



4th Year

March 17, 1975

Number 11

Storm Hits As Show Opens

The George Matthews Circus made an impressive opening date at Foster City, Calif. (Mar. 5-11) despite a wind and rain storm that swept through the area. Local weather experts said it was the worst storm in 25 years.

The show looked good, nestled in a residential district, with all equipment newly painted. The big orange and white top (120 with three 40's) was easy to spot from every direction and looks as if it were new.



On the midway is a concession wagon, refreshment tent, the Russell Bros. Side Show (with 12 banners) and the ticket/office wagon. Admission prices for the big show are \$2.50 for children, \$3.00 for juniors and \$4.00 for adults. The reserved seats, on the front side, sell for \$1.00 extra, with box seats at \$2.00.

The circus is using the same number of trucks and seat wagons as last year. They are carrying a six piece band and all show personnel wear special circus jackets. (See Page 10)

CIRCUS SHOWS CIRCUS

In compliance with a demand by patrons for extra shows, Circus Circus, of Las Vegas, has increased its entertainment programs from eight to 13 hours per day. The additional hours of entertainment are due to an increase in traffic through the casino/hotel, a high occupancy rate and a demand for shows after the regular dinner and dinner. (Continued on Back Page)

Circus Clown Cited

In mid-January (Jan. 19) an RBBB Blue Unit clown, James M. Shill, of Dayton, Ohio, was arrested at Venice (Fla.) and charged with destruction of city property, disorderly conduct and resisting arrest.

Police said that Shill was being questioned by an officer at 2:30 a.m. after they received a complaint from a man walking along the street. When a second officer arrived, Shill jumped in front of his car, forcing it to an abrupt stop.

The police charged Shill with disorderly conduct and then placed him in the patrol car. Enroute to the station he struggled to escape.

After being booked and placed in a cell, Shill set fire to his mattress and blankets, with a match obtained from another prisoner. Firemen extinguished the blaze, but had to return shortly after when Shill again set fire to the facilities. He was then handcuffed to the cell bars.

The charges were said to be: \$500 for resisting arrest, \$30 for disorderly conduct and \$500 for destruction of city property.

The Sells Floto Circus of 1923 carried a Wild West Show with 7 cowboys, 2 cow girls and 2 Indians.

Helps Parade

Many of the animals, performers and clowns of RBBB's Blue Unit took time out from rehearsals on Jan. 25th to participate in a parade at Venice, Fla. The event marked the city's 50th anniversary, and was sponsored by the Chamber of Commerce. It also saluted four local business firms that were also celebrating their 50th anniversary.

Both Irvin and Kenneth Feld were named parade marshalls and joined other dignitaries in reviewing the big parade. In addition to the circus units, some 60 other units, plus 15 major floats were featured.

Kenneth Feld told the local press that the circus was "happy to participate in the 50th anniversary of Venice."

The event, he added, was "also meaningful to Ringling Bros and Barnum & Bailey Circus because it also marks the 48th anniversary of the moving of the circus' winter quarters to Florida, and the celebration of our 15th anniversary in Venice."

THE CIRCUS REPORT is published every week by Don Marcks, 525 Oak St., El Cerrito, Cal. 94530. Subscription rates: \$5.00 for 6 months, \$10.00 per year. (Air mail service \$2.00 extra) Advertising Rates: Minimum ad is \$2.50; Quarter Page \$5.00; Half Page \$10.00; Full Page \$20.00

REALLY A GREAT SHOW

There's really only one word that can be used to describe the Int'l All Star Circus and that's "superb." The show offers an excellent program and played here at College Park (Ga.) on March 2nd, with some fine work by Patti and Hines Rucker, and all of the other performers. Even the kids liked the show - especially the ventriloquist.

The circus was sponsored by the Jaycees who were obviously impressed with the quality and cleanliness of the Nordmark production. In fact a return engagement has been signed for 1976.

The band - Ed Kennedy on trumpet; Benny Shorman on drums, and Fred Kitchin, with an electric accordion -- really add a great deal to the program. Their numbers included:--

Overature --

No Business Like Show Business
Be A Clown
Greatest Show on Earth

Fanfare

Craig Carlson - tumbling --
Winter Sports Galop

Patti's Foot Juggling --
It's Alright With Me
How High The Moon
Look For a Star
Samba D'Orto
El Cumancharo

Terry O'Brien --
Samba D'Orto
Sweetest Sounds I Ever Heard
Dear World
I Love You, And Don't You
Forget It

The Baby Chimps --
Thank Heaven for Little Girls
Kids
Abba Dabba

Clown Number --
Speed

Magic Act --

Theme from Exodus
Arabian Coffee

Craig Carlson - hand balancing -
French Horn solo "Adagio"
Tonight We Love
My Hero

Rucker's Leopard Act --
Jungle Queen

2nd Half Overature --
Ringling-Barnum Grand Entry

Dog Act --
Aquarius Theme Let the Sun-
shine In

Ventriloquist --
Stop It

Terry O'Brien's Unicycle act --
So What's New
Swing In
Riding High

Clown Act --
Pomp and Circumstance
I'd Climb Every Mountain
(Continued on Back Page)

..... by ALLEN BABCOCK



THIS YEAR'S Zohrak Grotto Circus, at Decatur (Ill.) was held on March 1-2 and was produced by George Hubler, who really puts a good show together. In all some five performances were presented, with attendance amounting to a record crowd of 14,000 people.

