



7th Year

April 17, 1978

Number 16

# B-C Opens Big

The Clyde Beatty-Cole Bros. Circus opened its 1978 tour at Fort Walton Beach, Fla., on March 27 offering six performances during its three day engagement at the Santa Rosa Mall. All three days were sell-outs, with attendance amounting to some 24,000 admissions.

The show has an all new blue and white big top (150 x 300), created by Leaf Tent & Sail, Inc., of Sarasota. All equipment has been freshly painted, ring curbs are illuminated and there are new light towers for each of the three rings.

The marketing and promotional activities of the direction of Tim Stinson and Doug Lyons. Ten marketing directors have been recruited and are assigned engagements for which they will handle advertising, publicity, promotion, etc. This season the circus is going to tie-in exclusively with shopping malls for extended engagements.

The program which runs two hours and ten minutes, includes a 15 minute intermission and features virtually an all new Clown Alley. Held over from last year are Jimmy James, Julius Baumann and Jim Stutz, while the other members of the alley are new. Troy Strait, a former RBBB advance ambassador is producing clown,

circus have been completely revamped under the

and the well-known clown Toby Ballantine has been engaged to work ahead of the show.

Featured in the circus performance are: Count Nicholas, who is the big show announcer and also serves as side show manager; Charles Bertini, band leader; plus Dave Hoover, wild animals; The Ferreisas, perch/cradle; Gabriel and Martha Flores, cradle/trapeze; The Ruwills, plate spinning/adagio; Kay Pittenger, trapeze/cloud swing; The Ramos Family, riding act/risley/flying act/high wire; Jeannine Hall's baboons/

(Continued on Page 15)

## FLASH

Lion trainer Gordon Howes was killed during the midst of a training session with five lions at a circus rehearsal in Dublin, Ireland, on Apr. 1st.

One of the lions jumped on his back and another attacked from the front, with the others joining in. Fellow showmen finally pulled the trainer free, after fighting the animals off with chairs and sticks, but he was dead upon arrival at the local hospital.

## Acts Named

The advance line-up of acts set to appear with the Zenobia Temple Shrine Circus, at Toledo, Ohio, on May 4-7 includes:

Clowns in a pre-show warm-up; Circus Over-ture; Pat Anthony, wild animals; Frank and Es-tralita, aerial perch; Clowns; Ethel Jennier's greyhounds; Clowns; Senor Miguel Ayala, on the tightwire; Miss Aerialetta and Franko, single trapeze acts; Sandra and Jack Fulbright's horses; Prince Najvez, aerial act; Intermission; Miss Sandy's ponies; The Aguilars, perch pole; Senorita Margarita, hair hang; Jo Ann and Sun-ny, seal act; The Klementis, cyclists; Clowns; Lee Keener with the Diano elephants, The Vic-kinas Troupe, risley and the flying act, featur-ing Ramon Espana, Jr.

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*Don't Miss*

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**- APRIL 25 -**



**Mike won nationwide acclaim for his exciting high wire walk at Knotts Berry Farm, Buena Park, Calif., on New Years Eve, Dec. 31, 1977, when he walked 1,800 feet on a wire set up 350 feet above the ground.**

# Show Dates

Big John Strong Circus  
 April 17 Madera, Calif.  
 18 Turlock  
 19 Merced  
 20 Modesto  
 21 Sonora  
 22 Manteca  
 23 Tracy

California Circus  
 Apr. 22-23 San Francisco, Cal.

Carden-Johnson Circus  
 Apr. 21-23 Rapid City, S.D.

Hubert Castle Circus  
 Apr. 18-23 Dayton, Ohio  
 20-23 Sioux Falls, S. D.

Circus Vargas  
 Apr. 18-20 Santa Maria, Calif.  
 21-24 Oxnard

L. N. Fleckles Circus  
 Apr. 19-23 Green Bay, Wisc.

Great American Circus  
 April 17 Milfan, Ga.  
 18 Swainsboro  
 19 Aiken, S. C.  
 20 Elberton, Ga.  
 21 Hartwell  
 22 Taccoa, Ga.  
 23 Clemson, S.C.

Hoxie Bros. Circus  
 April 17 Clinton, S. C.

Sam T. Polack Circus  
 Apr. 21-23 Pine Bluff, Ark.

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

Ringling-Barnum - Red Unit  
 Apr. 18-23 Binghamton, N.Y.

Roberts Bros. Circus  
 April 17 Soperton, Ga.  
 18 Wrightsville  
 19 Barnesville  
 20 McDonough  
 21 Kennesaw  
 22 Adairsville

Royal Lichtenstein Circus  
 April 17 Kalamazoo, Mich.  
 18 Ann Arbor  
 19 Detroit  
 20 Oberlin, Ohio  
 21 Buffalo, N. Y.  
 22 Genesco

Shrine Circus  
 Apr. 21-23 Terre Haute, Ind.

