

★ LAS VEGAS ★

'SHOWCAST OF THE STARS'

THE VEGAS BAG

by Mark Tan



VEGAS VIGNETTES... Pals of singing team BUDDY VEST & STERLING CLARK will have a chance to visit with the popular duo when they come 'home' to Vegas for one week between engagements with JOAN RIVERS and their upcoming teleguesting on the JOHNNY CARSON "TONIGHT" SHOW - set for July 5 in New York. Buddy and Sterling have had nothing but rave reviews for their two appearances thus far with the brilliant Miss Rivers. So far they've played at the Upstairs at the Downstairs in New York, and the Feister Hotel in Milwaukee. Next on the agenda are dates at Westbury and the Lake Geneva Playboy Club...Comedian LEONARD WOLEN who's been doing high camp long before the term was even invented, in town for a short visit. Lenny has a brand new nitery act he'd like to debut on the Strip; he's never played here before because heretofore his brand of zaniness has been considered just a little too far out!...**"You Gotta Have a Gimmick" Dept.:** ANNE SIMMONS returns to the Frontier Circle F Theater with a brand new 'old look'. Anne's specialty is re-creating the moods and music of the 20's and 30's, and she does it down to every detail in costumes, makeup, hair styles, etc. It's a unique and delightful performance of make believe and nostalgia...ABBE LANE arrives this week to resume rehearsals of her brand new nitery act (debuting June 29 at the Desert Inn) with director-choreographer HUGH LAMBERT. Lambert is currently performing in the Nancy '71 revue at the International starring NANCY SINATRA (Mrs. Lambert). FLIP WILSON'S choreographer JACK REGAS will also be in town; he's staging the 30's segment of the new Lane act....

STRIP SHOWSTOPPERS... SERGIO FRANCHI, always in such magnificent voice and a big big favorite with Vegas audiences, now at the Flamingo. Strip debuting is the caustic comedy with a Southern drawl of hilarious LONNIE SHORR. Lonnie gets big hunks of his best material from the unsuspecting members of the audience; he's as brash as Don Rickles, as fresh as Joan Rivers, and one of the brightest, funniest new comedy stars seen in recent months...**"BOTTOMS UP"** - afternoons - at the International Casino Theater is still, as always, one of the "must see" attractions in town. Producers Breck Wall & Joe Peterson just released their first cast album lp featuring highlights of the '71 edition. It's on sale at the hotel and various shops, stores, etc. 'round town...MARINA MAUBERT & MARTIN GAVIN, the Silver Slipper's stylish adagio team, introducing their new solo dance themed "Love Story" in the all new "Wonderful World of Burlesque". The duo has their manager lining up tv guestings on various talk and variety shows out of L.A.

NEWS IS BUSTING OUT IN JUNE... that the Union Plaza - still holding to a July 2 grand opening date - is negotiating for various long run productions including "Minsky's Burlesque", "Vive Les Girls" (closing at the Dunes in September?), "Fiddler on the Roof" and "The Good Humor Company" (starring on the new CBS "Newcomers" summer show debuting this month)...JOE PETERSON auditioning showgirls-dancers for his new untitled revue opening in early July in Atlantic City, New Jersey. Peterson will be the first Vegas producer to break into the popular eastcoast resort city, and is already talking to several other club and hotel owners about summer long "Vegas style" revues. JERRY NORMAN will choreograph the new show with ventriloquist RUSS LEWIS and dancer DON CRAWFORD virtually set. Rehearsals start immediately, and Peterson is also scouting singers, singing teams, and various specialty acts...GANA PRODUCTIONS present LEE MICHAELS in concert at the Convention Center on July 1. Michaels' last appearance at the Forum in L.A. grossed \$87,500!!!!...Local concert promoter MIKE TELL has tagged B.B. KING for a special one night date in Denver, Colorado in August. Tell, who has presented ARETHA FRANKLIN, JAMES BROWN & RAY CHARLES, etc., is also prepping a big name concert for Vegas this summer...41 concession sites now being offered for lease at FRANK CARROL'S new DEVILLE HOTEL

COUNTRY MAKES GOOD AT LANDMARK

Hank Jr. is now the host of the popular syndicated TV program "Sun Country", a show that gives full opportunity for him to display his wide range of talents.

The Hank Williams, Jr. Show, featuring Lamar Morris, the Duke of Paducah, Gordon Terry, Merle Kilgore and special guests, The Mike Curb Congregation, promises to be another success for the

Country-Western magnate. The fast-moving, action-packed performance provides an exciting evening of entertainment.

Hank Jr. has a powerful, exciting singing voice. He can wring emotion out of a guitar. He has a remarkable flair for songwriting.

Hank Jr. has mastered an astonishing variety of musical instruments including piano, harmonica, drums, banjo.

CASINO, set to open New Year's Eve. The DeVille - 27 story hotel - will be built on Convention Center Drive opposite the Landmark....

BITS & PIECES... