



7th Year

May 15, 1978

Number 20

3 Killed in Wreck

Three men were killed early on the morning of April 29th when the Carden-Johnson-Clyde Bros. Circus prop semi slammed into a railroad bridge at Houghton, Mich. Three other men who were also riding in the truck were injured, one seriously.

An eyewitness said he heard a semi coming coming down the hill on Bridge Street in Houghton — faster and faster it came — people were screaming — it crossed busy US 41 — and crashed into a Soo Railroad bridge. One survivor said the last thing he remembered was the sound of leaking air — then awful silence.

A borrowed truck was used to bring what props could be salvaged to the show's engagement at Menominee, but gone were some sections of the ring curbs, the organ, drums, amplifier, the PA system and lights, plus some props and rigging.

A turnaway crowd was on hand to greet the circus for both shows that day, as local citizens welcomed the circus in its moment of tragedy. It was a sad show, but a good one, is the way one spectator expressed his reaction.

Killed in the accident were Carl A. Nordin, 43, of Lubbock, Texas, driver of the truck;

Show Acts

Capacity crowds attended each performance of that recent circus in Puerto Rico. The show was presented in a European-style, one-ring tent, using special ring lights and overhead floods. Music for the show was directed by Keith Killinger.

The program was made up of a combination of U.S. and European acts and featured: Chary-body, 12 people; Arabian fantasy, camels and ponies, Sheik

(Continued on Page 15)

Anthony Gilio, 61, of Corona, New York; and Wayne Lee Sater, 38, of Springfield, Mo.

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CFA Notes

The Ernestine Clarke Tent, CFA, in Bellingham, Wash., celebrated its 35th anniversary on April 16th at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Wallace Winter. The tent was organized in April 10, 1943.

Special guest of honor was Ernestine Clarke for whom the tent is named. The daughter of Ernest Clarke and Elizabeth (Hanneford) Clarke, Ernestine was a member of the Clarkonians Flying Trapeze Act. She was also a bareback rider and the only one to perform a mid-air split above a prancing horse.

Married to Parley Baer, one of the most-well known circus ringmasters (retired), Ernestine is now living in California where Parley continues to do radio and television spots.

Also present at the celebration were Ernestine's daughter Kim and 2 year old grandson Anthony Domenick Fagundes. Kim, who at one time worked with the elephants on Circus Vargas, now lives on a farm in Burlington, Wash, with her husband and son. Another daughter, Dale, works in the Grizzly Adams production depart-

ment.

Members of the Jack Bell Tent of Seattle traveled to Bellingham to join the Ernestine Clarke tent in the celebration.

.... Betty Bartholomew

Members of the Roland C. Butler Tent, CFA, attended the last local performance of Henry Bros. Circus, prior to its departure for a summer tour.

The show features Carmen Henry and her Dalmation dogs, the Henry Chimps with Ivan and Carmen, 'Shorty' the elephant, presented by Ivan Henry, assisted by his 8 year old son Solan, Harry Ross, the clown and Fred Reed, the ringmaster/MC.

After the performance a coffee and cake party was hosted by tent members for the personnel and to extend best wishes to Harry Ross, veteran clown, on his 73rd birthday.

..... Fred Reed

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Show Dates

Beatty-Cole Circus
May 15-18 Sc

Beatty-Cole Circus
May 15-18 Scranton, Pa.
19-22 York

Big John Strong Circus
May 15 Newport Beach, Cal.
16 Santa Ana
17 Chula Vista
18 Santee
19-20 San Bernardino
21 Yuma, Ariz.

Hubert Castle Circus
May 16-17 Swift Current, Sask.
18 Medicine Hat, Albita.
19-20 Lethbridge

Circus Vargas
May 15-18 Cupertino, Calif.
Livermore

Great American Circus
May 15 Westminster, Md.
16 Gettysburg, Pa.
17 Dallastown
18 Mount Joy
19 Newville
20 Elizabethville
21 Union Deposit

Great Y Circus
May 19-20 Redlands, Calif.