---- OTHER ROUTES ----

CMB Meet  
 Apr. 21-23 Blackstone, Mass.

Century 21 Shows - Red Unit  
 Apr. 17-22 Jackson, Tenn.

Dondi, the Baby Elephant  
 Apr. 18-23 Omaha, Nebr.

James H. Drew Shows  
 Apr. 17-22 Rockwell, N.C.

Fred the Cockatoo  
 Apr. 19-23 Saginaw, Mich.

Holiday On Ice - Int'l  
 Apr. 18-23 Huntsville, Ala.

Holiday On Ice - Nat'l  
 Apr. 18-23 Jacksonville, Fla.

Ice Capades - Eastern Unit  
 Apr. 18-22 Salt Lake City, Utah

Ice Capades - Western Unit  
 Apr. 19-23 Phoenix, Ariz.

Ice Follies  
 Apr. 18-23 Billings, Mont.

Bob Jones Petting Zoo  
 Apr. 17-22 Exton, Pa.

Kari and Tika, the elephant  
 Apr. 18-21 Salt Lake City, Utah

Little Lion Land  
 to Apr. 23 Dayton, Ohio

Lipizzan Stallions  
 Apr. 21-23 Portland, Maine

National Clown Convention  
 Apr. 19-23 Philadelphia, Pa.



# GRAN MAR



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**HE DIED DOING** what he did best, and doing what he loved, and being what he was — a legend. The world-wide fame of **KARL WALLEDA** is now firmly cemented in the Memorial Halls of Circus Greats and the final chapter of a series of tragedies, beginning with the collapse of the 7-person pyramid in Detroit, has now been written.

**FATIMA BRAHIM**, Sect'y to Sarasota Showfolks advises their circus grossed a healthy sum this past fall, which was the result of a massive joint effort by club members, who gave their services, their time, bought and sold tickets. She also credits the late Karl Wallenda for a fantastic job in selling \$6000 in advance tickets and appearing with actor Lloyd Bridges during the filming at each performance, making it possible for the Showfolks Circus to net a profit of \$18,000. So, here is special recognition to the unsung and unnamed Club Members who work hard, every year, to make this annual circus a success.

**BELINDA AMANDIS** had the contents of her purse stolen from the dressing room during an engagement with Royal Hanneford. Performers and Prop men took up a collection and surprised Belinda with it and Belinda would like to thank those people for their generosity through my column (T's done, Belinda).

Circus Vargas has been having terrific business in California. As a matter of fact, in Commerce, such massive crowds attended one performance, there was almost a riot. The jammed midway tried to crash the gates. The crowd apparently could not believe the tent was full, didn't want their money back, they just wanted to see the show. In Burbank, 7 of the 10 shows, were completely sold out.

Other Vargas Tidbits: **JAN JOYNER** took **MITZIE GILL** to visit Grauman's Chinese Theatre in Hollywood and, like all the tourists, Mitzie oohed and aahed at the famous hand and footprints. . . Actress **Lana Turner** and TV actor **Gene Barry** were spotted sitting in the audience. . . **JOHN PEERS** and **ZAPATA** are no longer with the show, Peers goes to Busch Gardens for Dobritch, Zapata to Florida. . . **HABEBE**, once a member of the Hassini Troupe, and who was clowning on the show, is now a partner in the Albullet high wire act and doing well. . . In a review by the Hollywood Reporter, **CHRIS JAMES**, **RON & MITZIE** and the **ALBULET** act, "took" top honors.

**SNAPSHOTS:** The **MAE WEST** film "Sextette," finally opened in Hollywood (Mar 2), after a year's delay in distribution problems which forced the produ-

cers to form their own distributing company. Reviews were 'mixed'. . . either they **RAVED** or they **DISSENTED**, either way, Mae is back and, rumors are, she may appear in Las Vegas on the strip this summer. . . **LARRY KENT** purchased a bound volume of circus pages from the old **BILLBOARD** from "Doc" **MILLER** covering the year 1943. Says it is a "real treasure". . . **JOYCE** and **CHARLIE VanBUSKIRK** expect their new baby in June. Their youngest daughter **ANDREA**, is gradually working in to replace her mother until the baby arrives. . . **SIEGFRIED & ROY** move from the **MGM** to the **Stardust** in July. The offer, they say, was one they couldn't refuse. . . **BETTY WOODS** is flying with the **MICHAELS**. . . **ELLA** and **FINN NIELSEN** (formerly of the **Amandis teeterboard quartette**) are now on the staff of **Sarasota's Circus Hall of Fame**. . . **BERNIE BERWIN** and **KEN BREWSTER** are now on the road. . . **GEE GEE ENGESSER** bought property next to **WALLY NAGHTIN** in **Gibson**. . . The **GUTIS** are making the **Kool Aid Circus-Fair** route for **EDDIE ZACCHINI**. . . **Log Roller HAROLD FISHER** broke his ankle in two places during the **Duluth Sports Show**. As they were carrying the performer out he commanded his stretcher bearers to stop at **HAROLD WARD's** candy stand and said: "If I don't get some peanut brittle I'm not going to the hospital."

