

8th Year

February 26, 1979

Number 9

Hospital Performance

More than 1,000 patients — mostly in wheel chairs and on gurneys — were treated to a special benefit circus performance, when Circus Vargas set-up their huge big top on the parking lot of the Rancho Los Amigos Hospital in Downey, Calif., for a special one-time show on Feb. 7th.

Circus Vargas, the world's largest three-ring circus performing under the big top, presented their show just for patients and hospital personnel, many of whom had never before seen a circus because of physical disabilities and logistical problems. Most of the show's seats were left out to accommodate the hospital equipment. Electrical hook-ups were even provided for some of the patients' life-sustaining equipment.

Realizing that for many, this would be the only way some would get the opportunity to see the circus, show owner Clifford E. Vargas brought his entire two-and-a-half hour long show right to the hospital. Trapeze artists, Bengal tigers, high wire stars, elephants, tumblers, horses, and all of the other features that go to make up this great show, took part in the performance.

The circus arrived early in the morning to get set-up in time for the performance. Circus Vargas transformed the hospital parking lot into a magical "circus city" before the wonder-filled eyes of their guests.

It was obvious from the expression on

their faces that the patients truly enjoyed the circus' afternoon visit. As one hospital patient said, "the afternoon was filled with all kinds of exciting sights and smells. It was really a great and wonderful afternoon for all of us."



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Miscellaneous

Bardine Productions have moved to Amboy, Wash.
which is about 30 miles northeast of Portland, Ore.,
in the foothills of Mount St. Helen. (See ad on another
page of this issue).

The Monte Carlo Circus is running large ads for its
March 7-11 date at Grand Rapids, where prices have
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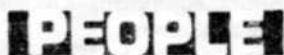
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DR. ALAN NAKANISHI, optometrist of Walnut
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who are nervous when visiting his office.

EUGENE CURTIS (Quackey the Clown) was at
the Jan. 20-22 Illinois Assoc. of Agricultural Fairs
Convention in Springfield.

LOOMS, the magician, reports he recently visited
with magician/evangelist **ANDRE KOLE** and also
with **DANNY DEW**, an old pro who builds props.

RON LONDON, magician and MC was one of several
acts appearing on a special program for the Jan.
7-9 Indiana Association of County and District
Fairs held at that state's capitol.

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

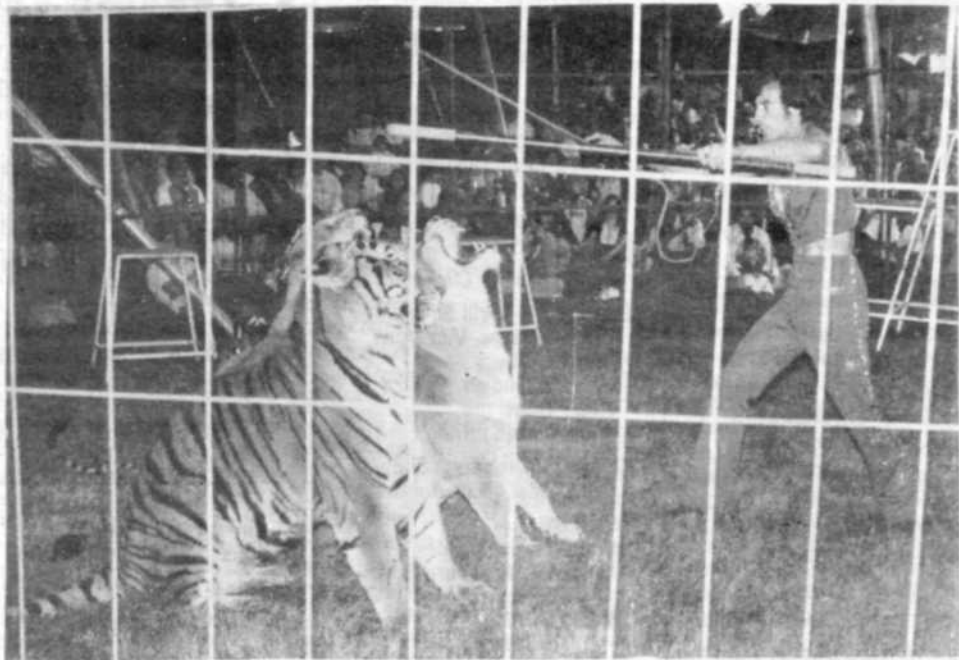
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Circus Vargas
Feb 26-Mar 1 Orange, Calif.
Mar. 3-7 Cerritos