Hamid-Morton Circus
May 16-20 Pittsburgh, Pa.

Hoxie Bros. Circus
May 15 Terre Haute, Ind.
16 Danville, Ill.
17 Watseka
18 Pontiac
19-20 Naperville
21 Palatine

Hubler International Circus
May 20-21 Boardman, Ohio

Martin & Downs Circus
May 17 Tavistock, Ont.
18 St. George
19 Burford

Sam T. Polack Circus
May 20-21 Richmond, Va.

Police Circus
May 20-21 Spokane, Wash.

Pickle Family Circus
May 19-21 Palo Alto, Calif.

Ringling-Barnum - Blue Unit
to June 4 New York, N. Y.

Ringling-Barnum - Red Unit
May 16-30 Largo, Md.

Royal Lichtenstein Circus
May 15 Logan, Utah
16 Ogden
17-19 Salt Lake City

Wenatchee Youth Circus
May 20 Billings, Mont.

Kaye Hollywood Elephants
May 15-26 Bentley Bros. Circus
(Enroute California)

----- OTHER DATES -----

Vince Carmen's "Razzle Dazzle"
May 20 Bingham, N. Y.
21 Wilton, Conn.

Century 21 Shows - Blue Unit
May 15-21 Gary, Ind.

Century 21 Shows - Red Unit
May 16-24 Chicago, Ill.

Circus Saints & Sinners Conven.
May 18-20 Virginia Beach, Va.

Do It Yourself Show
May 17-21 Los Angeles, Calif.

James H. Drew Expo Shows
May 15-20 Marmet, W. Va.

Doug Henning Show (Magic)
May 16 Lansing, Mich.
17-19 Detroit
20 Ann Arbor
21 Grand Rapids

In Memoriam

ELOISE BERCHTOLD, animal trainer, died as the result of injuries suffered in a mishap during a circus performance at Rock Forest, Quebec, Canada, on May 5th.

She was presenting her elephant act when one of the animals ran its tusks through her stomach, then threw her to the ground and stomped her to death.

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IT WAS an 'artery' by-pass heart operation for CLIFFORD VARGAS in March. The circus owner is now back on the show taking it easy, but still looking after important business matters. . . Delivery of a new baby elephant was taken by the circus, but in the meantime 3 elephants, a camel and a truck were sold to Mexico's Circo Union. Business for the big tent remains excellent.

Word is that American Continental has a very good program, well put together, with lots of 3 ring action, and the Charles Troupe (formerly on RBBB) of tee-board performers is one of the highlights.

One of the baby elephants leased by PEE WEE and JOANNE PINSON from DOREY MILLER spooked and took off down the midway at the Tampa Fair during the Kool Aid Circus. Pee Wee was knocked down when the bull ran between two cars. Fortunately no one was injured and the only real damage was to the awning of the SENSATIONAL LEIGHS' trailer. Pee Wee trucked the bull back to Oklahoma and replaced it with another punk which knows 'it's place' and the Pinsons have had no further problem.

SNAPSHOTS: BUCKLES and BARBARA WOODCOCK have been getting sensational publicity in New York (newspapers, TV, People and US magazines).

AFTER DARK is doing a major spread on BENNY WILLIAMS which will be out sometime this summer. Meanwhile, thanks to their good friend BOBBY JOHNSON, Buckles and Barbara have been taking in all the hit Broadway shows, even called and invited me to come up, which I appreciated but (alas) work summons. Buckles told me they dined with Walter Cronkite on opening night in NYC. . . DIME and CONNIE WILSON spot-dating the Hamid route will return to Texas despite the shake-up in Clown Alley due there this fall. . . A 'first' for Beatty-Cole this season, is in the inclusion of an intermission. . .