The **Emmett Kelly, Jr.** Circus is doing some giant step jumps: From **Baltimore** to **Kearny (Neb)** to **St. Johns, Nfld!!**. . . **KENT** and **DONNA CLAYTON** appeared with the late **Karl Wallenda** at the **Omaha Sport Show** just prior to **Karl's** departure for **Puerto Rico** where he died. . . **RUTH** and **WALTER PATTERSON** tossed a party for performers appearing at the **Nashville Sports Show**. Attending were: the **Hootie Ashton Family**, the **Great Erick** and wife **Kathy**, the **Claytons** and **Goldie Ashton** who drove in from **Alabama** for the affair. . . We're sorry to hear that **TED** and **LISA STEWART** plan to give up the business when they close their **Castle** route in **April**. . . **HUNKIE JOHNSON** bought a new tractor for his bear semi. . . Well known **Rep Show** owners **HENRY** and **MERCEDES BRUNK** write their "trouping days" are over. "Father Time and health problems have forced us to hang up our cue." The **Brunks**, however, find time to hit the 'lecture circuit', and spoke on the **American Repertoire Theatre** at **Texas Tech** in **Lubbock** recently.

(Continued on Page 16)



## RAJAH TEMPLE SHRINE CIRCUS

by Bill Slenker

The Garden Bros. Circus played here at Allentown, Pa., on March 22-23 and drew good response to its programs. A special 10 a.m. performance was presented on Mar. 22 for local crippled children and this show was presented for a full house. The evening performance on that day and the matinee on the following day drew about a three-quarters house. The final evening performance on Mar. 23 was also presented for a full house.

Music for the program was directed by Charles Schlarbaum, who very capably blends modern, classical and old-time circus numbers into a fine background program. The regular show band was augmented here by several local musicians.

The whole show was well-done and it is difficult to pick out any one act. Some of the highlights were: Roy Wells with the Hawthorn animals, clowning by the Fornasari Troupe, The Drouettes, jugglers, Alberto Zoppe's K-9 Review and Riding School and Gee Gee Engesser and the circus elephants.

The circus program lists the acts as: Spec "Toyland"; Roy Wells, 4 lions and 4 tigers; The Reginine Duo, aerial cradle; Clown walkaround; Hollywood Liberty horses; Powell's Ponies; the Fornasari Musical Clowns; Miss Myrna and the aerial ballet; Alberto's Riding School; Rumpy, the clown walkaround (big bussle); Miss Anita, risley; The Drouettes, juggling; Intermission.

The second half featured: Zoppe's K-9 Revue; the Fornasari Trampoline act; the Verdu troupe on rolling globes; The Marios, hat number; Clowns and the toothache gag; Gee Gee Engesser and the elephants.

The Circus was produced by Garden Bros. Circus, Ian M. Garden, producer and director. The show's staff included: Ian M. Garden, president; B. Elliot Abells, general manager; Paul Demsky, sales director; Treva Bachand, contracting manager; Ron Morris, advertising/publicity; Shirley McMullen, office manager; Shelly Rolston, executive secretary.

Ian M. Garden, circus manager; Charles Schlarbaum, musical director; Ian J. Richard, ringmas-

## IN MEMORIAM

HARRY ZIEN (82) retired newspaper reporter who worked for San Francisco and Oakland (Calif) newspapers, died on April 3 in Hayward, Calif., after a brief illness. He was considered a master at doing intricate card tricks and appeared regularly for Boys Clubs, fraternal organizations and the blind, for whom he worked with cards in Braille. He is credited with having developed and perfected a trick where he would put a tack into a card, then throw the deck at a wall and the tacked card would be tacked to the wall.

## Show Dates

Razzle Dazzle (Vince Carmen)  
April 17 Guymon, Okla.  
18 Lamar, Colo.  
20 Liberal, Kansas  
21 Dodge City

Victor, the Rasslin' Bear  
Apr. 20-22 Merrit Is., Fla.



ter/announcer; Frank Dailey, supt.; Ron Morris, concessions; Arthur Grotfant, electrician; Michiko Yano, wardrobe; Tex Welfel, props; Richard Pitts, chief rigger; Roger Prystanski, producing clown; Phillip Anthony, animal supt.; Jack Molinari, transportation and Paul Parsons, advance lithographer.

The Rajah Temple Shrine Circus Committee consists of: Jack B. Gounder, Potentate; Earl W. Binder, general chairman; Walter H. Cressman and George Balsai, co-chairmen; Franklin E. Poore, III, legal; Jack B. Gounder, publicity; Harold Lord, William F. Schrupf and Mark L. Boltz, circus daddy committee; George L. Markley, accounting.

