



America's Favorite Circus Weekly

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New Show To Debut Next Month

Sometime next month, after school has recessed for the summer, a brand new show -- Franzen Bros. Circus -- will start its initial tour, playing the small towns of Wisconsin. The circus was conceived by Wayne Franzen, who talked his family into joining him in putting the show on the road.

Their big top is a 60 x 120 ft. tent that formerly was used by Voorheis Bros. Circus. The seating, for some 1,200 people, came from another show, and in all some 15 people will be traveling with the circus -- all of them new to circus life.

A BIG DATE

The biggest date ever recorded at the Baltimore Civic Center, is the way the Center's executive director Harold Jennifer, Jr. describes the March 12-25 date of Ringling-Barnum in his city. He said that both the attendance and gross receipts set new highs.

For the 27 performances a total of 201,266 people paid \$757,529 to see the circus. In 1973, a previous high, the circus had 199,825 spectators who paid out a total of \$735,182 in admissions.

Wayne plans to present a variety of animal acts, and is also going to do juggling as his part of the show program. His wife, Kathleen, has a trained goat act; his brother Neil, will be a clown, plate spinner and elephant trainer; his sister-in-law, Sue, will be the featured aerialist; his mother will be in charge of concessions, and a friend, Richard Dockter, is the show's booking agent. The rest of the circus personnel will be local folks who want to help the show get established.

The circus has a side show
(Continued on Page 11)

SHOW Program

The nation's oldest youth show - The Great Y Circus - celebrated its 36th annual production this month. The four advertised performances (May 10-11 and 17-18) were complete sell-outs, with tickets priced at \$1.75 for students and \$2.25 for adults.

The 1974 program included:

The Grand Spec
Aerial cradla
Free Exercise and Tumbling
Table Rock
The Triple Trapeze
Unicycles
Aerial Anchors
Clowns - the magician
Aerial webs
Tight wire
Sponge Plunge
-- Intermission --
Trampoline
Hanging perch and trapeze
The Unevens
Timber Tumblers
Single Trapeze
Rolling Globes
Teeterboard
Clowns - the boxing match
Juggling
Revolving trapeze
Low Casting

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people

JORGE BARADA worked the cat act on Clyde Bros. while his father was recuperating from an attack by a lion.

DOROTHY HERBERT plans to open a Riding and Boarding Facility at Thousand Oaks, Calif., when the current season is over.

HAL HAVILAND is seeking financial assistance in his fight against the government over animal regulations.

JOHNNY CARSON worked with a fire eater (Jan Monroe) on his May 7th TV Show.

PAT ANTHONY is currently working his cat act on the Polack Bros. Circus.

JACK JOYCE handles the camel ride at Ringling's Circus Park in Florida.

JERRY BOOKER visited with JOHN STRONG when John's show was playing Hollister, Calif.

Still There

"Chappie Fox is still very much a part of Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey Circus World," writes Jerry Digney, director of publicity for the Florida facility.

Mr. Fox continues to "contribute his invaluable knowledge as a historian to the development of our project."

The S & G



For the 1974 season Sells & Gray Circus is planning to stay pretty much in the East, moving on 12 show-owned trucks, plus a fuel tanker. Last year's big top (white with white and blue side wall) is in good shape. It is an 80 ft. round end top with three 40 ft. center pieces.

The performance itself runs about 1½ hours and has no Spec. Music is provided by a three piece band -- Dick Stuart, organist and announcer with Ray Escorsia on trumpet and Giles Austin playing drums.

P.S.

We went over to Independence (Kans.) to see Dailey Bros once again (May 5). I don't think any show we've seen has been so nice to us as these show folks are. They were happy having us there and just couldn't do enough to make us comfortable and at home.

They have their new big top now, but the new elephant hadn't arrived, and they need it to help get the tent up, so they were forced to use the old one here.

The combination side show and menagerie has several animal cages, etc. They are: snakes, a hippo, llama, ponies, chimp, monkeys, goat and an elephant.