Cole All Star TV Circus
Feb. 26 Phoenix, N.Y.
27 Hannibal
28 Cato

Mar. 1 Jordan
3 Geneva
4 Sodus

Garden Bros. Circus
Feb 23-26 Reading, Pa.
Mar. 2-4 Allentown

Hamid-Morton Circus
Mar. 2-4 Topeka, Kansas

Monte Carlo Circus
Feb. 27-28 Syracuse, N.Y.
Mar. 2-4 Niagara Falls

Moscow Circus
to Mar. 4 San Juan, P.R.

Rajah Shrine Circus
Mar. 2-4 Allentown, Pa.

Ringling-Barnum - Blue Unit
Feb. 27-28 Fayetteville, NC
Mar. 2-4 Columbia, SC

Ringling-Barnum - Red Unit
Feb 27-Mar 4 Norfolk, Va.

Royal Hanneford Circus
Mar. 1-4 Greenville, SC

Zuhrah Shrine Circus
Mar. 3-11 Minneapolis, Minn

Jungle Wonders Circus
Mar. 2 Cleveland, Texas

--- OTHER DATES ---

Blackstone Magic Show
Mar. 1-3 Salt Lake City,
Utah

Donkey Baseball
Feb. 27 Piedmont, Calif.

Flintstones On Parade
Mar. 1-18 Sydney, Aust.

Holiday On Ice - Int'l Unit
Feb 27-Mar 4 Beaumont,
Texas

Holiday On Ice - Nat'l Unit
Feb 27-Mar 4 Louisville, Ky

Ice Capades - Cont'l Unit
Feb 28-Mar 4 Sherbrooke,
Quebec

Ice Capades - Eastern Unit
to Feb 28 Philadelphia, Pa.
Mar. 2-11 Chicago, Ill.

Ice Capades - Western Unit
Feb 27-Mar 4 Saginaw, Mich.

Ice Follies
Feb 27-Mar 11 Cleveland, Oh.

Evel Knievel Thrill Show
Feb. 26 Wagga, Vict. Aust.
27 Albury

28 Bendigo
Mar. 1 Geelong
3 Melbourne

Kramien's Magicazam Shpw
Feb 27-Mar 4 Los Angeles,
Calif.

Loomis' Magic Capades
Feb. 26 Los Alamos, N.M.

28 Socorro
Mar. 3 Grants
4 Gallup

Mr. Sensation - Aerialist
Feb. 23-26 Reading, Pa.
Mar. 2-4 Allentown

Sports Show
Feb.28-Mar 4 Oakland, Calif.

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Feb 24-Mar 3 Myrtle Beach,
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Feb. 27 Pismo Beach, Calif.
28 Paso Robles
Mar. 1 Arroyo Grande
2 Morro Bay
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The JABCYNSKI TROUPE, scheduled to tour with Hamid-Morton cancelled and have been replaced by the TABAK TROUPE, a seven person teeterboard act, (also doing a pole voltige number called THE ROBERTOS and a hair-suspension). The troupe was booked by BAUER-HALL.

JOE BAUER flies to Europe for a quick business trip in early April. In March he and his family move up to their rented home in New Jersey. Meanwhile the Bauer-Hall Agency has set the fabulous FLYING ESPANAS, the FRANCONI DUO and the FARRELL BROS. (hi-wire) with the BILLY SMART Circus for a 12 week run starting June 26th. Two TV specials are also part of the contract.

