



6th Year

December 19, 1977

Number 51-52

RUNAWAY IS BACK

Colonel, the four ton runaway elephant is back with the Circus Vargas herd after eluding his pursuers for a week in the dense thicket west of Lake Okeechobee, Fla., earlier in the month. Once located the 14 year old African elephant was quickly brought under control by his handlers and taken back to the circus.

Trainer Rex Williams and circus owner Clifford E. Vargas rushed to the isolated site on the 65,000 acre Lykes Brothers ranch and game preserve after the elephant had been spotted by a search plane. Both State and local officials aided in the week-long hunt for the elephant.

Colonel escaped on Tuesday (Nov. 29) and was recaptured on Monday (Dec. 5). Colonel and two other elephants wandered off when they were unloaded from a truck which had caught fire. The others were captured within a few hours, but Colonel ran off into the game preserve.

Since then he has been traveling about 20 miles a day, grazing as he went, but staying in the thick underbrush of the area.

Plans to lure Colonel out with a female elephant were dropped when the female became unmanagable after arriving at the scene. A second elephant, Louie, was sent to the preserve to play on Colonel's "herd" instincts. It was shortly afterwards that he emerged from the underbrush.

- THANK YOU -

ALL SHOW PERFORMERS AND FANS

King-Cole, Hamid Morton, Royal Wild West, Hoxie Bros. Hoxie's Great American, Royal Hanneford, Circus Kirk, Holiday Hippodrome, John Cuneo Circus, Ringling-Barnum's Red and Blue Units - for your subscriptions to "Southern Sawdust", during 1977 and making it a banner year.

- Now Accepting Subscriptions for the 1978 Season -

A "MUST" for the Circus-minded from Sarasota

\$2.00 per single issue - \$7.50 per year

May you have sunny skies and grassy lots all through 1978

DAVID P. ORR
Northeastern Representative
Cherry Street
Sandy Hook, Conn. 06482

PEOPLE

JAY COCHRANE, high wire performer, recently walked a cable stretched between the twin towers of the Hudson's Bay Center in Ontario, Canada. The 280 foot walk, 40 stories above the ground took place on Nov. 20th.

RED GATES, FRANK SMITH and DON BULLITT are forming a partnership to handle the concession operations in New Orleans for the annual Mardi Gras and other events.

CLARK McDERMOTT and his "Cold Nose Five" act worked the Beale Air Force Base in California on Nov. 19-20.

WADE BURCK is no longer with the Hawthorne Circus Corp., and he and **MARGARET** are in Texas where Wade is putting an uncaged leopard act together, which he hopes will be ready for the 1979 season.

BRAD and JULIE WARD are spending the winter in Texas after having closed with the Johnny Frazier show. The couple spent the summer months with Royal Bros. in Canada.

VASHEK and KATHY recently returned from a vacation in Switzerland. Late this month the couple will appear on the Dobritch Variety show at St. Croix (Virgin Islands).

The **JUGGLING VILLAMS** have been in Paris where they are doing a series of TV shows.

ETHEL JENNIER visited Circus Vargas during the show's engagement at Miami. She made the trip in from her home at Tampa, calling in a vacation after the Beatty-Cole show closed.

GEORGE DA BEPPO recently became a member of the East Jefferson (Mich) Players and does all their scenic designs. He just played a part in "Mr. Pickwick's Christmas" (was Dickens) and also has a part in "Valiant."

THANK YOU

JOHN REDMOND
for your trailer purchase
for your wife, Debra

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Greetings

and all Good Wishes
of the Season

JOE M. HEISER, Jr.
Houston

CONGRATULATIONS

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50 YEARS A PROFESSIONAL

50 YEARS OF LOVE

50 YEARS OF EXCELLENCE

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“Charlie Gutis”

ON THIS YOUR 50th ANNIVERSARY
IN SHOW BUSINESS

WALHALLA THEATRE — HALLE, GERMANY

December 25, 1927

HILTON — NEW YORK

December 25, 1977



ELVIRA — HEIDI — PETER — JIM — MICKEY

Show Dates

Christmas Animal Show
Dec. 19-23 Oakland, Calif.

