarmouth Hippodrome proved much more satisfactory, and the poor summer weather helped here, often driving holiday makers into this charming old circus building in search of shelter and entertainment. This circus did not resume tenting after the indoor engagement this year as it had done last year.

As regards the other Chipperfield circuses, Richard's show with a big animal content enjoyed good business generally, throughout the year; as did Sally, whom with her husband James Clubb with their fast-growing circus, were well satisfied with their summer tour, mostly along the south and west coasts. The

smaller Chipperfield Bros' Circus (Tommy and Charles) started out rather late, and came off the road in late August, one reason being given was the difficulty in finding suitable lots.

The other new show, Fossefield's (Tom Fossett) found business very spotty, and a projected summer season at Heysham Head was curtailed owing to poor business; the show resumed travelling with moderate results.

Among the old-established circus families, the Robert Bros. tenting mainly along the South Coast resorts, did not do the business expected mainly owing to the lack of summer visitors, being put off by the dismal weather.

Sir Robert Fossett's and Austen Bros. circuses both did average business while tenting in the Midlands and North, and both did very much better when they moved into Scotland. There was much battling with the mild weather here, but occasional "house full" notices for both shows made the tour worthwhile.

The Circus Hoffman fielded two units this year, managed by brothers Peter and Jeffrey Hoffman, and the other by sister Valerie and her husband Colin Timmis. The second unit had a summer season at Margate, which was moderately successful, and when it resumed tenting was converted into a "Thrill Show" which toured the London suburbs, but was not an outstanding success.

The smaller shows, Pinders, Gandeys, and Weights all circuses with a small "nut" managed to make a living. All three of these shows which play the smaller towns had larger and more enterprising programs this year. The show which everyone was watching was David Smart's new and very expensive Super

(Continued on Page 16)

RUDY DOCKY

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BRITISH CIRCUS REPORT (Continued)

Circus with its 12 weeks run at Battersea Park in London. From a personal observation I would say that in this difficult year, business was reasonable, but I do not think that this fine show got the audiences it deserved. I sincerely trust that this circus was a financial, as well as an artistic success. David Smart deserves it for his courage in these uncertain times, and the fans are looking forward to the Christmas show which he will be producing at the same venue.

The Blackpool Tower Circus had its usual good season, the first program for many years without the late Charlie Cairoli. The Tower was wise, and fortunate in securing Rastelli's one of Europe's best clown groups to take Charlie's place and they have been a tremendous success.

Not a very cheerful report on the season of 1980, but the British circus proprietors are a resilient lot and I expect that most of them will be out on the roads again next summer. Christmas circuses are being held in London, Birmingham, Liverpool, Bristol, Manchester, Glasgow and a few of the smaller towns.

Some outstanding British acts will be seen at the Monte Carlo Circus Festival this Decem-

in the NEWS**FIGHT OVER BIG CATS**

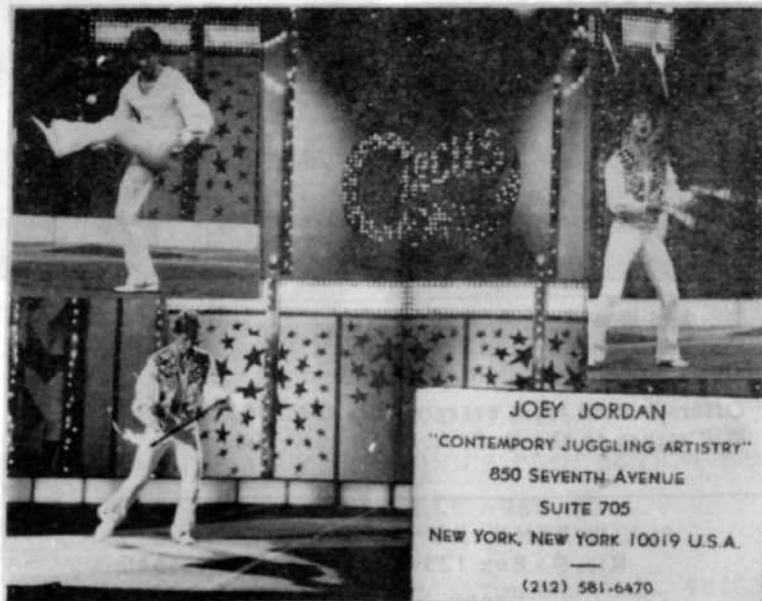
Officials at Longmont, Colo., have turned down a request for a permit to keep exotic animals on a nearby ranch. Dr. Robert Hawkins, sought the permit for his exotic animal farm.

