



8th Year

October 22, 1979

Number 43

# A Big Date

The annual Morocco Temple Shrine Circus was held on Sept. 29-30 at Jacksonville, Fla. The show drew excellent business throughout its run and was produced by William Kay.

The opening performance on Saturday morning was a sell-out (9,300 capacity), with all tickets having been purchased by the Winn-Dixi Stores. The matinee show on that day was also a sold-out attendance. The 8 p.m. performance was presented to a jam-packed crowd as thousands of circus fans, plus Shriners and their families arrived for the circus and the annual "Shriner's Night."

The Sunday matinee was a turnaway crowd and ticket holders who were unable to get in the building were assured their tickets would be honored at the next performance. The evening 5 p.m. show drew a good "capacity" crowd.

Press coverage well ahead of the circus dates and during the weekend was excellent. Many billboards were spotted proclaiming the wonders of the circus. Local coke trucks and buses all carried circus advertising, and needless to say there was plenty of newspaper, TV and radio ads and features.

Show publicity was handled by circus producer Bill Kay and John Jelinek, of the Jelinek Agency, of Jacksonville. The

show program book ran some 648 pages also setting a record.

(See the circus program on another page of this issue).

## Horses Retired

The four gilded stallions that have stood guard on the facade of San Marco's basilica in Venice for 775 years have been taken down and put into storage. No one is quite sure what will be done with them, but officials want to get them out of the corroding atmosphere and so they are being replaced by replicas.

The famous horses have become one of the world's great treasures as well as one of its great

(Continued on Page 2)

## REPORT

**INTERNATIONAL CIRCUS** . . by Ron Sanford

In keeping with the "something for everyone" theme, the Nebraska State Fair (Lincoln, Neb. Sept. 6-9) presented an International Circus in front of the grandstand the final four days of the fair.

Tickets were given away with the purchase of evening show tickets and were also distributed in cartons of Coke, of they could be purchased at \$2.00 each.

The 3-ring extravaganza was truly for "kids of all ages" and featured the world renowned Les Castros, high wire; the Flying Gaonas, trapeze and Christopher James on the low wire. Then getting down to earth were the Willy Lenz chimps; the Seven Francisco's, acrobatic act; King's performing Elephants; Walt King's Animal Revue (llamas, camel, ponies); The Plunketts, comedy trampoline. A special attraction was the Marvel Comics hero "The Incredible Hulk".



C. C. DAY visited Circus Genoa at Fremont, Nebr. on Sept. 17-18 and reports they have a really fine show. It is a true four ring circus and offers a pleasing performance, he said.

YVETTE has finished work on the TV movie "The Young Maverick" which will be shown later this month. The filming involved her trained horse which plays cards with the sheriff. She is also training other animals for film work.

MARI JO COULS, JIMMY COLE and INGA WILLIAMS visited the "Showtime Follies" at Orlando, Fla., on Sept. 25th, where they visited with PAUL MUNVILLE, DANNY and RANDA CAREY and WES OLER and his wife.

DAVID LINDEN has retired his hand balancing act and sold his rigging to the Great All American Youth Circus. DANNY CASTOLDI and other members of the Redlands, Calif., show are in the process of learning the act, which will be booked by Warren C. Wood & Associates.

THE CIRCUS REPORT is compiled and edited by Don Marcks, 525 Oak St., El Cerrito, Calif. 94530 — Phone: 415 - 525 - 3332.

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## THE SAN MARCOS HORSES (Continued)

puzzles. No one knows just where they came from, how they were built, or for sure what they were made for.

The San Marcos Horses are the only such group to have survived from antiquity. It is believed that they once adomed the chariot race Hippodrome in Constantinople. The Crusaders brought them to Venice in 1204, and Napoleon took them to Paris in 1797, after the war.

One of the horses has been loaned to Britain for a special exhibition at the Royal Academy. Two British experts already claim they have solved at least a portion of the mystery that surrounds the horses.

They claim the San Marcos horses are not Greek as most scholars long believed. They are not made of bronze, but are almost pure copper and date back to the 3rd or 4th Century A. D. Many doubts still remain and scientists will go on searching for the answers.

The San Marcos horses have inspired artists throughout the centuries. They are not precisely like any known breed of horse. The fact they are 98% copper is odd and the the technique used to gild them is unknown. It has been found in only five other ancient statues.

The San Marcos horses seem to resemble the Morgan horse. This high-stepping breed died out in Europe about 1750. It is still thriving in the United States, thanks to a Vermont farmer whose name was Morgan. His stallion sired descendants that are scattered across America.

(For a picture of workmen removing the San Marcos Horses see Page 23)

## PEOPLE

THE ZOPPE FAMILY of trick riders, along with the Budweiser team of Clydesdales, will be featured at the Grand Nationals at the Cow Palace Oct. 26th thru Nov. 4th.

## WANTED

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# Show Dates

## Carson & Barnes Circus

Oct. 22 Clarksville, Ark.  
 23 Dardanelle  
 24 Little Rock AFB  
 25 De Witt  
 26 Croset  
 27-28 Monroe, La.

## Circus Vargas

Oct. 22-25 Tuscaloosa, Ala.  
 26-28 Montgomery

## Ringling-Barnum - Blue Unit

Oct. 24-Nov 5 Boston, Mass.

## Ringling-Barnum - Red Unit

to Nov. 18 Chicago, Ill.

## Royal Lichtenstein Circus

Oct. 22 Warren, Ark.  
 23 Shreveport, La.  
 24 Jackson, Miss.  
 25 Memphis, Tenn.  
 26 Martin

## Shrine Circus

Oct. 22-29 Kansas City, Mo.

## TNT & Royal Olympic Circus

Oct. 23-27 Lexington, Ky.

## ---- MAGIC ----

## Kim Dickson Magic Show

Oct. 22 Ft. Worth, Texas  
 23 Tulsa, Okla.  
 25 St. Louis, Mo.  
 26 Des Moines, Iowa  
 27 Omaha, Nebr.  
 28 Denver, Colo.

## Prf. Miller - Magic Time USA

Oct. 22 West Point, Nebr.  
 23 Fremont  
 25 Seward  
 26 Fairbury

## Tom Ogden - Magician

Oct. 23 Pottstown, Pa.  
 28-31 Mt. Pocono

## It's Magic Show

to Oct. 28 Los Angeles, Calif.

## ---- OTHER DATES ----

## Nelson Camp - Wire Walker

Oct. 27-28 New Orleans, La.

## Chinese Acrobats

Oct. 27 Grand Rapids, Mich.

## Count Basie Show

Oct. 28 San Rafael, Calif.

## Disco Fever

Oct. 22 Montgomery, Ala.  
 23 Tuscaloosa  
 24 Birmingham  
 25 Anniston  
 26 Columbus, Ga.  
 27 Macon

## James H. Drew Exposition

Oct. 22-27 Athens, Ga.

## Ice Capades - Cont'l Unit

Oct. 23-28 Madison, Wisc.

## Ice Capades - Eastern Unit

to Oct. 28 Providence, R.I.

## Ice Capades - Western Unit

Oct. 23-28 El Paso, Texas

## Kaye Hollywood Elephants

Oct. 25-Nov. 3 Charleston, SC

## Royal American Shows

to Oct. 28 Shreveport, La.

## Tommy Scott Show

Oct. 22 Goshen, Ind.  
 23 Warsaw  
 24 Angola  
 25 Decatur  
 26 Bluffton  
 27 Peru  
 28 Portland

## Seils-Sterling CFA Tent Meet

Oct. 22 Sheboygan, Wisc.

## Showtime Follies

Oct. 22 Ottawa, Ill.  
 23 Peoria  
 24 Springfield  
 25 Alton  
 26 Sikeston  
 28 Ft. Wayne, Ind.

## The Sikorskys - Jugglers

Oct. 22-23 Dundalk, Md.  
 25-26 Baltimore

## Frank Strout's Animals

Oct. 28 Angola, La.

## Whizzer the Clown

Oct. 27 Andover, Ohio



THE DEL TERRES, high wire act, will be with Circus Vargas in 1980 after all. JENNY WALLEN DA phoned to tell me that the third troupe member, DAVID, has decided to remain with the act, so now DELILAH and husband TERRY can fulfill a contract signed with the circus since last summer.

FOR the first time the SHOWFOLKS CIRCUS is utilizing telephone promotion. Tickets have been selling well. The circus appears in Sarasota annually. The date this year is Nov. 24. The show will be produced by the STEBBING FAMILY.

SID & MARTY KROFFT of "Les Puppees des Paris" fame are producing a new show to tour starting this month which will star VICTOR BORGE and the MUPPETS. The new show is scheduled to play Madison Square Garden.

DAVID SMART, in association with prominent Spanish businessmen, is opening a new amusement park in Southern Spain in April 1980. Mr. Smart will also produce an under-canvas circus in London for ten weeks beginning in June.

SNAPSHOTS: JOE and ELIZABETH BAUER making plans to visit Monte Carlo this winter. . . Meanwhile the BAUER-HALL Agency has set the CRISTIANIS for the "London Circus World Championships" (Nov. 29-30) which will be under a tent but at a new location. Also to appear will be LISA BAUER with her trapeze act featuring barefoot half-twisting heel catches. At the CIRCUS FESTIVAL in Madrid for three weeks in December will appear the fabulous FLYING ESPANAS, the FRANCONI DUO, and MISTER SENSATION. Bauer-Hall has also been busy setting acts for the BILLY SMART TV Spectacular in London. Their list of overseas clients grows longer and American acts crossing the ocean grow more numerous. One thing seems certain: with conditions such as they are in the U. S., major acts to survive must leave in droves and THAT'S A SHAME! BUT . . . that's the way it is. . . JENNY WALLEDA's new Western Singing Group MATOKA, with whom she has a three year management contract, traveled to New Orleans and then vanished into thin air. . . Jenny intimates there is a bit more to this mystery but until she can verify all the facts, can't release the full story to me for publication. But keep tuned, folks, this promises to be a juicy one. . . The GREAT ADVENTURE PARK doesn't close its doors until Oct. 28th. . . OLER PRODUCTIONS have wound up their fall fair season. . . LEE MALONEY returned to Hoxie Bros. as show organist and later he will be with the Bill, Ted, Allan Hill produced Magic Christmas Show; ditto JOE and GEORGI SMILEY. . . Understand two of the Herriott gals are with Royal Hanneford as showgirls.