Emmett Kelly, Jr. Circus
Dec. 25-31 Ft. Lauderdale, Fla.

Moscow Circus
Dec. 20-Jan. 2 New York, NY

Royal Lichtenstein Circus
Dec. 19 Bakersfield, Calif.

Santa's Revue - Eastern
Dec. 19 Kansas City, Mo.
- End of Tour -

Santa's Revue - Western
Dec. 19 Oakland, Calif.
20 Santa Cruz
21 Ceres
22 Porterville
23 Kingsburg
- End of Tour -

---- OTHER DATES ----

Globetrotters
Dec. 27 Louisville, Ky.
29 Winnipeg, Man.
31 Duluth, Minn.
31 Milwaukee, Wisc.

Holiday On Ice - National
Dec. 26-Jan. 1 Anaheim, Cal.

A Special

Merry Christmas

to

Dr. Charles W. Boas

and all the cast

of

CIRCUS KIRK

Best Wishes for 1978

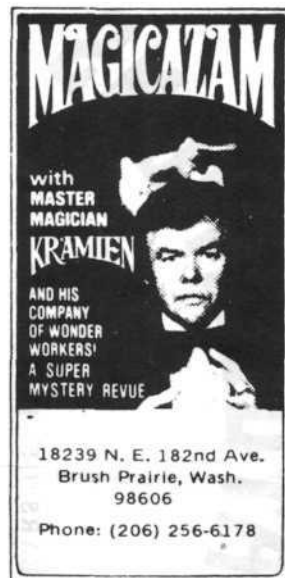
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GLENN R. DANDOY
116 East Main Street
Grove City, Pa. 16127

Ice Capades
Dec. 25-Jan. 1 Spokane, Wash.

Victor, the Rasslin' Bear
Jan. 4-8 Canton, Ohio

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BILLY BARTON

IT IS NOT TRUE that **FAMOUS HUNT** is not going on the road. "The ad that appeared in AB," Marsha told me, "was worded wrong. The ad was meant to imply we were selling excess equipment which had been laying around winter quarters since year 1, certainly NOT the show. Since that ad, all excess equipment has been disposed of." Famous Hunt will not be playing a one day format, however, but go to longer stands. There is also the possibility of 12 or 16 weeks at a Theme Park.

JIM NORDMARK is busy revamping his new magic unit, acquiring a New York choreographer to stage musical numbers and dances. **KENNY DODD** and **BILLY McCABE** are making costumes. Being invited to arrange the score is **KEITH KILLINGER**. The show will integrate illusions with production ensembles and variety acts.

THE NBC MOVE "WALLEND" to be shown sometime next spring, was finished Nov. 19th, climaxed by a huge cast and crew "wrap-up" shindig. The tragic accident, when the 7 collapsed during the Shrine Circus at Detroit, was re-created for the film, and **JENNY WALLEND** told me 3 different sets of "seven" were

used. **ANDY ANDERSON** and Hollywood stunt man **BILL COUCH** directed the scene. **KARL**, his neck in a brace, and suffering from a broken bone in his hand, was on hand for a personal appearance at the Emmett Kelly, Jr. Circus date in Orlando on Nov. 25th.

HOT ITEM: HARRIETT BEATTY sold her cat act to **WALT KING** who will pick it up at the end of the month, after Harriett finishes some Xmas dates....The **FEARLESS BAUERS** filmed the **BILLY SMART** Annual Xmas Special in London for the BBC on Nov. 20. Three 7 ft. holes had to be dug in the tanbark for the swappoles. Also on the TV special was trapezist **LISA BAUER**. The Bauers went from there to Deutschlandhalle in Berlin for Dec. 13 to 31st.

MARGUERITTE BARTON, who made a miraculous recovery from her stroke of last year, has been back at the sewing machine, making costumes for **ETHEL JENNIER's** newly restaged dog act, now using 3 people. The two males: **BOBBY DAVIS** and yrs. truly..... **GEORGE DA DEPPO** has done much Creative Planning for the CFA Convention to be held next year at Dearborn, Mich. He's designed the convention logo,

(Continued on Next Page)

Merry Christmas!