ED and CYNDY MIGLEY bought 2½ acres of rural wooded property near Providence (R.I.) where they are building a large house. CIRCUS ODYSSEY will begin its New England route in April and Ed has added a number of college dates to the route which includes the very successful annual Police Circus in Providence.

CLOSE-UPS: GRACE McINTOSH and CHUCK MARINE have added a week in July to their M & M Circus Internationale route. The date is in the Detroit area. . . BENTLEY BROS. will play four weeks in the fall instead of the announced three, plus dates in July. . . THE VASQUEZ TROUPE has already been signed for the fall tour. The Vasquez will be with Castle in 1980. . . The MONTE CARLO CIRCUS rumorhazzit, will NOT go into Circus World for ten weeks as previously reported. My sources tell me the reason is the "nut" is too great. . . The MANUEL NAVARRO Family will return to the Texas dates. . . The Texas Dates run into Thanksgiving Week this year, are spread out over a longer period than they have been for the past several seasons, which knocks out New Orleans, Evansville and Hammond for any act signing with that circuit. . . Booked into Kenneywood Park so far are the JAMES ZOPPE ROYAL

RESINBACK RIDERS and THE FLYING LANES. . . Jimmy Zoppe will also play spot dates for Fleckles Circus. . . Coming east to play a few dates for SAM T. POLACK and SANDY DOBRITCH is LAWRENCE GRANT (Lion Act). . . JASON McCULLOM, formerly at Circus World and previously with the Coronas, is now living in the Philadelphia area and is building a single trapeze act for the 1980 season. . . BISBINI's Comedy Mule Act had to bow out of Rochester for M&M due to truck problems. . . JIM SWAFFORD is off to Mexico to visit shows there. . . ARIA's Bears to make a surprise announcement in mid-season and which I promised to keep secret until then.

NEWS FROM CIRCUS VARGAS: The FLYING PADILLAS joined at Whittier (Cal), also the JULIAN & MONIQUE motorcycle act and a HERRIOTT daughter. The Herriotts have garnered lavish publicity along the way. . . ROBIN MEDINA was out of the show for a few days when bitten badly by a dog. . . Three more musicians have been added to the band. . . And the new top, electric blue with orange trim was spotted in Canoga Park. . . Still to join the show are the CARLOS TWINS. . . ANNA FRITZ is no longer with the show. . . A 5th wheel unit has been purchased for the show's wardrobe. . . Business has been sensational, full houses to overflow everywhere. . . An extra fourth show was scheduled at 11 a.m. in Canoga Park. . . Tickets this year are scaled at \$5.75, \$6.75 and \$7.75. . . Visitors have included: Jimmie Briscoe, Martha Raye, Abe Goldstein, Carlotta Thomas, Tony Baumann, Eduardo Valentino, Lee Maloney, Doug Lyon, Virginia Lee Fenton, Mia Bowen, Millie Ward, Wally Ross, Bobby Yerkes, Larry Joyner, Wini McKay, Chester Cable, Smokey Jones, John Strong and the family, Ed Drake, Gary Thornton, Paul Kaye, Tommy Bentley and Chuck Clancy, plus others.

SNAPSHOTS: The GUTIS opened their season in

(Continued on Page 16)



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PEOPLE

DICK and **CAROL SCHICK**, magician/clown/Punch & Judy performers, from Chicago, recently bought a calliope which they will be using in conjunction with future shows.

FRANK HERMAN is working dates in the Los Angeles, Calif., area with his vent act.

T. O. COLLIER, Mr. **BASS**, from Tampa, Mr. Little, from Palatka (Fla) and **HUGO MARQUARDT**, visited the Ringling Red Unit during the show's engagement at Jacksonville, Fla.