The Independence date was sponsored by the Rural Fire Dept and they sold over 3,000 tickets to the circus. The tent was jammed for each performance.

..... Velma Lowry

The side show is operated by Sondra and Hank Thompson, who have Mike Wudtke doing impalement, Ricardo, sword swallower, and Thompson with Punch & Judy. The tent is a 60 ft. top with two 30 ft. centers.

Featured in the big show are:
 Williams - Eskimo dogs and Chow
 Liz Camps - tight wire
 Mark Karoly - trampoline
 Miss Wilma, Tine and Isabella -
 aerial routines
 The Hernandez Troupe - perch
 Lisa Ferreira - bicycle/juggling
 Evy and Mark Karoly - dressage
 Dana Novotny - single trapeze
 The Camps Family - unicycles
 Inga Rachel, Great Michael and
 Marie Christine - juggling
 Miss Elizabeth and Ilona - web
 Zilvas Trio - rola bola
 Rigalitto & Co. - musical comedy
 Bob Edwards - trained dogs
 Hernandez Troupe - teeterboard
 The Circus elephants

..... Robert Kamps





Pictured above is the famous clown Felix Adler, ready for one of his novelty walkaround numbers. He spent most of his years as a clown on the Ringling-Barnum Circus and received a considerable amount of publicity as one of their outstanding clowns.

The other clown picture was taken on Cole Bros. Circus in the early 1940's. The name of the top clown is not known, in the center is Otto Greibling and the bottom clown is Horace Laird.

HOXIE BROS. 3-RING CIRCUS

This year's Hoxie Bros. Circus is again featuring the show's blue and white round top, with three rings grouped around the single center pole. Some 3,000 people can be accommodated in the all new seats, which are 14 rows high.

The program is different this year, for Prince Bogino is no longer here to work the cats and the Mexican acts of 1973 are not on the show. Absent for a time will be Louis Murillo, who was injured when his high wire snapped while he was working with the motorcycle.

The big show program is a good moving performance with:

- Fornassie and Cristianis - trampoline acts
- McGuire Sisters and Linda Chandler - aerial numbers
- Bert Pettus - elephant school
- Alfredo Madros - trained dogs
- Anita Fornasari, Bennie and Henry - foot jugglers
- Phil Chandler - trunk escape
- The Madros - head balancing
- Bert Pettus - liberty ponies
- Linda Chandler and the McGuire Sisters - swinging ladders
- Gilde's uncaged leopards
- Fornasari Family - musical comed
- McGuire Sisters - bird fantasy
- The Riding Cristianis
- The Madro Bros. - balancing
- Bert Pettus - circus elephants

Concession Supt. Johnny Walker is also handling the big top, and King Charles directs a five piece band.

Admission prices at the door are: \$2.50 for adults and \$1.50 for children, with buyers saving 50% on tickets purchased prior to show time.

THE CLOWNS

At the conclusion of the Maine Shrine Dates, clown Frank (Ho Po) Hannon, headed out for the Pan American Circus at West Orange, N.J. on May 9-11.

For the Maine dates Ho-Po was producing clown and presented his numbers: Jack in the Box, the Human Cannonball and the Sharp Shooter.

Clown alley included: Ho-Po, Mike Monroe, Uncle Jake, Flippo and Wein of the Wainwright family.



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ROUTES

Allen's Pet Zoo
May 24-27 Anaheim, Cal.

Beatty-Cole Circus
to May 27 Philadelphia, Pa

Carson & Barnes Circus
May 20 Cozad, Nebr.
21 Broken Bow
22 Ord
23 Central City
24 York
25 Belleville, Kans

Hubert Castle Circus
May 21-25 Calgary, Alberta

Circus Vargas
May 20-21 Boise, Idaho
22 Logan, Utah
23 Ogden
24-26 Salt Lake City

Clyde Bros. Circus
May 20-21 Brantford, Ont.

Dailey Bros. Circus
May 27 Marysville, Nebr.

