

THE CIRCUS REPORT

Number 39

September 28, 1981

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SHOW DATES

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to Nov. 1 Jackson, NJ

Carson & Barnes Circus
Sep 28 London, Ky.
29 Williamsburg
30 Middlesboro

Oct 1 Russellville, Tenn
2 Greenville
3 Bristol, Va.
4 Marion

Castle Int'l Circus
Oct 2-4 Johnson City,
Tenn

Circus Arts Troupe
Oct 1-4 Grand Junction
Colo

Franzen Bros. Circus
Sep 26 Segourney, Iowa

Hoxie Bros. Circus
Sep 28 Jasper, Ala.
29 Marion
30 Prattville

Oct 1 Eufaula
2 Troy
3 Panama City, Fla
4 Millville

Pickle Family Circus
Oct 3-4 San Leandro, Ca

Ringling-Barnum - Blue
Sep 29-30 Des Moines, Ia
Oct 2-4 Toledo, Ohio

Ringling-Barnum - Red
Sep 30-Oct 5 Salt Lake
City, Utah

Roberts Bros. Circus
Sep 29 Jasper, Ga.
30 Franklin

Royal Crown Circus
Sep 29-Oct 3
Dubuque, Iowa

Royal Hanneford Circus
to Oct 4 Richmond, Va.

Swan Bros. Circus
to Oct 5 Bakersfield, Ca.

TNT & Royal Olympic
Sep 30-Oct 4 Ames, Ia.

... MAGIC ...

Krystali
Sep 29-30 San Angelo, Tx
Oct 1-2 Abilene
3 Big Spring

Magie Montreal
Oct 3-4 Montreal, Queb.

Pf. Miller - Magic Time USA
Sep. 28 Alamas, Colo.
29 Las Animas
30 Lamar

Felix Snipes
Oct 2-3 Wilmington, NC

Starfire
Sep 29-Oct 3 Ogden, Utah
Oct 4 Pocatello, Idaho

... OTHER DATES ...

Burr's Fun-O-Rama
Sep 27-Oct 3 Cumberland
Maine

James H. Drew Exposition
Sep 28-Oct 3 Byron, Ga.

Bobby and Rosa Gibbs
to Oct 4 Richmond, Va

My Heart Is In Your Shoes
Oct 1-18 New York, NY

Joe Schmitt, Jr. - Clown
Oct 1 Parker, Texas
3 Ft. Worth

Tip Top Shows
Oct 3-8 La Crosse, Wsc

"Los Argentinos"

Perch Act

"Munoz Sisters"

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Wish to extend to **John Pugh**
Vice President - General Manager

Clyde Beatty - Cole Bros. Circus

Muchas Gracias y

Muy Agradecido

for the fine 1982 contract for our return
to the Clyde Beatty Circus.

Also my special thanks to

Mr. Wilson Storey, Talent Co-ordinator
for the Clyde Beatty Circus, for his help.

My Sincere Thanks,

Luis A. Munoz

Manager

Cirkus Scott

by NELS JULEUS

Cirkus Scott, a one-ring Swedish Circus, played the Scandinavium in Gothenburg, Sweden, Sept. 1-6. The 8 o'clock show on Saturday, Sept. 5th, was presented to an enthusiastic but pitifully small audience of about 200 people.

After the nine member band, directed by Laszlo Kiss, opened with a rousing rendition of "The Ritual Fire Dance", ringmaster Nalle Knutsson introduced the Three Donnert's from Hungary in a fast-paced juggling act on horseback.

The audience was then introduced to the Duo Evelyn, aerialists who had just come back from an engagement with Ringling Brothers. Evelyn kept up the pace with her neck spins.

Clarrison's Seals from England delighted the audience, as the animals begged, balanced and bounced.

This was the first season in Sweden for East German clowns Bubi and Jule. Bubi balanced a chicken on a ten foot pole. The hen laid eggs for one clown but not for the other. Finally, a real egg splattered on Jule's head.

By then the trampoline was set up for Jumping Jack from Australia. With his pratfalls and incredible entanglements in his equipment, Jack proved to be a great crowd pleaser.

Bubi and Jule reappeared in a bit of between the acts hocus-pocus, in which the illusionist "magically" removes his shoes.

Janos and Katarin Donnert took over the ring with their liberty horse act. Classy, beautiful and striking describe this horse and pony act in which more than 20 animals waltzed, played dead and jumped on command.

Following the fifteen minute intermission in which Coke and "korv med brod" (hot dogs) were served in the lobby, the ringmaster brought on the Flying Gaonas. The trapeze numbers were excellent - clean and beautifully executed. Tito performed his triple somersault with authority. These Mexican performers have appeared in the USA and won a gold medal at the Monaco Circus Festival.

The clowns, Bubi and Jule performed

their own version of a trapeze act which had the audience laughing and gasping. Without a net, the two fools, on the pretext of cleaning the rigging, precariously spun and swung. When one clown actually fell from his perch, the other nonchalantly grabbed him by his elastic suspenders. A stupendous attraction!

Juggler Dick Franco's routine was practically a dance - fast and energetic. His specialty was flipping a silver spoon from his foot to an upright position on his forehead.