"I'm going to fight this tooth and nail," said Hawkins, an osteopath who has lions, tigers and leopards quartered on his 80 acre rural home. He said that he was ready to spend as much as \$50,000 fighting the commissioners

Miscellaneous

The Olympic Int'l 3 Ring Circus will open its 1981 season at the Florida State Fair (Feb. 4-15), and then goes on to play Milwaukee, Chicago, Green Bay and Nashville.

ber. Richard (Dickie) Chipperfield will be seen there with his impressive group of 17 lions and lionesses; while his cousin Mary will be there with her four acts, involving elephants, horses and exotic animals, so here, at least some fine British acts will be seen by large and knowledgeable audiences in suitably rich surroundings.



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SPECIAL**RAIN IN TEXAS??**

BY BOB STODDARD

It doesn't rain in Texas! Right? Wrong! Sometimes it does - and not always at the right time. One example of this is that the rain on Saturday, Nov. 22nd sure did put a damper on the elaborate plans and the 52 units that were set to parade around the Red Bird Mall in Dallas. They had their parade all right, but it was inside the mall with wall to wall people.

Naturally, they had to eliminate the horses, motorcycles, floats, go-carts, cars and trucks, etc., but they had their parade and brought Santa Claus as planned.

Maybe Kay Graves, the mall promotion director, didn't pull out all of her hair - and God knows (and everyone here understands) that we needed the rain.

The Folks at Richardson Square Mall knew that Santa's arrival in Richardson, Texas, was a very special event. They realized that any happening as important as this would absolutely have to be handled in a first class manner.

The question of who should introduce Santa was answered without hesitation, by a group of experts on the subject of Santa Claus.

"Clowns should do it," the children decided.

"So be it," said Joanne Lynes, marketing director of the mall, and that's how Checkers and Patches wound up introducing Santa to a huge crowd of "children of all ages" at the mall in a giant celebration between 10 am and noon on Saturday, Nov. 21st.

A very special feature of the day was an invitation to the young and the young at heart to have breakfast with Santa and the clowns. An estimated 800 to 1,000 people accepted the invitation.

It was a great show, but then, that's how it should be when you are presenting a really big super star like Santa Claus!

Thirty-five miles to the west, in Ft. Worth, another clown was selected to do the honors.

Edna (Crackers) Fianagan lit up the Christmas tree in Burnett Park and presented and introduced Santa Claus with the help of the Texas Girls Choir and a host of dignitaries on Nov. 28th.

REPORT**NEWS FROM BARABOO**

FROM WM. L. SCHULTZ

Our season of 1980 was a good season. Attendance was up as well as income. The show closed on Sept. 14th. The work crews then immediately started to prepare for 1981.

The tents are down and drying out as they hang over the rafters in the big parade wagon pavilion. The outdoor displays have been dismantled and put in storage.

The inside displays are having their faces lifted for next year's showing. A beautiful new carousel shelter is being erected, which will add a lot of color to the carousel display. It will be by far the tallest building on our Museum grounds with its high shingled roof and cupola with the Museum flag in its full color.