A special advance sale of tickets was held at reduced prices: \$1.25 for children and \$2.50 for adults, while a family ticket was available at \$6.00. On show days the prices were set at \$1.50 for children and \$3.00 for adults.

During the local engagement a surprise birthday party was held for Paul Creason, who worked concessions here. In addition to the performers both George Hubler and Harry Mills were on hand for the occasion.

Among those appearing in the circus program were:-

The Dubsky Family - risley, acrobats, perch pole, chimps, dogs, clown fight, leopards
Robin Kubea - cloud swing and a double trapeze with Peggy Mills

Walter King - elephants/llamas
Freddie Large Family - clowns
Mimi Zerbinini - trapeze
Kay Baldwin and Dianna Yoxall - aerial ballet feature
The Great Huston - illusions
Norbu, Almost Human Gorilla
Caddy and The Pro - acrobats
Gary Brunke - lions

HISTORICAL FACT

The 1922 Sparks Circus traveled on a train of 14 cars.

Mexico Trip

The Frank Brown Int'l Circus (at Mazatlan, Mexico) offered a warm welcome to the Carl Helbings and Herb Neusers, last month when the Phoenix CFA's vacationed in Mexico.

They report it was an excellent show, with beautiful costumes and acts. There were some outstanding clown numbers, writes Carl, especially the mid-get clown who also did the show announcing.

PEOPLE

RAY CHANDLER worked the LOUIS GOEBBEL animals in the TV commercial for the VW's Sirocco car.

MIKE and BARBARA RICE (elephants) recently bought an GMC tractor and Fruehuf van for their animals.

CHET SLUSSER and wife spent several days with the Wallace & Clark Circus last week.

GREAT SHOW PROGRAM OFFERED

The show presented here at Cleveland (Ohio) on Feb. 5-9, for the Al Sirat Grotto Circus, was a strong one, produced by Paul Kaye. One of the features of this year's program was the Russian clowns Krasavina and Fedin.



Paul Kaye

The show's staff included: Paul V. Kaye, executive director; William N. Strong, performance director; Judy Kaye, production co-ordinator; Ernie McLean, ringmaster and announcer; Jack Cervone, musical director, and Gene Randow and Walter Stimax, producing clowns.

Other clowns on the show included: Mildred Hall, Neil Kay, Chuck Sateja, Claude Schmidt David Schwinkendorf and David Strong.

The program featured:--

Spec - Circus on Parade
 Darlene, Dolly, Donna, Linda
 and Sandee - aerialists
 Mlle. Del Molina - balance trap
 Pat Anthony - wild animals
 The Strong Duo - aerialists
 The Darsan Dolls - aerialists
 The Freddie's, Geza Szabo and
 The O'Donnells - juggling
 The Pirates of the Sky
 Anderson's liberty stallions
 The Russian Clowns
 The Stephenson Family - dogs
 Arturo featured in aerial ballet
 Uncle Heavy's Pork Chop Revue
 Ivan Henry - chimps
 Johnson's bears
 The Quassars - space ship
 The Four Flying Ramos, with
 triple somersaulting Sergio
 The Kaye circus elephants
 The Great Erik - high wire
 The Walters, The Canestrelli

PEOPLE

PAUL VAN POOL reports he's been snowed in and unable to get out of his house several times this winter. He helps keep Circus Report supplied with show news and routes.

GENE CHRISTIAN, agent for Royson Bros. Circus says he has not made any plans for 1975. He would like to take time out and write a book.

CHARLES KOEHLER, owner of Dixiana Circus, reports some 40 musicians attended the Windjammers meet at New Orleans (La) in January.

DO DO, the Clown and LA MONT, the Magician, recently produced their first one hour production (Feb. 7) with a good crowd attending the Louisiana date.

Family, Les Thisis - acro
 Four Nerveless Nocks
 Grand Finale

.....John Goodall, Jr.

ROUTES

Allen's Pet Zoo
to Mar 20 Westminster, Cal.

Carson & Barnes Circus
Mar 21 Paris, Texas

Hubert Castle Circus
Mar 20-23 Spokane, Wash.

Circo Panamericano
to Mar 23 Ponce, P. R.