The Three Szimeks then appeared on the high wire, performing headstands, leaps, a blindfold fast cross, unicycling and a bicycle pyramid.

While the next act was setting up, Bubi and Jule did their rope walk take off.

The Italian clowns, the Brizzios, closed the show with their wall paper and paint routine in which they splashed each other with various colors of "goop". The audience loved it as the clowns slipped and sloshed on the tarpaulin covered ring.

The listed Grand Finale was nothing more than a "curtain call."

Cirkus Scott was started in 1937 by four brothers - Carl, Herman, Bruno and Natini Goldkette. They performed as clowns under the name Four Bronetts. Currently the show is managed by Kate Bronett, Bruno's widow, and her son Francois.

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Festival Circus

BY SALLY PAYNE

The Kentucky State Fair Festival Circus, is an outdoor, chiefly aerial circus, presented Aug. 13 thru 22nd.

It is produced by Ron Kelroy and Associates. It is an entirely new concept for an outdoor circus, due to its unusual set-up.

The seating, 3000 bleacher seats and 1000 grand stand chairs, were arranged in a square with the entrance at one corner, with a large banner above lettered "Circus" and a 'clock' with the hands showing the next 'Show Time'. Behind the seat sections is a red and white plastic side wall, with very wide stripes attracting attention from the outside and providing a nice background for the ground acts.

In the center were two rings, then in one corner was the arena, for the Rix bears. The rest of the area was used for the aerial riggings. Adding more color to the setting were many strings of multi-colored plastic pennants, strung from the ground up to the high riggings. An iron railing separated seating

from the ring curbs and aerial riggings, for safety.

For the night shows there were six light standards, each one holding two quartz lamps. Two standards were placed outside each ring curb, and two between the rings, so they could be turned to which ever ring it was needed.

The seating is the property of Ron Kelroy & Associates, as well as the two 45 ft semi's to haul the equipment.

They did three shows a day - 2, 4:30 and 8 p.m. The opening performances ran a little over an hour, but was tightened to one hour by the Friday matinee.

Beside the Kentucky State Fair, Ron has the Springfield, Ill., State Fair (Aug. 6-16), the North West Wisconsin Fair at Chippewa Falls, July 29, Door County Fair at Sturgeon Bay, Wisc (Aug. 8), Murray County Fair at Slayton, Minn. (Aug. 19), Central Wisc. State Fair at Marshfield, Wisc. (Sept. 2-5).

The program, which follows, was enhanced by Col. Lucky Larabee's clear and concise announcing, over a well modulated sound system, and Keith Killinger's band, provided music that was circus tempo, that says it all, for us old timers, in the way of a compliment

Music by: Keith Killinger, trumpet, Richard Groller, drums and Wanda Darlington, organ.

The program: Jupiter Trio (Tony, Pio, Jr.,
(Continued on Page 24)

ATTENTION

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Circus Photos

CIRCUS PHOTOS - 8 x 10"

— \$2.00 each or 5 (Five) for \$8.00 —

1 - Aerial view of Ringling Bros. Barnum & Bailey winter quarters in Sarasota 1926 - 1960.

2 - Winter quarters scene 1926 - 1960

3 - Winter quarters scene inside practice building 1926 - 1960

4 - Aerial view Ringling Fire (1944) at Hartford, Conn.

5 - Ground view of Ringling Fire at Hartford, Conn. (1944).

Send Check or Money Order to:

CIRCUS PHOTOS

P. O. Box 1398, Tybee Island, Ga. 31328

Bentley Bros. Circus

BY DON SANDMAN

Tommy Bentley and Chuck Clancy brought their Bentley Bros. Circus to the Hamilton County Fairgrounds in Cincinnati, Ohio, for the Firemen's Protective Assoc on Sept. 7-8.

The show, which was presented in front of the grandstand, enjoyed lovely weather for the run. Although it got a little cool after the sun went down for the evening performance.

Tommy Bentley was the announcer and performance director, with Hans Winn serving as his assistant. The show was backed by an excellent 6 piece band directed by Greer Brooks. Clown Alley consisted of Dion and Beverly Aumaier. Novelties were handled by Herbie Weber and Harriet Wagner had the concession for this date.

The show opened with a Grand Entry Parade of all performers and was followed by Allen Gold with 3 tigers, 4 lions (the arena was set up to the right of the rings for the entire run).

Display with the Elkardis on globes, Los Latinos, wire, Gomez Sisters, globes; Dion with his drum music; Evy Karoly, dogs; The Knocky Bros., knock-about comedy; Juan and Isabella, perch; Evy Karoly, long rein horse "Count of Monte Crisco"; The clowns with pistol marksmanship; The Nicokulus Troupe (Zerbini) teeterboard (doing a four man high); The Tia Ming Chow Sisters, hair hang (3); Liberty horses presented by Philip Anthony; The Winn Bros. high wire walk; Intermission.

During intermission there was a color book sale and Bucky Steele had elephant rides at the left end of the grandstand.

The Rodriguez Flyers, a double wide

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POSTSCRIPTS

by BILLY BARTON

An old-fashioned circus war is brewing for California next year when not one, but two circuses plan to move into the state, which is generally regarded as "Vargas Territory." And, of course, the Vargas show is girding for a battle to the death.