Tickets and finance were handled by Arthur W. Hatt, Ronald H. Mountz and Ralph H. Harp; with Ronald F. Rapp, serving as chairman of the Ushers Committee, and helping him were: Ralph A. Kline, Arlan H. Heckman, Clyde B. Moyer and William F. Schrupf.

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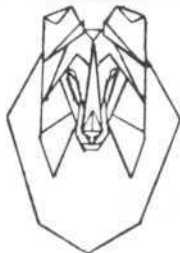
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## TALENT

Talent appearing recently on various Sports Shows included:

Harrisburg, Pa. (Feb. 4-11) - The Claytons, ropes, whips; Monty Lynch and Duke (trained dog); Grieg Sheidler, sound effects; the Hootie Ashton Family; Scott's Unrideable Mule, with Kent Clayton, M.C.

Nashville, Tenn. (Feb. 14-19) - The Ashtons; Kent and Donna Clayton; Monty Lynch and Duke; Victor, the Rasslin' Bear, and the Great Erick, high wire.

Omaha, Nebr. (Feb. 21-26) - The Claytons; Baby Dondi; Fisher and Teske, log rollers; Fred Canestrelli Family; Loral I. Delaney, retrieving dogs; Billy Thundercloud and the Chieftones, and the late Karl Wallenda, high wire, supported by Rietta, Mario, Tino and Louie Murillo. Dean Sherman was the M.C.

Sioux City, Iowa (Mar. 9-12) - The Claytons; Diamond Head (musical group which also backed the show); Fred Canestrelli Family; Castro

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## PEOPLE

DAVID E. REID, of Lebanon, Ore., recently returned home after visiting with GEORGE PERKINS in Southern California and spending some time at the John Strong Circus quarters. He also caught BETTY WENDANY's show at Frontierland in Corona, Calif.

VESTA GRIMALDI recently had surgery on her hand, but is fully recovered now and looking forward to the summer season.

Bros., high wire; Dean Sherman and Del Reeves, country-western.

Duluth, Minn. (Mar. 16-19) - Baby Dondi; Fisher and Teske; Loral I. Delaney, retrievers; the Claytons; Danny Davis and the Nashville Brass.

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## PEOPLE

**JEWELL NEW**, lion trainer with RBBB's Blue Unit, was the subject of an AP Wirephoto release this month which showed him and a lion riding a motorcycle.

**THE WAZZAN FAMILY** recently wound up their tour with the Harlem Globetrotters and the family is now traveling with Hoxie Bros. Circus.

**BEN DeWAYNE** is currently handling the elephants for **PAUL V. KAYE**, working out of California.

**TUCKY COMISAR** and **Laurie Young**, of Cincinnati, Ohio, were recently selected to appear with RBBB as show girls. They will join the show as soon as they graduate from high school.

**DIETER TASSO**, juggler, will wind up his Las Vegas engagement on May 11th, then joins the Tommy Bartlett's Ski-Sky and Stage Show for the summer at Pidgeon Forge, Tenn.

**JOHN MINNOCH**, of Seattle, Wash., who reportedly weighs 900 lbs., has been hospitalized at University Hospital in Seattle for what doctors call "generalized muscle weakness, respiratory failure, and an element of heart failure."

## After The Fall

Once the shock and immediate grief subside, we can look — with much pride in the human spirit — on the life and spectacular death of Karl Wallenda, patriarch of the most celebrated high wire family in circus history.

"It is my whole life," he once said of his magnificent obsession. "The rest of life is just time to fill in between doing the act."

Neither age (73), nor dizzying heights, nor high winds could stop him — until a treacherous gust sent him to his death in San Juan on Wednesday (Mar. 22).

But he died as he would have wanted — with his balancing pole still clutched in his hands — and he has left us a stirring legacy.

In an increasingly mechanized, sanitized, computerized world, it is good to know that there are still free souls who defy programming. Restive, reckless perhaps, they test nerve and muscle and endurance to the snapping point.

Does that legacy live on? In Madison Square Garden at the opening of the circus — on the same day Wallenda died — Tito Gaona attempted the impossible dream of every daring young man on the flying trapeze — the quadruple somersault at 75 miles an hour.

Sure, he failed. But he will try and try again and some day he will achieve the impossible.

That is the message that men like Wallenda and Gaona send to us. The essence of the human spirit is an insatiable drive to conquer dangerous new challenges. It is the mystery and the glory of mankind.

(An editorial which appeared in the New York Daily News on March 24, 1978).

