

# CIRCUUS REPORT

AMERICA'S  
FAVORITE CIRCUS WEEKLY

Our 10th Year

Number 16

April 20, 1981



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## MAILBAG

FROM 'CIRCUS JOE' VALENCIANO

1981 got off to a very good start for my family, the Valencianos and I. In the short time of the month of January and a week in February, these performers visited our home:

the Arturos, the Eugene A. Nock family, the John Dubsy family, the Ericksons, Sebastian Adriani, Millie Djaz with her mother, and Oscar Czerwek (formerly of the Antonetts).

My aunt, Inge, was a guest at the Dubsy home for a few days, in time to help celebrate Mama Dubsy's birthday. While there, on Mar. 25th, the Dubsyks had a performance in Sarasota. They had a date with the Int'l All Star Circus, which my aunt had the pleasure of attending. She reports it is a well presented show, with a one ring format. Also good music from a five piece band. Acts were presented by Hines Rucker, Patti Rucker, the John Dubsy family, Bonnie & Clyde Earl, Mike Rice's elephant and others. The Dubsyks plan to stay with this circus for the summer months.

I would like to thank Arturo Trostl, John Dubsy and Sebastian for the memorabilia they so kindly gave me to add to my collection. It is enjoyed very much.

Dimitri, the Swiss mime and clown, will perform in Sarasota, April 18th, during his 5th North American tour. His extra-ordinary one man show will take place at the Van Wezel Performing Arts Hall.

## PEOPLE

FRANK DEAN, popular western entertainer and writer, has been doing autographing parties for his recent book "Cowboy Fun" for the B. Dalton chain of bookstores in the Los Angeles area.

His most recent appearance was at the store in Oxnard (Calif) on Mar. 28th, where he was one of two members of "The Western Writers of America" at the store. The other member, Louis L'Armour, world's best known and best selling western writer was autographing his latest book "Comstock Lode."

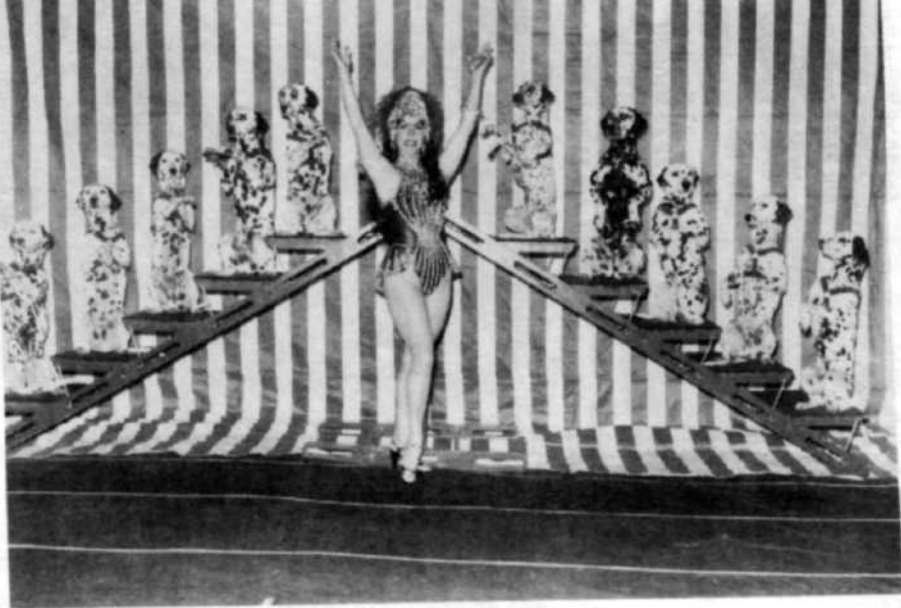
In all five authors were at the party, with each given about an hour for their individual autographing session.

Other writers were: Jack Smith with his book "Jack Smith L.A." (he is well known for his column in the Los Angeles Times); Larry Niven with "The Ringworld Engineers" and Dr. Robert Forward with his "Dragon's Egg" books.