Gatti-Charles Circus
May 21 Roseburg, Oregon
22 Coos Bay
23 Grants Pass
24 Eureka
25 Ukiah
26 Napa

George-Matthews Circus
May 20 Pocatello, Idaho
21 Idaho Falls
22 Enroute
23 Butte, Montana
24 Helena
25 Missoula

Hamid-Morton Circus
May 23-26 Rockland Co., N.Y.

Hanneford Circus
May 27 Guelph, Ont.

Ringling-Barnum - Blue Unit
to May 27 New York, N.Y.

Ringling-Barnum - Red Unit
to May 27 Boston, Mass.

Roberts Bros. Circus
May 20 Terra Alta, W. Va
21 Mesontown
22 Greensboro, Pa.
23 Smock
24 Farmington
25 Smithfield

Rudy Bros. Circus
to May 25 Boston, Mass.

Tommy Scott Show
May 20 Hartford City, Ind
21 Portage Ill.
22 Goshin
23 Albion, Mich.
24 Enroute
25 Port Huron

Selle & Gray Circus
May 20 Marysville, Ohio
21 Wapakoneta
22 Upper Sandusky
23 Mt. Gilead
24 Tiffin
25 Port Clinton
26 Sandusky
27 Ashland

John Strong's 1869 Circus
May 20-21 Enroute
22 Prescott, Ariz
23 Flagstaff
24 Gallup, N.M.
25-26 Albuquerque
27 Santa Rosa

John Strong's Indoor Circus
May 20 Decatur, Ill.
21 Springfield
22 Macomb
23 Galesburg
24 Battendorf, Iowa
25 Cedar Rapids
26 Dubuque
27 Iowa City

Royal Winnipeg Ballet
May 16 Bogote, Col.
20 Panama City, Pa
22 San Jose, C. R.
23-25 Managua, Nic.
24-Jun 4 Mexico City

.... LATE DATES

The following dates were received after going to press last week:

Barnes & Daily Circus
May 18 Hillsboro, Ill
19 Greenfield

Benefit Circus
May 13-14 Yuba City, Cal.
15-17 Monterey

Circus Saints & Sinners Co
May 16-19 Virginia Bch, Va

Clyde Bros. Circus
May 17-19 Muskegon, Mich

Fisher Bros. Circus
May 11 Idabel, Okla

Garden Bros. Circus
May 19 Paris, Ont.

Hanneford Circus
May 19 Port Huron, Mich

Emmett Kelly, Jr. Circus
May 4-5 Erie, Pa
12-17 Claremont, Cal

Royal Ranch Wild West
May 18 Clinton, NJ

Shrine Circus
May 4-11 Winnipeg, Man.
16-19 Buffalo, N.Y.

Tripoli Shrine Circus
May 9-12 Green Bay, Wisc

Wallace & Rogers Circus
May 9-10 Cloverdale, BC



24 Helena
25 Missoula

Hamid-Morton Circus
May 23-26 Rockland Co., N.Y.

Hanneford Circus
May 27 Guelph, Ont.

Hoxie Bros. Circus
May 20 Saline, Mich.
21 Birmingham
22 Port Huron
23 St. Clair Shores
24 Berkley
25 Fowlerville
26 East Lansing
27 Marshall

Kaye Cont'l Circus
May 24-26 Jackson, Miss.

Emmett Kelly, Jr. Circus
May 25 Berkeley, Calif.

Lewis Bros. Circus
May 20 West Unity, Ohio
21 Butler, Ind.
22 Bronson, Mich.
23 Decatur
24 White Pigeon
25 Jonesville
26 Enroute
27 Dimondale

Poleck Bros. Circus
May 25 Fairfield, Calif.
27 Vallejo

27 Springdale
22 Macomb
23 Galesburg
24 Battendorf, Iowa
25 Cedar Rapids
26 Dubuque
27 Iowa City

..... OTHER ROUTES

Century 21 Shows - Red Unit
May 20-21 Joliet, Ill.