. . . CIRCUS VARGAS now in Alabama until the end of the month - Big Question: which direction is the show headed? South or West? . . . JIMMY DOUGLASS to play the Pittsburgh Circus in Nov. . . Ditto GEORGE BARREDA. . . DAVID SMART to the U. S. on a business trip last week of Sept.

NEW & DIFFERENT, that's what the magic-dog act of the Elkins Sisters, now renamed the FABULOUS DARNELLS is being touted as and by such talent experts as WAYNE McCAREY. As KURT says "you can't beat cute dogs" and combined with illusion tricks and the stylish synchronization for which the Elkins girls are world famous the act is a one-of-a-kind novelty. Congratulations! I know how hard you've worked to make it come together

CLOSEUPS: The Royal Hanneford Circus appeared at the Big "E" Expo in Springfield (Mass). They were in for 5 days from Sept. 12-16. Other major attractions at the fair included the FABULOUS DARNELLS for the full run (12-23), BILLY "Crash" CRADDOCK (Country-Western Star), TAMMY WYNETTE, THE MURPHYS, SUSIE ALLANSON, LOUISE MANDRELL, BOBBY LEWIS, and DAVID ALEXANDRE WINTER. On the Dreikorn's Children Stage were the Darnells (Elkins), Walter and Karen Childs. . . JAMES E. STRATES SHOWS will carry a back-end circus for South Florida fair dates during the winter season of 79-80. If successful the carnival may keep the circus attraction for next season. Strates has plenty of flat cars, sleepers and wagons in winter quarters to carry such a show. DAVID HORROW of the Strates Org, is working with LARRY KENT and JAMES "Dutch" CRAWFORD in booking the circus. Thus far the circus dates are Nov. 15-25 Hollywood, Jan. 18-27 Ft. Lauderdale, Feb. 1-18 Miami, and a Christmas date still to be announced. The last circus carried by Strates was the TERRELL JACOBS WILD ANIMAL THRILL CIRCUS in '40. The Strates show still has a few wagons from the Sparks Circus (1947). The best known of the old Sparks wagons, by the way, is the office wagon now being used on Beatty-Cole. . . The tour for GARDEN BROS. under canvas at two malls in Toronto is postponed until next season. The show experienced permit problems and an insider informs me that permits for under canvas shows in the Toronto area grows progressively worse and more difficult every year. . . Globetrotting FRANK CURRY is this week in Frankfort (German). . . The Canadian TV show CIRCUS! won't finish its taping for the new season until the first week in December.

(Continued on Page 20)

# FLASH

EGON KLEMENTI has been hospitalized at the Barton Memorial Hospital, South Lake Tahoe, Calif., after suffering a broken hip socket as a result of an onstage accident.

During an early Saturday night show at Harrah's Club last month, Egon was standing on the handlebars of his bicycle, pouring champagne into a glass, when the back curtain somehow became entangled in the bicycle's front wheel. This caused the bicycle to slip and Egon fell to the stage floor. The show was stopped for 10 minutes until an ambulance crew arrived and could move him.

In the meantime Elfie and Helmet have put a two person act together and are continuing to perform in the show "Bedazzled."

Rico, the Magician, replaced the Klementis for two weeks, during the time the new act was being put together.

# PEOPLE

Mr. and Mrs. DON KIDDER visited with MARY CLEMENS at Hayward, Wisc., while enroute to the State Fair in St. Paul. Later Mrs. BONNIE BONTA stopped by for a visit.

JOE SCHMITT, Jr., clown, is back in the Fort Worth/Dallas area after an early tour with Circus Vargas. He has some local clown dates set.

# MAIL BAG

... from Mrs. Dick (Mary) Clemens

I wish to thank you for publishing the letter which my husband, Dick Clemens, sent in at the time of his illness, and later the article of his passing.

We have received many letters and cards with encouraging notes for his quick recovery and later many friends have sent us cards and letters in response to Dick's passing.

It is my wish to write each and everyone, but time seems to flutter away and very few letters and cards are acknowledged and thanked, so I wish to thank each and everyone via Circus Report until that time when I will have a letter off to everyone.

ED RUSSELL, circus ringmaster, has sold his 1/2" scale model train circus to HUNT BUSHNELL, of El Monte, Calif. Ed will retain the Russell show name and is keeping his model truck circus and model carnival.

