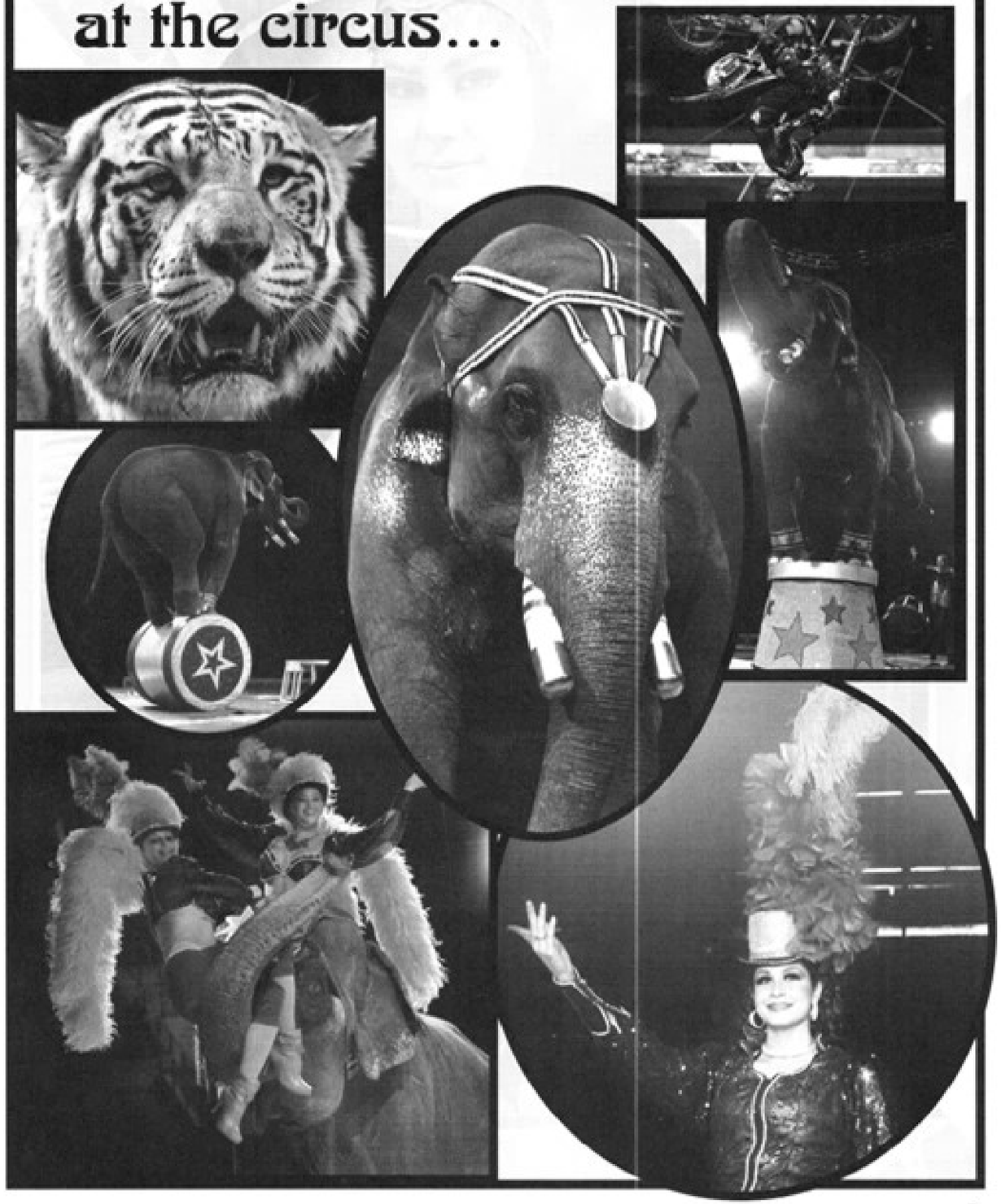
Look who you just might see at the circus...



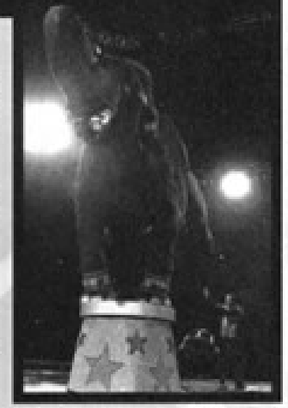
Michelle Audrey
Ringmaster and Emcee

This beautiful and gracious mother of 3 is the mistress of ceremonies of the Shrine circus, and for her the circus is a family affair. Husband Israel works with Audrey as the prop manager for the extraordinary live performances. Audrey delights in the faces of her audience each and every performance. Her love of children and appreciation of family values is a constant inspiration for Audrey. As Audrey often says, "I have the best job in the entire world. I help to bring joy into the lives of everyone who comes to the circus."