AND BEST WISHES FOR A PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR



Chester Cable - Wini McKay

- CURRENTLY WITH THE HARLEM GLOBETROTTERS -

BILLY BARTON (Continued)

plus a dish and a commemorative coin. The circus the CFA hopes to lure for the event is Vargas.

SNAPSHOTS: ED RUSSELL will spot date Castle in '78, was featured magician on the Holloway magic opus in Oct., and played three weeks in Dec. for BIG JOHN STRONG....GAYLORD MAYNARD was the hit of the Baltimore and New Orleans Shrine dates.... A great color shot of KAY ROSAIRE and a lion appeared in the Chattanooga Sunday paper when she played there with Vargas....BONNIE ARMOR told me she saw people, working in technical departments on the Wallenda film, she hadn't seen in years, despite the fact THEY (and SHE) live right there in Sarasota.....Actress HOPE LANGE was wanted for arrole which interfered with her Broadway show....The teenagers of the Shrine Circus in Fort Worth organized a Masquerade Party at which ERNIE BURCH appeared as DRACULA....Just before the BUMPY FAMILY retired, sister SUSAN ZOPPE was reunited in the act when brother STEVEN injured his hand....Don't ask SANDY BUMPY to lead "Spec" unless you give her a route sheet or arrow the track....SASA ARMOR will be a busy gal next season working in cradle, aerial motorcycle and flying acts....Rumors are that Royal

Hanneford may have a Star Wars Production - if so, they've been outstepped by BILL and TRUDY STONG who already have a Star Wars opening for their Quassar act which is getting great response...the CARLOS CAMPA Family took a cruise to the Bahamas when the King show closed....BILLY RODGERS, who almost has his new shop finished, and who was honored at a surprise birthday bash, is now up North playing Xmas dates. He is still undecided about trouping in '78....DIAMOND JIM PARKER does a clown "make up show" for kids in Malls, usually on Saturdays. Jim is secretary on Circus Vargas.

FRAGMENTS: HARRY RAWLS will manage a circus in '78....HARRY THOMAS is in Florida....GARY THOMAS goes to Castle....JIMMY COLE flies to Boston over the Holidays to visit his son....HERTA CU-NEO has retired her bear act, is busy playing interior decorator in their new Frank Lloyd Wright home.... DAVID and CAROL RAWLS have been handling the promo for Int'l All Star....The SERGIO RAMOS FLYERS will spot date Hublet Int'l....JUDY KAYE has been working in a new movie....VASHEK and KATHY are back from Switzerland....Vargas will have two flying acts, the LANTONYS and the LANES....WADE

(Continued on Next Page)



The Season's Best Wishes

from

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- Unparalleled in Variety
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BILLY BARTON (Continued)

and MARGARET BURCK are in the South....Drummer PHIL OLER's wife, CHRIS, is breaking in a trap act....Rumors are that WES OLER may handle the late ELVIS PRESLEY's backup group in '78.

CHARLIE BAUMANN did not have a heart problem as reported. A bone in his neck which was out of whack caused a partial paralysis in one arm, but he is fine now....REX HORTON and MARK visited their sister on the BIG JOHN STRONG show at Thousand Oaks. Their sister is married to cloud swinger MIGUELITO.....Hubler has the Dayton (Oh) Fair in '78.

BOUQUETS: The CFA Circus Photog CHARLES DE WEIN of Springfield (Oh) whose recent action shot of AERIALETTA's one hock catch deserves an award. Most of De Wein's photos are classics.

BILL and TRUDY STRONG have named their 9 Dalmations after Circus Producers: Hamid, Morton, Paul, Fleckles, Judy, Grace, Chuck, George and Tommy. I can just HEAB some of the various "commands" NOW, can't YOU?

HAPPY HOLIDAYS, and see you down the road in 1978, luvs

PEOPLE

MIKE NAUGHTON worked advance promotions for the Royal Hanneford Circus at White Plains, New York.

FRED KITCHEN, musician, will spot date in 1978. He toned with the Hoxie show during the past few seasons.

DORIAN BLAKE will be working a set of Holiday shows for a department store in North Carolina.

FROM ATLANTIC CITY'S CFA MEMBERS

FRANK HOOPES

JACK McMILLAN

KEN GROVATT

PAT DUFFY

We wish everyone a very
MERRY CHRISTMAS

Come Bet On A "Shore" Thing

- Atlantic City, N. J. -

THERE'S A NEW EXCITEMENT HERE!