Clowns BILL VAUGHAN and ED BALL trucked the nostalgic and newly renovated KENNETH WAITE heads to JOE SHERMAN who used them for the first time in Lexington. . . PAM (Rosaire) ZOPPE was puzzled to find the shirts and two ballerina costumes for her chimps stolen from the dressing room at Medinah Temple. . . DEREK ROSAIRE goes to Circus Circus in Reno this summer with Tony, the Wonder Horse. . . Meanwhile the family is spot-dating Castle. . . LINDA (Rosaire) BAUMANN is back in the swim playing malls with a petting zoo. . . Husband RICHARD, formerly a free-lance field producer for NBC-TV gave up his post to tour with his wife. . . When Derek goes to Reno, ELLIAN, DUKE and DEREK, Jr. will spot-

date 3 rings of Arabian high school horses. . . RED GATES is touring a sharp looking, first class concession unit - plexiglass stands, fully illuminated. . . KAY BALDRIGE stooled for NORBU in Lexington, called light cues and did web (busy gal). . . Does JOE SHERMAN have a new romance? Is her name WANDA?

ERIK ADAMS, Jr. was unhappy when his brand new trailer was backed into recently, and speaking of mishaps WALLY and CHERYL's car and trailer were hit by a truck, the unit went over an embankment (I'm told) and was totally demolished. . . GEE GEE decided against the property next to WALLY NAGHTIN, but still plans to buy a place in Gibsonton eventually. . . STU MILLER's magic show opens May 20 at Jefferson (Oh) for a 26 week tour. . . ALBERTO and SANDY ZOPPE took delivery on a new 36 ft. house trailer in Altoona while appearing there with Garden Bros. . . Organist JOHN ASBURY has recovered from his auto accident, is back at work. . . Boom Boom's son TOM BROWNING is on the Navy's newest destroyer, the USS Peterson, which is trailing Russian ships in the Gulf of Mexico. Watch-dogs on the Rus-kies who may or may not be attempting to place submarine pens off the Cuban coast.

Veteran clown (retired) JACK HARRISON, who had open heart surgery at 79, is now 83, chipper and cheerful. He and VELMA reside at Joe and Peggy Zoppe's trailer park at Seagoville (Tex) which Velma manages. . . The cult following of ELVIS PRESLEY certainly rivals that of Valentino or even the 'Star Trekkies'. . . Point in Fact: The Rupp Arena Management in Lexington, where Elvis was scheduled to appear just before his death, refunded ALL but \$62,000 Those ticket holders REFUSED a refund, wishing to retain their tickets as souvenirs.

Word from Boston is that agent FRANK SOPER has been ill in a hospital and that his partner ABBOTT ADAMS suffered a stroke in January. . . LINDA and HEINZ SHAPPI's baby is due soon. . . DENISE ZOPPE, married to ANTONIO OLMEDA, is on Carden-Johnson where with Antonio's twin, PEPE, the trio do a 3 ring dressage display using Spanish costuming. JOE ZOPPE is putting the finishing touches to a clever and original new animal act called Zoppe's Miniature Medieval Fantasy. Joe has broken 10 ponies draped in Medieval blankets and trappings and bearing 'electronic' dummies on their backs. The figures represent King Arthur, Sir Lancelot, other characters from King Arthur's Court, plus Knights with jousting lances. The Queen does a 'waltz and rear' by remote

(Continued on Page 16)

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PEOPLE

HAL HAVILAND will be featured as a stand-up comedian, with trained dogs, in the "Big Apple Circus" in New York City. The show is set for a June 6-Sept. 10 engagement.

DICK GARDEN's "Circus California" presented a special performance in California's San Quentin Prison on May 4th. The event was well covered by various news services, including all local press and TV outlets.

Miscellaneous

Carson & Barnes Circus played Independence, Kansas, on May 5th, where they gave two performances.

News service stories indicate that several parks are cancelling out their trampoline events due to insurance problems.

New rules regulating telephone solicitations in the State of California have been announced

by the PUC. Basically the rules govern the use of automatic equipment. Details next week.

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In Memoriam

KARL FLENNIKEN (47), known professionally as Karl Flenn, died at Veterans Hospital in San Juan, P. R., on April 9th. He was an actor, technician and production manager for films, TV, theatre and arena shows and a former manager for APATE.