For Audrey, laughter is truly the best medicine. Raised in a professional circus family, after graduating from high school in Texas, and attending the University of Texas in El Paso, Audrey worked as a nurse. Although she loved providing care to her patients, the circus was never far from Audrey's heart. As a busy working mom, Audrey can attest, her life is exactly like a three-ring circus. This busy mother juggles both personal and professional duties, and is admired by her fans across the globe.

Audrey dons a stunning array of custom costumes throughout the Shrine circus. From her surprise appearance at the open of the circus, to her patriotic finale, Audrey thrills the circus audience and invites participation and encouragement to the performers. As one of the only female ringmasters in the circus world, Audrey is inspired by her audiences. "I love to see the smiles on the faces of everyone. Every show is an adventure. When I hear the crowd roar, I know I've helped to create a memory that will last a lifetime."





Bo the Elephant, Star Pachyderm Performer
Larry Carden as Trainer

Bo started his life as a pet in California. Bo's previous owner soon learned that caring for an elephant requires extremely specialized expertise. Enter the George Carden Circus, production side of the Shrine Circus. George quickly intervened on Bo's behalf to provide Bo with the level of care this pachyderm needed to ensure his health and safety. George's son, Larry Carden, is Bo's primary trainer and keeper along with a staff of 7. Larry, age 30, grew up in the circus, and has focused on elephant training for the last 15 years.

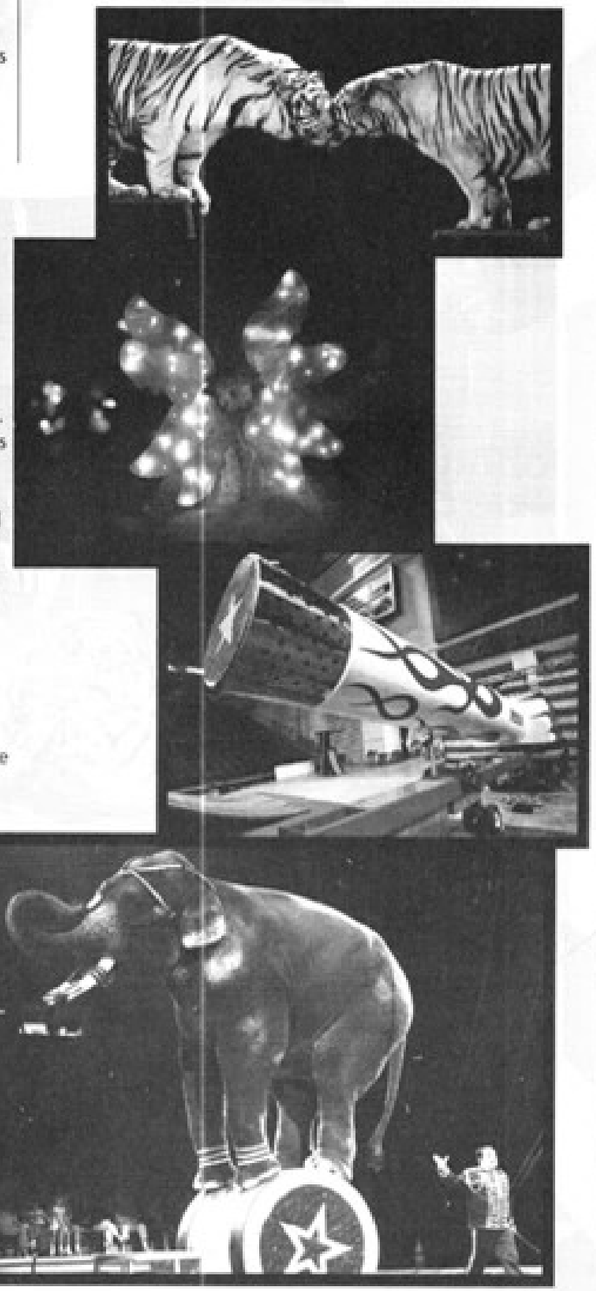
Bo is the largest male performing elephant in the world. Weighing in at 6 tons, Bo is more rhythmic and talented than most humans, he's got "the move." Larry sees Bo in a different light than the sparkling stage lights of the circus' center ring. "I love Bo. But, more than that, I respect him."
"He's smart," notes Larry, "very smart." All of the animal handlers and trainers of the Shrine Circus appreciate the lives of their stars performers, the elephants. Bo loves "elephant junk food" as Larry calls it- treats of fresh apples, oranges, and carrots. Bo and his "girls" (a group of female elephants) begin wiggling and twitching their ears at the mere sight of fruits, vegetables, and Larry and the training crew. This behavior, in elephants, signals that they are content, even happy, and it happens continuously behind the scenes of the Shrine Circus.