Cliff Vargas plans a mammoth six-pole big top for the California tour (which is to be extended); he also plans a super powerhouse program and a media blitz like the west coast never has seen.

When the Vargas show departs from California, the new Italian tent will be unveiled, which rises out of wagons and which, when it is lowered, never touches the ground.

It's reasonable to speculate that Cliff will augment his California tour with special acts and attractions which will then be pared down for the remainder of the season. A new midway is in the offing, along with a ten-in-one type side show, mounted on semi trailers.

Sharon Ward writes from Switzerland that it is almost always cold there and she has really had enough of traipsing all around Europe, and will be glad to get home.

What it boils down to is that no matter how exciting and exotic a foreign locale may be, there is just no place like home.

trapeze act (5 flyers, 2 catchers); Balancing in all three rings by The Marios, The Robertos, The Aldolphos; The Claudia Sisters in an iron jaw number (3); A double slide for life, presented by Roverta Winn and the Great Huberto; The Zerbini Family of bareback riders; Greer Brooks and the circus band played a circus medley in concert; Jo Ann and Bucky Steele's elephant act (3 Asian, 1 African); The Winn Family on the aerial motorcycle.

Some of the people seen on the show lot visiting were: Billy Barton, Bobby Davis, George Hubler, Gale Ahrens, Jake Conover, Al Conover, Angie Bowman, Don and Grace Sandman, Capt. Sam Ruhe, who again had a good show from the Bentley Bros. Circus for his annual Firemen's Circus.

Miscellaneous

Acts appearing with the M&M Productions show at the Michigan State Fair included: Danny Daniels, organist; Don Phillips Family, The Geraldos, The Rolls Duo, Miss Kathy, Wizbini; Tony Diano's elephants, and Jimmy Douglass, announcer.

Acts appearing at the "Super Expo" Ottawa, Ontario, Canada, Fair, Aug. 20-30 included: The Morgan Ashton Family, risley; Susan Sheryll's Royal Afghan Champions; Rolly, duck act/vent; Popeye (Ashtons); and Davide Zoppe's Rhesus Monkey Revue.

The show was produced by Rolly Hammond.

PEOPLE

ROULETTE and the SWAMI will be working with BIG JOHN STRONG'S Christmas tour shows where Swami will direct and also serve as the MC.

FRANK CAIN and JIM KNAPP have closed after 14 nights of Fall Fantasy Parades (providing 50 comedy parade heads) at the Kennywood Park. This was their 12th consecutive year of supplying parade heads as well as costumes at the park.

JAY COCHRANE is doing a twice a day "Sky Walk" at Kennywood Park, walking an 800 ft. long wire, 120 ft. above the ground, over the Lagoon Stage and across the major ride midway area.

THE ALFIE COCKATOO and Comedy Macaw acts are working on the Kennywood Park stage, alternating with a park produced Musical Monster Show and the LU KING Raz Ma Taz Band of Atlanta.

MAILBAG

FROM DON AND ROXY ENGESSER

We were enroute to Ohio when our Winnebago started giving us trouble. Well, Don pulled the one rig on into our spot and was going to double back for the trailer that the Winnebago pulls.

He left me with the cat trailer and Winnebago, and in a little while I noticed another motorhome chugging in on a wing and a prayer, then a big blue semi followed it in.

I couldn't help but notice that even though the semi was parked perfectly it still was swaying. Sure enough, it was Paul and Dot Kelly and one of their bulls. Dot and I enjoyed a nice visit while both men doubled back.

We had Don, Roxy, Vates, Lola, Roby Engesser and Hollis Luce and Tom Hechman all with our Exhibition this summer, so we got in a lot of sight seeing. Visited the Iron Ore Mines, Copper Mines, toured a real submarine and a 105 yr. old schooner. Was also on the Chessie Cruise Ship, a scenic boat tour in the upper Peninsula and on the "amphibious ducks" boat ride at Wisconsin Dells.

Visited with Buckles and Babs at Circus World in Baraboo. Had a public TV birthday party for our two year old tigress, and

took in the "Breakfast Run" on Iron Horse an old-time train tour. We also celebrated my mother's 85th birthday and my daughter's graduation, visited Boot Hill in Dodge City and spent part of a day at Ft. Francis in Canada, after which we went to an Indian Reserve, visited some relatives and later caught the Tommy Bartlett Water Show although we didn't have time to stay late.

This was an unusual summer, we usually visit shows and show folks, but this time we just missed several. Circuses, guess we just weren't in the right place at the right time, but as they say that's show biz!

Oh, we did see one circus, a really good one too. It was a miniature circus all hand carved by a very nice gentleman and we enjoyed a lovely visit with Mr. Royce R. Thompson.

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BY LLOYD E. JONES

Lil Sister, Audrey, of way up in Centralia, Wash., sends an article from the Daily Chronicle about "Skip" Mason, a Septuagenarian who has spent most of his life railroading, working as a locksmith, with a period of movieland contacts. The article is headed "Locksmith Aided Houdini" and that part of the long article follows:

So, you don't know who your neighbors are!

Admitting Houdini had "a good racket," Mason revealed how the great magician was able to perform one of his most amazing stunts.