MARK ANTHONY, clown, is visiting with BUMPSY ANTHONY in St. Augustine, Fla. He will tour with the Showtime Follies for the upcoming 1980 season.

BILL BURGER, who handles the front door on the Big John Strong Circus, is frequently out ahead booking dates for the show.

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# MAI:AG

from Roger and Mary Ann Goodwin

On Saturday, Sept. 22, 1979, on a jump from Raleigh to Winston-Salem, N.C. for Bill Garden's Showtime Follies, Roger Goodwin traveling by himself, had a major fire in his 1974 Dodge motorhome. He had just switched from one fuel tank to the other when the engine burst into flames.

He managed to save 3 of the 4 chimps, before the fire completely engulfed the motorhome. He lost Peanuts, his oldest chimp. All props and wardrobe and numerous personal items were also lost. The front of the trailer, a 1977 Kountry Aire, was also burnt.

Mary Ann, his wife, was visiting her family, until the park, where they have a concession, closed for the season. She was to join her husband on Monday, the 24th, her birthday, but they made a mad drive Saturday night from Mass., to Durham, N.C. to bring him some traveling cages.

We wish to thank the Olmeda's who were traveling with Roger, Dave Sabo and Jerry Lipko for all the help they have given us. We also wish to thank Bill Garden, Ray Marek, and Don Philips and family who have been very understanding and helpful.

Goodwin's Chimps are currently trying to obtain new equipment, props and wardrobe.



Trainer Tim Cooney leads his elephants away from a Southern California forest fire which raged through the area last month. The elephants, plus hundreds of other animals are featured in the upcoming movie "Roar".



## CLOWN SEMINAR ... by Pat Bissonette

Clowns of America Minnesota State representative Dr. Paul Griffin, of Alley No. 19, held an Educational Seminar on Sept. 22nd at the Capp Towers Motel in downtown St. Paul.

Dr. Griffin was pleasantly surprised with the turnout, about 60 clowns. The final count was 121 men and women of all ages and walks of life interested in clowning.

Clown groups represented were from: Mpls., Aqua Jesters, St. Paul Clown Club, Burlington Northern (R.R.) Clowns, Moose Lodge Clowns, Osman Shrine Funsters, Powder Puff Clowns (all female) of St. Paul, plus individuals from Mankato, Winona, Rochester, New Ulm, Edina, St. Cloud and other smaller towns.

The Seminar was a huge success, dealers did very well, instructors and their specialty: Costumes, Betty Cash, she makes them and puts out an informative brochure; Make-up: Mike "Bingo" O' Shaugnessy, he made up three persons at once, each a different type of face, the best demo I've ever seen. He puts out a catalogue of props and other items. "The Circus Clowns"; Make-up for Gals, Nancy McGee, she uses a German-made Clown White that covers wrinkles. Parade judging by Dennis Phelps. Group Skits; Put on by Powder Puff Clowns, Group Leader Ruth Erkila, they already have a "Cloning Chamber" for clowns. Birthday Party Clowning; Donald Rock. Balloon Sculpturing; Dennis Phelps with new twists; Parade Stunts; Bon Stanek, Circus Gags; Ed Mitzel (Big & Loud).

All of the above was accomplished in one day from 9 to 5, with lunch at \$6.00. Its success leaves no doubt it will be repeated next year as it resulted in many applications for C.O.A. and Alley No. 19 memberships were given out.

## CLASSIFIED

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**CAN USE HELP** in All Depts. for 1980 season. Williams Bros. Circus, 2635 Norton Road, Kent, Ohio -

**TRY A NEW HOBBY FOR 1980** — "Today Is Circus Day In . . .?" Keep up with the daily movements of Circuses. Know when the Circus enters your State. Watch its route as it moves closer to your city. Write for **FREE SAMPLES**. Charlie Campbell, 150 - 10th St., N.E., Atlanta, Ga. 30309.

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**DON WASHBURN** (Sparky) would enjoy mail while he is hospitalized. Write him at: United General Hospital, Room 409, Sedro-Wooley, Wash. - 98284.

# The Journal of MAGIC HISTORY

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## Problems

In a special front page story, The Times, of San Mateo, Calif. (Oct. 5) reports that a phone promotion operated by the Angel International Productions for the local Firefighters Association, paid high school students with bad checks.

Several dozen students were paid with the bad checks as the promotional organization shut-down its activities and left town on Oct. 1st. All that remained in the downtown office was a sign on the wall and several telephones scattered about the floor.

The youths learned about the job through their job placement centers at several local area high schools. They were hired at \$3.00 an hour to make phone solicitations, selling family tickets for a Firefighters Association sponsored Christmas Variety Show. The tickets sold for \$12.50 and up.

Robert Roesch, head of Local 2400 of the San Mateo County Firefighters Association said his group hired Western Productions of Las Vegas to handle the show's promotion. They subsequently sub-contracted the work to Angel Productions.