# Suzanne Vegas Backstage

## “ICE FANTASY”

continues to do top business in the Hacienda Hotel showroom, which is extremely surprising due to its remarkable LACK OF PUBLICITY of late. The show is a good one, and more of the Las Vegas showgoing public should be made aware of it. The lavish ice revue features some of the industry's finest skating stars including BILLY CHAPEL, NANCY LEE PARKER, DOUG BRENISER and the team of SUSAN LEASE & RICHARD REID, the comedy of Hacienda Host PEPPER DAVIS, the song and dance talents of KENNY MAZLOW and the amazing abilities of one of Las Vegas' finest variety acts, DEITER TASSO.

Tasso was seen only last week on the new “CHUCK BARRIS RAH, RAH SHOW” in addition to a recent appearance on the “MERV GRIFFIN SHOW”, where he showcased his breathtaking feats as a juggler as he moved effortlessly through hilarious, original comedy monologues. His low-key, seemingly off-the-cuff remarks keep audiences in stitches twice nightly as he tosses, balances and juggles balls, hats, cigar boxes, cups and saucers, not to mention a full-sized tea pot. Look for an in-depth story on this talented German import in weeks to come. He's worth the price of admission all by himself, the very unique Mr. DEITER TASSO.

## PEOPLE

VI HOFMEISTER and friends PHIL SADDLER and JANE EDWARDS visited Circus Vargas in Abilene, Texas. She reports it was a fun visit with old friends and a chance to see the Appaloosa horses once again, but there were some tears of sadness not being able to see Chief Joseph with the horses.

### Miscellaneous

Two members of the Flying Wilastons were injured at the close of the act in San Francisco, Calif., on April 7th. The accident occurred as the last flyer dropped into the net, causing a net pole to bounce and strike one of the girl performers.

Shortly after the wedding ceremony took place in the steel arena during a performance of Garden Bros. Circus at Toronto, a tiger and a lion got into a fight that turned into a real bench-clearing brawl.

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The Wenatchee Youth Circus is scheduled to open its 1978 tour at Billings, Montana, on May 20th.

Several LPGas dealers in Ohio and Michigan are refusing to fill mounted tanks, but will fill an auxiliary tank that is not mounted. They claim it is an insurance thing.

# POGO THE CLOWN

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AM LOOKING FORWARD TO MEETING MANY NEW  
FRIENDS IN CANADA

# CARSON & BARNES CIRCUS

Now that the Carson & Barnes Circus tour is well underway, the program has been trimmed to one hour and fifty minutes, with no intermission.

The Morales Troupe and Rodogel Family are outstanding in the teeterboard display, featuring a somersault to a two man high elevated bar and double to the chair by Morales and a four man high (completely unsupported) by the Rodogels. The latter group expects to add a back somersault on 7 ft stilts by the time this appears in print.

Three flying acts, the Bautistas, Morales and Rodogel, close the show with simultaneous passing leaps to the delight of the crowds at each show.

The spec, "The Reign of Caesar" is superb and has beautiful costumes and includes most of the show people and animals.

Many five ring displays have been added since the show opened and thus enhance the program.

Other features include Martino, a 12 year old doing a head balance trapeze number; a 12 girl aerial ballet featuring La Chona; Don Carr and his wild animals (fighting cats and elephant riding lion); the elephant number "Mexican Fiesta"; Wally Eastwood, 13 year old juggler who brings down the house at each performance is featured in a juggling display; Luciana Loyal presents a fine riding act; the Los Condoras on high wire offer a three high pyramid; Miss Rosario, contortionist, another show stopper.

The show runs smoothly and quickly under the guiding of Ed Russell, performance director, who has brought back the old-style circus performance to this fine show. From the first whistle to the final announcement the audience is treated to a real circus spectacular.

Perry Johnson has the band, with eight side men, and they really know how to cut it in superb style all the way.

Circus acts listed in the program are: Capt. Don Carr, lions and tigers; Wire Display with Carlos Martine, Miss Eastwood, Ricci Macias and Jose Castaneda; Don Carr with elephant riding lion; Miss Lucy and La Catalina, on single trapeze

with Martino, head balance trapeze; the clowns; Spec "Reign of Caesar"; Miss Rosario, contortionist; "Mexican Fiesta" elephant number; The Rodogel Troupe and Morales Troupe, on teeterboards; Balancing display with Juan Mendiola, Mr. Fernando and Rueben Alvarado; Don Carr and Luciana Loyal, liberty horses, followed by the riding act; the clowns; La Chona, aerialist and the aerial ballet; The Ramos and Rodogel Troupe, acrobatics; the circus elephants; Los Condoras, high wire; Clowns; display with Macias, Mauricio, Roberto, Vincente and Mendiola; Tongo and Tongolito, gorilla madcaps; Flying act display with Los Bautistas, the Flying Meteors and the Ramos Family.

