



NEWS OF ANIMALS

The Race To Save An Endangered Species

(NAPSA)—Some good news to pack in your trunk about Asian elephants, an endangered species, is the birth of a 270-pound, healthy male Asian elephant calf.

The announcement was trumpeted by the *Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey*® Center for Elephant Conservation (CEC), which is leading the race to save the Asian elephant.

The 32-year-old mother, Josky, delivered the calf at the CEC on May 21, 2002. The baby elephant is 39 inches long. He's named P.T. in honor of P.T. Barnum. The new elephant represents an important milestone in the race for survival of the species, since fewer than 40,000 Asian elephants are left in the world. Josky and 23 other elephants are part of a species survival project that measures results in babies born. Each new baby takes the Asian elephant one step farther from extinction.

The new baby is Josky's fifth calf, and the little elephant joins half-siblings Asha, Rudy, Gunther and Sara, who were born at the CEC between April 2001 and March 2002.

Since the early 1990s, more than 30 percent of the viable Asian elephant calves born in North America were born through Ringling Bros. Asian elephant conservation project.

The CEC was founded by Feld Entertainment, the parent com-



For a video of P.T. and his mother Josky, visit www.elephantcenter.com.

pany of *Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey*, to keep Asian elephants alive for future generations. Built in 1995, the 200-acre state-of-the-art facility was designed for the reproduction, research and retirement of the Asian elephant. Knowledge gained there is shared throughout the world, especially throughout North America and Southeast Asian countries like Thailand. For more information about this birth and the Ringling Bros. Center for Elephant Conservation, visit www.elephantcenter.com.



Note to Editors: This is the first of a four-part series.