NEIL MURRAY, author/photographer has put together a photo book called "The Love of Elephants"

NEW OFFICERS

New officers which were recently elected for the coming year by members of Clowns of America, Inc., "International" include:

President, Lou Walston, of Baltimore, Md., Vice-President, Tommy Smith, of Richmond, Va., Treasurer, John Tabeling, of Baltimore, Md., Secretary, Myrtle Folderauer, of Baltimore, Md., Sgt.-At-Arms, Bill Nider, of Baltimore, Md., and Directors, Bill Bailey, Woodlynne, N.J., Donna McBride, Trenton, N.J., Kay Brock, Pasadena, Md., and Bill Oakley, Eagle-ville, Pa.

which should be available in most stores. The book includes one small photo of a tiger/elephant act, possibly a European show or the Ringling show.

IN MEMORY

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IN MEMORY



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BEVERLY and JIM ROYAL will tour with the Hoxie Bros. Circus this season. Jim reports he has a new illusion called "The Light Fantastic" created especially for him by JIM STEINMEYER, of Chicago. Beverly is recovering rapidly from a leg injury sustained late last year.

DeMILLE and JOSE LUIS MUNOZ, wire walkers, were pictured in a TV Guide magazine ad for the "America vs. The World Circus Challenge" show presented by NBC-TV on Feb. 13th.

DORIAN BLAKE, illusionist and magician, will be the announcer with the James M. Cole's All Star TV Circus during March and April.

Show Report**WORLD OF MAGIC AND ILLUSION**

by Phil Chandler

The Incredible World of Magic and Illusion, now in New York City, features Richiardi. The show was at the Village Gate Theatre, but is scheduled to move up to a Broadway Theatre.

The show opens with a Spooky Black Art scene and the introduction of the M.C. It is followed by the first performer of the show, Ger Cooper, from Holland. He is truly a fine performer and his silent sleight of hand act was well received.

Count Della Ragione, from Italy, follows with more sleight of hand and then some well executed pick-pocket work, using members of the audience.

The comedy act on the program features Bob Baxter who has the audience in stitches with his routines. He is one of the funniest men in show business.

The highlight of the show, of course, is Richiardi. He opens his portion of the program with a fast opening using doves who appear and disappear at a rapid pace, followed by the vanish of a full-sized Poodle in a Temple which then produces a pretty girl.

Other outstanding illusions presented on the show include the Levitation, Broom Illusion, DeKolta Chair Vanish and a Tip-over Trunk. There are also several smaller effects prior to the intermission.

During intermission the stage is set for the Buzz Saw Illusion and when the audience is seated Bob

Baxter makes an announcement that if anyone there is apt to faint at the sight of blood it might be well if they were to leave.

The curtains part, and those on stage are dressed in hospital whites. The young lady is put to sleep and placed on the table. Then the 30 inch saw blade is started up and cuts into the victim. A stream of blood shoots out towards the audience and entrails oozed from the opening in the victim's stomach, which the saw blade had made.

At this point members of the audience are invited up on stage to view the body as it lays on the table. After this Richiardi thanks everyone for coming to see the show and the evening of magic is over.

The program runs 2 hours and is certainly worth seeing when in New York City.

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Aug. 13 to Aug. 19 - Coronas Aerial Productions
Aug. 20 to Aug. 26 - Coronas Aerial Productions
Aug. 27 to Sept. 3 - Coronas Aerial Productions

ABOVE DATES BOOKED BY ED MIGLEY 401-781-7180

- Please Send Pictures and Salary Requested -



IAIN and ORIA DOUGLAS-HAMILTON, authors of the book "Among the Elephants" will be attending the Elephant Symposium in conjunction with the annual Meet of the American Society of Mamalogists at Corvallis, Oregon, on June 17-21. The program for that event will include the following speakers and subjects: JEHESKEL SHOSHANI, Introduction; KENNETH C. WYLIE, Ivory, Elephants and Man; ROBERT C. D. OLIVIER, Ecology and Behavior of the Asian Elephant; IRVEN O. BUSS, Management Suggestions for the African Elephant; IAIN DOUGLAS-HAMILTON, Ecology and Behavior of the African Elephant.

