



A crowd of more than 200 people gathered in the EMU courtyard Tuesday at noon to watch a performance of "The World's Smallest Circus." Eugene is the only Willamette Valley stop on the group's 32,000 mile tour, which covers 40 states.

## The smallest show in town

Warm sunshine, a large and good-humored crowd, and talented performers from The Royal Lichtenstein Circus blended into an entertaining noon hour Tuesday, to the pleasure of both young and old.

Nick Weber, an 11-year veteran of the Eugene streetshow circuit, brought his band of storytellers, dancers, jugglers, high wire artists, clowns and trained animals to the EMU courtyard for a performance of "The World's Smallest Circus."

From the show's beginning, Weber wielded a fast-paced monologue that kept viewers enthralled. Calliope music accompanied the troupe's fables and acting. They ran off puns, gags, one-liners and demonstrated skills and tricks that left some people either gaping or scratching their heads.

A black Himalayan bear, bedecked in a becoming blue skirt, managed to roll around on a wooden wheel. Two dogs, both dressed in bright skirts, had a free run on the leash, either

coming out of wooden boxes or riding the back of a small shetland pony.

Nancy Olesen, the only woman in the show, has always been intrigued by the circus life and used her theatrical interest to begin her street theater career.

A native of St. Peter, Minn., Olesen knows being the only woman has its disadvantages. "I'm clearing a path for other women," she says.

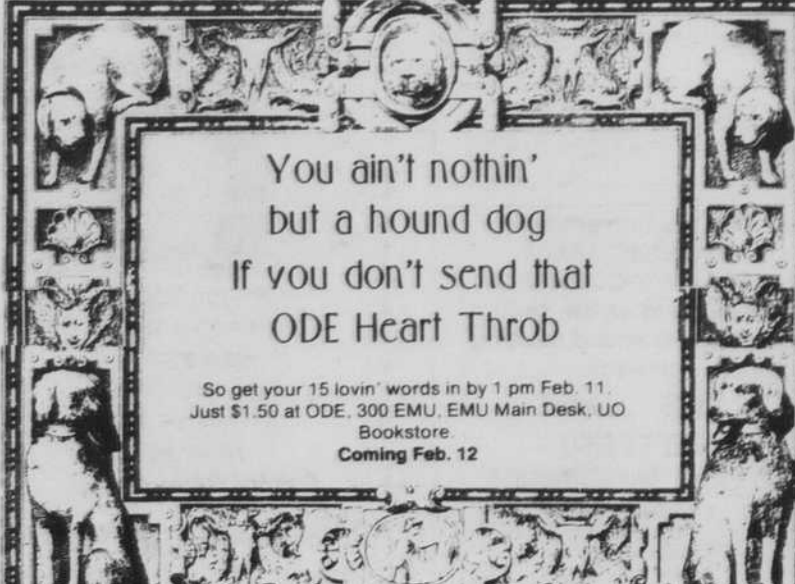
Weber says the team may recruit another woman this week for next year's tour.

"We change the show every year" he said, "and we are always bringing in new people with new skills."

It's a long road for the troupe. They receive no salary and donations cover only basic expenses. Eugene, their only Willamette Valley stop, is one spot on a 32,000 mile tour. At the end of their eight-month tour through 40 states, Weber's crew returns to Santa Barbara, Calif., their summer home.



Photos by Bob Baker



You ain't nothin'  
but a hound dog  
If you don't send that  
ODE Heart Throb

So get your 15 lovin' words in by 1 pm Feb. 11.  
Just \$1.50 at ODE, 300 EMU, EMU Main Desk, UO  
Bookstore.  
Coming Feb. 12

**29-Gallon Glass Aquarium**  
with fluorescent hood  
Reg. \$62.99      **Sale: \$39.99**  
Sale starts Friday, Feb. 12

**Freeze-dried Tubifex Worms**  
15 grams: Reg. \$2.29 • **Sale: \$1.29**  
Fish love 'em!

Little Ocean

1920 Franklin Blvd.  
687-0682  
In Hiron's-McKays Plaza

Look for  
other in-store  
fish specials

Open 7 days

kinko's  
copies

4c

self  
service

- computerized Xerox
- reduction
- 2 sided copies
- binding
- lamination

344-7894  
764 E. 13th

