

# ★ LAS VEGAS ★

## 'SHOWCAST OF THE STARS'

### THE VEGAS BAG

by Mark Tan



### STEVE & EYDIE AT CAESARS

Steve Lawrence and Eydie Gorme, who individually and together enjoy a position of eminence equalled by few in the recording and entertainment industries, are making their Caesars Palace debut with a special one-week engagement in the resort hotel's Circus Maximus theatre-restaurant thru February 17.

And their Caesars Palace appearance promises to be one of the highlights of the

Las Vegas winter entertainment season.

Lawrence is easily one of the finest singers in the entertainment industry today. His ability to convey both mood and melody, with an understanding of lyrical content and appreciation of musical structure, earn him the right to be known as a "singer's singer".

Such distinguished giants of comedy as Bob Hope, Danny Thomas, Carol

Burnett and Alan King consider him to have one of the finest comedy minds with an ability to deliver a "line" as well as any of their peers.

And Miss Gorme is described by her contemporaries as "the best girl singer in the business". Just listen. The record speaks for itself. Further, her elite position is now used as a "goal" for new singers to strive for.

In 1967 she received the "Grammy Award", the coveted trophy of the

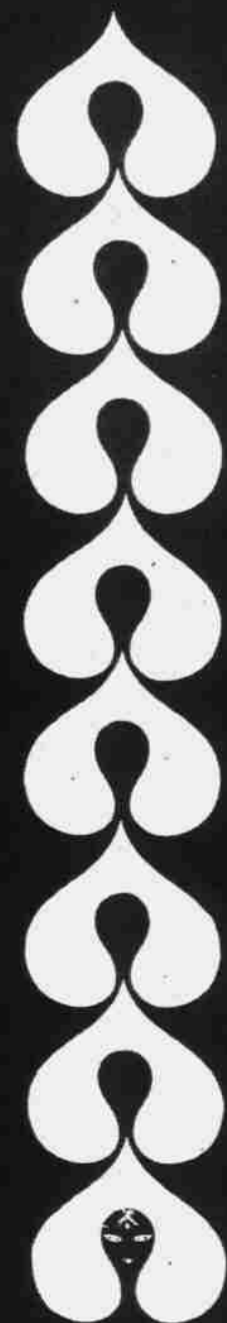
recording industry, for the "Best Female Vocal Performance of the Year" for her rendition of "If He Walked Into My Life". Her recordings in English, Spanish and a number of other languages continue to be among the leaders in sales all over the world.

English star Tommy Steele will make his Caesars Palace debut February 18 as headliner of a three-week bill which will co-star Phyllis McGuire and Bob Melvin.

### ISRAELITE ADS PAY

**STRIP HOPPING.....**at the Flamingo Casino Theater: Toronto's rock & soul singing star **GRANT SMITH** — backed by his own group **THE POWER** — has been held over for another week. Grant moved to the Flamingo from Caesars Palace, and has been **FINALLY** getting some of the attention from the public he deserves. On the same bill the incredible impressionist **JIM BAILEY** is doing turnaway biz at his 10 and 2 a.m. shows. In to see Bailey: **SAMMY DAVIS JR.**, **BARBARA McNAIR**, **SAMMY SHORE**, **MICKEY MANNERS**, **PAT COOPER**, **BEVERLEE & SIDRO**, **RIP TAYLOR**, **BUDDY VEST**, **ELMARIE WENDEL**, **PAT GILL**, and dozens of the local show biz community.....**BILLY JOY ROYAL** is also back at the Flamingo. BJ is adding his latest release "Tulsa" to his long list of hit credits which include "Cherry Hill Park" and "Down in the Boondocks".....at the Sands Celebrity Theater: The new **BARRY ASHTON-WOLF KOCHMANN** revue, previewing this week, is already a bit hit with delightful **TESSIE O'SHEA** (did you know she introduced "I've Got A Lovely Bunch of Coconuts", "Slow Boat to China" and a couple of dozen others to the world??), and scintillating songstress **TRISHA NOBLE** who stops the show cold with her "GOTTA MOVE" number.....at the International Theater Royale: a "must see" is the new musical hit "YOU'RE A GOOD MAN, CHARLIE BROWN". The cast is exceptional with **GRANT COWAN** as the definitive Snoopy, **CATHY WALLACE** as the crabby Lucy, **DENNIS PHILLIPS** as Schroeder and **RICHARD WHELAN** as Charlie Brown. Also featured are **MARYLU MOYER** and **VIC VAIL**. It's perfect family fare and a thoroughly entertaining evening of theater. **CLARK GESNER**'s music and lyrics are as spirited as they are spontaneous.....at the Desert Inn Lady Luck Lounge: Longtime favorites **NANCY AUSTIN & BILL FANNING** are starred in a new revue "BEDTIME RIOT". The principals are likeable, talented and versatile but they are practically done in by their frantic pursuit of laughs. "Bedtime Riot" has a clever format and should have been as bright and as bouncy as the king kingsized bed on which much of the routines take place. Both Fanning and Miss Austin are adept comedic performers with a flair for improvisation, characterization and laugh-provoking timing. This outing — in its present state — doesn't give them much opportunity for much of anything. The four other members of the troupe, **DAVID LONDON**, **RUSTY TAYLOR**, **GINGER CAROL & CARME**, work hard to get into the spirit of the thing; and there's an almost constant change of costume (primarily various designs of bedwear) to keep the agile cast hopping. Miss Carol is competent, funny and sometimes delightful. Unhappily the writers have given her some dreadful lines that even Helen Hayes would find hard to pull off. When doing her own kind of thing, Miss Carol can be humorously saucy and a real asset to revues of this genre. Miss Taylor, the show's mandatory sex symbol is more than adequate. She has all her best lines in all the right places and plays her sketches with wide eyes, witty innocence. The sets and costumes for "Bedtime Riot" are colorful, varied and numerous: what "BR" really needs is much more new material and a lot less fabric.. **THE GOOD HUMOR COMPANY** — such a big hit here at the Thunderbird — will be hotel switching when it returns to the Strip in the spring.....Former Stardust "Lido" lead nude **VERA ALLEN** and popular, suave Flamingo Casino Theater maitre'd **VAL URBAN** will be wed as soon as they complete the necessary State Department papers. Miss Allen — a former Miss Greece — and Val — a native of Poland — will make Vegas their home.....Popular **SAMMY SHORE**, making his 4th go-round with **ELVIS** at the International, returns on April 7 as star of his own revue at the International Casino Theater.....His many, many Vegas friends are concerned about the health of **BOBBY DARIN**. Bobby, who got one of the loudest, longest and most enthusiastic receptions ever at the Desert Inn last week, has reportedly announced an "indefinite hiatus" from show biz. His medicos are still probing for the reasons behind Bobby's many bouts of exhaustion during his D.I. engagement....

frank gorshin



SAHARA