Robert Best, president of Western Productions, told reporters he learned of the problem from the Sumitomo Bank, who had told him that the Angel International was bouncing checks written to the youths. He said that Joseph Fallon heads up Angel and that this was the first time there had ever been any problem with him.

Both Western Productions and the Firefighters Assoc. said they would make good any of the checks that bounced.

Despite the current problems the Christmas Variety Show is expected to go on as scheduled - Dec. 22nd at the San Mateo Performing Arts Center.

An executive with the Better Business Bureau in San Mateo said Western Productions had applied for membership in the BBB on July 26th. That application, he said, was turned down, because "they did not meet our standards."

## PEOPLE

DOC BARTOK, STEVE ZEITLIN, MAE and BOB NOELL and BRONCO WEST were part of an old-time Medicine Show presented in Washington, DC, early this month.

WALLY ROSS, NOLLY TATE, JIM SWAFFORD and DAVE TWOMEY were among those attending the monthly Circus Luncheon Club in Los Angeles this month.

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## PEOPLE

JOE and MARIAN McKENNON spent the month of July on the "Delta Queen" cruising on the Mississippi River.

MIKE MARTIN is currently touring in the east and south with his "Spooktacular" show which features an authentic spirit seance at the end of the program.

ASHTON, a flyer on tour with the American Continental Circus this summer, was struck in the face as he returned to the bar during a performance at Kingman, Ariz. He suffered two black eyes and a cut above his nose.

PAUL ROYTER, magician, narrowly escaped serious injury when checking stage lights he backed up and fell into the orchestra pit, just prior to a performance last month.

## Miscellaneous

The Fresno, Calif., Fair plans to increase its run for 1980. They want to expand the fair for a full 17 day engagement.

# FOR SALE

## WIZ WHISTLE

Performer shows two gleaming, chrome metal whistles. When one is tooted, the other jumps two feet in the air. Performer explains that the whistles will also jump invisibly. One whistle vanishes and travels to performer's pocket. Easy to do and tons of laughs. \$3.00

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Most magic tricks cannot be repeated in front of the same audience. This effect gets stronger, funnier and more mysterious by repetition. Two oversize, jumbo bills that are perfect reproductions of U. S. currency are shown and locked together in a tight simple fold. With no false moves and complete visibility, one bill passes through the other. Bills are shown undamaged and the visible penetration is immediately repeated. Completely mechanical, no sleights and no refills required. Tricks with money are always attention grabbers. . . . \$3.00

## WONDER WEENIES

This is a crowd stopper and giggle maker. Performer holds hot dog at finger tips and as soon as it is removed another takes it's place. At first, spectators think you are pulling off shells but then they note that each weenie that pops up is the same size. Comes with several laugh provoking finishes. Easy to do. . . . \$3.00

NOTE: All the above comedy magic effects are suitable for Clowns, Emcee's, Comedy Jugglers and Magicians. All may be used as basis for two person skit. Price includes First Class Postage.

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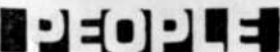
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**PAUL McCAUSLAND**, now playing the Texas dates, reports that despite rumors to the contrary, he is not quitting the business and his rigging is not for sale.

**BLINKO**, the Clown, was honored recently in Las Vegas when that city named a street for him.

**ROBERT STACK**, **BILL BIXBY**, **VALERIE BERTINELLI** and **LONI ANDERSON** will all make guest appearances on TV's coming "The Magic of David Copperfield" show scheduled for airing on Halloween night.

**PINKY FRITZ**, son of **ANNA FRITZ**, is working at the Circus Hall of Fame, where he does an act

and also serves as a tour guide.

**JOHN**, an elephant man with Carson & Barnes lost an eye in a recent accident. He is currently at the show's quarters in Hugo, Okla.

**PHIL TEMPLE**, magician, will tour for the National School Assemblies during the 1980 season.

**PATRICK BURDEN**, 13 year old clown from Independence, Kans. held a "Clown Make-up Session and Program" for the Elk City, Kans. grade school early this month.

**CHARLES LIEDL**, circus fan from San Mateo, Ca. plans to visit the Monte Carlo Circus Festival during the winter.

**McDONALD BIRCH** and **MABLE**, were guests at a recent magic auction meeting in Columbus, Ohio

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# REVIEW

## SHOWTIME

Rick and Sharon Legg brought their Showtime USA, evening magic show to Deshler, Ohio on Sept. 29th, with ticket sales and attendance well above any expectations.

Sponsored by the Deshler American Legion, a completely sold out advance was further augmented by a large door sale, making this a true "standing room only" situation.

The show has a new portable stage with crushed velvet drapes, new lighting and sound system, a circus-type ring curb, which houses the foot lights. The Leggs, working as Ral Kelmar and Co., have 8 various costume and scene changes in their 90 minute presentation.

By playing small to medium sized towns, Kelmar hopes to provide a quality show, using various variety acts to augment his presentations, and at the same time keep the overall nut down.