New bleachers have been erected on our daily parade route. The flat cars that are used for our loading show exhibition have been sand-blasted and are being repainted with bright new colors and new signage. The horse barn, the hippodrome building and the train shed area for the animals is all being given coats of paint. New asphaltting is being spread throughout the Museum grounds with special emphasis being placed in the wild animal menagerie under the tiger and lion cages.

All in all, the Circus World Museum is spending approximately \$120,000 on these improvements. This is typical, as each year the Circus World Museum improves its facilities

(Continued on Page 27)

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REPORT

MAGIC FOR THE 80's

BY JACKIE BIAS

"Magic for the 80's", featuring Master of Illusion, Byron Bowman, played to a sold-out house at the Logan Field House for the Logan, W. Va., Jaycees, Nov. 23rd at 2 p.m. This new show, just started this year, played for 6 weeks in the spring and 5 weeks in the fall, the Logan show closed the tour. The show offers a 45 minute school show and a 1½ hour organization sponsored show.

Line-up of the show was: Chuckles (Chuck Hager) the clown with audience warm-up; Byron Bowman with patriotic Drum production with flags and Miss Red, White and Blue; Introduction of show by announcer and co-illusionist, Louis Zoll; Dove Magic featuring dove pan, balloon to dove, dove to silk, dove to rabbitt and dove cage vanish; Special guest ventriloquist from Logan, Ed Flowers and Willie with dentist and patient antics; The Temple of Benares, sword box; The Magic of Movement, a company of 3 dancers with a hat and cane number with Jim Maggard, Lee

Kelly and Madonna Mitchell; Chuckles the clown with disappearing cane, balloon to rubber chicken and appearing cane; and the final illusion in the first half, the Substitution Trunk with Bowman and Zoll and audience participation.

A color book and picture pitch was made by the announcer during the 15 minute intermission.

The second half opened with Byron Bowman and small illusions, Needle thru Balloon and 3 colored ropes into one; next was the "Tube" Illusion, 4 large aluminum tubes passed thru a cabinet with Zoll chained inside, billed as "Flaming Torch thru a Human Body"; Magic of Movement with Maggard and Mitchell in a disco number; Chuckles the clown with production box and tube in his comic ladies lingerie revue; Introduction of Thumper, the World's Fastest Flying Rabbit, in a drawer box transfer; Circus Cage tear-down transfer with disappearance of 4 doves; and ending the show, the flashy Person to Pony illusion producing Mr. Bucky, the performing pony star of the circus world with the best hind leg walk seen anywhere; the show finished with a cast call and curtain.

Lighting and flashes of fire smoke were utilized for the show and wardrobe was dazzling, with the two illusionists doing 3 complete costume changes. The show is very fast paced with a minimum of announcing and filling between acts, and received quite an enthusiastic response from the crowd.

"Magic for the 80's" leaves its audiences in West Virginia, excited enough to buy tickets for the next magic show to come thru, which is more than can be said for some of the shows that play the area.

Many people in the business would probably know Byron Bowman as "Barney" who was with the Royal Lipizzan Stallion Show for a number of years.

In Memoriam

BENJAMIN L. (Dinky) MOORE (72) died in Poplar Bluff, Mo. on Nov. 6th. He trouped with John Robinson, Hagenbeck-Wallace, the Sells-Floto, Robbins Bros. and King Bros. circuses, as a clown. He had been retired since 1938. Survivors include two sisters Gladys McAllister and Eva Mae Lewis.

WANTED

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PEOPLE

KARIN STEWART DAVIS' Happy Days Productions has been awarded the contract to book circus entertainment at King's Productions, which supplies live shows for King's Island in Cincinnati, King's Dominion in Richmond, Va., and Wonderland in Toronto.

VELMA and ADEN LOWRY, of Kansas, have been visiting relatives in Southern California.

THE WAZZAN TROUPE will tour with the Ian Garden show next year which opens next month at Roanoke, Va.

The **M & S BIRDS** will tour with Carden-Johnson for the 1981 season.

