



5th Year

January 19, 1976

Number 3

Caltech Circus Sets 4 Shows

The California Institute of Technology's Office of Public Events will present a special bicentennial edition of the Caltech Family Circus in Beckman Auditorium, Pasadena, on Saturday, Jan. 31st and Sunday, Feb. 1st. Produced and directed by Tom Lehman since its initial production in 1970, the annual event has had turnaway crowds for most performances.

Revenue from the circus is shared with the Caltech Glee Clubs and the Caltech Wind Ensemble, providing a major source of income for their various activities. A special rigging

frame was designed and constructed by the Institute to support the aerial acts. In addition, the Beckman staff has created 122 costumes and 13 floats for the three production numbers.

Although more Caltech students and personnel participate in the Caltech Family Circus

(Continued on Page 8)

AVAILABLE FOR LIMITED ENGAGEMENTS

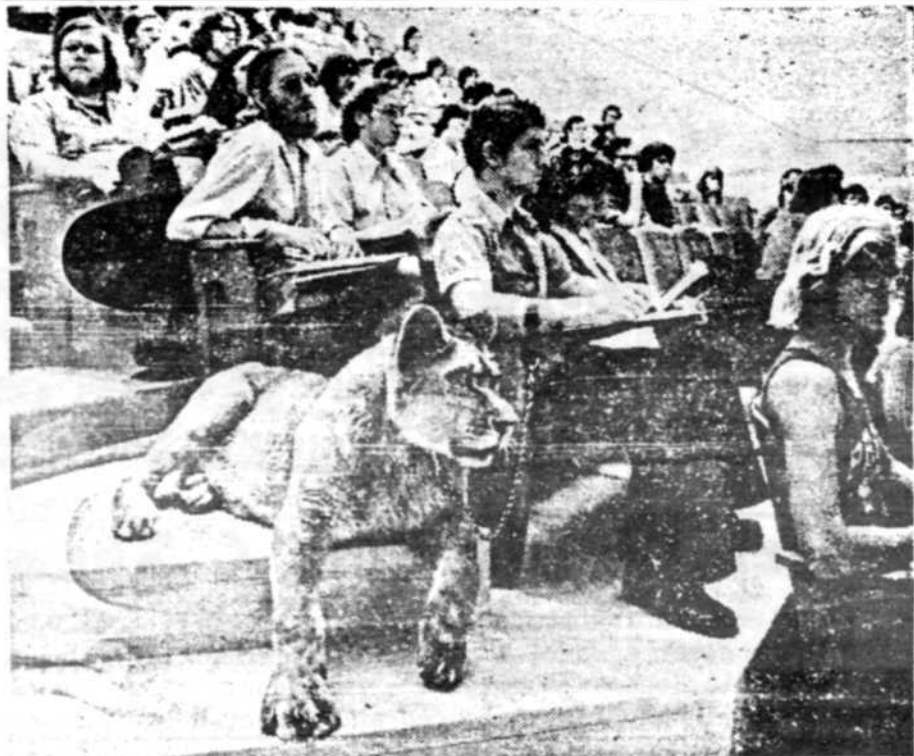
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A Lion's Share of Attention . . .

Displaying excellent classroom manners, Duchess, a 200-pound lion, leans forward with an attentiveness few students in the room can match. Maybe she's so eager to learn because she's only 15 months old and trying to please her owner, Phil Engelauf, sitting beside her. Engelauf brought his pet with him to a lecture at the California Institute of Technology at Pasadena from his home in Riverside, Calif.

ROUTES

Mad World of Magic

- Jan. 19 Safford, Ariz.
- 22 Coolidge
- 24 Sierra Vista

Royal Lipizzan Show

Jan. 21-22 Tampa, Fla.

Sports Show

Jan. 24-Feb. 1 Philadelphia

You can keep up on the latest in show news and routes for just \$12.00 a year.

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Write to:

Don Marcks
525 Oak St.
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Show Date

A magic/variety show has been announced for Thursday, Feb. 5th at Walnut Creek (Calif). The program is scheduled for 8 p.m. at Del Valley High School.