Larry is responsible for providing the elephants with their primary diet, high-quality hay and an enriched grain. "It's important for their health," says Larry. The elephants eat 160 bales of hay each week, and about 20 pounds of grain each day per animal.

Backstage, Bo likes to play by throwing a football to his handlers. He's mastered a perfect spiral toss that would impress any NFL scout. Larry is very open about Bo's skills. "Elephants are huge, right? I can't 'make' an elephant at 8,000 to 12,000 pounds 'do' anything. What I do is look at the natural behavior of the animal, and let them be themselves." Not all of Larry's elephants can play sports. Some have a natural tendency to balance on one or two legs, roll, or jump. "I let the elephant guide me into what is in the act," Larry explains, "and that's why they elephants seem so natural. I just let them be elephants."

Larry's favorite part of the day is the baths. Elephants love water, and Larry pays special attention to Bo and all the elephants, "Even though their skin is thick and tough like old leather on a biker jacket, they're just like people. They like to be clean." Larry worked with a cosmetics manufacturer in Missouri to develop "elephant wash," a special cleanser formulated to remove grass stains from the hay, but conditions elephant skin, "Besides, it smells great!" Larry and his crew bathe the elephants up to three times a day. This backstage activity is fascinating. Without direction, the elephants lift their front legs, turn, and make certain all the moving parts are fresh and clean. "I'm serious, Bo likes to look nice for the ladies." Larry uses flexible brushes to scrub his pachyderms, "Hey!" he says wielding a hose, "I like to have my back scratched, too!" Larry has a connection to these animals that goes beyond mere training. Larry recalls one particular incident a couple of year back when, "We were jogging out to the center ring for the show. Bo was maybe 8, 10 feet behind me, right on my heels, like we do every show." Larry stumbled, and fell to the ground, flat on his back. "I had this moment when I knew I was dead. I would die, I was going to die. I was about to be trampled by Bo." Instead, Bo, at 12,000 pounds, stopped short, within inches of Larry's torso. "I looked up, and was terrified. Bo looked me right in the eyes. He knew. I thought it was impossible for him at that point to save my life." But, Bo did. As Larry lay on the circus floor, the eyes of the two circus performers met. "It was weird. Bo used his instinct. He stopped. We were running so fast before the accident, when he put the brakes on, his back legs lifted right off the ground from Bo's momentum. I always knew he was strong, but until that moment I never realized just how much. And, at that moment I knew Bo loved me as much as I love him." Larry squeezed his eyes tightly shut, preparing to die. Larry knew he was alive when Bo's back legs crashed onto the circus floor, "I felt it." When he opened his eyes, Bo was hovering over him, and gently caressed Larry with his trunk. "He was checking on me, nudging me with his trunk. He wanted to know I was okay."

Bo and Larry do this for the children "of all ages" who attend Shrine Circus events. Larry is married to Nina, and they do not (yet) have children. "I'm with my kids all the time, the kids that come to the circus. I help them ride the elephants. It's very fun." Perhaps Larry and Nina will hoist their own child onto an elephant one day.



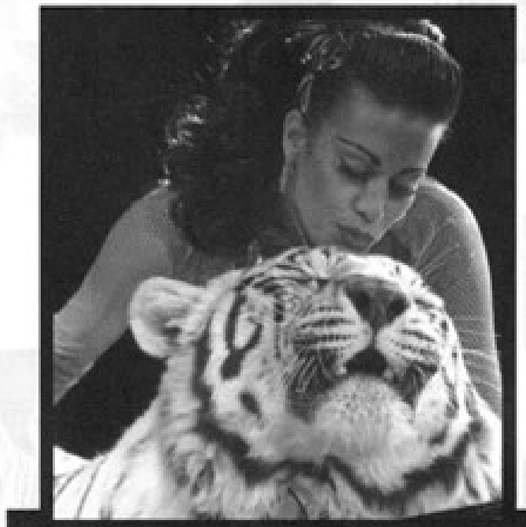
Vicenta Pages
Tiger Mistress

The core of Vicenta Pages' tiger troupe has been together for nearly five years, and each animal came from under her tutelage as a 14 or 15 month old cub. Since then, she has spent most of each and every day cleaning their cages, feeding and watering
them, exercising them and working to showcase each individual tiger's talents.