Century 21 Shows - Blue Unit
May 22-June 1 Chgo Hghts.
Ill

Disney on Parade Show
May 21-26 Vancouver, BC

James H. Drew Shows
May 20-25 Charleston, W. Va

Frazier World Fair Shows
May 22-26 El Paso, Texas

Holiday on Ice
to June 2 Mexico City, Mex

Peter Pan Show
May 21-27 Denver, Colo.

Rose City Rides
May 20-25 Desloge, Mo.
26 St. Charles

Spokane - Worlds Fair Shows
May 23 & 25 Seattle Opera
Spokane Temp.
24 Astoria, Columbia

Wallace & Rogers Circus
May 9-10 Cloverdale, BC



PLEASE keep news and show routes flowing in so this page can be filled with circus dates. We can do it with your help.

Trainers Meet

Several circus animal men, plus interested parties, attended a meeting in Nashville, Tenn. last month to discuss current animal regulations. The meeting was the first one held by the National Congress of Animal Trainers, which was organized by Roger Smith and Tom Wilds (see Circus Report of May 6).

Circus trainers attending the meeting included: Murray Hill, Eric Wilnow, Jerry Lipko, Al Antonucci, Andre Brunels, N. Zamperla. Also present were: Bill Boren, ringmaster; Koko Saeth, clown and Johnny Luxem, sky wheel act.

A WINDY PLACE

A cold wind greeted Circus Vargas upon its arrival at Concord, Calif. (May 9-10), where the circus presented its first performances of the year in the Greater San Francisco area. The audiences came out, but were huddled together, some even with blankets, in an effort to ward off the disturbing wind.

The circus made an overnight jump from Capitola, but sent its tent on ahead for a date in Tacoma. The open arena was set-up on a vacant lot by the local airport, where the wind hindered many of the acts -- serial numbers and jugglers.



by
MICHAEL
SPORRER

The 29th annual Shrine Circus here in Tacoma, Wash., (May 3-5) brought Polack Bros. Circus to the University of Puget Sound Field House, sponsored by the Aife Shrine Temple. The show drew well and received good reception. Don Nothdorft does a fine job of announcing, while the music was excellent.

The program as presented here featured:

The Shrine Clowns, followed by the Polack Bros. Clowns
 Jacki Althoff's bears (5)
 The Bertini Duo - hanging per.
 The Grimaldis - musical comedy
 Pompon and the baby elephant
 Don Nothdorft - trunk escape
 Miss Rose Marie - tight wire
 Mickey Antalek's chimps (2)
 Cerillo Bros. - high wire
 -- Intermission --
 Miss Antionette - foot juggle
 Miss Lone - trained dogs
 Polack Bros. Clowns
 Miss Francesca - single trap.
 Miss Segura - balance trapeze
 Althoff's pony riding chimps
 Tom and Pompon Donoho - the
 Polack Bros. elephants (3)
 The Flying Gibsons

Harry Thomas' tiger act is the third number on the program, and otherwise the running order is pretty much the same as was reported earlier this season.



Pictured above is a standard publicity photo of an elephant which was used by many circuses over the years.

The clown shown to the left is Charles Rainier, who appeared with many circuses in his years of trouping. This picture was taken on the Russell Bros. Circus. Charlie was known as "Squeeze Box" to most of his friends.

CLYDE BROS. SCORES BIG AT ATLANTA STAND

Sponsored by the Yeerab Shrine Temple, the Clyde Bros. Circus played to capacity business at every performance during its 10 day stand (April 19-28) at Atlanta, Ga. On three evenings the Shrine band, consisting of some 90 plus members, gave an hour's concert before the circus performance.

For the matinee performances music was provided by Mrs. Virginia Lee Fenton, the circus organist and Bill Frye, a Shrine Club drummer. In the evenings the band was augmented with three trumpets, two saxophones and two trombones.

The program here featured:

Opening Overture - "Welcome to The Circus"

"The Circus on Parade"



CONTROL—After finger stand, Princess Omar plays mandolin while swiveling manually on her head.

Jose Barrada

Jungle acts

Myosky Amoto

hair hang -

serial bal.