Most of the authors gave a brief talk about their works, but Frank Dean added a bit of rope spinning to his presentation..

## Miscellaneous

Circus Vargas presented four shows at Huntington Park, Calif., on April 5th to accommodate the crowds.



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# Show Dates

Beatty-Cole Bros. Circus  
Apr 20-21 Statesville, NC  
22-23 Dublin, Va.  
24-25 Fishersville  
26-27 Fredericksburg

Carson & Barnes  
Apr 5 Windcrest, Texas  
6 Fredericksburg  
7 Burnet  
8 Brownwood  
9 Stephenville  
10 Jacksboro  
11 Vernon

Hubert Castle Circus  
Apr 20 Chamberlain, SD  
21-22 Yankton  
23-25 Sioux Falls  
26 Watertown  
Apr. 23-26 Indianapolis, Ind

Circus Odyssey  
Apr 20-26 Wilkes-Barre, Pa

Circus Vargas  
Apr 17-23 San Fernando, Ca  
24-27 Oxnard

Great American Circus  
Apr 21 Apopka, Fla.  
22 Crescent City  
23 Palm Crescent  
24 St. Augustine  
25 Mac Clenny  
26 Quitman, Ga.

Hamid-Morton Circus  
Apr 20-26 Morristown, NJ

M & M Int'l Circus  
Apr 21-26 Omaha, Nebr.

Maine Shrine Circus  
Apr 20-22 Portland, Me  
24-26 Bangor

Sam T. Polack Circus  
Apr 24-25 Little Rock, Ark

Ringling-Barnum - Blue  
Apr 14-27 Washington, DC

Ringling-Barnum - Red  
to May 31 New York, NY

Royal Hanneford Circus  
Apr 20-26 Cincinnati, Ohio

Royal Lichtenstein Circus  
Apr 20 Worcester, Mass.  
21 Staten Island, NY  
22 New Haven, Conn.  
23 Bethlehem, Pa.  
24 Philadelphia  
25 Wheaton, Md.  
26 Washington, DC

Syrian Temple Shrine Circus  
Apr 20-26 Cincinnati, Ohio

---- MAGIC ----

Doug Henning  
Apr 24-26 Omaha, Nebr.

Magic Collector's Weekend  
Apr 24-25 Chicago, Ill.

Magic Jeweler  
Apr 24-May 9 London, Eng

Michigan Magic Day  
Apr 25 Battle Creek, Mich

---- OTHER DATES ----

Billy Barton  
Apr 21-26 Omaha, Nebr.

Burr's Fun-O-Rama  
Apr 20-25 Walpole, Mass.

James H. Drew Exposition  
Apr 21-26 Greensboro, NC

Gutis Family  
Apr 20-26 Wilkes-Barre, Pa

Ice Capades  
Apr 21-26 Anaheim, Calif

Pirates of the Sky  
Apr 20-26 Wilkes-Barre, Pa

Larry Rich  
Apr 20 Ironwood, Mich.  
21 Houghton

22-23 Marquett  
24-26 Duluth, Minn.

Trudy's Dalmatians  
Apr 23-26 Indianapolis, Ind

Alberto Zoppe Family  
Apr 24-26 Duluth, Minn.

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**ACTION! The Black Stallion Star**

# Report

## INT'L ALL STAR CIRCUS

BY JIM PARKER

March 25th, found Jim Nordmark's International Circus playing at the Roberts Arena in Sarasota, Fla., to a good house filled with lots of local circus folks. The morning of the show it was discovered that one of the show trucks had been broken into and all lighting and the organ were stolen, so it was hectic around there for a while, but by show time you never knew there had been a major problem.

The line-up includes: Bonnie Earl singing the opening number; Dr. Jano's chimps and dogs; Magic by George Cahill; Clowns Coco, Jr. and Lavey Hipps; Uncaged Leopard, Hines Rucker; Single Trapeze, Miss LaJana; Tight wire, De Mille; Billy Earl and Henrietta, vent act; Intermission.