He appeared locally in various theatre productions and toured Mexico in 1976 with Holiday On Ice. He worked with such shows as Emmett Kelly, Jr., Circus, Disney On Parade and Ice Follies.

A resident of San Juan, he is survived by his wife Mitzi and son Eric.

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NEW STAR

by Clayton Wood

Another Con Colleano? If the predictions of Winnie Colleano and others who have seen young Dino Menendez work on the wire are correct, there is a good chance that Dino may just achieve that status.

Dino is 11 years old and works with his sister Anita (9) who is also an accomplished wire artist. The pair just recently completed their first professional engagement, nine weeks at Old Chicago in Bollingbrook, Ill. Then they opened on May 1st with Cirque Gatini in Quebec, for a summer-long tour. Representatives of Gatini flew to Sarasota to see the young man work and following the performance he was signed for the summer.

Winnie Colleano thinks so highly of Dino she has given him exclusive use of the title "Wizard of the Wire" which was used by Con.

Dino comes by his ability naturally as his father Rafael Menendez was a highly skilled performer in several fields. He has worked with many of the circus 'greats' of recent years. His mother, Yanna, is a former prima ballerina and still performs on the trapeze.

Dino has a natural flair for the wire and does several maneuvers that few performers, with many years experience can do.

I sat with Karl Wallenda during the circus performance at Old Chicago just three weeks before his fatal fall and he said "the boy is very good, he could be the world's best in a few years."

When a Chicago Tribune reporter interviewed

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Wallenda and Dino, the young performer referred to Wallenda as Mr. Wallenda. Karl broke in and said please call me "Uncle Karl."

Dino is a real pro. He works hard. He practiced every day in the "back yard" in addition to doing three shows a day, seven days a week while at Old Chicago.

One nice thing about the young man, he is a real American boy, not the least bit affected with his status as a star.

AL and SUE DAWLEY visited the M&M Circus in Omaha, then were the guests of TOM MORRISSEY and family at Little Rock.

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S & G Acts

This year's edition of the Sells & Gray Circus features many new faces and capitalizes on youth. The colorful, 3 ring program, runs an hour and 45 minutes, and is well rounded, and offers something to please everyone.

The program includes: Overture (Richard Rosio, organist, Terry Hanson, drums); Ringmaster Phil Chandler's welcome; Prince Berosini, Arabian Fantasy (2 camels, pony, miniature burro); Linda Karl and Fabian Bridges, aerial webs; Dunlope and Rosita, Dancing Clowns; Barbara Fairchild, ballerina on horseback; the Ramposia Trio, high wire; Las Vegas magical review with Phil and Linda Chandler; the Great Ottotini, hand balancing; the Chalmers Trio, comedy plate act; Lisa Fairchild, high jumping horse; Rudy Dockey, clown cooking; Display with Linda, Marie and Fabian on trapeze; Berosini's uncaged tigers; Intermission.

Display with Barbara and Lisa Fairchild, high school horses and Prof. Otto, military ponies; Rudy Dockey, musical clowning; Miss Angela and The LaBlancs, Circus Wonderment display;

MAGIC CONCLAVE

The Int'l Brotherhood of Magicians, Wm. E. Baker Ring 44, of R. I., with Fred Marco, president, held its annual 'cabaret nite' at the Shriners Hall, in Cranston, R. I., on April 15. Participants in the program were: Kevin Menard, MC; H. Adrian Smith, past pres. of Nat'l Society of Magicians, presented cards and rings; Harry Zietel, locks, cuffs, straight jacket; Lon Cerel, misc. illusions.

Fred Marco, as a tribute to David Bamberg, wound up the program as Fu Manchu in full Chinese costume, make-up and props. It was a 4 star performance for the well attended affair.

..... Tom Kulbabsky

Paulettes Peerless Puppies; Barbara, Lisa and Wilma on swinging ladders; the Dorsey Family and Ottomini and Marie, jugglers; James Crawford and Wilma, elephants.