Clown Number

The Enricos

acrobats &

The Aurelios

in risley

Rudy Docky's

basketball

dog number

Princess Omar

- a one

finger stand

Circus camel

The Clowns

Bowada Bros.

chimp act

notes

Wallace & Rogers Circus is playing Canadian dates on its way to Alaska. They plan to be in the Far North for about two months, then will play Canadian dates on the way back home.

The Suarez Troupe - riding act
Miss Tina - sway pole
The Grand Finale

(Acts not appearing during the Atlanta date included: Arley's bears, The Flying Lopez and Joselito, high wire act).

After the show one evening (April 23) this writer and Howard Suarez visited the "Big Horn" in underground Atlanta to enjoy a Dixieland Jazz Band. Mr. Suarez had his own Jazz band in college and then spent two years on the road with his own band. He says he'd seen Dixieland bands with one or two great musicians, but never saw six great players in a single band, as are featured by Sammy Duncan at the "Big Horn."

--- Intermission ---

The Peters - perch pole and

The Galambos - rolling globes

The Clowns

Clyde Bros. circus elephants(3)

Pete & Petrova and The Franko-

vos - aerial features

..... Paul E. Fitzpatrick

Feature Act

Circus star Karl Wellenda will walk a high wire across the Milwaukee County Stadium (Milwaukee, Wisc) prior to the Cleveland-Milwaukee game on Jul. 4.



Game officials report the day has been titled "Circus Family Day". Several other circus acts will also perform at the 1 p.m. show time.

PEOPLE

DEAN WEISS (Dino, the Magic Clown) is a vice president of the State Bank of Lake Zurich in Illinois.

JOHNNY LUXEM will have his Wheel of Death on the Atterbury Circus dates at Detroit and Flint, Michigan.

TEX DREYFUS, of Houston, reports he was a guest on the Carson & Barnes Circus during his vacation and not an employee as was reported earlier.

FRED PETRI directed the band on the Shrine dates in Maine this year.

BOBBY GIBBS reports that four of his big dogs were recently poisoned. One of his ponies gave birth to a red filly colt.

JANICE GILLESPIE, an RBBB clown and some elephants, was recently pictured in the Press-Telegram of Long Beach, Calif.

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NEW SHOW (Continued)

tent, two semis and other rolling equipment. Each truck is painted in red, white and blue, with extensive scroll work.

Franzen says his original idea was to have a few acts for celebrations and picnics, then it just grew. "I was hoping to keep the cost of putting together the circus under \$40,000," he says, "I don't think I'm going to make it."

The program, as planned now, will include:

- Overture and Grand Entry
- Juggling/balance/unicycle
- Tonto, the Educated Horse
- Comedy clowns
- Dogs and Mule number
- Plate Spinning
- Liberty Stallion Act
- Comedy clowns
- Paul Neibauer - illusions
- The performing goats
- Tumbling and Acrobatics
- The Spanish Web
- Comedy clowns
- Mechanical Bareback Riding
- Uneven Parallel Bars
- Swinging ladder
- Trampoline feats
- The Baby elephant
- Grand Finale

Pot-Pourri

An advance advertising paper for Lewis Bros. invites the kids to come and carry water for the circus elephants on show day.

Allen's Pet Zoo had good stands at Bakersfield, Calif., (May 1-4) and at Dixon May Fair (May 9-12).

Business and weather have been good to King Bros. Circus here of late.

The John Strong Circus drew big crowds all last week as the show wound up its Northern California dates for the spring season.

The George Matthews Circus had a big day at Stockton, Calif (May 13) with all departments showing an increase.

In Memoriam

CARL D. CLANCY, served as a circus cook on many shows including Ringling-Barnum. He died on April 19th at Newport News, Va. at the age of 75. Survivors include a son, daughter and a brother.

CIRCUS VISITORS

Recent visitors at Circus Vargas were: Bill Williams, Tom Upton, Don Marcke, Jess Monefeldt, Bob and Jeanne Moore.