While seemingly immobilized with ropes or chains secured with locks Houdini would be covered by a blanket and in seconds somehow would free himself.

Mason explains that a small hole was drilled

into the top of the locks. They could then be released by inserting a pin into the hole and tripping the mechanism.

Houdini would slide the pin in his clothing within mouth's reach. Once the blanket hide him from the audience, the performer pulled the pin out with his teeth and inserted it into the tiny hole, freeing himself.

Lil Audrey also sends a clipping showing the "Magicazam" show will be playing the area. So they are looking forward to a visit by Kramien.

Now for some "sour grapes". The recent S.A.M. Convention and visit of the Conventioneers to the Le Grande David Show produced much praise - of course, but one local couple panned it.

To my surprise, since the lavish, and I do mean lavish praise that the show has been given made me wonder if it was as good as stated. So I asked around amongst seasoned theatre-goers, professional magicians and such and while most had high praise, one who had seen many of the great shows wrote, "... a very good show for amateur theatricals! The love and pain taken to restore the theatre was more than evident, also front of house staff obviously enjoyed their job, and are not "just on a wage". The show is too 'heavy' in boxes and costumes in relationship to the Red lighting, or much dimmed stage. It is heavy going to watch, particularly if not in the first ten rows - more lighting, full stage brightness would take away much of the 'heavy' strain and you could see it for a change. They obviously are going for 'effect' but the general public rarely sees such a magnificent staged show, and it must go well partly due to front of house (decor/staff) initial approach." End quote.

A part of the "John Calvert Show" featured at the S.A.M. Convention was taped for showing on the new "You Asked For It" show.

Gosh, sakes! Did you know that a book for the Left Handed Magician is underway? That should interest (me too) Jay Bedsworth, whose card work confuses many magicians because he is left handed!

FLASH - RECIL BORDNER, head of Abbott's Magic, of Colon, Mich., died suddenly early this month. He would have been 71 years old on Sept. 20th - more details later.

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Hoxie Bros. Circus

BY KEN HOLEHOUSE

Hoxie Bros. Circus was in Hobart, Ind., on Sept. 3rd, and Mitch Hoffman and Jim Newton and I braved the chill, wet weather to visit the lot early in the morning and watch the canvas crew raise the big top.

With the special help of Bonnie, the elephant, everything was in place by 10 a.m. We seemed to be the only circus watchers around: the cold drizzle must have kept everyone else at home. But the warmth and sunny dispositions of the super-friendly backyard folks made the visit well worthwhile.

Saturday, we caught the 6 o'clock show in Joliet, Ill., and saw a top-notch show - probably the strongest Hoxie show in the past couple of years. A straw house helped us enjoy it.

First, you have an energetic young man who literally "doubles in brass" - not only playing in the band, but also doing two spectacular magic acts and, in his "spare time" announcing the show.

His name is Gary Holveck and not only is he all over the big top during the show, his kid greets you when you come in and his lovely wife appears in several illusions - and also disappears in a doll house which is speared every which way with swords.

While his son performs not only as greeter, but also as a very adept clown - particularly with a bucket full of shredded paper - Gary's act includes the color changing cane, appearing doves and the very famous illusion using the substitution trunk or metamorphosis. Very professional and one of the strong assets to this show.

You also have a superb adagio display with the Bertloffs - the only adagio I know of travelling with a mud show. The Bertloffs show great skill in balancing and are very graceful in their acrobatic routine.

The line-up of other acts has been mentioned or reviewed in previous issues, of CR, but another that requires special mention is the unique artistry of the Bruski Trio, who, in the spirit of the 1890's ride old-time bicycles, display great dignity in their turn-of-the-century set and costumes and wind up with an amazing balancing

News Notes. .

from HAROLD FLINT

The Hanneford Circus, sponsored by the Hamm's Beer firm, put on three half-hour shows daily, 10 a.m., 1 and 4 p.m. at the 1981 Minnesota State Fair.

Acts included: The Stros Skycycle, Ms. Michelle's slide for life, Johnny Luxem's Wheel of Destiny, The Flying Gaonas, the Winn Bros., highwire skywalk and the Nock Bros., double swaypoles.

The model circus of CMB member William Herman, of Chicago, has been donated to Bonanzaville, a pioneer village and museum at West Fargo, N. D., Herman, a former North Dakotan, has been disabled for the past two years and is now seriously ill in Chicago. His family wanted to make sure that his hand-carved craftsmanship was preserved.

CMB member Roy Payne, of Blaine, Minn displayed his Payne Bros. Model Circus on a late August weekend at Trollwood Park, in Fargo, N. D.



• "If business stays this good, I may buy another pony."

act on unicycles.

Overall, this is a class show running almost two hours. And although you sometimes have to duck the butchers, who seem to be selling everything but the tent, you come away from a top circus and an excellent show.

The reports have been good all season - and they're all on target.

PEOPLE

LORILINI the Clown (Lori Miles) has been signed by **BOBBY YERKES** for the Christmas Circus in St. Croix, Virgin Islands, set for Dec. 20-21.