THE STANEKS, teeterboard act and comedy number, have returned to Circus Circus in Las Vegas after a tour in Europe.

BOB BAKER, puppeteer who conceived many of filmland's special effects, was featured with the "Marionette Varieties" at the 18th annual Pacific Southwest Puppet Festival held in Oakland, Calif. the weekend of Feb. 16-18.

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In Memoriam

JAMES G. HODGES (65), purchasing agent for the Hoxie Bros. Circus for some 20 years, died on Jan. 17th at Miami, Fla. Survivors include his sisters Mary Kennedy, of Okeechobee, Fla., and Emmie Prosser and Elma Hodges, of Miami. Burial was at Woodlawn Park in Coral Gables, Fla.

SARAH JOSEPH, widow of the late Eddie Joseph, passed away last month in London. In 1952 she and her husband traveled from India to the United States and were featured at the annual Abbott's Magic Get-together in Colon, Mich. Later they went to England where they made their home.

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Suspect Kills Self

A man believed to be Charles G. Martin, a musician, sought as a suspect in the slaying of bandleader Norman Lee and two others, shot himself in a car lot in Houston, Texas. (See CR - Jan. 15, 1979 for a related story).

Martin had been missing since Lee, his wife, Pat, and their publicity man, Bob King, were slain in Lee's home in Wichita.

The man thought to be Martin, who was charged as being the murderer, shot himself with a shotgun matching the description of the weapon believed to have been used in the Lee slayings.

According to officials Martin phoned his mother in Wichita and told her he planned to shoot himself. It is the easiest way out, he was quoted as saying. She told authorities that "he was very mentally upset."

Houston police said Martin stored his car in an auto lot the day the bodies were found in the Lee home. Later he paid the storage fee, opened the car trunk, took out the shotgun, placed it to his chin and pulled the trigger.

Friends said Martin had worked with Lee's band for about a year and was constantly arguing over professional problems. He was last seen arguing with Lee after Lee's wife had refused to dance with him.

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30 photos — 16 pages of the Amazing 1963
(published 1977) Al G. Kelly-Miller Bros.
Circus Fire aboard ship and how all animals
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The Stars

Called "America vs. The World Circus Challenge" this year's London Circus Championships were featured on NBC-TV the night of Feb. 13th. The one hour program was filmed under a blue big top with red and white trim, which was said to be the largest circus tent in Europe.

Hosts for the show were Ed McMahon and Georgia Engel. The show's ringmaster/announcer was Norman Barrett.

Acts featured in the competition were:

Teeterboard — The Hernandez Troupe and the Boitchanovi Troupe, from Bulgaria.

Tightwire — De Mille and Jose Luis Munoz, from Spain.

Trick Riding — The Texas Riders and the Michaela Kaiser Troupe.

Risley — The Six Ashtons and Les Rios, from France

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MAILBAG

A comment on Dupont's recent statement about the cat acts. Regardless of the public's or fan's being lulled into "a sense of false security"... this security prevails only when the trainer exits the cage unharmed.

All take the same risk, every cat, whether they be an old well trained veteran or a young "hot" on possess the equipment to do damage, and their mood is not entirely predictable so that all trainers take an almost equal risk.

I think that the proper evaluation is in the extent of the training of the tricks accomplished, and truly the only people that are really capable of this judgement are those that are familiar with training. I use the word trainer in a general term, for if a person presents an act that has been trained by someone else they may take as big if not bigger risk than the one who broke the act since they do it day after day.

I have heard fans who see an act worked by someone other than who broke it refer to it in a disparaging manner.

Of course, everyone is entitled to a personal opinion, as is the forgoing mine, and it is also easy to make a comparison, although difficult to make a proper one.