REV. DAVID HENNESSEY, chaplain to the Ringling-Barnum Circus people, was the subject of a special article in the Cincinnati (Oh) Enquirer on Sept. 16th.

TEX and MARCY MAYNARD have taken over the Valley View Diner in Union Center, NY, just six miles north of Endicott, NY, on Rte. 26 and 38-B. When Allan Hill's show played Johnson City the show people parked on the parking lot over night.

MARTIN (Lancelot Goodperson) REEVES and eighteen other clowns entertained at the Scottish Rite Crippled Children's Hospital in Dallas and were surprised when the hospital presented them with a plaque and then un-

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veiled a permanent plaque on the wall containing all of their names in appreciation of past frequent shows.

CHECKERS & PATCHES, clown team, will MC and be the feature act in three Christmas Variety Shows at the Las Vegas (Nev) Convention Center on Dec. 22nd.

PETE LUVAS was at the Galvez Mall in Galveston, Texas, with Kenya the elephant, dressed up like Santa Claus. The real Santa rode on Kenya's back.

CAROL (Punkin) HILL clowned in the Red Bird Mall parade in Dallas on Nov. 22nd.

LARRY WILCOX, star of the TV show Chips is also a professional rodeo rider, appearing in most of the nation's major rodeos.

HOVEY BURGESS, author of "Circus Techniques"; **JOHN TOWSEN**, author of "Clowns" and **PAUL BOUISSAC**, author of "Circus and Culture" will teach a seminar/workshop "Circus As A Performing Art" at the New York University, New York City, starting Jan. 12th.



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BY LLOYD E. JONES

At long last we've received Lewis Ganson's "The Three Card Monte As Entertainment" which is published in England and it is priced not at \$10 as I thought, but \$8.00 (air mail postage is 67c or book rate at 59c). It is a great classic and offers full coverage with sleight of hand methods and variations and those with special cards. If you haven't seen the Kitson Miracle, rather, if you HAVE seen it done, then you'll certainly want this book. Wonder how much has been won - or lost - on this gambling, betting trick?

Writing in TOPS, Frances Marshall announces the date for the Magic Collector's week-end to be April 23-25. The guest of honor is Litza Raymond Gibson, and quote "the famous and highly controversial Lloyd Jones, of California." Well, I So, I'm famous too!

After the stupid printers had the "More of Magic" book by Dr. Frank Blaisdell over-printed locally, we can now offer it for sale. Imagine, printing a book and leaving the author's name off the cover! But then on Barbi Walker's book, they failed to furnish extra sheets of the miniature cards sending dust ja-

ckets instead.

Oh, me, the life of a publisher. Wanna buy a book business? Barbi Walker has big 25c down and 25c a week, but Don Marcks has-tened to double that price on his own! Maybe if they'd move the decimal over a half dozen figures we could talk business.

Steven's Magic Emporium has announced its 4th annual Desert Magic Seminar featuring Slydini and Dai Vernon. It will be held at the Aladdin Hotel, Las Vegas, March 29-31 and the charge is just \$100. Those attending the seminar will visit the home of Siegfried and Roy one afternoon.

Paul Diamond has cancelled his current lecture tour and is in the hospital

"More Of Magic" features some fine rope and general magic and a fine cups and balls routine. It is \$10.00 (postage 81c) cloth bound, 104 pages, illustrated with the author's name on the cover. Tsk.

Barbi's book "Miniature Mysteries With Cards" is also cloth bound with a colorful cover and a beautiful set of end papers and even perforated pages (2) of miniature cards so you can get right to work entertaining. It is priced at \$17.50 and already it is being talked about. (Postage is 81c).



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ROY CRANE

NEWS FROM BARABOO (Continued)

with approximately the same number of dollars per year.