DANNY DANIELS, comic, organist, juggler, concluded an enjoyable engagement at the Michigan State Fair for **GRACE McINTOSH** of **M&M Productions**. As a youngster Danny was known as "Danny Odzark"

BILL RODGERS flew to Ohio recently to deliver 3 hand raised macaws to **LOU SCHMIER** of Canton, he then went on to **Orwell** for a short visit with his family.

SANDRA DEE REED (Lady Sandra) wife of the deceased Circus Fat Man Harold Spohn, herself a Guinness Book of Records sword swallower, has enrolled in the Hillsborough Community College and plans to become a legal secretary.

AUSTIN MILES, author of 'The Real Ringmaster' will be on the Trinity Television Network on Oct. 30th at 8 p.m. Appear-

In Memoriam

LEO ENTWISTLE (60) died of a heart attack on Sept. 4th in Highland, Ind., while with the Hoxie Bros. Circus. He was with the show elephants when the attack occurred and fell just behind Bonnie and the young bulls that he had known for the past 14 years that he had been with Hoxie Bros. Circus. He had been pictured in many newspapers and was pictured in Life, the Nat'l Geographic, National Enquirer and others, as photographers wanted to capture his rugged face. He is believed to be survived by a brother in Boston. Burial was in Miami, Fla.

ing with him will be his wife **VALERIE** and daughter **LORI**. During their stay in California the Miles family will be the house guests of **BOBBY YERKES**, The program can be viewed on Ch. 40 in California.

PEOPLE

GUNNAR AMANDIS recently returned to the U. S. after visiting some 14 different circuses in Switzerland, Germany, Sweden and Denmark. He also visited with relatives in Copenhagen and toured the Tivoli Gardens.

THE SPIELMAN BROS., professional clowns - Cosmo-Cosmo (Charles Edward Spielman), T. Orange Clown and Felix D' Clown (Richard John Spielman) worked at the new Indian Lakes Resort/Conference Center in Bloomington, Ill., during Labor Day weekend. Following that date they worked in Naperville, followed by an engagement for the "Newlywed Corporation's" celebration in Chicago.

LUCY (Jeffery) **GREENBLATT**, is trying to locate **HELEN O'CONNOR**, the armless girl and former side show performer, who she knew as a youngster. Anyone who can help should write to: Lucy Greenblatt, c/o Jansh, R. D. 2, Downington, Pa. 19335 or call: 215-458-5775 or 215-696-1776.

Do You Remember?

BY TED LA VELDA

In 1943, Beers-Barnes Circus personnel consisted of Pop and Mom Beers, Roger and Ella Barnes and their three daughters, Charlie Beers and wife, Sadie, Tex and Tillie Lawton, La Belle-Ray Trio, Lonnie Rogers.

The show's concert was the Beers-Barnes Cowboy Band.

Side show manager was Ted La Velda with Freda La Velda, lady knife thrower and contortionist. In addition to making the openings I would do a comedy chalk talk and a card manipulation inside.

George Mueller was the show agent for the first part of the season and "Doc" Ramsey finished the season.

The show opened in early May, near Washington, N. C., where the show had wintered.

JERRY LIPKO, comedy chimp act, plans on returning his trailer and camper to Gibsonton, at the Pirates Treasure Cove showman's trailer park and then will fly to an engagement in Puerto Rico for the winter.

CARL and JIM CONLEY

Williams Bros. Circus

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AN OPEN LETTER TO ALL CIRCUS REPORT READERS

The Circus Report is our Industries only means of communication. In 1979 I started MIDWAY WEEKLY, which was a tabloid newspaper that carried lots of pictures and news about the Circus, and about the Carnival Industry. I had problems with getting advertisers, and you can not make a publication go without advertising. You can not make a publication go with the strict rules that our postal service has, and the delivery is terrible these days.

Don Marcks has worked hard these past years, compiling the Circus Report, getting it printed, bound, and ready to mail. Believe me, I know what he goes through to get this publication out and delivered to all of us each week. I know from looking at CR that he has to be taking money out of his pocket to keep it going. This can't last!

I for one am sending in my support in the form of money. I am sending Don \$50. as my support to keep the Circus Report going. I hope that some of the rest of the readers will do the same and send something, anything! Remember,.. The AB is concerned about recording artists, Fairs and Carnivals, and they are certainly not concerned about us, CIRCUS PEOPLE. Lets start a WE CARE CAMPAIGN!! Send in your support in Cash today!

Sincerely,

A large, stylized handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'John Lewis'.

John Lewis

In Memoriam

JOSEPH E. MINCHEN (94), founder of the Felix Adler CFA Tent, died Sept. 5th. He was a circus fan to the end, spending Memorial Day weekend on Hoxie Bros. Circus in Paterson, N. J., just a few blocks from his home.

Minchin was a good friend of the Ringling Circus personnel, especially during the '30s, 40's and 50's. He was on a first name basis with the greats and near greats, performers and management personnel alike. He was especially noted for his gracious hospitality as he was a great party giver.

He has outlived most of his circus contemporaries. Although most of them are gone, he is a well respected man in death, as he was in life.

Joe Minchin was an asset to the American Circus. May he rest in peace.