Their tricks are varied and numerous, from rolling over and laying down, to jumping hurdles and giving "high fives".

Each tigers' stunts are based upon their individual tendencies and behaviors which Vicenta observes closely during playtime.

First time on our tour with a Shrine Circus and George Carden Circus International.





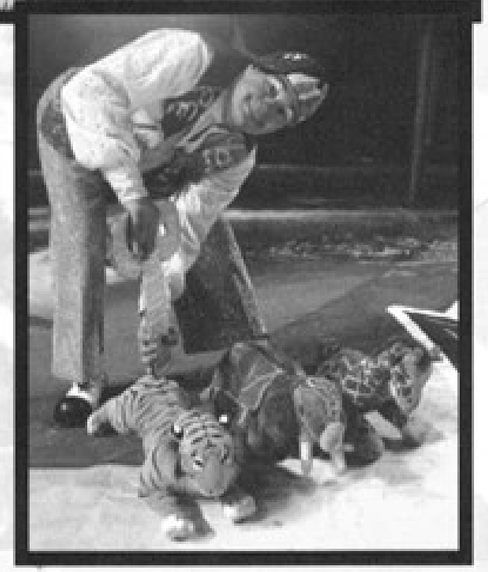
Johnny Dominguez,
Circus Clown

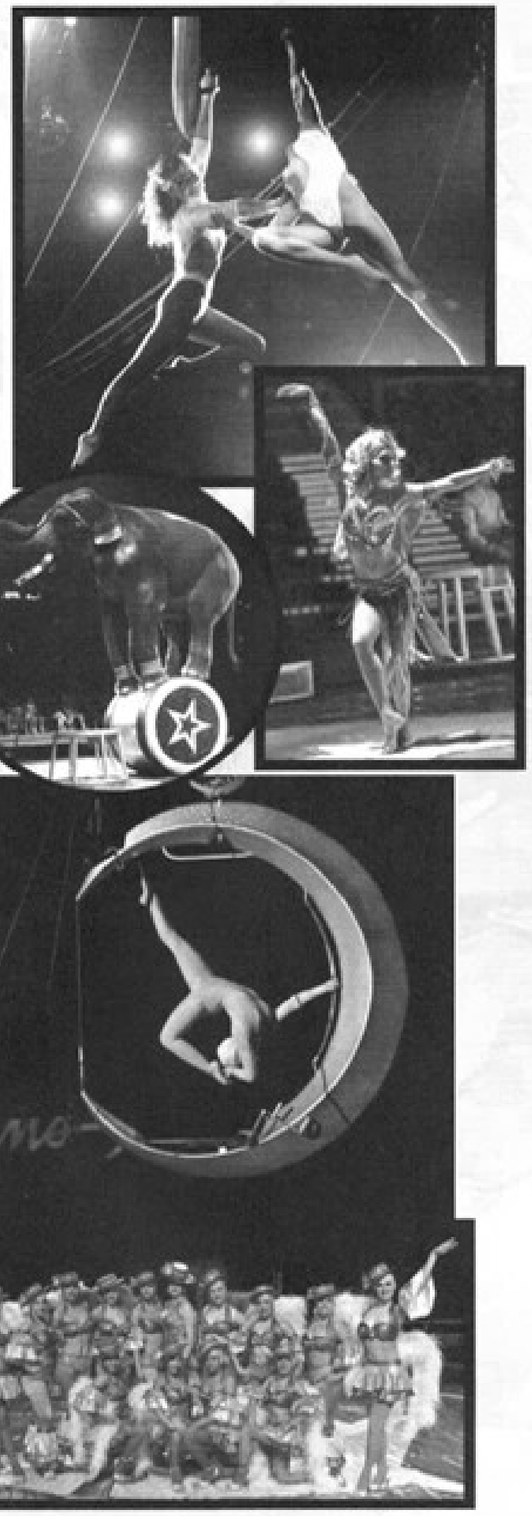
Johnny, a native of Columbia, loves "clowning around." Johnny is more of a comedian, and along with his assistant Perla, the duo use assumption as well as physical humor to "wind up" audiences. Perla plays a double roll in Johnny's performance as Baby Pachy. No "spoiler alert" here, audiences are stunned by Johnny and Perla's immense comedic talent.
Johnny may be the best-dressed clown in the circus world. His costumes are inspired by classic circus styling, but his mother makes each of his costumes by hand. Johnny has been in the circus for just 5 years, and is still considered "the new guy" on the Carden Circus lot. However, he comes from a theatrical family, and they have supported him in his clown endeavors.