Acts to be featured are:

Dellasantro - magic/illusions
Linda Phillips - ventriloquist
Mr. Flame - fire eater

PEOPLE

WHITEY BLACK will manage King Bros. Circus for its 1975 season.

AL DAWLEY and wife held an "open house" for New Years Eve with some 85 guests attending. They'll be at the Palmetto (Fla) Fair Jan. 19-24.

WILLY LENZ and his chimps have been wintering in Michigan.

WANTED

For my collection - any material about the art of pick-pocketing as entertainment.

PHILIP DIRK VAN TREUREN
2467 Deauville Street
San Diego, Calif. 92139

HOLIDAY SHOW

A "Christmas Magic Show", produced by Ken Griffin, played several Central Pennsylvania dates for various sponsors just prior to the Holiday Season. The dates included: State College, Hazelton, Harrisburg, Reading).

On the program were:

Ken Griffin - magic
Guiseppe, the clown - fire eat'g
Ken Griffin - illusions
Entrance of Santa Claus

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3 Acts

PEOPLE

MERLE EVANS and ARTHUR FIEDLER will be guest conductors at the "Parade of Stars of the Podium" (Feb. 6-7) at Moore head, Minn.

CLIFFORD KRUEGER, formerly with the Seils-Sterling Circus side show, has been a Wisconsin Legislature since 1946.

TOM and POM POM DONOHO have left the Polack Bros. Circus and are presently residing in Texas.

DOC HENDERSON, RBBB vet, suffered a broken arm, while loading show horses at Venice (Fla.) early this month.

ELVIN BALE, aerialist, suffered a broken collar bone when he was recently squeezed between some RBBB horses.

ROUTES

- BELLE VUE CIRCUS
to Jan 31 Manchester, Eng.
- HUBERT CASTLE CIRCUS
Jan. 22 Grand Rapids, Mich.
- CIRCUS VARGAS
Jan. 22-26 Petaluma, Calif.
- COLE ALL STAR TV CIRCUS
Jan. 20 Herndon, Pa.
21 Shamokin
22 Berwick
23 Enroute
24 Montgomery

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all So. Calif. area agencies.

TOMMY HANNEFORD CIRCUS
Jan. 19-25 Cleveland, Ohio

BILLY BARTON....



MERLE EVANS and EMMETT KELLY, Sr., will perform for the Sarasota Band Concert on Feb. 22, a benefit for the Kiwanis Foundation. BONNIE BALE's wedding was postponed at

the last minute - the day before it was scheduled. ARTHUR KAYART, who for years toured an aerial act called THE COSMOS, is now doing a high wire act in a lion skin. The new act is known as KING ARTHUR and the LION.

Ringling Notes: URSALA BOTTCHEER's bears, just over from Europe, are having difficulty adjusting to their new environment and ELVIN BALE was injured when he was squeezed between two horses and will be out of the show at least six weeks.

DATELINE NEW YORK: The Daily News carried a full page story on the Bjeljakov bear and teeterboard act on tour in the U. S. with the Soviet Circus. Those of you planning to see the hit Off Broadway Show, "Let My People Come," forget it. City officials padlocked the Village Gate, where the musical is playing, due to building violations, piled up since 1972.

ROYAL HANNEFORD will play three weeks of Canadian dates in May for IAN GARDEN under the Garden Aegis, while that show fulfills commitments stateside. HERBIE WEBER makes his annual pilgrimage to SID KELLNER's Great London when it treks out

it was scheduled to take

in April. In the meantime he will play Sports Shows and the Cincinnati Shrine date. The SID MOORE family are currently in the New York area. LOUIS STERN's Polack show has Salt Lake City Shrine date back on its agenda.

Outspoken GEE GEE ENGESER agrees with my Critique on MUD SHOW. "The more I read," she told me, "the madder I got." ANITA KEPPO bought a trailer and will travel single-0 this season, although the sisters are keeping the act together - thru April at least.

The finish trick of the FRAUENSTEINS, where the female member lands on a teeterboard, and a knife on the other end is catapulted thru the air and imbeds itself in an object on the head of the male partner (who is standing on a rolling globe), could be one hell of a headache!