Stilt walking by Coco Jr. and LaVey Hipps; Cinderella and Her Dove Fantasy; Juggling by DeMille; Christina La Deon Las Vegas Dog Fashion Show; Bonnie & Clyde; Mike and Sally LaTorres, with elephant Stoney.

The show band was comprised of Lee Ketchum, director, Dave Epperly, organist and Chris Bryant, Tom Ryan and Steve Lockwood. Except for the elephant number they play very little circus music. Hines Rucker continues to be one of the outstanding announcers in the business and of course wears many hats in the show, thus keeping him busy all the time.

Magician George Cahill goes right into the big illusions, works fast and leaves a very good impression - strictly professional and an asset to the show. DeMille's tight wire act is superb and his wardrobe is outstanding and is a new addition to the Nordmark production. The Ballerina Dog in Cristina La Deon poodle revue steals the show and her Las Vegas Fashion Show is done very well with lots of flash.

Added for the Sarasota date were clowns Coco, Jr. and Lavey Hipps and elephant trainers Mike and Sally LaTorres.

The single bull act looks exceptional. Has new head piece and ankle bracelets all in white, plus Mike and Sally were wearing new wardrobe. What an asset to any show, clean neat, young and a fast working bull.

The Dubsy family, of course, did many turns and all of their acts were done well. Probably the busiest kinker of them all is the versatile Patti Rucker. From taking tickets at the front door, to working with Magician George Cahill, the uncaged leopard with Hines, spot lights and the whole works, you barely have time to say "hi" to her. No wonder she keeps such a trim figure and always seems to have a radiant personality - talk about being "general-ly useful" she is an all around show gal.

Clown Phil Sadler did not put on the grease paint for this date but does on the "normal" tour.

## HOTLINE

April 4 - Alcoa, Tenn. - A 10 month old Bengal tiger being led around on a leash at a flea market broke loose from its handler and attacked a 5 year old boy, biting and clawing him. The youngster was reported in serious condition.

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## SHRINE DATE

### TIGRIS SHRINE CIRCUS

Here's just a few scheduled events that could have (but did not) eat into the attendance and profits of the 48th edition of the Tigris Shrine Circus, which closed a 3 day, six show engagement at the War Memorial Auditorium in Syracuse, NY, on Sunday, March 29th. Ice Capades, Harlem Globetrotters and the Sugar Ray Leonard fight.

The expertise of publicist, Joan of Art, and the highly touted and widely acclaimed reviews of the Bill Kay Production, however, resulted in two sell out performances, and four near-full houses.

Headliners such as Tino Wallenda Zoppe, and wife Olinka; Jeanette and Albert Rix's Bears; the Albanis Thrill motorcycle act; Harry and Gina Dubsy's leaping leopards thru hoops of flames; and Sir Harry James' outstanding balancing act (on one finger), helped attract families who jammed the turnstiles for two hours of thrills and chills.

Bill and Pat Kay were signed up immediately for the 1982 Shrine Circus and were ac-

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## In Memoriam

DAVID HOY (50) an entertainer in the psychic field, lecturer and columnist, died April 3rd. He started his career as a minister then switched to psychic magic and expanded into the legitimate field on extra sensory developments. It was said that he was overweight and died of a heart attack.

LEE TAI KING (84) a San Francisco entertainer for many years, died March 23rd. He featured the Oriental trick of using a reed scoop to magically make popcorn appear from kernels. His magic frequently featured a climb up a ladder of sharp swords and concluded with him jumping from a chair into a mess of broken glass, all while barefooted.

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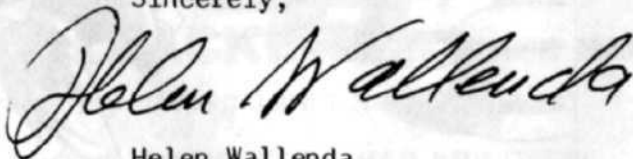
To Whom It May Concern:

Please be advised that I, Helen (Mrs. Karl) Wallenda do hereby give consent to my Grandson, Enrico Bogino a/k/a (Wallenda) to use the name "THE GREAT WALLENDAS" in connection with any troupe High Wire act that he is in control of.

This consent is for Enrico Bogino only and I reserve the right to rescind or alter this consent at any time in the future.

If any questions should arise concerning this matter, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Helen Wallenda". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned below the typed name.

Helen Wallenda

# PEOPLE

**ANGELA WILNOW** and her Braves played at the International Cavalcade of Stars at Dadeland Mall in Miami, Fla., March 26-28, Booked and produced by **BOB SNOWDEN** of Sarasota, Fla.

**PAUL BUTLER**, of Canada, reports he just recently visited the Hubert Castle Circus and Royal Hanneford Circus.

**ANNETA "Jingles" MOERBE**, the Dallas Clown, was a bunny on the National Easter Seals Telethon on March 29th.

**BOB H. GOLDEN**, will again take to the air with his aerial acts and productions. "My partner has retired but I'm just too young at heart to stop." He will be working some spot dates for the Donnie Johnson Circus, as well as other dates.

**JOE McMAHON** will be with the Clyde Beatty-Cole Bros. Circus this season, working with **JOHN PUGH** and **TIM STINSON**.

**GUS** and **BETTY BELL** recently spent some time resting at home (gardening, mowing and housekeeping). While at home they had a call

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from **CORKY PLUNKETT** who said they had read in CR that they were working in Fort Worth.

**MOORE'S MONGREL REVUE** (Bob and Jeanne Moore) will work the Sports Show in Albuquerque, NM, April 24-26.

**BILL PATTERSON** who writes "The Pet Parade" column recently won first prize as "the best syndicated pet column", an award from the Dog Writers' Assoc. of America.

**CHERYL "Cookie" ROGERS** and **JAMES JIM BOW DECKER** will be Easter Bunny and clown featured in the Easter Breakfast sponsored by Lord and Taylor at North Park in Dallas on April 4th.



DRAWN BY N.B. FULLER

"Scat!"

# Report

## CIRCUS NOTES

BY JOHN W. BEARD

Just caught Carson & Barnes at Pleasanton, Texas (Mar. 31) where the show was set up in a cone of trees, wild flowers and ankle deep clover. It was a scene to behold and the smell of the flowers and clover was everywhere.

The show has two flying acts and a cat act. Tent and wagons are flashy, and the menagerie features the baby giraffe (Okla City) and a white rhino which is displayed in a pen platform from a truck.

## BOOKSHELF

"Elephants: The Vanishing Giants" by Dan Freeman has been published by Putnam and sells for \$20.00. It is a comprehensive, well-illustrated account of the relationship between elephants and men and the threatened environment in which the elephants live - a visual treat for elephant lovers.

"Will Rogers Weekly Articles" Vol. 2, published by the Oklahoma State University Press and sells for \$19.95. The volume contains the weekly newspaper articles that Rogers wrote during 1925-1927. It includes an account of his visit to the Miller Bros. famous 101 Ranch near Ponca City.

# Report

## FRANZEN BROS. CIRCUS

BY BUDDY CALHOUN

Franzen Bros. Circus opened its 1981 season on March 19th at Mt. Vernon, Ala. The opening date was played to good business and was followed by stands at Satsuma, Robertsdale and Gulf Shores, all in Alabama.

Owner Wayne Franzen was looking forward to a two-day stand at Milton, Fla., on March 23-24, where he hoped to set up his brand new big top. The new top, an 80 ft. round end with a 40 ft middle, is in yellow and blue stripes, which should give the show added flash on the grounds.

Still presenting an outstanding show, Franzen's performance is built around its strong animal turns - in this reporter's opinion the best animal acts on any small circus. Jose Ayala and Senor Ochoa are new to the show this year and their four acts - chair stacking/balance, rola bola and juggling, foot juggling - add a change of pace to the performance.