.... Hugo Marquardt

REPORT

About 150 showfolks attended the Greater Tampa (Fla) Showman's Association's Memorial Service on Feb. 11th, which included the dedication of the new June Boyles mausoleum by Carl J. Sedlmayr, Jr. Also taking part in the program were: Myldred Gordon Trail, organist; Monsigbor McCarthy, invocation; Rev. Ronald A. Turton, sermon; GTSA Ladies Auxiliary, choir; Patty Ann Brown and Marie Carder, candle-lighters; Chaplain Lucinda Crandell and Chaplain W. B. Kourmpates, flower ceremony; Thomas Crandell, chimes; Rev. Dr. Milt F. Kaufman, benediction, and

'79 Plans

Kramien, veteran showman and owner of "Magica-zam," reports that 1978 was his biggest year since getting into the magic business. Even with a sudden cropping up of suit case full evening magic shows, crowds and grosses were bigger and better than ever.

With an advance crew of ten promotion teams, the show worked at full capacity, with more buy-outs than in past years. In July the show was featured at the 50th annual convention of the International Brotherhood of Magicians, and this year the show has been booked again for the annual Abbott's Magic Get Together in Colon, Mich., and also at the Royal British International Magicians "Gala Public Show" in Scarborough, England.

The 1979 season officially opened on Feb. 4th at Olympia, Wash., and more dates are planned this year than last season. Kramien, and co-owner Kathleen Lison have on order a new custom 45 foot diesel tractor, also being constructed is a new sleeper for the crew. In addition a new custom sound truck and advance advertising van have been added. The show's former prop semi is being rebuilt for use as a concession truck for the lobby sales. All changes in the rolling stock will be completed by March 15th

Chaplain Wm. B. Kourmpates, eulogy.

After the service in Tampa the Traveling Shrine Club of Royal American Shows inducted several new members at the Egypt Shrine Temple.

The new headquarters for the Shriners, The Imperial Shrine Headquarters for North America, is being built in Tampa and soon the offices will be moved there from Chicago.

On that same day (Feb. 11) the Independent Showmen held an exhibition complete with rides, booths, travel trailers, etc., at the Giltown Showfolks Club and Grounds.



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SAWDUST TRAIL

by M. L. DUPONT

It's not circus weather by any means, but several tent circuses are preparing to get with it in the very near future. March will bring the opening of the new Circus Genoa, owned by John Frazier, the new format of Gopher Davenport's Jungle Wonder Circus, Carson & Barnes Circus - both Circus Genoa and C&B were scheduled for a Mar. 17th opening, with the Jungle Wonders Circus opening early in the month. Some Florida-based shows will open in March and April. Routes are being kept secret this year, as show owners don't want anyone to know where they are.

Mike Martin, magician and illusionist, reports he had a busy winter season with his new spook and thrill show, which was booked by many producers. Mike is planning a full year with some circus dates. He was recently at the Beatty-Cole quarters and reports that lots of activity is taking place there.

Hunt's Circus will open as a Circus theme park for '79 instead of going on the road. It isn't known if they will continue to play some of their indoor engagements, but they were looking for rides for the park. They are located just outside of Florence, N.J. and will open in the spring.

The Moscow Circus was scheduled to play in Louisiana (Baton Rouge and Monroe) and already reports indicate these two spots have been cancelled. Guess they are still going to play the Texas and Oklahoma dates.

The Ringling Circus now has a full time Chaplain, Father David G. Hennessy, who was appointed by Bishop Rene Gracida of Pensacola/Tallahassee, who is chairman on migration and tourism of the National Conference of Catholic Bishops in the U. S. Father David Hennessy will travel with the show people.

The former circus elephant Shirley, formerly owned by Dorey Miller and worked by Bobby Gibbs, was

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the subject of a feature story in the Monroe News Star-World recently. The full history of Shirley, compiled by this writer with the help of friends, was the subject of the story. Shirley still remembers her act and was put through her paces by Ken Benson, winter employee at the Louisiana Purchase Garden & Zoo. Shirley was donated to the zoo by Mr. Miller in Sept. 1977 and has done well in retirement. Ken Benson has also been the subject of special news items. He will leave late this month to join Circus Genoa for the coming season.