CARLA WALLEND, whose sway pole shattered when it fell during a set-up, has constructed a new one and will be climbing it soon. I don't usually broadcast who my "spies" are but there is one in the Wallenda clan whose initial is (Jenny). TOMMY HANNE-

(Continued on Page 10)

Wedding Bells

Circus weddings got off to an early start Jan. 5th with a beautiful ceremony in Sarasota's St. Martha's Roman Catholic Church where Klara Valla Bertini



daughter of the late Joseph, and Klara Valla Bertini, became the bride of Leo Mascitto. A reception and dinner was held at the Cafe Prague for 90 relatives and friends.

Many first families of the circus (retired and working) were present for this gala affair. Among them were Veno Berosini, uncle of the bride who gave her away; Josephine Berosini, and husband Alex Konyot and daughter Tina; the Coronas; the Rezacs; Ava Corona Williams and daughters; Mrs. Olga Godfrey and family; the Tino Zoppe's (Olga was Maid of Honor and daughter Alida was flower girl); the Henry Strazan Bertini family; the Tommy Hannefords and mother; the Ian Garden family; Frank Dailey; the Rudolph Youngs; the Elliott Campbells; Catrina Zacchini; the Novatnys; the Stepaneks; the Swarez family; the Amandes; the Robertsons; the Kleppo family;

Show Acts

Acts appearing at the Old Chicago Mall between Jan. 4 and Jan. 6th were:

Mario Alberti, the Crazy Sailors, Mr. Bell, Loreli, Johnny Luxem, The Burketts, The Walters, The Kellys, Antonucci's chimps, Cleo, Veno Venito, Miss Cheri, Arwoods Dogs, Ms. April, Tony & Chris, Stagg McMann.

ROUTES

RINGLING-BARNUM - Blue Unit
Jan. 21-27 Miami Beach, Fla.

SOVIET CIRCUS
Jan. 21-25 Chicago, Ill.

American Freedom Train
Jan. 19-20 San Juan Cap. Cal
22 Yuma, Ariz
24 Phoenix

Black Watch Show
Jan. 19 Hershey, Pa.
20 Pittsburg
22-25 New York, N.Y.

Kramien's Magic Capades
Jan. 19 Douglas, Ariz.
21 Casa Grande
24 Roswell, N.M.

the Terry Troffers.

The bride is a performer with considerable versatility, and the groom is leader of Garden Bros. Circus band. The newlyweds left for Canada Jan. 12th after a short honeymoon to Key West.

...Cliff Glotzbach

a way of life

..... by DAVE DAVIS

The Jerusalem Temple Shrine Circus at New Orleans was an impressive show with many name performers. But I would be remiss if I did not comment on one act - namely, the Rock Smith Flyers.

Over the years I have seen a number of top acts, but this group is truly outstanding for they are a real professional foursome, who from the moment they appear on the circus floor until they leave, walk tall and proud, perform in a clean cut manner, and thus are a treat to watch.

The act was originally conceived and developed by Dave Smith and his wife Jeannie. A champ gymnast in high school and college, Dave left a fine teaching career at the high school level to join with Russell Rock, another teacher, to form the Rock-Smith Flyers some six years ago. They both were forced to sell most of their worldly possessions to obtain funds for the purchase of their equipment.

During their first year in the circus they performed with Circo Atayade in Mexico City, where they were awarded a trophy for their outstanding act. Following this they performed all over the U.S. and in foreign countries as well. About a year ago, Rusty and his wife decided to try other vocations and thus returned home, but Dave and Jeanie stayed with the circus.

What a pleasant surprise it was to find Dave in his familiar role as catcher for his new partner, young Greg Friel - who was developed by Dave following his departure from high school. Dur-

ing his school years he was the second person to perform the quadruple somersault - and is one of three in the world who have accomplished this feat.

After two years with Ringling, Greg joined the Rock Smith Flyers. Soon after he found a beautiful model in Dayton, Ohio, and married Debbie and settled down to serious flying, while Debbie joined the act.