..... Albert House

FESTIVAL CIRCUS (Continued)

and Katinka Nock); Rix Bears (Albert and Jeannette Rix); Flight of the Eagle, (Billy Barton) cloud swing with break-away; Poncho and Lou Ann, whips and ropes; The Magyars, skycycle (Frank and Doris Galumbos); Katinka and her Poodles (Nock); Lou Ann Jacobs (acro on revolving pedestal, top of rigging, then trapeze); The Galumbos, (juggling, clubs, rola bola, rolling globes - Frank, Doris, Franky, Dieter); Wheel of Destiny (Johnny Luxem); Sway Poles (Tony and Pio, Jr. Nock); Finale, walk around with all performers with American flags.

Weather - Fine, pleasant, a chilly wind whipped the pennants pretty hard on Monday night, but weather OK the rest of the stand, at this writing (Aug. 20).

Attendance - Capacity, with a truly appreciative audience.

Staff - Ron Kelroy & Associates, producer, Col. Lucky Larabee, ringmaster, Keith Killinger, bandmaster.

A Beautiful Show, they are bound to be invited back for next year.

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— NO COLLECT CALLS —



Count "Popo" DeBathe is pictured here with Ernest Borgnine, when they both took part in the Milwaukee Circus Parade sponsored by Schlitz and produced by the Circus World Museum of Baraboo, Wisc.

ATTENTION

MR. CHARLES SCHLARBAUM

Thank you very much for your prompt response. The timing was excellent.

We hope Marqueen is doing well.

Valerie "Bunnie Bartok" Perz

Jan Perz

Sarasota, Florida

WANTED

TELEPHONE SALES PEOPLE

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Clown Show

"My Heart Is In Your Shoes!" A contemporary Clown Drama is to be presented at the Theatre For the New City, 162 2nd Ave., (New York) at 10th St., Oct. 1-18, with performances on Thursday thru Sunday evenings.

"My Heart Is In Your Shoes!" is true clown theatre, a collection of clown ensembles which propel the clown through a myriad of human emotions. Comedy is drama with a kink. The clown is a knight with a chink in the armor. Each scene or reprise presents the baggy-pants fellow as he stumbles and recovers - forever resilient lost in chaotic interplay with the world. It is classic circus clowning from all the rings of the world and it is more. It is slapstick and subtlety, absurd theatre, with the clowns frail edge always visible. Above all, it is funny and will return us all to laughter, simple and pure.

"My Heart Is In Your Shoes!" was born of genius. The collaboration of professionals with the collective background

of world clowning. Yury Belov, was director of clowning for the Moscow State Circus and head of the dept. of clowning and variety-arts for the Moscow Circus and Variety Academy.

Jan Greenfield has clowning with several European circuses and at the International Festival of Circus at Monte Carlo. Among his teachers are Jacques LeCocq and Anne Fratellini.

John Grimaldi of Dr. Quackenbush's Travelling Medicine Show and Magic Circus, has appeared at the Festival of Fools in Amsterdam and the Spoleto USA.

Joe Killian has studied with Bob Berky, Michael Henry and Ken Feit. He has performed story theatre with the United Stage Co., and clowning extensively throughout the midwest and east coast.

Tanya Sadofyeva graduated from the Moscow Circus and Variety School in 1970. She was an actress with the Moscow Clown/Pantomime Theatre and starred with the Moscow State Music Hall Theatre. Fred Yockers first clowning with the Ring

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"Step By Step" UP THE LADDER OF SUCCESS

by John Gaizick

It's rare when one individual alone possesses all the necessary ingredients to attain super-stardom such as the likes of Elvin Bale, Tito Ganoa and Gunther-Gebel Williams. Ingredients such as uniqueness, courage, dedication and charisma. All these I feel are quite evident in the performance of 19 year old Rudolph Delmonte. Since his initial debut with the Bentley Bros. Circus in 1980 he has literally won the attention and acclaim of not only us circus fans, but the often hard to please critics as well. With the Eastern edition of the show he immediately became the solo center ring attraction of this large three ring circus. Audiences were often impressed enough to give him standing ovations at the conclusion of his performance, while many waited to visit with him as well as obtain autographs from this new circus star.

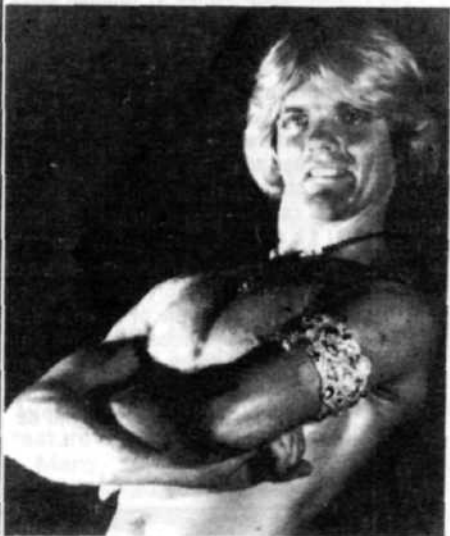
Billy Barton predicted in his Circus Report column in September of 1980 that he would be a big star, adding that he already has the class and polish of a veteran and that certain aspects of his act would be a sensation in Las Vegas. George Berkin, writer for the Reading, Pa. Times said: "Delmonte who sports a head of blond Aryan hair and a green Shakespeare like costume, made pretzels cringe. In the course of his ten minute act Delmonte placed his arches under his armpits while doing push-ups and arched his back horizontally over his head while supporting himself by his mouth."