Each morning, Johnny and Perla train for their act. It's rumored that Johnny is working with a small monkey as well. He's always looking to enhance the circus experience for his fans, which explains why Johnny is consistently ranked as a favorite act by young and old audience members alike.

Perla, on the other hand, can trace her heritage back to the Forbidden City (now Beijing) China. Johnny helps Perla style her luxurious locks each morning, and slip into her costume.

When he isn't on tour with the circus, Johnny likes to brainstorm new potential aspects of his act. Over the years, he's become a respected animal trainer and uses





the treat-reward system to positively reinforce behavior. Johnny carefully selects the animals he works with, and seems to choose those with a natural affinity for his center-ring antics.

Perhaps this is why Johnny's personal favorite at the Shrine Circus is the Lloyd's Old English Sheepdogs. "Every time I see these dogs, I laugh," Johnny explains, "it never gets old to me." Backstage, Johnny swaps ideas and tips with the other animal acts.

Although Johnny loves the circus, he does acknowledge how difficult such extensive travel can be. Moving constantly can be exhausting, but the worst part for him is leaving behind the new friends he makes in each city. Even so, Johnny is almost like a child on Christmas morning before every show. He gets nervous, excited, even scared before every performance.

To calm his nerves, Johnny sometimes mingles with the audience at the Shrine Circus pre-party…without his clown costume and stage makeup. Johnny looks just like another circus fan waiting for the show. Inevitably he sees someone, "having a bad day." And, as Johnny says, "Right now, lots of people are having bad days. They are stressed out about money and jobs. It's hard on families." Johnny makes note of where they sit, and often in his mind, performs just for that person. "If I can make that one person smile or laugh, it's a great show for me." Johnny can literally turn a frown upside down.

The thing that keeps Johnny going is the happiness he brings to the older audience members. His performance is Chaplain-esque, and not unlike Vaudeville show from a bygone era. Johnny sites his close relationship to his mother and grandparents as the reason he loves The Greatest Generation. "They get it right away," Johnny says laughing, "they know what I'm up to, but they still laugh."
If you've ever wanted to see a grown man cry, Johnny's act is must-see. His exaggerated moves leave circus goers in tears- of joy.

The Georgettes
Showgirls and Aerialists

The Carden circus delivers a dozen professional dancers in the gorgeous Georgettes. This talented troupe of performers rivals even the most elegant Las Vegas showgirls, but these buxom beauties are more than just a pretty face. The Georgettes appear throughout the circus, from the moment the spotlight trains on the center ring until the grand finale.

The Georgettes are amazing aerialists and adept in co-performing with animals. And, audiences are awed by their silk aerial ensemble. This beautiful artistry unfolds 10 stories above the circus floor, and is carefully choreographed to both music and lights for tantalizing thrills. Although silk aerial acrobatics originated in China, the Carden circus brings a fresh, contemporary take on this time-honored tradition. When they aren't dangling overhead, the Georgettes catch a ride, usually on an elephant. They combine beauty and grace with these incredible animals to dazzle the audience.

The Georgettes have up to 10 costume changes in one performance, and are truly lovely. Charming and fresh as the girls next door, the Georgettes are a diverse cast from the US, Europe, Central, and South America. Audiences can't wait to see not only what they are wearing next, but what amazing skills they showcase. The Georgettes mingle with circus goers before, during intermission, and after the show.

Karoly Zeman
Bicyclist

At age 12, Karoly was enrolled in the Hungarian Circus School. After one year of schooling, he started performing with a flying trapeze troupe. He bought a BMX bicycle with his earnings and started learning tricks on it just for fun. He practiced on the street every day after school and as he became proficient on the bicycle, he started participating in competitions. He won many international competitions and in 1992, he captured Third Place in the World BMX Championships.

When he finished the Circus School, he decided that he wanted to perform on his BMX bicycle in the Circus. He has been doing just that for several years and is the only performer to present a double.

Circus Elephants

Asking an 8,000 pound elephant to stand on its hind legs and pull all of its weight on the lower abdomen is probably not the easiest task in the world.

These Asian elephants are highly intelligent and will learn quickly. However, the hardest part about training is the muscle building program and regiment that they must go through. Much like and athlete or weight lifter, an elephant must learn and develop the proper muscles needed to do certain tricks. For example, and elephant could learn in a week (intelligence wise) how to stand on his hind legs, but to do it safely, it could take 1-2 months.

All the elephants were born in the wild and have been trained since they were about 3 years old. Their average age is about 40 years old and they can live up to 80 years in captivity but only about 45-50 years in the wild.