The program at Deshler included: Come-in by Don Bridwell, Whizzer the clown; Overture; Gloves to Bouquet; Stretching a Ribbon; The Rings of Rope; Chain Welding; Tambo Rings; Rabbitt Production; Long-Short Rope; Cut and Restored Rope; Pants Off; Torn and Restored Napkin; Miss Sharon then presents the "Fantasy Land Puppets (unique Muppett-type characters) and Kelmar returns to do the Linking Rings.

Whizzer follows and shows how not to bake a cake; Kelmar sells his Magic Kits and there is a brief intermission.

The second half opened with an Oriental scene and Kelmar presents the Chinese Mat Production; 20th Century Silks; Chink Cans; Cords of Phantasia; Large Square Circle Production, and the Rabbitt From Nowhere.

After Whizzer presented his balloon act there was a pitch for balloon kits, followed by Kel-

# MAIL BAG

... from Nancy Giordano

Have just received the Oct. 8th edition of Circus Report which included the reprint article about me.

Thank you very much for your interest. However, excepting my name and the injury most recently sustained, the article was largely untrue and incorrect.

I never had a "failed marriage to a circus worker" and anyone who has ever seen Hans Winn's high wire motorcycle act knows that it would not be possible for a complete novice to step in and perform without a good deal of practice. Additionally to describe the slide for life as "attaching a contraption to your head and sliding you back down the wire," indicates the total misconception under which the reporter was working.

Finally, not one of the quotations attributed to me as my words, was at all accurate, in fact, I actually said none of them.

Please help me to correct this poorly written article, in the interest of accuracy.

mar's ESP routine. Whizzer then returns with his Quick Sketch Cartoon act.

Kelmar's final portion of the show is an escape feature with his escape from Chains, 100 feet of Rope, and the Strait Jacket. Then with a background of "It's A Small World" the show closes with a milk vanish, after which Kelmar, Miss Sharon and Whizzer the Clown took their stage bows, with a reminder to the audience that it is indeed a small world.

The show's staff included: Rick Legg, producer; Sharon Taylor Legg, co-producer and executive secretary, Don Bridwell, sound and curtain, and Fran Bridwell, novelties. Scenery was by the Kelmar Studios.





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**PEOPLE**

**KATIE SEGER**, an RBBB Clown College graduate, is currently teaching a class on clowning and related subjects for the El Cerrito (Calif.) Community Center.

**G. PUTTEVILS**, of 7 W. Wennemaerstraat, Gent, Belgium, is interested in contacting an American circus fan who would like to exchange programs from various circuses.

**HANABELLE**, the Lady Clown, and an RBBB College Graduate, has been awarded a grant by the New York State Education Dept., for a year of teaching circus arts and skills in the New York Junior High Schools.

**BILL LARSEN**, magician, was honored in July with a special recognition from the Magic Dealer's Association. The presentation was made at the PCAM Convention in San Francisco.

**ALAIN DEHU**, of 14 Allee Hector Berlioz, 7800

Versailles, France, wants to contact an American collector who would be interested in exchanging circus program books.

**ANDRE KOLE**, illusionist, was featured at the PCAM Convention in San Francisco this past July. His special illusion show was presented as part of the convention's 'Public Show.'

**DON BRIDWELL** (Whizzer the Clown) will be at the National XMas Gift Show in Cincinnati, Ohio, on Dec. 9th, with his balloon animal act.

**BRUCE ANDERSON**, high sway pole performer, reports the casts from both his legs have been removed, although he still has a brace on one leg. "It's good to wear shoes again," he said.

**MIKE "Kosco" NAUGHTON**, clown, has just finished a tiring tour of Upstate New York Fairs and Party Dates. He has re-located from the Bronx to Norton Hill, N. Y., where this winter he plans on making props to forestall cabin fever.

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## Acts

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National Anthem; Bill Kay, announcements; Bill Pruyn and the circus band; The Hernandez Troupe, teeterboard; Lilli-Ana, leopards; Princess White Cloud, aerial; Timmy Hernandez, rola bola; the Morocco Funster Clowns; Bill Brickle and his Poodle Fantasy; The Ramon Twins, balancing; the Morocco Clowns; The Verdus, rolling globes; Intermission; The Espanos Flyers; Clowns; the Horwath Chimps; Randy & Sylvia, perch act; The Franconi Duo, aerial; Shrine Circus Elephants; Morocco Funsters; Hugo Zucchini, human cannonball; Exit Marches.

Circus Genoa played Fremont, Nebr. on Sept. 17-18 and then Holiday Hippodrome played the same city on Sept. 19th.

## Joseph C. Reisinger

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## REPORT

WINDJAMMERS - the circus buffs whose objective it is to preserve circus band music - joined the Karl L. King Band in an evening concert at the Oleson Park Bandshell in Fort Dodge, Iowa, on Aug. 18th.

The concert brought to a climax the four day gathering at which taping sessions were held in the Iowa Cent Comm College Band Room. On Saturday afternoon, the members of Windjammers, Unlimited, gathered at the monument to Karl L. King in North Lawn Cemetery to pay tribute to the memory of the great composer-conductor.