Still another reviewer wrote: "In the center ring Rudy Delmonte presented his unbelievable contortion act, flanked by hand balancers Andres and Manuel in rings one and three. By the reaction of the young ladies in the audience Mr. Delmonte will be a star of the future and now."

Rudolph is the son of veteran European contortionist Anna Delmonte who as recently as 1979 was with Circus Vargas as head wardrobe mistress; trainer of the

famous Delmonte chimps and former Ringling aerialist from 1948 till 1956. She now plays a very important key part in her son's career. It was she who conceived his act, designed and made all his costumes, as well as designed the unique rigging needed to perform his unequaled feats. His special rigging measures ten feet high, has a mirrored ball and a thirty-two inch revolving platform.

Born in Sarasota, Florida on October 19, 1961, Rudolph's early training began with his mother's contortion experience. He then continued with Canadian Ballet



instructor Jean Spar for eight years. He also was a member of the Florida Ballet Company and made many appearances with them throughout the state. Since he was seven years old he has never failed to practice his feats some two to three hours every day. All this training is clearly the reason why he's so awesome in performance.

From 1976 till 1979 both mother and son were with Circus Vargas where he was a member of their side show, performing a segment of his act. After

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New Book Coming

Have you ever dreamed of running away with a circus? Or imagined you would at some point own a little show of your own?

"A Little Ol' Show 'A Comin' Down the Road" will take you back through the years, traveling with a small mud show, with its adventures, fun and problems that every show had to cope with. It even mentions where show folks bought their fancy wagons, rail cars and colorful harness and plumes. It's a regular encyclopedia on how the tent shows operated.

If you ever had the opportunity to visit a tent circus with its aroma of fresh cut hay, the confusion and noise of the lot, then you are sure to enjoy this narrative.

"A Little Ol' Show 'A Comin' Down the Road" is by Art "Doc" Miller, and will be released soon.

PEOPLE

EDDIE the Clown, will be at the Nashville (Tenn) State Fair, booked by World Wide Attractions, Inc.

DANNY DANIELS, comic, organist, juggler, is working dates with his "One Man" Variety Show which is booked well into January 1982, plus Christmas dates in December.

GERALD BURNS (of Clark's Lions) is lecturing Nov. 5, 7 and 9, in San Antonio for the Hertzberg Circus Project, where he will do his clown magic.

CLOWN SHOW (Continued)

ling-Barnum Circus in 1970 and has since moved onto smaller and better things. He has clowned nationally and internationally with his partner John Townsen, under the banner of "If Every Fool."

DELMONTE (Continued)

returning to Sarasota, he went to work for the Circus Hall of Fame as a contortionist, puppeteer, and tour guide. He left there in the spring of 1980, was asked by Tino Wallenda-Zoppe to join him with his Circus Maranatha for a PTL TV special, did a few nightclub dates such as Calloway Gardens in Pine Mt., Georgia, and Don Cesar's Hotel in St. Petersburg, Fla. He then signed on with the Bentley Bros. Circus and with Circus Union in Mexico. He later joined Circus Odyssey for their Central America tour, as well as their 1981 Eastern United States Shrine dates. The summer and early fall of '81



were spent performing at Tommy Bartlett's Water Circus in Gatlinburg, Tenn. While there, Rudy filmed a segment for the new upcoming syndicated television series "You Asked For It," starring Rich Little. Watch for it in your area and see if the old saying "Seeing is believing" doesn't apply.

A few of his outstanding contortion feats include a one arm handstand on a three foot high cane, exactly straight up and down; the famous zig-zag; a handstand on the tilted ladder, for which difficult trick Rudolph is grateful to the retired Master of the One Finger Stand,

Unus, for giving him special help. His finale is usually the 'Marinellie' in which he uses the special mouthpiece designed for him by Lydia Burkett.

Considering himself to be a "step by step" performer relates back to his early days of learning the art of contortion from his mother. "That's exactly how I learned it—step by step, one trick at a time. It was painful at first, but not as painful as it would be if I had started training at an older age. In really cold weather I feel it, even now, but in warm weather it's no problem."

The 5'6", 135 lb. Dutch performer enjoys talking about his activities, including playing the piano (which he's studied for nine years), scuba diving and surfing. Hang-gliding also ranks high with him. He states he always has to be careful with physical sports as hobbies because of the risk of bodily injury, which would naturally interfere with his performing.

Rudolph enjoys the traveling that goes along with his selected profession as well as the response he's received along the way. He finds the many crazy questions often asked by the public very interesting. Many of them are the result of wild imaginations. He's also proud of making the cover of "Acrobatics" magazine last summer, and of the fact that they were interested enough in him to do the feature article.

Many feel his act is especially versatile—adaptable to not only circuses, but also nightclubs, TV and stage shows. Wherever he performs, one can feel secure in quoting both Tommy Bentley and Chuck Clancy (owners of the Bentley Circus) when they spoke of Rudolph as "a sensational act and a fabulous performer. Nothing has been seen like this since the days of Albert Powell."

