

★ LAS VEGAS ★

'SHOWCAST OF THE STARS'

THE VEGAS BAG

by Mark Tan



STRIP HAPPENINGS & HOPPINGS... It's now official, singer **JIMMY MICHAELS** - featured here in the last edition of "Pzazz" at the Desert Inn - has joined **THE ESTABLISHMENT**, now at the Fremont Hotel with Pat Buttram. The colorful and popular group follows the Fremont date with a stint at Caesars Palace, first with **ANDY GRIFFITH** and immediately following with **LIBERACE**. Three former members of The Establishment - **GARY COSTER, RICHARD RYDER & RON DEXTER** are doing their own solo acts. Gary starred in "Flesh" at King's Castle; Richard was featured first with **JULIET PROWSE**, then **MARTY ALLEN**; and Ron, last here with **ANN-MARGRET** is scribbling tunes for his folk-rock debut...There have been stars all over town - almost too many to keep track of who's where - among them: **THE SUPREMES, DIANA ROSS, SALLY KELLERMAN, LINE RENAUD, JOHN MILLS, JULIET MILLS, SUSANNAH YORK, EARL WILSON & His B.W. ROSEMARY** (all at the **TOM JONES** opening)...**JIM NABORS, ED SULLIVAN, BRUCE CABOT, JILL ST. JOHN, SEAN CONNERY** 'round town...**JACK CARTER** all over town, first at T. Jones then **ALAN KING'S** opening at the Sands, and again at the opening of **BRECK WALL-JOE PETERSON'S "BOTTOMS UP"** at the International Casino Theater...At also the latter: **JOAN RIVERS, TRISHA NOBLE, RIP TAYLOR, SAMMY SHORE, BUDDY VEST & STERLING CLARK, BERRI LEE, GARY GRANDE, JIM "VEGAS VAMPIRE" PARKER, MARINA MAUBERT, RICK HAMILTON, JENNIFER CASTLE & CASSANDRA PETERSON ("Vive Les Girls")**, and choreographer **AL GOSSAN**...

HAVE YOU HEARD???...about the new group called **THE HUES CORPORATION** now showcasing at the Ring-A-Ding Lounge at Circus Circus?? The new trio - **BERNARD ST CLAIR LEE, H. ANN KELLEY, & KARL RUSSELL** - are on the after-midnight "must see" list !! They're soul, they're rock, they're contemporary, they're very different and terrifically talented. Catch 'em before they leave CC!!!...that leggy songbird **LISA MARNE** now making her Vegas debut at the Stardust Lounge, is first choice thrush to join the new **ALAN LEE** revue starring **THE LOS BLUES** at the Sahara Casbar Theater. "The

current show, "**HOT FLASHES**" closes in four weeks to make way for the still untitled opus...that the Landmark's much publicized 29th floor casino will be closed May 1 to convert the entire floor to bedroom suites. Too bad; it was a spectacular view for gamblers, lounge hoppers, diners and Keno players. Also converting: the Flamingo Sky Room disco to a restaurant. It's just an observation: that the two things people come to Vegas for most - gambling and seeing shows - are being bypassed for the two things people come to Vegas for least: sleeping and eating!!!...that the sensational **ARGENTINIAN GAUCHOS** have been signed to appear in the new "**LATIN FIRE '72**" opening May 12 at the Thunderbird. The Gauchos were with the **MANOLO TORRENTE*FREDDY MANJON** spectacular in Puerto Rico and literally stopped the show with their wild exhibition of bolo & drum dances...

LIFE UPON THE WICKED STAGE...Delectable **ABBE LANE** and delirious **JOAN RIVERS** are the only double femme whammy on the Strip and are pure dynamite together, for the first time, at the Desert Inn. Competing with a practically all male line-up(**JOHNNY CARSON, DEAN MARTIN, TOM JONES, SANDLER & YOUNG, ALAN KING**, etc) the two lovely and talented ladies are delighting nightly crowds with their mixed and matched shows. Abbe, the sexy singer-dancer is doing comedy in her daffy tribute to the stars of the 1940's (**HAYWORTH, GRABLE, LAMOUR**, etc), and Joan, the zany & hilarious auditor of women married & single, sings her little "Make You Laugh" song and tap dances off in her finale. It's a charmed and charming duo!!...And speaking of charmers, **THE TUDERA SISTERS** - the second generation Filipino trio now co-starring in "Geisha-Rella" at the Thunderbird - have a brand new number in the Oriental spectacular, staged by Nick Navarro (who turns up next with **JULIET PROWSE** at the Desert Inn on May 4). The Sisters - **DINO, GLORIA & MARSHA** - are perky, peppy and pretty. Not to mention popular; the girls are a big favorite with stars like **DICK JENSEN, DON HO**, etc....

STRIP CHATTER...**ARLENE FONTANNA**, the Flamingo favorite, breaking in her new nitery act at the La Concha in Puerto Pico. The beautiful singer-comedienne-actress who is the American version of **SHIRLEY BASSEY** is due back in Vegas in mid-summer...Producer **STAN SEIDEN** still hasn't come up with a suitable property for the International legitimate theater. Word is that Stan is in huddles with a couple of big name stars for a series of "An Evening With..." performances; also possibly **PAT COLLINS**, The Hip Hypnotist; and finally some very early chats about bringing in the mid-Broadway show written by **EARL WILSON JR.** called "A Day In The Life of Practically Everybody"...Part of the promo for **MONTY HALL'S** debut at the Sahara (April 27) is a press junket to LA to watch a taping of Hall's enormously popular "Let's Make A Deal" tv-er. Set to join Monty are **THE KIDS NEXT DOOR**, comedian Carl Ballantine and his tv announcer.

WEEKEND WANDERERS...**ABBE & JOAN** at the Desert Inn...**VEST & CLARK** and comedy star **ELMARIE WENDEL** in "Vive Les Girls" at the Dunes...Hilarious **JACKIE GAYLE** in his Sahara Casbar debut...Aggravated, agitated and angry **ALAN KING** - funnier than ever - at the Sands...

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