The show's staff includes: D. R. Miller, president; Geary Byrd, vice president; Barbara Byrd, secretary; Isla Miller, treasurer; Ted Bowman, executive manager; James Judkins, office manager; Linda Lingo, asst. office manager; Geary Byrd, gen. supt.; David Rawls, concessions; Jim Steinmetz, side show mgr.; Don Carr, animal supt.; John Carroll, working elephants; Verlin Grant, menagerie; Kadee Nielson, ringstock; Bill Cloud, canvas supt.; Ed Russell, equestrian director; Perry Johnson, musical director; Luciana Rosales, aerial director; Don Chucho and Roberto, producing clowns; Barbara Byrd, wardrobe; Ben Lester, vehicle supt.; L. C. Smith, electrician; Donald Moos, cookhouse; Jackie Moos, purchasing agent; Ted Bowman and Manual King, talent coordinators.

Handling marketing, publicity and promotion are: Jesse A. Jessen, director of marketing and executive agent; Charles Bellatti, director of press and promotion; Lindy Krushas, assistant director of promotion and Robert Hutchinson, director of outdoor advertising.

Production wardrobe was designed by April Cerf and created by Isla Miller, Barbara Byrd, Luciana Rosales, Colma Banes and Amparo Bautista.

Carson & Barnes Circus printing is provided by Central Show Printing, Mason City, Iowa; Choctaw Printers, Hugo, Okla. and the Enquirer Printing Co. of Cincinnati, Ohio.



## A Big Show

The 1978 Tigris Temple Shrine Circus at Syracuse, N. Y., was produced by the Royal Hanneford Circus, with performances presented on March 31, April 1 and 2. Attendance during the run was good, with extra seats being set on the floor for the Saturday matinee, when this reviewer attended.

The 'Syracuse Post-Standard' had an excellent review of the Friday evening performance. It devoted a full page with three pictures to the show in its entertainment section.

This year the show has an unusual color scheme consisting of white, brown and orange for ring mats and ring curbs. The prop crew is dressed in brown coveralls with orange neck scarves. New lighting by Philip Morris is used for Spec, throughout the show and for the finale.

The program featured: The Great Humberto, (Herbie Weber), Slidefor Life; Opening for Princess Tajana; followed by Tajana's tigers; The castro Bros., high wire; a display with Isabella, balancing; Francescos (Gaonas), teeterboard; Anthony (Mark Karoly), trampoline; Caesar, the Unrideable Mule (Bisbinis); Clowns and the Washerwomen; Aerial ballet featuring Lou Ann Jacobs on single trapeze; Display with Patti Rucker, foot juggling; Los Latinos, wire; the Bisbinis, unsupported ladders; the Hanneford Riding Act; Victor Julian and his Little Stars; Spec, 'The Wizard of Oz' followed by intermission.

In the second half are: Senor Rai, magic; Joe Horwath's chimps; The Flying Gaonas; circus elephants presented by Tommy Hanneford; the Urias Troupe, motorcycle Globe of Death; Finale, all performers.

The show's staff includes: Tommy Hanneford, producer; Wally Jones, assistant manager; Dwight Hanson, prop boss and assistant to the producer; Philip Morris and Senor Rai, announcers

... Bill Galloway

One former Mattel officer pleaded guilty to an alleged stock manipulation scheme and will be sentenced on Sept. 1st. The officers pleaded innocent to the charges and will face a trial to start June 13th.

## REPORT

The Spokane (Wash.) Better Business Bureau says its city's police guild is walking a tight-wire with its telephone sales campaign for the sale of circus tickets. According to the Bureau the operation does not meet the standards set up for charitable solicitations.

However, guild officers say the sales campaign is operating within the state-approved guidelines used by the Seattle Police Guild.

Guild officials say that funds raised from the campaign will help support the Police Mounted Patrol and guild-sponsored community activities, and maintain the guild's building.

They admit that some of the solicitors hired to make the phone calls may have given the impression that the funds were for charity.

## Miscellaneous

Last week the Ideal Toy Co. announced it was pulling all of its Evel Knievel toys off the market.



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## "I Loved Rogues"

IS A SUPERIOR BOOK, OR IT COULD NOT BEAR THAT NAME. THE FIRST BOOK OF ITS KIND EVER PUBLISHED.

### MAILBAG

After being on the road since Jan. 9th with the Jungle Wonders Circus, Yvonne Stephens is finally getting used to her new 1978 Chevy truck. Daughter Leanne (one of the show's trapeze performers) celebrated her 18th birthday on Mar. 21st, and it's one birthday she says she will never forget. For on that day at Los Lunas (N.M.) a towner backed into the Stephens' trailer, but fortunately the damage was small.

At Moriarty (N.M.) a towner rode his horse to the lot and tied it to the marquee gate while he went sight seeing. The elephants spooked the horse and it ran wild through the midway, dragging the gate with it and scattering everyone in sight. Two other horses tied up near the backyard were spooked and took off for parts unknown, leaving their riders on the lot.

Bud Manly, organist, recently joined the show and has replaced Peggy Null. Another recent newcomer to the show is Richard Lunsford, who brought his acts on for the program.