The band concert was dedicated to Mrs. King in memory of her late husband. The second half (Circus Routine) was dedicated to Charles and Robert Barnhouse of Oskaloosa, Iowa, Five Karl King numbers, including marches, overtures and waltzes were played during the first half of the program. The band was conducted by Ron Grundberg, of Gurnee, Illinois.

## By Crane



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## HAL HAVILAND SEZ . . . .

JAMES E. STRATES' carnival moves by rail. And, during these days of inflation-priced gasoline, some executives of circuses that move by truck are taking another look at railroad transportation, especially one of the many pace-setting innovations of the Strates show train.

Their loading ramp is faster, safer and more efficient, in fact a practical improvement over traditional methods of unloading and loading show trains.

Before the Strates show train is unloaded, the rear of the last flatcar is raised by air pressure. Then, the rear wheel truck is pulled out of the way, from under the car. The back end of the flatcar is then lowered to the track level, the car itself becoming a ramp - simple engineering, and most ingenious!

## Miscellaneous

The Chinese government has announced it will give Tokyo's Ueno Zoo another Panda bear, to replace the one which died in August.

Beatty-Cole has drawn excellent business at its engagement in Beckley, W. Va. All performances were to SRO crowds, despite rain.

The C. R. Frank Popcorn & Supply Co., of St. Louis, had their antique popcorn wagon on hand for the "Fall Popcorn Festival" at St. Louis.

## Show Date

HOLIDAY HIPPODROME . . by Ron Sanford

This writer enjoyed the 7 p.m. performance of Holiday Hippodrome, presented at Beatrice, Nebr., on Sept. 18th. The local engagement was sponsored by the Optimist Club.

The show's program featured: Don Phillips & Co. (Don and Carol), unicycle; Bradbury & Co. magic; The Keppo Duo (Iris and Tony), rolling globes and juggling; The Gunga Sisters, acrobatics; Cyclemania with the Van Noys (Don, Carol, Diana and Athena Noelle Phillips), comedy bicycles; Floyd Bradbury, balloon sculpturing and balloon pitch; Intermission; The Boothroyds (Iris and Tony), comedy trunk; Sharon's comedy chimps (Sharon Vidbel, with Don Phillips as helper); Miss Christina (Oler), trapeze balancing; Billy Gunga with Miss Isabella, and a presentation of glass balancing.

Brad Bradbury is the show's manager, and also serves as announcer and organist. Phil Oler is the drummer.

## Show Dates

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### BILLY BARTON (Continued)

**VEGAS VIGNETTES:** An abrupt closing of the Dunes on Sept. 26 had a cast of 100, plus stage crew, wardrobe people and technicians seeking new jobs. **FREDDIE SALES**, English comedy star expressed surprise at the announcement. The cast knew the show would have to shutter because of a construction period but no one thought it would be so soon or for so long. Some of the performers were absorbed in Frederic Apar's Reno show. The new edition of the Vegas "Casino de Paris" is set to reopen in 18 months. . . The name of the Sid and Marty Krofft Show is "Babes in Toyland" . . . Good news for specialty acts - both the Alladin and the Desert Inn are looking for long running revues in 1980. . . MGM Grand will also have a new show. . . **BRIGETTE BALLENTINE** closed at C.C., is back in Florida. . . The **STANEKS** also closed. . . **ANETA VARGAS** finished up in Reno, worked a few weeks at C.C., then left to play the Texas dates, first circus contract in two years. . .

Three new acts have auditioned for C.C. but I was not told their names. . . Rumors abound that **SEIG FRED & ROY** are prepping an arena show backed by the FELDS. . . but other sources say the famed illusionists are just starting their second year on a three year contract at the Lido. . . The next **CIRCUS OF STARS** TV show will be filmed at Caesar's Palace Oct. 13-15 with 22 stars (It should be

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**CHARLIE CHARLES**, acrobatic cyclist, was featured on the **MIKE DOUGLAS** TV Show the afternoon of Oct. 8th.

**RAY WALSTON** will play the part of a magician in an upcoming episode of TV'S "The Incredible Hulk" show.

filmed on a garbage heap, it's the biggest insult to the circus ever conceived).

**SPLINTERS: ZOPPE ARABIAN RIDERS** and **PAMELA ROSAIRE'S CHIMPS** play the Los Angeles County Fair in Pomona. . . **GATTI** Circus was nearby and the **FELD**-owned **ICE FOLLIES** wound up a stand at the Forum. . . Circus enthusiast **JIM SWAFFORD** flew to Houston to visit the show and the State Fair at Dallas. . . Animal trainer **JEAN MICHON** and his wife flew to Italy Oct. 5 to fulfill a contract to train an eleven tiger act for an Italian circus. After that he has an offer to go to South America.

**CLOWN DENNIS STEVENS** reports that **KENNY DODD** (Tweety-Bird) is a movie buff, has a huge theatre screen and full theatre sound in his home to which his many friends are treated often. Tweety has been off the road for several years tending his ailing mother.

