

# HAPPENINGS

## Circus star risks life and limb

Dolly Jacobs wasn't content to be earthbound. She worked diligently to create the most spectacular aerial Roman rings displays in over four decades of circus artistry.

Dolly's incredible act, shunned by many because of its physical rigors, is a highlight of the thrill-filled 113th Edition of Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey Circus, produced by Irvin Feld and Kenneth Feld and coming to the Portland Memorial Coliseum on Thursday, September 15th for 8 startling performances through Sunday, September 18th.

Never satisfied with her own ethereal efforts, Dolly recently added a breath-taking new finale to her act — a somersault dismount from the rings! This involves a risky mid-air passage from the rings — with no net — to grasp a rope by which she descends from her airy perch.



Dolly Jacobs, Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey Circus star.

Other incredible performers in this edition of The Greatest Show On Earth include the greatest wild animal trainer of all time — Gunther Gebel-Williams — in three exciting displays. This season marks the circus debut of America's favorite pussycat, The Pink Panther, who keeps popping up in the most unexpected places. The Carrillo Brothers hop, skip and jump along a 40-foot-high 5/8-inch steel strand and The Fearless Bauers execute flawless exchanges on swaypoles 70 feet above the arena floor.

Tickets for the exciting new 113th Edition of Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey Circus are now on sale at the Coliseum Box Office, Meier & Frank (Downtown, Eugene and Salem), G.I. Joes Stores (Beaverton Mall, North Portland, Eastport Plaza, Oak Grove/Milwaukie, 18400 S.E. Stark/Rockwood and Salem).



"A Photograph: Lovers in Motion" (Photo: Richard J. Brown)

## 'Lovers' features local talent

PassinArt: A Theatre Company will present "A Photograph: Lovers In Motion" by Ntozake Shange (author of "For Colored Girls") August 19-21 and 26-28th at Matt Dishman Community Center. Friday and Saturday performances are at 8:30 p.m. and 3:30 p.m. on Sunday. General admission is \$6.50 and \$3.50 for seniors/students (recommended for mature audiences — 17 and over). Cast members are Michael Grant, Clarice Bailey, Rita Bankhead, Nathaniel Haynes, and Brenda Phillips. Directed by Constance Carley. This event is partially sponsored by the Metropolitan Arts Commission/National Endowment for the Arts.

## Fifth Dimension appears here

GRASSROOTS NEWS, N.W. — From out of the mellow harmony of the 1960s and early 1970s comes the sound of success — The Fifth Dimension — to take on the 1980s with the discipline and wisdom of experience.

The Fifth Dimension went number one with a bullet in the mid-sixties with a string of hits that included "Up, Up and Away," "Stone Soul Picnic," "One Less Bell to Answer" and "Last Night I Didn't get to Sleep at All." After soaring high for nine years, the group reached the law of diminishing returns with the exit of two of its most popular members, Billy Davis, Jr., and Marilyn McCoo. The group is currently comprised of Florence LaRue, Lamonte McLemore, Ron Townson, Mike Proctor and Joyce Wright.

In a telephone interview, Florence LaRue said the lull which occurred in the mid-seventies was the result of a "lack of innovation on the part of the group."

"Many people are under the impression that when Billy and Marilyn left, the group changed. This is not so. We were going through changes at that time and if we had continued to be successful I'm sure they wouldn't have left. The lull in our career came because we had found a successful sound and instead of being innovators we continued the same sound. We didn't continue to grow. Music all around us was changing and we were not changing with it."

How does she rate the music of today? "It is as exciting as ever. You are always going to have your radicals and those who are lucky enough to have one hit on their first time out. There are fine, young musicians around. I think it is wonderful that we have such a choice of music."

The Fifth Dimension created a place for themselves in musical history by taking vocal harmonizing to its limit. LaRue said, "We didn't set out to sing a certain type of music. We have always performed all types of music in our live shows, although our recordings have been pop. We are fortunate to have voices within the group that enable us to sing all types of music. We coined the phrase, 'Champagne Soul'."

She says the hit "Up, Up and Away" was not only their first million dollar seller, but it also gave the group its unique sound. "At first we were compared to the Mamas and the Papas."

Currently the group is on a nationwide tour in the Lovin' Feelings concert and will appear in Portland at the Memorial Coliseum Saturday, August 27th. Also on the ticket are Frankie Valli and the Four Seasons, Johnny Rivers and The Supremes.

"The Fifth Dimension is in an experimental stage right now. We are trying all types of sounds while staying true to good harmony and fun music. We will continue to create music that endures throughout the years."

*Editor's note: Mrs. Kathryn Hall Bogle is on vacation this week. Her column, OBSERVATIONS, will appear next week as usual.*

## Correction

Johnny S. Williams is the new Director of the American Contract Bridge League (ACBL). His nearly two dozen bridge tournament trophies were won in play with teams in the Northwest Bridge Association of the American Bridge Association (ABA). The Club Finesse also joined in the celebration of Williams' election. (Please see August 3, 1983 issue, page 8.)

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