The side show is managed by Henry Thompson and features: fire eater, sword swallower, Punch & Judy, magic and the show animals.

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ENTERTAINMENT ENTERPRISES

PEOPLE

JOE FLEMING reports he visited the Carson & Barnes Circus, No. 2 unit, late last month, and that the show is carrying 10 elephants. The show has trucks from several different circuses - Sid Kellner, original Carson-Barnes, Kelly-Miller and Fisher Bros.

WILMA RENCH, organist, is right at home in her new custom-built 25 ft. travel trailer, designed and built for her by K. Z. Industries, of Midlebury, Ind. Wilma is on tour with the Gatti Productions.

DE LAGE & MARGARET have been booked to present their special act at the Society of American Magicians Convention in NYC on July 6th, at the Waldorf Astoria Hotel.

HANK PETERSEN, former concessionaire on the Hubert Castle Circus, is currently touring with the American Continental Circus.

JANIS, wife of illusionist **DORIAN BLAKE**, was involved in an auto accident enroute to a date at Darlington, S. C. She was driving ahead

EARLY START

On Thursday, April 27, the Stebbings Royal European Circus held a Dress Rehearsal at Floriland Mall in Tampa, Fla.

The new blue and white tent is a beauty, but the highlight of the show was 'Toni' the amazing mother chimp. She was dressed and worked the act, but all the while, her 3 week old baby was clinging to her.

..... Carlota Nilson

of the show truck when the accident occurred. The car was totaled and Janis will be under the doctor's supervision for several weeks.

HEIDI WENDANY will work her dogs, ponies and horse on the upcoming Tommy Bentley Circus dates in California.

DOLORES CORONADO recently worked with an elephant act on the Funs-A-Poppin Circus, and the **BRAUNS**, western acts, are featured with the show this month.

BARON VON UHL has his lions and tigers at the Kingdoms 3 Park in Stockbridge, Ga., for the summer season.

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SAWDUST TRAIL

by M. L. Dupont

CHARLES KOEHLER, former owner of the Dixiana Circus, recently spent a day on the show when it was across the lake from New Orleans. The show owned by Pete Luvas, features the African bull Kenya. The Slater family is touring with the show.

DoDo, the Clown, worked at the Retarded Children's Olympic track meet in Monroe, La. on April 22nd. Several hundred children took part in the event, under the direction of the Jaycees.

DON NIEMAN, CFA of Columbus, Ohio, has just returned from a trip to Kenya, Africa, and reports it was a great trip. Don also says that the Tony Diano Tent hosted performers and personnel of the Hubert Castle Circus to a dinner.

Ringling and the Monroe (La) Shriners have worked out an agreement on the June 20-21 date for the Red Unit in Monroe. Word has it that the Shriners will get the Crackerjack sales for one performance, plus the sale of some tic-

kets, plus ads in the massive Shrine paper, issued in lieu of a program.

Some of the old Ringling railroad cars have been moved to permanent sites at Circus World where they will house artifacts and displays. Wonder what happened to the 17 story hotel and restuarant (built like an elephant) that was so widely heralded a short time back?

Various dues keep going up, wonder where it is all going to stop? Many folks say they have dropped subscriptions and memberships because of the price increases.

EARL ALLEN was the subject of a recent newspaper item which pictured Earl reading an old Billboard in his Circus Room. Earl, who lives in Sikeston, Mo. will be 83 this month and this writer would like to wish him a real "Happy Birthday." Take care of him Louise, as we all love him.

PEOPLE

WALLACE G. WINTER, CFA of Bellingham, Wash., recently visited the Bates Bros. Int'l Circus at several Canadian spots.

HOWARD JOHNSON's elephant Katy worked a March 30th engagement for the Funs-A-Pop-pin Circus in Southern California.

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REVIEW

M&M CIRCUS INTERNATIONALE

by Bill Galloway

The 1978 Tangier Shrine Circus at Omaha, Nebr. was produced for the first time by M&M Circus Internationale (Apr. 18-23). The show was acclaimed to be the finest seen here in many years and this can be attested to by the attendance figures. More than twice as many people attended the circus this year, as compared to last year. Many comments were heard about the high quality of the performers and the beauty of the show. People were especially pleased by the spec "Land of Mother Goose", produced by Jimmy Douglass.