The big top show for 1981 should be one of the finest shows produced at the Circus World Museum. Ada Smieya and her tigers and lions will be back once again to open the Big Top Show. Along with Ada will be Gabriel and Martha Flores and their family who will be doing their aerial acrobatics both in the big top and outdoors. Buckles Woodcock with his prancing pachyderms and his entire family will be spending their first year at the Circus World Museum in '81. The nationally renowned Jimmy Williams, Circus World Museum's Happy the Clown will of course, be with the 1981 show with some new clown numbers and illusions. The ringmaster for the next season will be Peter Sturgis.

The public relations department under the direction of Dale Williams is developing all new brochures for the coming season, which includes well over one million brochures de-

picting the Circus World Museum as one of the outstanding tourist attractions in the midwest. This brochure outlines the program for a day at the Museum. The other major brochure that is being developed by the public relations department is a new and colorful promotional piece in which in a very dramatic way shows the total story of what the Museum has to offer for groups such as senior citizens, churches, youth organizations and schools.

PEOPLE

SHAPPI, comedy and balancing act, HAL HAVILAND, dog and pony and THE SILKORSKYS, jugglers/unicycles, were the acts working for the Caterpillar Christmas Party in Decatur, Ill. on Dec. 14th.

CAROL BUCKLEY and "Baby Tarra" appeared in the Oxnard and San Pedro (Calif) Christmas parades and then were at the Gift Fairs in Long Beach and Los Angeles for the holiday season. They'll open at Lion Country Safari Park for a two week engagement on Dec. 24th.

REPORT

HUBLER CIRCUS DATES

Pontiac, Mich. - Nov. 15-16 - Acts working were: Welde's Leopards, Miss Lydia, trapeze, Bronco Billy King's Mixed Animals, Karinas, trampoline, Victor Julian's Little Stars with Leo Coffey, Sir Chadwick Chase and his Rolls Rotten, Chris King and Queenie the elephant, the Burketts, aerial perch. Clowning was by Wayne Liikala.

Visitors included: Gracie McIntosh, Jimmie Douglass, Walt and Barbara King, Also clowning was George "Skinhead" Lewis.

Troy, Ohio - Nov. 1-2 - Acts were: Jorge Barreda's lions, Lou Ann Jacobs, trapeze, Karinas, trampoline, Joselito, high wire, The Valencias, flying act, Knock-about act, Sir Chadwick Chase and his Rolls Rotten and the Tony Diano Elephants. Clowning was by Wayne Liikala.

Hubler has 8 days of circuses that begin on Nov. 23rd and are in Schenectady, Fonda, Troy, Glens Falls, Saratoga Springs, Saranac, and ends up with two days in Plattsburg, On the show were the Karinas, Sir Chadwick Chase and his Rolls Rotten, Welde's leopards,



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PEOPLE

MARK WILSON, magician, was on the John Davidson TV show aired on Dec. 3rd.

MICKY ROONEY will star in a soon to be filmed TV movie called "The Clown." It is a CBS-TV special.

TED ZACCHINI, builder of dark rides and a former cannon act performer, is featured in a special article which appears in the American Showman magazine for Dec. 1980.

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..... Karin Davis

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MAILBAG

FROM JOHN ALBERTI

My wife, Chris and I just recently returned from a visit to West Germany. During our stay there we had the pleasure of running in to the Busch Roland Circus, which was playing in our home town of Braunschweig.

Arturo Segura is with the show, and he and his lovely wife and family welcomed us. They made us their guests and had us seated in the best seats in the house.

Busch Roland Circus is a first class European Circus that runs from March thru November, with sold out shows all season. One has the feeling of entering a fine theatre, and not a canvas tent. They have their own private school trailer where a licensed teacher, teaches the circus children. They, also have their own 28 man Fire Dept., with three fire fighting vehicles. The tent has a controlled climate for year round touring with heating and air-conditioning.