Returning for another season with Franzen are Dennis Michael as "Freddie the clown" and Tina Grieser with her web and trapeze numbers.

Lynn Michael, organist/announcer, was to join in Milton and will add her special touch to the performance, giving it pace and continuity that makes this show particularly entertaining.

Greeting patrons and working novelties this year is Marion Serns as "Sam", winner of last year's Clowns of America make-up and costume championship.

Wayne said that things were looking good for the 1981 season, with the complete season booked through October. A brief swing through Florida and several dates in Georgia will precede the show's northward trek. Summer will find the show back in familiar territory around its original home base in Wisconsin.

# REPORT

## CARSON & BARNES CIRCUS

BY HARRY E. KINGSTON

Tex Dreyfus and Harry Kingston joined the Carson & Barnes Circus for their annual spring visit and a good time was had by all. The season for the show started out with two full houses at Paris, Texas.

At Banham the lot was so soft that D. R. Miller used his new innovation in circus history by erecting his cable big top (A cable frame with no canvas) and that was said to be the worst day out thus far in the season, as far as business was concerned. The red letter day came at Longview where 3 shows were given, yes three shows, and all of them with capacity crowds. This date was said to have broken all previous records for the show there.

At Nacogdoches business was excellent but a Texas front came up through the area and at night a blowdown almost occurred. D. R. Miller ordered the show cut so the big top could be lowered, as the quarter poles were beginning to swing in the air.

The next day at Cleveland the wind was

still high and blew the vinal big top around.

Bubba Voss and wife Enola visited and cut up many jackpots with D. R., Isla, Barbara and Geary Byrd.

At Navasota the lot was very dirty and dusty and for a small town business was excellent. Next on the route was the famous La Grange, famous for its chicken ranch (Texas house of ill repute). The top was set up on a beautiful grassy fairgrounds. Snooker Swain visited the show, she is the wife of the late Kennedy Swain, who served as the Carson & Barnes announcer for several years.

Any fan visiting the show be sure to look up Shirley Linderman (Fred Logan's ex-wife) she was once on Dailey Bros., Kelly-Miller and several other shows. Ted Bowman, the manager, can be seen all over the lot. Fans with extra route cards be sure to look up Ted.

D. R. Miller, the world's greatest circus fan, has many surprises for the fans this year. The 8 pole big top is fantastic, the only vinal one in America. They have a baby giraffe, then a large rhino is displayed in a new truck designed by D. R. Miller.

The show program is very strong with more acts due to come on. Three flying acts are planned and the old west spec is fantastic.

The program included: Cradle, Francisco Oriana, Lucy Chara; Cats, Patricia White; rola bola, unicycle, wire, Oriana, Caballero, Castillo; Riding lion, Patricia White; Peanut pitch with David Rawls; Spec "Old West" all cast; Dressage, Laura Walker; Hair hang, web, ladders, Rosario; Clown Magic; Teeterboard, Caballero; Single Elephant; Book Pitch; Contortion, hand balancing, Maria, Fernando, Rosario, Caballero, Odelido; Liberty act, John, Lucy, Laura; Clowns; Single traps, Roman rings, Diane, Irene, Oriana, Lucy, Chara; the Sponsor's Thank You; Juggling, Charlie, Julio, Fernando, Irene, Ruben, Chara; Coke pitch; Big elephants under the direction of Johnny Walker; Clowns; Flying acts, Luna, Bautistia.

Last not but least is William Reynolds the band director, playing circus music and not Broadway show music. It is the best circus band around, indoor or outdoor, and many of the old musicians you will recognize.

All in all, the show is moving like a well oiled piece of machinery, even though help comes and goes.

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## In Memoriam

**JIM "Bullet" BAILEY (31)**, a stuntman, died April 1st when he fell 150 from an airplane on the island of Maui in Hawaii. He was filming a stunt for TV when a safety hook pulled loose from the bottom of the airplane, dropping him into a sugar cane field.