The press and TV had extensive coverage of the circus. Several articles appeared in the Omaha World-Herald about the performers and local TV stations did extensive filming during the performances and in the "back yard".

M&M Circus Internationale has been signed to produce the 1979 Tangier Circus and dates have been set for 1980 as well.

The show line-up featured: Circus Overture; Introduction of officials; spec "Land of Mother Goose"; Harry Thomas, tigers; The Apollos, cradle; display with Jose Francisco, hand balancing, The Ricardos, low wire; The Charlies (Gutis), balancing; Clowns and the Firecracker; display with The Agulars, perch, Pietro & Joyce, ladder balance, The Carlos Bros., perch; Carmen del Molino, balancing trapeze; Baby Dondi, elephant comedy; Clowns, the toothache; display with Lipko's Chimps, Sandy's ponies and Johnson's bears; Victor Julian, dogs; Intermission; The Flying Lunas; Clowns with Dog Pie; display with the Canestrellis and Vickinas, teeterboards; The Gutis Family, comedy; Clowns, Long Shirt; aerial display with Dainty LaVonne; Sandy and Jack Ful-

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The Flying Padillas, featuring Tuli's triple somersault (Mexico); Juggling, Berosini (Checos); Clowns (Danish and Bulgarian); Slack wire, Bonnacozzo, featuring Maurizio's one finger stand on the wire (Italy); Acrobats, Tanger Troupe (Morocco); Space Rocket, The Brounleys (Sweden).



bright, dressage; Los Obandos, high wire, Lee and Jeanette Keener with the Diano elephants and the Vashek Duo, aerial motorcycle.

Clown Alley included: Vern Woerner, producing clown, David Chabira, Bruce Warner, Dime Wilson, Connie Wilson and Roy Arringdale.

The show's staff consisted of: Grace McIntosh and Charles Marine, producers; James Douglass, performance director and announcer; Bill "Boom Boom" Browning, musical director; Carlos Obando, prop boss; Mark Anthony, show timer; Miss Lisa, wardrobe and Joyce Canestrelli, aerial director.



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PEOPLE

THE HORTON-MEREZ acts are currently on tour with a show in Canada.

HOLVECK & CO. were the closing act on the Magi-Whirl '78 Convention in Washington, DC on May 12-13.

HELEN WALTERS recently visited both units of the Carson & Barnes Circus and is now looking forward to visiting with MEL SILVERLAKE and Family.

ANITA and WILSON ZAMUDIO, of the Flying Wilastons, are the parents of a baby girl - Adriana - born in Las Vegas on April 19th.

WANETA LEONARD, wife of animal trainer R. E. Leonard, is recovering from spinal surgery at St. Francis Hospital, Room 404, Topeka, Kansas. She would enjoy hearing from friends.

JENNY WALLEDA writes that Gil Miller was not on the plane that brought her father's body back from Puerto Rico. Jenney says the people escorting Karl's body home were: Helen, Carla, Jenny, plus Patsy Jordan and daughter Liza.

CAROL OBANDO had an accident with her 5th wheel unit enroute from Duluth to Omaha and although the unit was wrecked she was not injured.

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BILLY BARTON (Continued)

control, with Joe Controlling the ponies and the electronic figures garbed as Merlin the Magician. This interesting new act is already booked for the Rodeo circuit and promises to be a smash on indoor dates next winter. . . Meanwhile Joe picked up the somersault horse, Billy, from the George Hanneford Troupe when Vicki played Tyler (Tex) with Kelly Bros. The report is George Jr. will not ride anymore, and Vicki was heart-sick to see the horse go.

