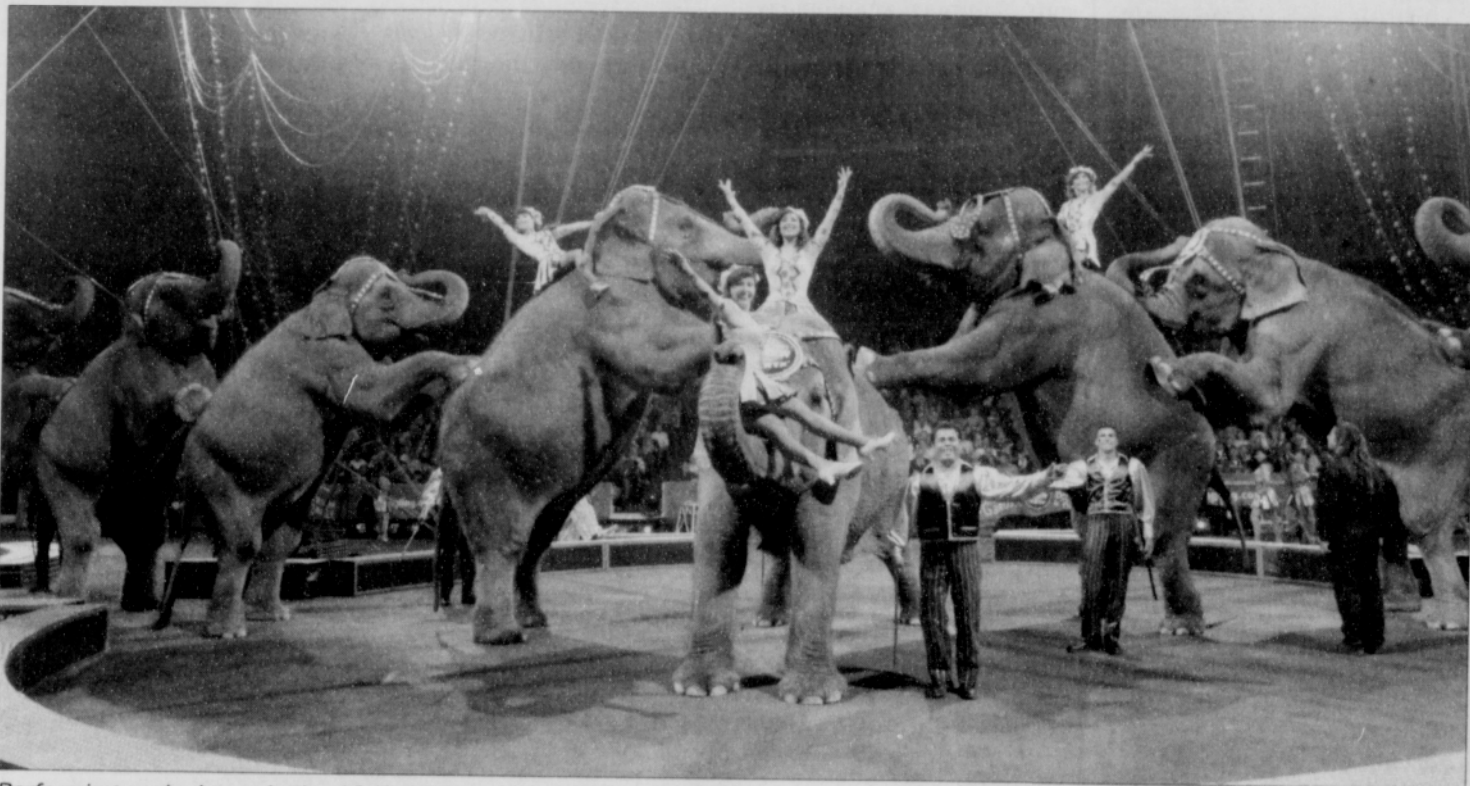


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Ringmaster Kevin Venardos and circus diva Danette Sheppard.



Circus Songstress Danette Sheppard is the first female-vocalist in Ringling Bros. history.

Whether it's a lone clown performing magic, a madman risking life and limb on the flying trapeze or atop a high wire, Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey Circus is the place where the whole seat will be yours, but you'll only need the edge. The 134th edition of the circus comes to town from Sept. 22 through

26 at the Rose Garden arena. Ringmaster Kevin Venardos will take to the floor with his powerful tenor voice, as circus diva Danette Sheppard, the first featured female vocalist in Ringling Bros. history - dazzles with her deliciously soulful sound. The production includes 100

human and animal performers from every corner of the globe, a live band and an original score, full-blown production numbers, costumes, props and lighting design. Tickets range from \$11 to \$70. For tickets, call 503-224-4400 or visit www.ringling.com.

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Bibb Has the Blues

Blues and folk singer Eric Bibb will be performing on Tuesday, Sept. 21 at Mississippi Studios in north Portland.

The performance follows his Aug. 24 release of "Friends" a CD that includes guest performances by artists who inspired him, including Taj Mahal, Charlie Musselwhite, Odetta, Mamadou Diabate, Martin Simpson, Kristina Olsen, Guy Davis and Harry Manx.

Born in New York, Bibb is the son of a 1960s folk music theater singer, Leon Bibb. His uncle was world-renowned jazz pianist, John Lewis, of the Modern Jazz Quartet and his godfather was singer,

actor and activist Paul Robenson.

Bibb has toured throughout the world, enjoying success in the United States, Canada, England, France, Germany, Sweden, Japan and Australia. He and his band have played at many major festivals worldwide. His talent for both performing and songwriting has been recognized with a Grammy nomination and most recently for the 2003 W.C. Handy nominations for artist of the year, acoustic blues and acoustic blues album of the year.



Blues and folk singer Eric Bibb will perform this month at Mississippi Studios in north Portland.

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REVIEWS ON EXCITING NEW VEHICLES BY THE WORLD'S LEADING MANUFACTURERS

The Portland Observer

World of Autos

2005 Dodge Grand Caravan SXT

Tested Vehicle Information: Price: \$33,110; Engine: 3.8 liter V-6; Transmission 4-Speed Automatic

The 2005 Dodge Grand Caravan SXT has hit the market early with some new changes. The new "Stow 'n Go" second and third row seats have been added to this year's model along with the availability of curtain side airbags on all three rows. The "Stow 'n Go" seats are easily stowed away into the floor wells to convert to a flat cargo area. Other available options are the DVD entertainment navigation system, power-adjustable pedals and power lift-gate and side sliding doors. The base price starts at \$26,315 for this vehicle.



The space between rows allows for generous legroom, providing comfort. The seats allow the passengers to adjust the headrest to several positions including one that accommodates for young children's heights. It offers a comfortable ride for all passengers and with the front dual and rear air controls it allows everyone their choice of temperature. There is added safety for parents of young children with the power side sliding doors, because they do not open unless the vehicle is in park.

If the American consumer can get over the "Mini Van Mom" syndrome then the sales of mini-vans, in my opinion, would increase. They are very versatile in function and offer more room than the car/suv type of vehicles that are being produced by numerous manufacturers.