**F. A. "Babe" BOUDINOT (85)** died in Chicago on March 18th. He was General Agent and Traffic Manager of Ringling-Barnum for many years, retiring from the show in 1955. He had served for some 42 years in various advance outdoor advertising positions with the circus, starting on Ringling Bros. before their combine with Barnum & Bailey. He was famed for his Opposition Brigades. In recent years he was an executive with General Outdoor Advertising in Chicago and was also affiliated with Chicago's legitimate theatres. He is survived by his wife, Jo, who lives in Chicago.

**JOE (Odie Dodie) COLBY (65)** died in the Los Angeles, Calif., area on March 28th. He was a pitchman and worked with a number of circuses. He was born Dec. 11, 1905 in Ottumwa, Iowa.

**HERBERT SPENCER STINE (46)** died Mar. 23rd in Baltimore, Md. He was a long-time independent food and drink concessionaire, working in the D.C., Maryland and Virginia area. He is survived by his father Spencer A. Stine, a sister, Betty, his wife, Charlene, two sons, William and Herbert, Jr. and a daughter Margaret Anne Stine.

**EDITH WILSON (76)** the famous "Aunt Jemima" on the oatmeal box, died March 30, after having suffered a stroke several weeks ago. She gained national fame as the face on the Quaker Oats Co. advertisements. She also played "Aunt Jemima" on TV and radio from 1948 to 1966.

## PEOPLE

Clowns currently on tour with the American Continental Circus are:

Johnny Peers, Doug Ashton, Tom Piccard, Weary Willie, and Dan Mason. The show's advance clown is Debbie the Clown.

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## FAMILY FARE

### CFA CONVENTION

The Circus Fans Association of America will hold its annual convention June 21-24 at the Radisson Scottsdale Resort and Racquet Club in Scottsdale, Ariz.

Activities will begin on Sunday afternoon with registration at the Club, to the accompaniment of music from the air calliope of CFA'r Dr. Boyden Crouch of Phoenix, the instrument playing outside the building. Church services that evening will be conducted by another member, the Rev. Robert Dagwell, of McGehee, Ark.

In addition to business sessions and seminars the week's activities will include watching the setup and a performance of the Big John Strong Circus, whose owner, John A. Strong, will be guest speaker at the Wednesday evening banquet. Author David Hammarstrom is also scheduled to speak to the group.

In seminars, Chang Reynolds will discuss fa-

mous western circuses and other circus topics will be covered by members who have made special in-depth research in these areas.

Special activities include a tour of Rawhide, western-style town, from which members will travel in horse-drawn wagons to a desert cook-out, and a visit to Big Surf, "The Ocean in the Desert" for junior members.

New officers will be elected at a Wednesday morning business session and a new President will be installed to succeed the incumbent Fred R. Reed of Glendale, Ariz. The site for the 1982 convention will be selected at that session.

J. Allen Duffield, P. O. Box 69, Camp Hill, Pa. 17011, is Secretary-Treasurer (and Past President) of the CFA.

## PEOPLE

LLOYD E. JONES, Book Worm columnist, will be the guest of honor at the Collector's Association Annual Meeting in Chicago, Apr. 24-25. He will speak on problems of the Magic Collector and will comment on his noted Library, one of Magic's best and now controlled by Byron and Barbi Walker.

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## BY LLOYD E. JONES

Quite a difference in two new books telling one how to make money in magic. One is "Money in Mall Magic" by Walt Hudson and gives you the low down on where, how and whom to contact. Addresses for information, performing advice and samples of publicity used by successful mall performers. The shopping mall is a fairly recent development and worthy of investigation. The book is a low \$5.00, about 20 pages in full size and in a stapled cover (postal minimum is 63c).