AMANDIS ENTERTAINMENT SERVICE

WE WOULD LIKE TO THANK ALL PRODUCERS
AND ENTERTAINERS, WHO HAVE BEEN A PART
OF OUR MOST SUCCESSFUL 1977 SEASON. WE
HOPE TO BE WITH THESE SAME PEOPLE IN 1978.



BEST WISHES FOR A MERRY CHRISTMAS AND
A MOST HAPPY AND SUCCESSFUL NEW YEAR.

*

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The CIRCUS -
as it was..



The CIRCUS as-

it was *meant* to be!!

**The
Season's
Best Wishes
To
Friends Everywhere**



Merry
Christmas



Al & Suzanne
Dawley



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Thanks

For a Successful
Season

Mr. L. N. Fleckles
Mr. and Mrs. Smith
Mr. and Mrs. Sam T. Polack
Mr. and Mrs. Lambart
Jim Nabors
Upper South Carolina State Fair
Jefferson County Fair

Dorothy and Bart Winn
Hubert Castle
Daniel Wilson Productions
Mr. and Mrs. Karl Winn
Johnny Rivers
All Iowa Fair

PEOPLE

BERNARD R. CARROLL, CFA, has been hospitalized and has undergone a serious operation. Cards and letters can be sent to him at: Waynesboro Community Hospital, Waynesboro, Va. - 22980.

BILL BAILEY, president of the Clown Club, has suffered a heart attack and is hospitalized at Cherry Hill Medical Center, Chapel Ave. and Cooper Landing Road, Room 306, Cherry Hill, N. J. 08002.

MIKE SPORRER writes that the Shrine Club in Seattle (Wash) has not yet signed a circus contract for the 1978 year.

JON FRIDAY, circus announcer, visited with **GERARD SOULES** and **STEVE SCHUMAKER** when the Ice Follies were in Chicago. He reports that Gerard and Steve drove some 200 miles to visit friends who are with the Ice Capades, which was appearing in Muskegon, Mich.

PAUL and **WANDA (Ward) DUKE** are expecting an addition to the family in early Feb.

SEASON'S GREETINGS

to all
Circus Personnel
Fans and Friends!



HERBERT B. UECKERT
Nevada State Chairman

Circus Fans Association of America
3524 South Haverhill Street
Las Vegas, Nevada - 89121

In Memoriam

TONY PICCALO, concessionaire, was beaten, stabbed and killed, along with another concession man at a motel during the Fair at Charleston, N. C., about five weeks ago. He owned the Tiple T Novelty Co., of Washington, D.C. and operated concessions at fairs along the Eastern coast.

Happy Holidays To All

CIRCUS PEOPLE, CIRCUS FANS, CIRCUS BUMS,
ZOO PEOPLE AND ESPECIALLY "ELEPHANT PEOPLE"

*
1978 Will be the Year of The Elephant, The Year the World
will awaken to the realization The Elephant, The Greatest of
All Land Animals is Nearby, Wherever Man may roam.



SLIM LEWIS THE "ELEPHANT TRAMP"
LILLIAN AND DAVID

WISHING

MR. CLIFFORD E. VARGAS

AND

WALLY NAGHTIN

AND ALL OUR FRIENDS AND CO-WORKERS

WITH CIRCUS VARGAS

FOR A VERY

MERRY CHRISTMAS

AND A MOST

HAPPY AND PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR



ANNA DELMONTE (Fritz)

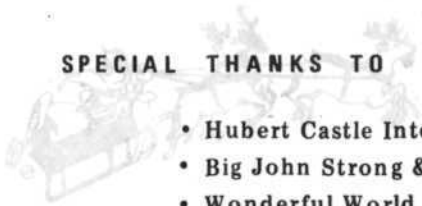
and PINKEY

EDWARD L. RUSSELL

WISHES ALL
HIS FRIENDS AND ASSOCIATES

**THE MERRIEST of
CHRISTMASSES
and
THE HAPPIEST of
NEW YEARS**

SPECIAL THANKS TO

- 
- Hubert Castle International Circus
 - Big John Strong & Son
 - Wonderful World of Magic

FOR A SUPER 1977 SEASON

1273 W. 16th St.
San Pedro, Calif. 90731

(213) 833-2551

Show Acts

The Oriental Shrine Circus, at Troy, N. Y., was produced by Bob Snowden and presented on Nov. 25th at the Russell Sage College.

