

## **PLAINTIFFS' EXHIBIT 8**

To Plaintiffs' Opposition to Defendant Feld  
Entertainment, Inc.'s Motion for Leave to Amend  
Answers to Assert Additional Defense and Rico  
Counterclaim  
Civ. No. 03-2006 (EGS/JMF)

Westlaw

NewsRoom

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Section: Ledger

Circus Vargas reinvents itself

By Sarah Krupp, CONTRA COSTA TIMES

The cotton candy tasted the same and the popcorn was just as buttery, but otherwise, the circus billed as a Latino-style extravaganza wasn't much like those Enrique Areyzaga remembered in Mexico City.

Made up of mostly Latino and Russian performers, the new Circus Vargas made its first stop in the East Bay on Sunday.

The two-hour show, set to Latin-themed music with live drums, featured some standard circus fare, such as acrobats, jugglers and a contortionist.

But several Latinos who went to the afternoon show said it was entertaining but lacked some of the pizzazz of traditional Latin American circuses.

The former Circus Vargas disbanded several years ago. "(Mexican circuses) are more acrobatic and more fun for kids," said Areyzaga, of Livermore. "This was more simple."

Areyzaga and his wife, Jacqueline, took their 4-year-old daughter Samantha and 8-month-old baby Leslie to see the circus.

Most notably, it lacked animals, he said. Concerns about abuse have made circus animals unpopular in American circuses, but elephants, lions and tigers are still a major feature of Mexican circuses.

Some of what Areyzaga and others wanted to see -- thrilling stunts -- are usually part of the show. The main structure at the Alameda County Fairgrounds in Pleasanton was too low for the motorcycle high-wire act and "Double Wheel of Death," acts performed by the Espana brothers, circus members who are renowned for their daring. Circus officials hope to give a full show to their Antioch and Richmond audiences Friday and Saturday.

The Moscow State Circus, an American company based in Florida, bought the name Circus Vargas for its new "Hispanic-flavor" show, said J. Sandy Swanson, the circus spokesman. For now, it's touring only California.

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The Moscow State Circus is precise and based heavily in gymnastics and dance, whereas Circus Vargas is intended to be very exciting and lively, Swanson said.

"The Hispanic population are terrific circus fans. You can find anywhere, at one time, five to seven circuses in Mexico City," Swanson said.

The company is are hoping to capitalize on the state's large number of Latinos, he said. In its premiere shows in Southern California this fall, the circus drew largely Latino crowds, he said. The Pleasanton show drew a diverse audience but not one that was heavily Latino.

Sarah Krupp covers Antioch and diversity in East County. Reach her at 925-779-7166 or skrupp@cctimes.com.

PREVIEW

WHAT: Circus Vargas

WHERE AND WHEN: 5 and 8 p.m. Friday, Contra Costa County Fairgrounds, 10th & L streets, Antioch

1., 4 and 7 p.m. Saturday, Memorial Convention Center, 3230 MacDonald Ave., Richmond

HOW MUCH: \$25 per adult (includes tickets for three children)

INFORMATION: 800-334-6062 or visit [vargascircus.com](http://vargascircus.com)

---- INDEX REFERENCES ----

NEWS SUBJECT: (Small Business (1SM15); Social Issues (1SO05); Minority Businesses (1MI90); Minority & Ethnic Groups (1MI43))

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