The other book is the "Cruise Ship Entertainer" by Jene Carroll and sells for \$35.00. Yes, that is right, \$35.00 but since the book will have a limited appeal and no doubt a meager sale it could be worth it to the aspiring sea entertainer. The book is about 50 full size pages, soft bound with plastic comb binding and contains several pages of cruise ships listings and where they go and names and addresses. Mr. Carroll tells much about what one should know before tackling the field. Salary? Animals? Dress? Do you do other chores such as run the bingo game, and what not? If you've considered giving a cruise ship

# SPECIAL

## SOMETHING SPECIAL

When the Will Rogers Bank in Oklahoma had to inconvenience its customers during a bank remodeling, they were greeted by a sign as they entered the drive-in area, which read: "Pardeon this mess! People don't mind spending their money if they know it isn't going for Taxes" - a quote from Rogers.

As customers left the bank they could read another Rogers quote: "Happiness and contentment is progress. In fact that's all progress is."

## Miscellaneous

American Heritage magazine for April/May has a 2 page picture of Hagenbeck-Wallace in 1912, a picture of Ringling clowns, elephants, plus a picture of a camel pulling a lawn mower in Central Park.

a try this will be worth the price. Otherwise, it's a little too expensive just to put on your magic book shelf.

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# REPORT

## CASTLE CAPTURES SEATTLE

BY BETTY BARTHOLOMEW

The Hubert Castle Circus played to rather sparse audiences during its Seattle engagement for the Nile Temple Shrine. This was mainly due to the lack of advertisement. Although plenty were available, few placards had been posted and only a small advertisement appeared in local papers a few days prior to the opening, along with a few radio spots.

But, on to the show. We viewed the Saturday matinee and although the house was only half full, the performers gave it their all. No programs were available so it is difficult to give the artists credit by name.

Gary Thomas was spotlighted in center ring in the cage, but instead of his usual big cats, the cage was filled with showgirls in fluorescent orange (brief) tiger outfits. It was a different and audience appealing start to what proved to be a fast-paced, entertaining 2½ hour show.

Although many of the circus fans were expecting to see Tarzan Zerbini working the cats, they found Gary Thomas a more than adequate performer in his own right. Although his act was not especially elaborate, his handling of the felines was masterful and assured.

We could see all three rings of aerial artists but were seated directly below and in front of the Sheri-Brown Duo (Braun and Sharon Reinhold). Their artistry was flawless and epitomized beauty and grace in slow motion.

Most of the performers did more than one turn. Perhaps the most versatile were the Olimedas who had a fast-paced juggling act, bicycle stunt and an outstanding Andalusian Horse Dressage act. In the latter they were dazzlingly costumed. Denise was not only beautiful in her lovely traditional Spanish gown, complete with mantilla and fan, but her control of her horse without once touching the reins was almost unbelievable.

One of the most well received acts was the Pietro Canestrelli family and their teeterboard antics. They displayed a great deal of comedy along with their amazing skill. The troupe's costuming as musketeers fit well with their act.

The Zerbinis were evident in several acts. Sylvia did a turn with camels and llamas that

(Continued on Page 28)

# In Memoriam



AL ROSS (73), circus clown, died at Columbus, Ohio, on April 2nd. He had recently underwent surgery and later suffered a stroke.

Ross' real name was Alphonse E. Helwig and he was born in Cincinnati. His skill at diving and tumbling led to an opportunity to join an acrobatic troupe in early 1930. He took the professional name of Ross when he became a member of the Ross Acrobatic Troupe.

He appeared with the Tom Mix Circus, Hubler Int'l, Emmett Kelly, Jr., and other shows and in recent years worked advance for various shrine circuses. His last work was ahead of the Hubert Castle Circus at Columbus and he was to have appeared in their performances.

In addition to circuses he worked fairs and in night clubs. During World War II he was with the Army working as a cook and as a performer with a Special Services unit in the South Pacific. Following the war he returned to his show business career.

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## THE CASTLE SHOW (Continued)

was not only pleasing, but one seldom seen on most circuses. The Zerbini's also performed with the horses, elephants, as well as on trapeze and web.