We thoroughly enjoyed the show. The program line-up was as follows:

The Rosetti's, leap over four elephants; the Two Saratogas, plate spinning; Sascha Houcke, mixed animals, camels, zebras; Duo Veress, double trapeze; Marion & Marco, comedy car; Franco, rola bola; the Segura Family, trampoline; Ruppert Bemmerl, Bengal tigers;

In Memoriam

ELEANOR CRAFTS (80) died at her home in Toluca Lake, Calif., on Sept. 4th. She was the widow of Orville N. Crafts, owner of the Crafts 20 Big Shows. She had been an insurance agent and broker before getting into show business. Survivors include a step-son, Roger Warren, who is with Foley & Burk.

BOB PERRY (92) died recently at his Los Angeles, Calif., home. He was a retired motordrome rider and is credited with having taken the first motordrome to Europe. Survivors include his wife, Jennie, and a daughter, Berry Kelly.

Intermission.

The Four Mario Jarz, flying act; Luczyna Bruning, roller skating bears; Codrellis, musical clowns; Arturo Segura, bouncing rope; Mecky and Ruppert Bommel, elephants and teeterboard; The Bogi's, acrobatics and The Golgojews, Cossack riding act and Russian wolfohounds.

The ringmaster was Ludwig Lehner.

We were also told by several of the performers that the Canadian CTV-Circus show is shown in Europe.

REPORT

FALL FUN FESTIVAL

The annual Fabulous, Fantastic, Fall Fun Festival of the Felix Morales Tent No. 85, was held Nov. 1st at Casey's East Restaurant, Troy (NY). Albert House, eastern vice president of the Circus Fans Association, was the guest speaker. He described some of his adventures in booking circuses in New Jersey, and his talk with its appropriate humor was well received.

The TV documentary of the 1979 Gettysburg CFA Convention was screened and enjoyed. Scenes at the convention, interviews with well known circus personalities and views of the Clyde Bcatty-Cole Bros. Circus comprised the film. Excellent slides showing the Baraboo circus parade were shown by Mr. and Mrs. David Johnson, as an added attraction.

John (Tiny) Phillips, a former national president of the CFA, and Mrs. Phillips, were among the many who attended. Charles Elwell tent president, conducted the meeting, and the next dinner meeting will be held April 25th at the same restaurant.

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REPORT

SHOWS MERGE

Circus Berlin and Borger Bros. Circus has been consolidated into the combined Borger Bros. -Circus Berlin.

The decision to consolidate the two circuses was made by owners Norman J. Borger and Elton Berlin after difficulties experienced in operating two separate shows after the fire in May, 1979, which destroyed most of the show equipment.

The combined show's fall tour ran from Sept. 28th to Nov. 22nd. Acts were: Princess Pele,

web; Arwood's Dogs; Rickie the Clown; Johnny Joker; The Burketts, aerial; Tommy comedy trapeze; Cherie Troy, roman rings; Hard Luck Harpo, break-away bicycle; The Crazy Sailors, acrobats; Joyce Rice, baton and whip act; Sunshine, mime; Claudie, juggling and Cleo and his Magic Review.

Props and rigging for the combined shows were designed by Claude Crumley and were built by the Ye Old Drop Shop. Costumes and special effects were designed by Tommy Oberleitner and executed by Feather Brain Costume Co.

REPORT

CLYDE BROS.-CARDEN-JOHNSON

BY ALLEN BABCOCK

The Clyde Bros.-Carden-Johnson Circus played for the Shrine in Springfield, Ill., Nov. 21-23rd. The weather wasn't bad for this time of year. We had a fine rainy mist on Sunday most of the day and during the teardown in the evening.

We've had a dry summer and fall here, so we need all the moisture we can get. It might have affected attendance since the crowd didn't seem as big as last year, but overall attendance was good with three close to full houses, two just 100 short and the other two being three-quarters full.