BOUQUETS: To the Zoppe Arabian Riders, the precocious chimp Kenya, that incredible pony, Windy. As in everything the Zoppes do, originality is stressed with lots of comedy and top-notch riding as well. The act has simply got to be, at this time, the BEST riding troupe in the entire world. Moreover they are warm, co-operative people who do their work, mind their own business, and leave their egos - with their greatness - in the ring where it belongs. Would that ALL performers be so humble!

ROAD TO NOWHERE: When Bill Strong and Pee Wee Pinson trekked off to pick up Bill's truck, left in a Kentucky mountain town for repair, the team got lost leaving Lexington and followed a beautiful, new road which dropped them off - - yep, you guessed it! - - in the middle of an open field.

See you down the road, luvs.

VINCENT DILLMAN teaches circus skills to youngsters at the Dillman Academy in Lake Worth, Fla.

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MAGIC

THE BOSTON area has enjoyed a veritable deluge of magic this spring. The Cabot Street Cinema Theatre is an old vaude house which has been taken over by a group of local theatre buffs. Not only have they completely refurbished this fine old theatre, but they have obtained "Marco the Magi" to stage a full stage magic production which has been running over a year now, on weekends. And what a production it is! Marco is from Argentina and one can spot the influence of David Bamburgh (Fu-Manchu). All 40 members of the theatre group are in the show which has several full stage illusions, several sets of scenery, several vaudeville acts, etc. It's really something to see.

The Bertolino's presented their annual public magic show at the Hancock Theatre in downtown Boston on Apr. 7th, this year headlining Milbourne Christopher. Dick Gustalphon's full evening magic show, Illusia, showed Attleboro on Apr. 8 and Lowell the following day. The Blackstone road show was due on Apr. 18 at Worcester, but has been postponed until May 10th. Blackstone, Jr., just opened Apr. 24 at the Playboy Club in NYC, expect he will make Worcester after NYC.

We just made Bob Snowden's big Manchester (NH) Shrine Circus date along with Dr Dwight Damon, of Merrimack. Dr. Dwight has to be one of the busiest magi in the far north east.

APRIL 10th we caught the Englewood (NJ) Lion's Club Magic Show. Line-up was: The Great Delage and Margaret (without doubt a top act), George Sands, Jose de la Torre, Bobby Baxter, Fred Dery and Bob Myers & Co. Many local magi's were there, including Larry Weeks who has the four one day magic conventions in NYC each year.

CIRCUS' this year are full of magic. Ringling is producing the famous midget, Michu, via a nifty flaming box production. Jim Royal is with Hoxie, Phil Chandler with S&G, Jerry Conklin with Martin & Downs, and Senor Raye and Philip Morris with Hanneford.

OUR home away from home for many years has been the New Yorker Trailer City in No. Bergen, N.J. which is run by members of the 'Honey Girls' who did a very classy acro-dance act. This time we were joined by Jim Nordmark's All Star Circus, Bill Garden's Showtime Follies and several of Tommy Hanneford's acts. For a few days you might have thought we were in Sarasota in January. Jim Green (Chiron & Co) is

(Continued on Page 18)

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MAGIC (Continued)

managing the Showtime Follies and doing his fine magic act also. Al Delage and I caught the show in Linden (NJ) and it was a pleasure to see this real pro work.

We spent an enjoyable evening at the Magic Towne House in NYC. They start about 8:30 on Fri. and Sat nites, serving a buffet lunch and follow it with some great close-up acts. The nite we were there, proprietor Dick Brooks was on the bill so we had an added treat. Don't miss this spot if you are in the 'Big Apple'. Everyone in the NYC area is anxiously awaiting Dick Brooks' Hocus Pocus magic magazine.