The program featured: Overture; Tibor Alexander's Canine Parade; The Barrys, comedy trapeze; The Ricardo Troupe, low wire; Jimmy Hall and Ken Sherburne, unicycles; The Gutis, acrobats; Pietro & Joyce, unsupported ladder; Peanut Pitch; Intermission.

In the second half were: Pietro & Pietro, comedy rola bola; Norman Miller, single trapeze; Gutis' Jungleland Fantasy; Billy Martin, juggling/rola bola; The Canestrelli Family, teeterboard; Balloon Pitch; Ken Sherburne, rolling globe/juggling; Kassel's Kingdom of Bears.

The show's staff consisted of: Bob Snowden, producer; Barry Miller, performance director; Fred Kitchen, musical director; Billy Martin, ringmaster and Lucy Snowden, treasurer.

..... Mike Naughton

Dates End

The Clyde Beatty-Cole Bros. Circus closed its 1977 season at Tampa, Fla., on Nov. 27th after a successful year. The upcoming season will see the show continuing to operate under its new format, playing shopping centers.

All new canvas has been ordered from Leaf. The big top will be blue and white rather than the solid white that has been used for many years. The big top will be a 150 with three 50 ft. middle sections.

The new side show top will remain the same size - a 60 with three 30 ft. centers. All other tents on the show will also be new including a dining top, pad room and marquee.

The Beatty-Cole program will be some 90% new for the coming season, offering its patrons virtually a new show.

Work is already well underway at the show's winterquarters with the construction of new cages and truck units. An earlier than usual spring opening is anticipated.

Season's Greetings

WITH BEST WISHES FOR THE COMING YEAR

BORGER BROS. CIRCUS

NORMAN J. BORGER

ELTON BERLIN

1371 N. Bauwans

Chicago, Illinois 60622



Season's Greetings

CHARLES and ESTHER MASON

60 - 80 Wilson Way
Milpitas, Calif. - 95035

PEOPLE

MAYOR COLEMAN, of Detroit, has agreed to proclaim July 4, 1978 "James A. Bailey Day" during the CFA Convention in Dearborn, set for July 2-5.

WARD STAUTH reports the Windjammers, Inc. will hold their annual convention at Valdosta, Ga, on Jan. 20-22.

IAN M. GARDEN attended the fair convention at Las Vegas. Others seen at the event were: GILBERT MILLER, GRACE MacINTOSH, CHUCK MARINE and GUNNAR AMANDIS.

LOTTIE BRUNN, juggler, has been playing

club dates in the Catskills (NY).

JIMMY HERRINGTON will produce a circus in Puerto Rico this winter.

ROSE ADAIR, veteran agent in New York set the following acts on the Wonderama TV show in that city: ZIPPY the Chimp, The CYCLONIANS, JO ANN & SUNNY and MICHAEL CHERRICK, who played the date later.

The HENNEBERRY FAMILY played the Canadian "B" Circuit this year and recently worked the Scottish Rite at Bloomington, Ill., (Nov. 21). They also report having visited with KEN and ROBERTA GRIFFIN.



PERMANENT ADDRESS
811 EAST THIRD NORTH PLATE, NEBR.

To all my friends, both old and new,
I am extremely happy just wishing you,
A Very Merry Christmas and New Years too -
May all your days be bright and skies be blue
Straw Houses, Grassy Lots always for you.

Bob & Rosa Gibbs

WOULD LIKE TO STOP AND THANK EVERYONE
FOR A MOST SUCCESSFUL YEAR

WE WISH ONE AND ALL

A Very Merry Christmas
and a
Happy New Year

HOPE TO SEE EACH AND EVERYONE OF YOU
SOMEWHERE THIS COMING YEAR

BOBBY and ROSA GIBBS

Rte. 4 - Box 550, Mission, Texas - 78572