Eva, Joe and Dennis Horwatts presented the chimp act. A former acquaintance from the Vargas show, Mohamed Rahhali (Albulet Bros.) was one of the excellent clowns. Tracy Ballantine did part of his clowning on the stilts.

The Rodriguez (Diane, Angelina, Kathleen) presented a triple hairhang from a triangular bar and also performed on the rolling globes. They experienced some difficulty getting the globes up the ramp (one young woman slipped and twisted her ankle) but the audience was with them all the way. The Rodriguez/Vasquez Flyers did not appear due to rigging problems.

Les Blot (which we had seen previously on American Continental) held the audience spell bound with their three-man high walk across the wire.

The act that had the audience almost doubled over with laughter was the dog act presented by Marie France. Looking like well-groomed, walking mops, the amazing little canines (whose breed name escapes me) seemed to enjoy themselves almost as much as the audience.

The band was spirited if sometimes loud. Either the acoustics were poor or ringmaster Jon Friday's voice failed to carry well over the mike but it was difficult to understand when he announced the various acts.

Climaxing the entertaining afternoon was Captain Circus, the Human Cannonball, featuring Braun Reinhold.

Though the audience it captured was small, the Hubert Castle Circus kept them entranced and left them wishing for more.

As a way of saying "thank you" to all the cast and crew of the Hubert Castle Circus, Jack Bell Tent No. 90, CFA (Seattle, Wash) hosted a home-made cookies and lemonade party between shows during the Sunday engagement. When the lights dimmed on the matinee performance it was like a rush at a January White Sale as performers, roustabouts and musicians all made a dash for the heavily laden table, then proceeded to politely line up. After taking their choice of cookies they moved along to sign the guest book. Although several children lingered, fascinated

# Report

## THE PRESTON SHOW

BY JIM RIDENOUR

On Thursday, March 26th, I presented my Happy the Magic Clown assembly program at the Surgoinsville, Tenn., elementary school.

While setting up the school secretary mentioned that a magic show was working the High School and so I drove over and was surprised to see Preston the Magician who is a past president of the International Brotherhood of Magicians.

We had a long talk and he told me he does magic one year and hypnotism the next. He has worked these same schools for over 20 years. He presented his most entertaining hypnotism show to over a thousand students with a one dollar admission.

He does a fine job and, believe it or not, the students ate it up. Preston told me the hyp act is hard to book these days, but he has a string of loyal school administrators who schedule him annually.

## Miscellaneous

The Big John Strong Circus played Lancaster, Calif., for Doc Boyd on March 27-28.

Great All American Youth Circus trainers Chuck Crow, Susie Medley, Tony Medley, Roger Biddick and wardrobe director Maggie Slater attended the Al Malaikah Temple's Shrine Circus, presented by the American Continental Circus on March 28th.

by the dancing clown music box that was the table centerpiece.

Approximately 16 dozen cookies were quickly dispensed with and the president was hastily sent to a nearby store to purchase more. Many circus people stood about chatting with fans, while others left for a quick rest between shows, but wandered back before the evening performance to again express their appreciation.

Members of the Jack Bell Tent were pleased to be able to share a few moments of fellowship with these fine people who work so hard to bring wholesome entertainment to the public (artists, staff and crew) and are looking forward to hosting other circuses that play in the Seattle area.

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# MARRIAGE

## THEY'RE MARRIED

Johnny Peers married Jackeline Guyton in London, England, on March 12, 1981. The couple met on the Tihany Show in Buenos Aires, where Johnny was clowning and Jackeline was a show girl. Johnny is currently with the American Continental Circus.

## *Notice*

### CORRECTION

On Page 12, of the March 30th issue of Circus Report it said, "Bob and Lou Stoddard had a theatre party for the combined Ice Follies and Holiday on Ice personnel . . ."

It should have read: Bob and Lou Stoddard had a theatre party (that included nine guests) for a performance of the combined Ice Follies and Holiday on Ice show at Reunion Arena in Dallas in March.