The program as presented featured: Book pitch; Mirror Ball; Bob Top and Edna, roller skaters; Joe Via, lion act; Kathy English, on trapeze, Mark Pilger, trapeze and Anne Pike, rings; Cuccillo, comedy trampoline; Bobby Gibbs and Yo Yo pitch; Bobby Gibbs, dogs; Ed Steeples, bears (5); Dino, one finger stand; Clowns (Clancy and Maxo); Anna, Jems, the French trapeze; Olga, balance trapeze; Gibbs,

camels, Rizzi, llamas, and Symanki's chimps; Aerial ballet featuring Edna and Anne on the webs, Kathy on ladder and Olinka, upside down walk; Intermission.

The second half included: David, rola bola, Toto, sword balance, Dino, juggling; Clancy and Carol, clown vocal; Bobby Gibbs, ponies (6); M. Rizzi, ponies (6) and T. Navarro, ponies (6); The Cavanaugh's, cradle; Tino Zoppe, lamp post; Miss Marki, doves; Miss Kathy, doves; Rolling Dars, featuring David Connors; Clowns; Bobby Gibbs, elephants, and Tino and Olinka Zoppe on the high wire. Cleo Plunkett was the ringmaster, Mike Pike, was performance director, Paul Jackolina was band leader and Carol Sanchez was the show vocalist.

PEOPLE

BOB EMERICO, presented his clown magic as part of a big show presented in Trader Vics in San Francisco early this month. It was a private party for the holidays.

REPORT

OLD TIME VAUDEVILLE

The second tour this year for Sid Kellner's "Old Time Vaudeville" completed a successful run last month in the Northern California area.

Featured on the show were: Jerry Layne and Family, ventriloquist and MC; Nobel Curl, singer; Johnnie Romano, dancer of the 20's and 30's (age 95); Constance D'Gray, soprano; Edward Jackson, juggler; John E, singer and comedian; Los Latinos, wire act and Morey Amsterdam, star of TV, films and stage. The placing of the act cards was handled by Sheri Forgey.

The band consisted of six talented musicians directed by Perry Johnson. Conley Hall, the drummer and Tommy Fewless, trumpet, had been on the Kellner operated Great London Circus, in 1975.

Vergie Johnson and Barbara worked on the front door and sold program books.

After the tour, Sid, Barbara and Sheri, along with Herbie Weber and Marcella, and Perry and Vergie Johnson got together

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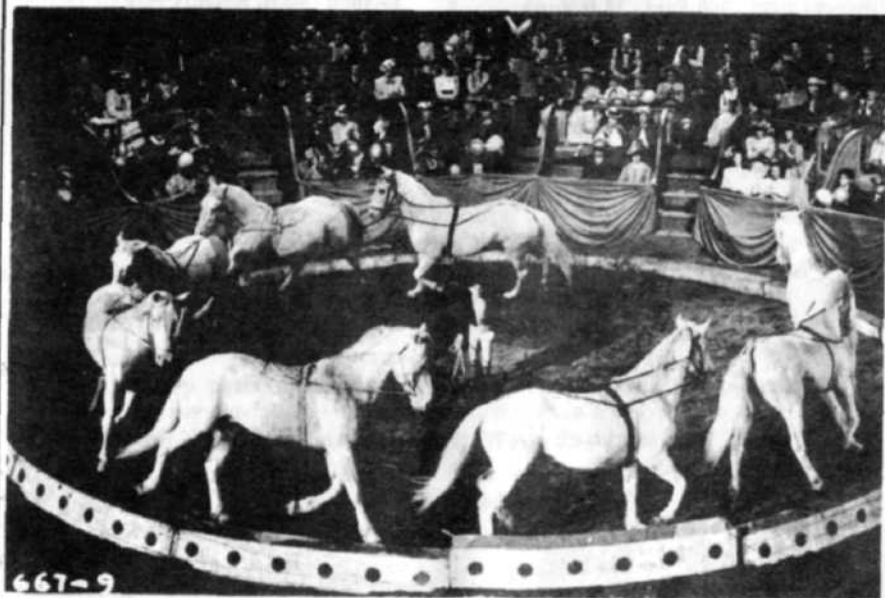
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