SEE you down the road, luvs.

# Circus Fans

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NEVADA NEWS ... by Don Covington

Just recently returned from a weekend in Reno and thought you'd be interested in knowing what's going on up there.

At Circus Circus we saw the Paulos Sisters, trapeze; Great Vargas, magic; Boomer & Co., boxing kangaroo; Aneta Vargas, slack wire; Esqueda Troupe, unicycles/teeterboard; Los Alejandros, low wire; Oresto, juggler; Richard Duo, ladder balancing; Flying Del Steeles, Flying Ramos; Ronritas, Wheel of Destiny; Aerial Ballet; The Clown Carousel.

Variety acts appearing in the MGM Grand's stage show "Hello, Hollywood, Hello" were: Jolly Jovers, acrobats; Hans & Ingrid, crossbow archery; Dewert, cloud swing and Johnny Hart, illusions. John's final illusion, after some stylish warm-up work which includes birds, a cat and Samoyen dog, is the vanish of a 1979 Excalibur Sports car complete with his lovely assistant, which is suspended in a plexiglass case 20 feet in the air on stage.

John Ascuaga's Nugget in Sparks continues to feature the two elephants, Bertha and Tina, and visitors are encouraged to stop by and see the girls in their custom quarters - complete with a swimming pool, which is open daily in the afternoons.

The show at the MGM Grand is worth the steep admission (\$17.50 - \$25.00) just to watch the staging and special effects. Included are a recreation of the San Francisco earthquake, a flood,

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## SPECIAL

AUCTION .... by Pat Bisonette

One of the best Model Circus collections (per Tiny Phillips, ex-CFA prexy) is owned by Harr Cater, it's up for auction in St. Cloud, Minn. Called, "Ring Bros." it is modeled after Ringling in the 1920's, was built by Willard Gehrenbeck, taking 36 years to complete, it's so large at 1 inch to a foot, that Harry Cater built a 30 x 40 shed to house it.

Another shed houses a model carnival, "Giant of America Shows" also built by Willard Gehrenbeck and owned by Harry Cater, goes on the sale block. It is patterned after Royal American Shows of the late 1930's. Rides all turn with tiny motors and mini-lites. Auctioneer Kruse said he sent out 6,000 brochures and notices.

and thunderstorm, and the final number is a salute to the circus, complete with horses, wagons, aerialists and an appearance by Leo, the MGM Lion.

I noticed Tonny Steele was using an issue of the Circus Report to represent his instructions in how to fly during the comedy portion of his Flying Del-Steeles act at Circus Circus. He'd pull CR out of his baggy pants and study it very carefully before stumbling off the platform for one of his airborne pratfalls.

# Introducing

## NELSON CAMP

In May, I inaugurated my own one-man tight-wire show "Silhouettes" at the Jazz and Heritage Festival in New Orleans.

After playing some other dates in Louisiana, I took "Silhouettes" to France for two months this summer, where, among other things, I got to perform at the International Festival of Hot Air and Gas Balloons, at Balleroy, in Normandy. (I got to meet Max Abruzzo, one of the three Americans who made the first historic trans-Atlantic crossing. Max has some crazy stories to tell.)

I was also fortunate in getting my show into the school system in France, where they have school throughout the month of June. I would do my show in the air, then lower the wire to a short practice wire, train the kids a bit and let them experience standing and walking on a wire. I finished off my French performances in Paris, performing at St. Germain-des-Pres, in the same location where Philippe Petit got his start.

Now, I am back in Louisiana, performing "Silhouettes" again and open for bookings in this area. I expect to return to France next summer with an all-new show.

This year I have hung a curtain from the wire, which I could open and close for each act. I played a total of five different characters, simply by closing the curtain, quick-changing and reappearing as a new person.

For the climax of the show, I did battle with a life-sized dummy, a devil-doll. Naturally, I played the angel. Fortunately, good triumphs over evil, and I toss him to his death below the wire, but it's a close fight before that; almost a cliff-hanger!

**NORM BARNHART** "Raybo the Clown" worked at the Crossroads Mall in St. Cloud, Minn., last month doing his balloon sculpturing.

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### NEW SHOW COMING

Last summer Carl Conley put in a 12 week season with Gerard Soules and the Circus Girard. For the coming summer season Conley plans to operate his own circus.

The new show will be called 'Circus Williams' and is scheduled to open on May 5th. It will be on tour through early September.

Conley recently finished acquiring the equipment needed for his show. As a result the show will be ready to go long before the scheduled opening date.

Agents are currently setting dates for the show and phonemen will handle the promotions for each engagement.

In addition to working on his own show and his own dates, Conley plans to arrange time to produce shows for other promoters as well.

## Mailroom

The Post Office has returned Circus Reports being mailed to the following people, because of an incorrect address:

Joe M. Kelly Dennis Cosby  
Karlie and Cherry Fisers