RUMOR has it that Richiardi's show, The World Festival of Magic and Witchcraft, may open in NYC for

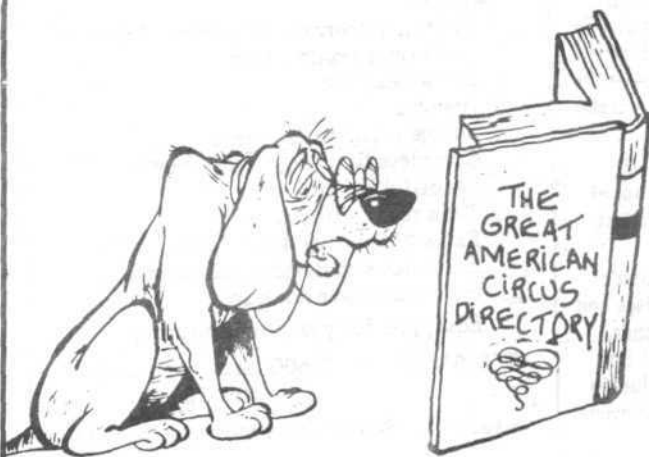
an extended run.

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Births

Vlado and Michelle Vladimirov are the parents of a boy — Bogdan J. — born on April 30th. The newcomer weighed 8 lbs. He and his parents are expected to rejoin the Vince Carmen "Razzle Dazzle" Show on May 20th.

Everyone's Reading

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PEOPLE

SAM T. POLACK and AL DAWELEY were made Lifetime Honorary Members of the Scimitar Shrine Temple at Little Rock, Ark., during a performance in that city.

PHILIP MORRIS, visited the Roberts Bros. Circus on April 27th and acted as guest ringmaster for the day.

MAC and PEGGY MAC DONALD have a two elephant act featuring Mac and Toto, both of which are tuskers.

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ENGLISH CIRCUSES

by Jack Niblett

As if to dispel rumors that the Circus is "faltering" in England, we have two new shows on the road this season, to add to the long established Fossett's, Chipperfield's, Robert's, Hoffman's, Austen's and Cottle circuses, in addition to the half-dozen smaller shows.

Sally Chipperfield, youngest daughter of Richard Chipperfield director of the "big show", together with her husband, Jim Clubb, has started out with her own circus this year. The show is designed to play smaller towns, which the large Chipperfield Circus does not visit.

Sally's show, which I saw at Kenilworth, had her brother Tommy presenting ponies and riding high school, Sally's poodles, jockey and acrobatic monkeys, James Clubb's Russian bears, Sally's five lionesses presented by James Clubb, the Ivanovs, revolving trapeze, Terry Efler, musical muscle man, Miss Sharon, on the corde lisse, Richard Sandow, on the rola bola, Miss Amanda on the silverwire, Langre Junior in an African Fantasy (dagger, spear, ladder balancing), 'Ostrich' act by Gwyn and Maggie Clown Rico Woodie, concluding with members of the company in a western act, titled "The Denvers." This program will undergo some alterations and additions as the season progresses, and is likely to soon include elephants.

The second new English circus to start out this season was Davey's Circus Spectacular. This one is owned by David Bowditch, a newcom-

er to the business, and its first performance was at Southall, near London.

Davey opened with a group of ponies shown by Jack Varney, and other acts included three from South Africa, the Phoenix Trio, flying trapeze, the Oakley Duo, adagio balancing act, and The Ryers, aerial cradle. Los Kedellos appeared with their balancing act, while Sally Keddolo, from this family, delighted with her solo corde lisse act. Richard Viner rode high school, while clowning was in the hands of 'John O'Groats (John Slater). John's wife appeared as the Lady Ringmaster. Two animal acts from Roberts Circus were booked - five tigers presented by newcomer Alberto, with Roberts elephants (2) and spotted ponies (2), shown on this occasion by Beverley Roberts.

This show made an impressive start, but has since been plagued with misfortune. High wind and snow storms caused considerable damage to the big top and this aggravated by staffing problems, caused the show to return to winter quarters, after a month on the road, for repairs and reforming.

However, Davey's Circus Spectacular is confidently expected to be out again within a few weeks, and with a new seasonal circus operating all summer at Cleethorpes Zoo, and with Gerry Cottle having his second unit out, for a long season, there are more circuses on the road in England now, than for many a year.

KATHY VASCHEK visited the M&M Circus at Omaha, with her new son. Her sister CINDY worked in the aerial wire act.

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