Circus of Fun
Mar 20-23 Concord, Calif.

Circus Vargas
Mar 15-18 El Paso, Texas
19-20 Enroute
21-26 Burbank, Calif.

Cole All Star TV Circus
Mar 17 Whitney, N.Y.
18 Chenango Forks
19 Greene
20 Margaretville
21 Pine Plains
22 Beacon
-- Ed of Tour --

Clyde Bros. Circus
Mar 21-22 Abilene, Texas

Fisher Bros. Circus
Mar 17 Denvine, Texas
18 Charlotte
19 Poteet
20 Somerset
21-24 Lackland Air Base

Gatti-Charles American Cont'l
Mar 18 Midland, Texas
21 Clovis, N. M.
23 Wichita Falls, Tex.

Hamid-Morton Circus
Mar 20-23 Oklahoma City, Okla

Holiday Hippodrome
Mar 17 Pulaski, Va.
18 Bluefield, W. Va.
19 Beckley
20 Gallipolis, Ohio
21 Lancaster
22 Open
23 Parkersburg, W. Va.

Hoxie Bros. Circus
Mar 20-23 Coral Gables, Fla.

George Matthews Circus
Mar 17-18 Stockton, Calif.
19-23 Sacramento

Mid-American Circus
Mar 19 McAllister, Okla.

Polack Bros. Circus
Mar 20-22 Canton, Ohio

Ringling-Barnum - Blue Unit
Mar 19-Apr 6 Washington, DC

Ringling-Barnum - Red Unit
to Mar 23 Baltimore, Md.

Wallace & Rogers Circus
Mar 19 Healdsburg, Calif.
20-23 Santa Clara

..... LATE ROUTES

Hanneford Circus
Mar. 7-9 Greenville, S. C.

Emmett Kelly, Jr. Circus
Feb. 24-Mar 2 St. Louis, Mo.

Police Circus
Mar. 4-9 Kansas City, Mo.

ZOR Shrine Circus
Feb 28-Mar 2 Madison, Wisc.

TNT & Royal Olympic Circus
Mar 10-15 Springfield, Va.

PEOPLE

HAROLD HALL (clown) is recovering from a recent attack of pneumonia and an operation.

DICK WALKER, former lion trainer at Jungland, is now a computer expert at Santa Maria, Calif.

BOBBY KAYE (clown) expects to be back home on the coast after the RBBB date in New York.

VERNON COOK (magician) has been visiting friends in the San Francisco (Cal) Bay Area.

HERBERT WEBER, wire walker) was forced to cancel plans for an appearance with the Puerto Rican circus when it became impossible for him to leave the States.

In Memoriam

FORREST WILSON (81) a legal expert on workmen's compensation and general chairman of the Cleveland (Ohio) Grotto Circus, died in late February. His wife, Angela, 2 sons and 2 daughters survive.

JR. CLARKE, works at the Slater Park Zoo, in Rhode Island, was on Hunt Bros. Circus and also trains animals for the Southwick Wild Animal Farm.

FRANK DEAN (roper) says he is working on a new feature act - spinning 32 ropes at one time.

BILL BURGER has booked several Southern California spot dates for the Circus of Wonders show.

12th and Market Street Show Grounds
 San Francisco, 3 Days SAT.
SUN.
MON. Sept. 7-8-9

1400 PEOPLE	BARNUM AND BAILEY AND THE GORGEOUS SPECTACULAR PAGEANT PLAZADIN <small>PIVOTING</small> WONDERFUL LAMP MORE THAN 100 NEW FOREIGN CIRCUS NOVELTIES	480 ARENIC
108 CAGE		GREATEST SHOW ON EARTH
ZOO		ARTISTS 89 R.R. CARS
41 ELEPHANTS	PARADE AT 10 AM. PRECEDING FIRST PERFORMANCE DOORS OPEN AT 12:30 PM. PERFORMANCES BEGIN AT 2:30 PM	30 CHINESE PERFORMERS FROM PEKIN
50 FAMOUS CLOWNS		

Tickets on sale show day at Sherman, Clay Piano Co., Kearny and Sutter Sts., at same prices as charged on show grounds.

- 1918 -



Miscellaneous

Sells & Gray Circus is planning to open for its 75 tour at Wildwood, Fla. late this month.

The John Strong Circus recently received a nice plug in the Elk's magazine for the show's work with that organization.

Carson & Barnes Circus will be in Texas late this month with a "bigger and better show and a larger menagerie.

Rumor has it that three baby elephants will be added to the Beatty-Cole Circus program for the upcoming season.

Wallace & Rogers Circus enjoy full houses during its opening week in California despite rain and some unkind weather. The show is making its first appearance in the state.

lowed by Bradbury doing balloon animals and some audience participation feats.

After intermission Angelo Wilnow puts her collie dogs thru their paces to good audience response.