The act includes Greg doing a twisting $1\frac{1}{2}$ somersault, a full twisting $2\frac{1}{2}$ and a $3\frac{1}{2}$. Jeannie performs a beautiful double, a glorious split and together Jeannie and Debbie execute an impeccable passing leap.

The final night of the New Orleans date the entire act was truly perfection up to the $3\frac{1}{2}$. The announcer played it up, followed by a fanfare and a hush fell over the crowd. In his first attempt Greg fell to the net, after a second time he asked the audience if they wanted him to try again - they did, and he obliged, but again he missed. On

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CALTECH CIRCUS (Continued)

than any other event on campus, the show also boasts a strong lineup of international circus artists.

This year's program will be:
Tracy Heaston - pre-show calliope concert

Come-in clowns - Tim Hall, Mark Yerkes, Rick Burnes

National Anthem

The Circus on Parade - grand entry led by Caltech's big 25 piece band (Jim Rotter is director).

Miss Astra - sponge plunge

Bruno, the "Gentle Ben" bear presented by Ron Oxley

The Circus Clowns

The Willettys - juggling

Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs walkaround

Aurora (Bambi Burnes)- iron jaw

The Great Mayo (Bill Patterson) illusions

Russ Saunders Trio - teeterb'd

American Jubilee - aerial ballet with Miss Bonnie, Kim, Becky

-- Intermission --

The Cycledelic Cyclists - cycles

Neil, trained lion - Ron Oxley

The Circus Clowns

The Vandeburgts - hanging perch

The Circus Clowns

Ken Willer - one finger stand

Tiki and Kari Jones - elephant

Coronation of Mother Goose-spec

Grand Finale

Chuck Burnes is the announcer and Doug Lyon serves as talent coordinator.

CIRCUS ACTS

Acts currently appearing with the Belle Vue Circus, at Manchester, England, are:-

Michael Freeman - mixed animals

The Four Biarges - jugglers

Leigh Marsh's Poodles

Duo Heleus - perch pole

Jacko Fossett & Co. - comedy

Heinz Weidner - sway pole

Golgojewes - Cossack riders

Big & Little - clown comedy

The Bruksons - high wire

Circus elephants

Diabolo - high wire

The Bertinis - unicycles/bikes

Grand Finale - Entire company

He's Doing Better

After spending 125 days in the hospital this past year, Jim Kalivoda, of Berwyn, Ill., is well on the road to recovery. He hopes to be up and around in time for the 1976 circus season.

Jim suffered an Amebic and ulcerative colitis attack and for a two week period around Labor Day it was nip-and-tuck.

You can send cards to him at: 1509 South Clinton Ave., Berwyn, Illinois - 60402.

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Added Notes

The Spanish Boys Circus recently jumped 600 miles from Sydney (Australia) to Melbourne for an engagement.

Also playing at Melbourne is Perry Bros. Combined Circus, set up at a shopping center.

Circus Royale is playing at Perth, where aerialist Frank Gasser is recovering from a broken hand.

Sole's Circus is playing at the Gold Coast area and drawing good crowds despite heavy rains.

In Memoriam

JAKE MILLS, former operator of the Mills Bros. Circus, died early this month in Miami (Fla.) (No other immediate details were available).

CARL SOLT (81) famous circus aerialist, died at Peru, Ind on Jan. 1st. Solt attended his first circus at the age of six and by the time he was 9 years old he was working professionally with Mystic Morgan. In 1915, he joined the Aldefer Show, then went to Mighty Haag, and worked in Vaudeville. At one time he had three acts with Hagenbeck-Wallace. He also worked for various Shrine and other shows. Survivors include a sister, Mrs. Leo Figel, of Fort Wayne, Ind.

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A WAY OF LIFE (Continued)

the fifth try his execution was perfect and all pandemonium burst forth, with everyone on their feet yelling and many a misty eye.

Later I was informed that this was the first time Greg had fallen in over four weeks. He is very consistent in completing the incredible $3\frac{1}{2}$ somersault.

