

# ★ LAS VEGAS ★

## 'SHOWCAST OF THE STARS'

### THE VEGAS BAG

by Mark Tan



**VEGAS VIGNETTES.....**New Zealand singing sensation JOHN ROWLES and actress-model SHARON HARVEY ('Miss Tanya') nuzzlin' & cooin' all over town starting at the CONNIE STEVENS opening (Flamingo) to the ANTHONY NEWLEY midnight show (Caesars) and the early a.m. "VIVE LES GIRLS" (Dunes). John, set for an August return at the Flamingo, is now in L.A. for a recording session at Kapp Records, and a guesting on the MERV GRIFFIN SHOW.....His Vegas chums are getting concerned about dancer SAL ANGELICA who left for Argentina a few weeks ago. The recent political upset in Buenos Aires has cut off communications and Sal's pals are after the State Department to assure his safety and if necessary, return to the U.S.....Dancers BONNIE BAKER & VIKKI ANTHONY were chosen (out of more than 100 applicants) for the new edition of BRECK WALL-JOE PETERSON'S "BOTTOMS UP" opening April 16 at the International Casino Theater. Choreographer JERRY NORMAN will stage six new production numbers. Writer-comedienne brilliant SUZANNE BUHRER has decided to drop performing for a while and will concentrate on comedy writing for "BU" and several of the top name stars who have requested Suzie's talents.....

**LIFE UPON THE WICKED STAGE.....**Australian singer FRANK IFIELD made such a big hit at the Int'l mainroom - appearing with BILL COSBY for two nights - he was immediately packed for a three week mainroom date, again with Cosby, in mid-April.....Happy Birthday to stunning JENNIFER CASTLE, now in "Vive Les Girls", one of our town's most beautiful and popular showgirls recently returned from a long visit to her native England.....King's Castle entertainment director LINE RENAUD in town for a few busy days: Line's next production "LOVE IN" is already underway for a spring debut. The long-running "FLESH" just closed as engagements in both France and Mexico in the offing.....Striking twosome: blond singer GARY COSTER (most recently featured in "Flesh") and beautiful black "Bottoms Up" comedienne-singer BETTY WALDRON making the Strip rounds. The duo, just good friends, up from L.A. moving Betty back to Vegas to start "BU" rehearsals.....Well known lead dancer NICK NAVARRO ("Vive Les Girls", "Pzazz" etc.) rejoins JULIET PROWSE in her new act opening May 4 at the Desert Inn.....BARBRA STREISAND returns to the International in October; NANCY SINATRA in July and ELVIS in August.....CRAIG GARDNER, the young singer-dancer whose first professional appearance is as one of CONNIE STEVENS' Magnificent Seven, is after a juice role as a top tv star's "son" in a new series. Connie will disband her nitery act for many many weeks when she heads for England and her summer tv show on NBC for Kraft.....

**CELEBRITY CIRCUS.....**Always a Vegas favorite and a "MUST SI SI", delicious ABBE LANE is prepping an almost entirely new act for her June date at the Frontier. Abbe's recent Plaza (NY) appearance was such a big hit, General Manager ARTHUR DOOLEY hosted a party for all of Gotham's top hotel execs to show her off. ED SULLIVAN, LUCILLE BALL, NANCY SINATRA, HUGH LAMBERT and MARTY ALLEN were some of the stars who dropped by the Plaza to cheer the very very popular Miss Lane and her singers-dancers GARRETT LEWIS & LARRY BILLMAN....."Girl Talk" producer MONTY MORGAN enroute to NY from talks with West Coast network reps, in town to see longtime pals TOTIE FIELDS, DEBBIE REYNOLDS, JERRY LEWIS, TESSIE O'SHEA, etc. Monty, who has half a dozen new projects in the offing, is still mighty intrigued with an idea of doing a "MAN TALK" celeb series possibly from L.A. and Las Vegas.....Hawaiian superstar DON HO returns to the Flamingo in May.....Universal writer-producer ROBERT LEVINSON in huddles with "Vive Les Girls" star ELMARIE WENDEL. Levinson and his wife Rosana "discovered" "The Oldest Living Showgirl" and think she'd be perfect for an upcoming series.....JERRY VALE, JACKIE GAYLE, LILLIAN & MOE LEWIS, and beautiful TRISHA NOBLE (Sands' London Playgirls Revue) with husband-manager ALAN SHARP, in to see "Get Smart" star DON ADAMS and Grammy Award winners THE CARPENTERS, making their Vegas debut, at the Sands.....

**STRIP CHATTER.....**Local fashion expert SHIRLEY NORMAN (Vegas Visitor's Stage of Fashion) has the interest of a couple of fan mags for her backstage features on the stars and their stage & personal wardrobe. Shirley has a complete word/photo series which reveals favorite designers, make-up secrets, etc. of such stars as ANN-MARGRET, LIBERACE, CAROL BURNETT, CONNIE STEVENS, ABBE LANE, JOHN ROWLES, PHYLLIS DILLER, and more! Good luck Shirley!!.....Doing just about all the business there is to be done in town these sultry spring evenings is delightful DEBBIE REYNOLDS at the Desert Inn. Debbie, back in fine form after a bout with the flu, is an "old movies" buff and has been hosting the after-the-show movies for her cast and Strip pals like RIP TAYLOR (Aladdin's "Funny Farm" star)....."BOTTOMS UP" star-producer BRECK WALL looking tanned and fit, spent his first couple of days back from Australia-Hong Kong-Tokyo-Honolulu, bedded with a combination flu ("from the original source, Hong Kong," says Breck) and change of time zone fatigue.....Welcome Home to the Puerto Rico & New York casts of "MINSKY'S BURLESQUE" which included lead dancer JAN MARTS, RICK HAMILTON, SALLY AVENA, MAUD HAMILTON, KATHLEEN PRICE, JANET SCHOOLCRAFT, and JOAN SIEMENS.....

**WEEKEND WANDERERS.....**ROBERT GOULET is at the Frontier.....The all new "WONDERFUL WORLD OF BURLESQUE '71" at the Silver Slipper.....VIKKI CARR at the Riviera.....and Don't Miss "CONNIE STEVENS & DICK SHAWN" at the Flamingo.....Happy APRIL FOOL'S DAY!!.....



THE PJ'S (PAOLA & JEANNE) WHO ARE PERFORMING WITH ANTHONY NEWLEY AT CAESARS PALACE WILL NEXT OPEN WITH DON RICKLES AT NEW YORK'S COPACABANA ON THURSDAY APRIL 15TH.

### EASTER SEAL TELETHON AT SAHARA

A 17-hour telethon, scheduled for April 3 and 4, is hoped to raise \$71,000 of which 97 percent will go to the Clark County Easter Seal Treatment Center to help crippled children. The charity event will be televised live and in color by KORK-TV, Channel 3, beginning at 11 p.m., Saturday, April 3, and continuing until 4 p.m. the following day. It will originate from Hotel Sahara's Space Center.

Just about every entertainer currently appearing in Las Vegas will take part in the event which will be co-hosted by a number of Superstars.

In addition to the television audience, a "live" audience of 1000 is expected to view the happenings in the Space Center which is being turned into a huge television studio, including a gigantic stage on which will perform some of the greatest entertainers in the world.

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