Ray and Yolanda follow with a high perch pole number, and then the amazing Zig Zag girl illusion is featured.

The closing number is real comedy as Johnny attempts to keep plates spinning atop tall sticks.

HIPPODROME

HOLIDAY

...by M. L. DUPONT

Again this year the Garden Productions stage circus Holiday Hippodrome was the first indoor circus into the Monroe (La.) area. Booked last year by the Monroe Sertome Club, who reneged on their 75 commitment, the show played for the West Monroe Sertome Club. It was a promotional date with little newspaper advertising.

As per usual the show is a fast 90 minutes of entertainment and thus far they report business has been good. They had a half house here (Feb. 8) for the matinee only show, then jumped into Shreveport for an afternoon show on Feb. 9th.

The show is managed by Floyd Bradbury, who also plays drums, announces, plus doing his magic and illusion features.

The program opens with the Dionnes (Raymond, Yolanda and son Michel) in a fine hand balancing number.

Floyd Bradbury follows with some magic and illusions, assisted by his wife and daughters, while Michel takes over the drums.

The Albertis have a nice rolling globe act, which is fol-

In Memoriam

GEORGE P. COOK (76) died on Feb. 1 from flu and complication. He helped to build funny cars used by clowns in various shows. Survivors include his wife, Marie, a brother, son and daughter.

LAMOTT "Dod" DODSON veteran animal trainer, magician and a mentalist who had the "Hollywood Monkey Movie Stars". He died on Feb. 7 at Hollywood, Calif. Survivors include his wife, daughter and a brother.

PAULINE (Peg) MITCHELL FREEMAN (70) died on Feb. 7 at Kings Bay, Fla. She was a former circus aerialist with Ringling Bros and Al G. Barnes.

GERALD HEANEY, professional magician, died Dec. 26 at Oshkosh, Wisc. He toured with an illusion show and operated the Heaney Mail Order Magic Co.. He is survived by his wife.

PIOTR KALINOWSKI (28) a Polish circus performer with RBBB died on Jan. 25 at Venice, Fla. Witnesses said he lost his balance while washing his feet in a sink and grabbed an electrical fixture. A medical examiner said he died from a ruptured artery of the heart. His body was sent to Poland for burial.

JACKIE WELLS (78) girl with the longest hair in the U.S. She died in late Feb. in Detroit, Mich. Her hair was 7 ft 4 in long, but had to be cut in 1931 when it became hopelessly snarled.

GEORGE MATTHEWS CIRCUS (Cont'd)

The show staff includes:-

Sid Kellner - owner/manager
 Bud Rich - manager
 Ed Russell - announcer/side show
 Nick Bengor - superintendent
 Matt Kellner - general agent
 Lee Mister - cook house

The 1975 program features

Senor Pauncho - lions (7)
 The Clowns - Cannon number with Harry, Zippo and Wally
 Marco & Bonnie - juggling
 The Lutons - trapeze
 Dr. Ben Crazy - clown number
 Dwight Moore's Mongrel Revue
 Herbert Weber - slide for life
 Alphonso - liberty horses (3)

-- Intermission --

Miss Lu Anne - aerial web
 The Clowns - a phone call
 Los Latinos - tight wire
 Miss Lu Anne - single trapeze
 The clowns - wash day
 The Maganas - elephants (3)
 Prince Najvez - cloud swing

The program will be boosted this week with the addition of Ivan Henry and his chimps.

Visitors seen at the circus during its opening engagement included: Tom Upton, Clark McDermott, Paul Tamboury, Chester Cable, Russ Tully, Don Marcks, Jerry Booker, Bill Williams and Tommy Bentley.



Order your copy of Circus Report today. It's \$10.00 per year.

CLYDE BEATTY (Continued)



(Continued Next Week)

CIRCUS CIRCUS (Continued)

ner/show schedules.

Circus Circus is the only resort complex in Las Vegas that offers recreation and entertainment for the entire family. The youngsters can enjoy the circus acts, and find, on the upper level, a full midway of carnival and arcade games, fun rides and snack booths, while the adults find both the gaming tables and show acts are of interest.

Among the circus acts currently performing at Circus Circus are Charles & Co., cycles; Simona, aerial ballerina; The Seven Endress, acrobats; The Flying Torrels, trapeze act; and The Castors, acrobats/jugglers.

Miscellaneous

Franzan Bros. Circus opened its 1975 tour in the Corpus Christi (Texas) area on March 9. The show plans to work its way up to Wisconsin

MUSICAL SCORE (Continued)

Ladder Act --

Somewhere My Love

Trunk Illusion --

That Old Black Magic

Comedians Galop

Stilt Walk --

You're A Grand Old Flag

Exit Music --

This Is My Country

.....Paul E. Fitzpatrick