### B-C OPENS (Continued)

dogs and ponys; Fred Logan, elephants and many others.

Circus owner Frank McClosky continues to be on hand to oversee the complete operation, and is aided by John Pugh, Edna Antes and Art Branning.

### TALENT

Acts appearing with the Emmett Kelly, Jr. Circus in Kearney, Nebr. on April 16th were:

Harry Thomas, tigers; The Wainwrights, trampoline; Miss Carol, trapeze; The Widjets, acrobatics; The Gutis, Jungle Parody; Great Vasheck, wire walk; Col. Jerry Lipko, comedy chimps; The Vasheck Duo, aerial motorcycle; The Cane-strellis, teeterboard and low wire; Emmett and Nancy, magic.

Nancy Kelly served as ringmistress, with Ronnie McGuire, prop boss and music provided by the college band.

**BOOKS FOR SALE**

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 ades, which once quickened hearts in cities and  
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"Then motor vehicles began to clog the streets  
 and avenues of every city in the land, there was  
 no place left to ride or wlk, to move people,  
 wagons and animals."

... Donald B. Thackrey, UPI.

**PEOPLE**

STEVE WONDER, musician, and his daughter  
 AYESHA, visited backstage at the RBBB Blue  
 Unit in New York City late last month.

THE GRIMALDIS are working with the Wayne  
 McCary Circus in New England after which

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**TOWNS BOOKED AND NOW READY**

**BILLY BARTON (Continued)**

Add OLGA and AURELIO NAVARRO and ALEX-  
 ANDRA the Great and Company to the Famous Hunt  
 line-up of acts when it bows in May. The Hunts have  
 also added Utica (NY) and Richmond (Va) to their  
 indoor date line-up this summer.

**HOW THE WEST WAS WON: FRED CANESTRELLI**  
 has gone "cowboy", flashing water buffalo boots, le-  
 vis, and all the trimmin's, which prompted Western  
 Artist KENT CLAYTON to remark: "The minute I  
 see you with a rope I'm buying a trampoline!" (So...  
 if you notice the Claytons 'bounding' instead of 'spin-  
 ning', you'll know why!).

See you down the road, luvs.

they start their second season with Circus Ga-  
 tini in Canada.

RONALD McDONALD, clown, was featured  
 with a magic show at the Providence (R.I.) Li-  
 brary on Feb. 4th. It was the library's 100th  
 birthday.

CLIFF VARGAS presented everyone on his  
 show with lilies on Easter Sunday



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## PEOPLE

**ED FREEMAN** caught Franzen Bros. Circus at its opening date in DeBerry, Fla. (April 1) and also reports visiting Nordmark's Int'l Magic show.

**BUTTON'S CLOWN ALLEY** played the Lincoln Mall (R.I.) on Mar. 23-25. The group is led by **LEON "Buttons" McBRYDE, Jr.**, with **BOB BAXTER**, **MICKEY ROUSE** and **JIM HOWLE**.

**ELLY ARDELTY**, retired circus aerialist, recently prepared a real Hungarian goulash dinner for members of Sarasota's Showfolks Club.

**GUNTHER WALLEUDA** served as coach for the high wire act which was featured with the recent Sailors Circus in Florida.

**LARRY RICH**, clown, reports he recently visited his friend **PAUL ROBINSON** in Florida, and is now preparing for his spring and summer work.

**COL. JERRY LIPKO** and his Comedy Chimps will be working dates for Garden Bros. Circus during the month of May.

## They're Married

After interviewing some 100 couples who said they'd like to be married in a lion's cage, circus officials and Rev. Beverly Leslie, of Toronto, selected **Julie Filipetto (18)** and **Gord Byers (26)** as the lucky couple.

A \$1 million insurance policy with Lloyds of London was taken out on the couple by the circus, and then after a dry run at Reading, Pa. the ceremony was conducted in the steel arena during a performance of the Garden Bros. Circus in Toronto's Maple Leaf Gardens, on April 1st. Keeping close tabs on the participants were eight lions and tigers, and their trainer Roy Wells.

After the ceremony, the couple were presented with a special prize — a free Florida vacation.

**ED RUSSELL**, ringmaster, who opened the season with Carson & Barnes, is currently making some Hubert Castle dates and will be back on C&B in May.

## Aerialist Hurt

Aerialist Robert Bang, a member of the Flying Lar-Rays, was hospitalized on March 30th, at Dodge City, Kans., after falling 35 feet to the concrete floor. The accident occurred during a rehearsal at the Coliseum on the fairgrounds prior to the show's scheduled opening on Mar. 31st.

Bangs fell from the catcher's bar and "just grazed" the net as he fell. News reports from the show indicated his condition was "critical" and that he suffered multiple fractures and internal injuries.