Tex Dreyfus writes that circus news is nil in Houston, but he invites all circus fans and performers to call him or come and visit when in the area. He'd be happy to cut-up jackpots with them and who knows if you catch him in the right mood it might mean a free lunch. Don't dispare Tex, your area will soon be jumping with circuses of every description.

By the time this appears in print readers will have seen the "Circus of Champions - America vs The World" TV special. I had planned to review the show as written-up in a British paper, but since it has been on TV this won't be necessary. This is the first time in three years that an American flying act hasn't won first place. Back in '76 the Rock-Smith Flyers won, in '77 the Flying Terrells took 1st place, while the Rock Smith Flyers came in second. Thanks to Jim Forrest for the most interesting program.

Miscellaneous

BLACKSTONE cancelled a scheduled date at Redding, Calif., and added an extra day to his San Jose (Calif) engagement next month and now both days have been sold out.

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Interviews being held for two weeks to re-cast the 1979 show.



KARIN and HAPPY DAVIS visited the Woodcocks and Gaonas on Ringling Blue at Lakeland, Fla., before flying off to Australia for the Evel Knievel Thrill Show tour. They've built a new "Rolls Rotten" comedy car for the tour.

PERRY H. E. CARRISON, former National Director of Public Relations for Ringling-Barnum, is now based in San Francisco where he handles promotions for shows in that area.

WM. G. BALE, circus producer in the mid-west area, is recovering at home from eye surgery.

BOB HAKES will be handling concessions with the Martin & Downs Circus this season.

STAN MULFORD, former Circus Vargas advanceman

is now National Press Director for the International All Star Circus.

MURILLO & ULISES, novelty balancing act, will be featured at the Feb. 28-March 4th Sports Show in Oakland, Calif.

LEO COFFEY, who was the late VICTOR JULIAN's assistant for many years, plans to carry on the Julian dog act and will present it on various shows during the season.

SALLY and MIKE LaTØRRES and their elephant "Stoney" will be again touring with the International All Star Circus this year.

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BILLY BARTON (Continued)

Milwaukee, Feb. 22nd and are playing sport shows, spot-dating Hubert Castle, and making the Wayne Police date for SANDY DOBRITCH, also some dates for Carden-Johnson. They spent the summer in Florida with HEIDI and JIM GROGAN, visited Ringling Red in St. Petersburg and Circus World. Elvira writes that the performance at Circus world is "very nice and every act is great". . . MIMI ZERBINI PENNEY joined Int'l All Star. . . CAMILLE O'BRIEN is recuperating from a broken foot. . . INGE WILLIAMS will spot date this season. . . PATTI RUCKER will be with Jubilee On Ice when it opens in late March. . . WIRENGARD created new swords for ETHEL JENNIER's Sword Balance number. . . Looks like daughter JO ANN has finally decided to build on property she owns in the Tallahassee area. . . THE KLEMENTIS are enjoying their run in Santo Domingo. . . Monte Carlo Circus into Buffalo just ahead of the Shrine Circus. . . Rumors to the contrary, the

Fleckles Circus will produce the St. Louis Shrine Circus in June and are issuing contracts. . . ETHEL JENNIER went back into the air when she did web for M&M. . . All the American acts are back now from the Circo Atayde run in Mexico. . . GENE NICHOLS to be the Beatty show baton master.

THE READERS CORNER: BLOODLINE by Sidney Sheldon (Paperback). This book is proof that a "best seller" is created by sheer hype and an author's past track record. A pot-boiler. Save your money. DITTO: "The Insiders" by Rosemary Rogers, a puerile attempt to emulate the late Jacqueline Susann without that lady's gift of story-sense. Bornographic trash, pure and simple.

CAPSULE CINEMA: "Moment to Moment" starring LILLY TOMLIN and JACK TRAVOLTA. A courageous attempt to change the image of both stars but a miserable failure to achieve that aim. Wait until they appear in something else - separately.