Dave and Co. will be off the road for a short time while he finishes constructing a new cannon, which will feature the two men in the sensational Friel-Smith Cannon Ball production.

BILLY BARTON (Continued)

FORD phoned in to say that he had his new production built and ready to roll prior to the New Year, but then found there wasn't enough room and had to buy another semi! It's been reported that a show known for its 3 show day schedules is now issuing contracts calling for 4 shows a day. If other producers follow suit acts will have to unionize to protect themselves.

The Garden Brothers, Ian, Dick and Bill, got together with their families in Florida over the holidays. It's an annual event. Pat Anthony will play dates for SAM POLACK. I predict that a major scandal involving some important Shrine dates could break before the year is out.

Yours truly's biog, now being compiled by KATHY GOFORTH, will be called - what else, Mr. Sensation and will dwell on intimate details of his life known only to show biz insiders.

For Nostalgia Buffs: When Richard Bros. Circus expired in the mountains of Tennessee, an enterprising family came upon the scene, exhumed the remains and created Mills Bros. Circus. Later, this equipment was sold to Sid Kellner and became, first James Bros., and finally the Great London Circus, still in operation.

One day we look around to

New Years Party

The four younger members of the Lang Family (Trampolette, acrobats) entertained on New Year's Day by staging a magic show for members of the family and their families. The show, presented at Sheboygan, Wisc., was performed with the aid of Don Hertel, husband of Mary-Jo (Lang) Hertel, a former member of the Lang Troupe.

A collection was taken and donated to Charity, as it has been for the past three years. This year's donation went to the Sheboygan Humane Society.

The children are: Vickie Lang (12); Robbie (8); Susan (6) and David (2). They are the children of Jane and Robert Lang and grandchildren of Florence and Ervin Lang, of Erv's Chimp Act.

Lee Spainn

Pony & Elephant Act

PLEASE CONTACT ME AT ONCE!

Preperably by letter! I need to get in touch with you!

JOHN LEWIS - Lewis Bros. Circus
Box G, Bridgeport, Ala. - 35740

discover those kids, who were ONLY kids, have suddenly become the New Generation, all grown up and recognizable. I don't know about YOU but the shock damn near annihilates me!

See you down the road, luvs.

"Oliver" and "Guessing Games" ...by BILLY BARTON

Chapter TWO unfolds in the Saga of Manhattan Lawyer MICHEAL MILLER's "missing-link", or creature, who is now named "Oliver". Suspense is being accelerated for Oliver's introduction to the



press in a "few weeks". Seems more like a scene out of KING KONG all the time, and one can't help but be reminded of old P.T. Barnum's publicity gimmicks when he unveiled Tom Thumb, Jumbo or Jenny Lind.

Additional data released states that Oliver NEVER walks on all fours and, when he observes humans sitting and conversing he is apt to join in..Only he doesn't talk, he "warbles," which probably makes as much sense as most conversations anyway.

The unidentified animal act from whom Oliver was purchased for \$8000 is stationed somewhere in upper New York State.

Soviet Show

The program presented by the Soviet Circus features:-

Reznikovs - aerial rocket
Bernadskiys - acrobats
Maja Rubtzova - juggler
Polina Chernega - trained dogs
Kostjuks - perch act
Tamara Simonenko - hula hoops
Abakarovs - wire walking
Viktor and Evgenij - trapeze
Bjeljakovs and bears - acrobats
Stepan Denisov - tigers
Galina Rotman - parallel web-rop
Angelina Monastriskaja - illusions
Anatoly Osipov - strong man
Mokovskii & Rotman - clowns
Merdenovs - Cossack riders
Epilogue - finale

PEOPLE

GENEVIEVE LERCHE, former show girl on Downie, Harris Br., Gentry, Robinson, etc., spent the holidays in Texas, then visited friends in Kansas.

VELMA LOWRY has extra copies of the books "Gus, the Great" and "The Fabulous Showman" she'd like to trade. Write her at: 206 North Douglas, Sedan, Kansas - 67361.

That narrows the guessing-game down a bit. Any of you animal people getting warm?