The Khiva Temple Shrine Circus, in which the Lar-Rays were featured, was presented on Mar. 31st, April 1 and 2. The show was produced and announced by George Hubler, with Richard Rosio, serving as band leader.

Featured in the program were: Clown come-in, followed by the Grand Entry, Introductions and the National Anthem; George Barreda, 8 African lions; The Sensational Venturas, aerial cradl; Roberts ponies (6); the Khiva Shrine Clowns; Pam's Canines; The Klementis, cyclists; Herman & Petunia, comedy riding act; Joselito, high wire; Miss Susan on the trapeze; Rosaire's Chimps; the Circus Clowns; Bobby Gibbs and the circus elephants (3); The Great Zoppe Family, riding act; the Flying Lar-Rays, flying trapeze act.

## CROWD PLEASER

It was really a sight to behold. Some 7500 circus lovers gathered for the Sunday, April 2nd, matinee performance of the Tigris Shrine Circus, held at the War Memorial Auditorium in Syracuse, N. Y.

The three day, six show engagement featured Tommy Hanneford and his Royal Hanneford Circus. Tommy didn't mind holding up the opening of four of the six performances, in order to allow ticket holders to be seated. They were turning them away at the door.

The news media, including radio, television and newspaper, graciously consented to extend apologies and to assure everyone on behalf of the Tigris Shrine Circus, that plans are already in the works to make sure everyone has a chance to see next year's annual family entertainment favorite.

The sensational success was attributed to a super circus, rave reviews by the media, and exceptional publicity and advertising theme provided by the Joan of Art Agency.

## PEOPLE

CLARK McDERMOTT and the "Cold Nose Five" act has been signed to appear at the Alameda County Fair in Pleasanton, Calif., June 30, July 1 and 2. He also has several other west coast show dates coming up.

## CUSTOM COLOR CIRCUS PHOTOS

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**QUOTE:**

"Al Dawley lays the success or failure of a circus right on the doorstep of the ringmaster."

"Dawley conducted himself in the highest traditions of his art."

(The above quotes appeared in the Sunday Independent, of Wilkes-Barre, Pa. on April 2, 1978).

**PEOPLE**

**DICK OSLUND** winds up his school tour April 21st, then does the Bozo TV Show in Chicago, booked by Howard Schultz, after which he jumps into Minneapolis to put a puppet show together for a new theme park there. After a few spot dates he will work at lecture at the SAM Convention in New York City and will also lecture at the CFA Convention in Dearborn, Mich.

**CAROL BUCKLEY** and "Tarra" have been signed to appear in show dates in Canada and California during the month of May.

**CHRISTOPHER BRUNO** is following in his father's footsteps and has successfully completed his first Breakaway Sway Pole act at the Bay Front Center in St. Petersburg, Fla., for Carden-Johnson Circus (Mar. 29).

**FOR SALE**

Bids will be accepted in the District Business Office, Northfield Township High School District No. 225, 1835 Landwehr Road, Glenview, Illinois 60025, until May 1, 1978 for the sale of five (5) used Nissen Trampolines in excellent condition.

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**James A. Wisner**  
Secretary to Board of Education  
District No. 225.

**VIEW****AFIFI TEMPLE SHRINE CIRCUS**

Tacoma, Wash. - Mar. 31-Apr. 2

by Mike Sporrer

The 33rd annual Afifi Temple Shrine Circus was again held in the University of Puget Sound Field House. Since 1956 the show has always been produced by Polack Bros., but for the first time this year's show was produced by the American Continental Circus.

This year's show is loaded with top acts and is well presented. Lighted ring curbs and ring mats add to the overall appearance. Blackouts with spotlights also add to the show.

A full house was on hand for the Sunday matinee performance, which was well received. It seems obvious that concessions and sales were good throughout the run.

The program included: Introduction of ringmaster John Miller; Overture by the Herb Miller band; Shrine Color Guard; Steele's fighting jungle cats (6 lions, 2 tigers); the Young Duo, aerial cradle; Congo, the Almost Human Gorilla; Myoshy Amotto, hair hang and juggling; the Hargita Troupe, ladder balancing and juggling; Clowns and the lost child; Joe Lemke's College of Comedy Chimps; The Guerrero's, high wire with bicycle; Bill Brickle's Poodles; Clowns with a Recruiting number; Aerial ballet "Indian Love Call" with 6 swinging ladders and 3 webs; Intermission.

Featured in the second half were: The Copermans, knock about act; Miss Catherine on the Roman rings and single trapeze; Miss Evita on the single trapeze; Shrine Clowns in getting a hair cut; The Suarez Troupe, riding act; The Charles Troupe, teeterboard, plus another teeterboard act not on the program; The Flying Wilastons; Barbara Tata, elephants (3) and Buckley Steele, elephants (2).

THE CIRCUS REPORT is published each week by Don Marcks, 525 Oak St., El Cerrito, Calif. - 94530. Phone: (415) 525-3332.

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