His mother, of course, is quite proud of her son's success and potential: "After training chimps for twelve years, I find it a little harder to train a boy!"

I rest my case . . .

NEW

The book Annie Oakley and Buffalo Bill's Wild West by Isabelle Sayers

An authentic pictorial biography (102 illustrations) primarily devoted to the 17 years she spent with Buffalo Bill.

The bulk of the photos portray Annie in her association with the show, in different segments of her celebrated act. The remaining photos depict the Buffalo Bill Show and its chief participants.

It is 96 pages, 8 1/4 x 11 in., with 102 illustrations, making it a reasonably priced book at just \$5.50 post paid.

After writing London and Hong-kong, I finally got a few copies of "The Colorful World of the Circus" by David and Sandy Davidson. It's 97 pages, 9 1/2 x 13 in., of fine quality paper filled with excellent reader matter and best of all almost 100 full color pictures, making it well worth \$8.00 post paid.

The David Hammarstrom book "Behind The Big Top" is now out of print and we purchased all remaining copies. It is still available at just \$19.95 post paid.

Lastly, Circus and Wild West go hand in hand and western things are now the rage, we have the booklet "Cowboy Roping and Rope Tricks" by Chester Byers. It is 99 pages and is just \$2.00 post paid.

Send 50c in stamps or coin for a complete list of model circus wagons, baggage horses, books, programs and almost every circus collectible.

BETTY SCHMID
485 Sleepy Hollow Road
Pittsburgh, PA 15528

YEARS AGO

TOM MIX CIRCUS - Oakland, Calif.
April 4-7, 1935

The Tom Mix Circus started arriving in Oakland, Calif., about 7:40 a.m., although some of the show folks didn't arrive until almost noontime.

They came in from Stockton, and are on trucks and trailers. Trucks are all painted red and the trailers are all built alike, and are white with red lettering.

In all they have 90 cars, trucks and trailers, 3 horse cars and 6 cages.

They have 15 tents - big top with 4 center poles, 20 long quarter poles, 34 short quarter poles, 52 end poles. The menagerie, has 5 center poles, the side show is an open front unit with 14 poles, 12 banners a bally stand, 3 ticket boxes; cookhouse has 5 poles and 16 tables; then there are 4 small tents, 5 candy stands, Tom Mix's tent; Marquee.

In the menagerie they have 36 horses, 10 ponies, 1 elephant, 6 cages - lion, tiger, two bears, two parrots, mountain lion, monkey, lion, Ford Model display and a candy stand

They have 12 men in the band and 12 people in the wild west.

The Blue seats have 64 stringers, 14 rows high; Reserves are 12 rows high, 18 stringers; Grand Stand is 10 rows high, 30 stringers.

The side show has: Billy Pilgrim, armless and legless; Jolly Lee, fat girl; Roberta-Ray half man and half woman; Schlitz, the pin head; Mickey Brown, human skelton; Princess Ann, midget; Flip, frog boy; Tad Hazard, tattooed; Veda and Dr. Patrick, mystic; Dorloes Surtees, three legged girl; John Henry-Joe, three faced-double bodied; Chief Ormo, shrunken head.

The trucks include: Tom Mix's big bus, two trucks, kitchen truck, seven horse trucks, pole truck, grand stand seats, grand stand planks, reserved seats, stringers, jacks, blue seats, 3 light plants, 2 ticket trucks, 7 cage trucks, seal truck, calliope, side show truck, props, wardrobe, 30 trailer homes, privilege truck.

The show opened in the afternoon with a small crowd, but had fairly good crowds for all of the other performances. The crippled children were there on Friday.

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PEOPLE

FRAN and CHARLENE HUNT, of Titusville, Fla., are visiting in Salt Lake City, Utah. They are there for the wedding of their son, Paul, to Sue Chadawick. Paul does a comedy gymnastic act and has appeared as a special attraction at many sporting events for ABC Wide World of Sports and CBS Sports Spectacular. He just recently completed a tour of Eastern U. S. with Nadia Comaneci, the great Romanian gymnastic star.

THE SPIELMAN BROS., publish the "Clown Chatter Magazine" for professional entertainers around the world. They have 5500 subscribers and information can be obtained by writing them at: 12100 So. 80th Ave., Box 323, Palos Park, Ill. 60464.

WILLIE LAMBERTI, age 73, formerly a member of The Gretonas high wire act, is recovering from a serious operation and is undergoing radiation therapy for cancer. Doctors say he will recover.

Willie and his wife, Clara, came to the

YEARS AGO (Continued)

It rained every day during the shows. On Wednesday and Thursday night and all day on Saturday and Sunday. A hard rain and the water was knee deep in some places.

They used straw and shavings all over the lot.

A very good show was given and a parade was given on Thursday at noon. The show is playing on the Golf Course at 45th and San Pablo Ave.

It was still raining when they started to teardown on Sunday night and they left early on Monday morning for the next spot which was Martinez.

U. S. in 1929 with the Ringling Circus. The Gretonas and The Wallendas arrived on the same boat and worked opposite each other on the Ringling show for seven years.

He would enjoying hearing from friends and mail should be sent to: Willie Lamberti, 1420 Main St., Rochester, Indiana, 46975.