See you down the road, luvs.



On Jan. 13th, many members of the Joel E. Warner Top No. 20, CFA, braved treatorous ice and snow covered roads to make their way to the I.M.A. Auditorium in Flint, Mich., for the annual Shrine Circus which was the 1979 debut of the Hubert Castle Circus.

Once inside the auditorium the winter was forgotten as the group were entertained by the Elf Khurafeh Shrine Clowns; the Pablo Rodriguez Troupe; Tarzan Zerbini; The Roberts; The Glorions; The Octavios; Killer Willard; The Riques; The Martinez; The Drougettes; Mlle. Jacqueline; Rosaire and Tony, the wonder horse; Rafael and the Aerialovelies; Arturo Segura; The Flying Lunas; the Cheletis Sisters; the Dillkas Sisters; The Segura Family; Irene, Tonga & Co.; the Marhal Camels and Llamas; the Maple Grove Arabians; Christine's chimps; the Mario Mad Hatters; Ron & Mitzi; the Elkardis and the Hubert Castle Circus elephants.

Col. Lucky Larabee was the ringmaster; Clement E. Toca, directed the band and Gene Randow was the producing clown.

The program book designed by George DaDeppo and produced by Henry Barrett was sold out. The coloring books and iron-on transfer, also designed by

PEOPLE

JIMMY DIXON and his Magic Circus is being booked for the coming season by Amusement Enterprises of Houston, Texas.

WILLIAM J. MCCARTHY has joined Frank B. Hall & Co., amusement insurance brokerage firm, as an account executive in the Amusement Division. At the same time the company announced that two of its account executives — BARBARA VAN NORMAN and TOM BEAR have been promoted within the firm.

KARRIE KLOWN, of Yuma, Ariz., works birthday party dates in her area, then applies all funds received to charity work in the area.

SID LORRAINE, a popular author and magician, will receive the 5th annual "Magic Achievement Award" during the March 23-25 "Weekend of Close-up Magic" which will be held in the Catskills, of N.Y.

George DaDeppo, sold like hot cakes.

After the circus performance the CFA members went to the Museum, Side Show and Cookhouse of Evelyn and Dale Riker where they relaxed for a while before braving the winter elements as they journeyed home.

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by SCOTT CAIN, Entertainment Editor

(Reprinted from the Atlanta (Ga) Journal of Feb. 8, 1979. The article included some photos).

The circus is back in town and, while the pageantry is lavish as ever, thrills are surprisingly scarce.

For one thing several performers who might be expected to appear with this troupe are not here.

Conspicuous by his absence is aerial daredevil Elvin Bale, who reportedly has been transferred to the Monte Carlo troupe.

Animal trainer Benny Williams, the troupe's glamor boy, is not spotlighted and animal trainer Charly Baumann was missing.

As a consequence, the evening's two truly hair-raising routines took place at the end of the performance.

The Urias Troupe is a team of motorcycle daredevils who perform inside a metal cage called the "Globe of Death." They whirl around inside the structure, making upside-down loops as if they were nothing and buzzing constantly within perilous range of each other. They are a sight well worth seeing.

Competing with the Urias Troupe for chills is the Kondovi high wire quartet from Bulgari, making

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their first appearance in America. The Kondovi perform only a handful of stunts, but each one is a sensation. The Kondovi open their act with a seemingly untoppable feat: A man walks a tightrope while totting a girl on his shoulders, and the girl has a second girl standing on her shoulders.

The Kondovi's next trick involves a man traversing a tightrope while carrying a pole on his forehead, atop which is perched a girl. It's really breath-taking.

The Kondovi then perform tricks involving wheeled transport across the wire, but by this time the audience has been reduced to jelly.

Notable among other events were the Kehaiovi, a gymnastic troupe from Bulgaria, who achieved a seven-person human pyramid. This reportedly is unprecedented.

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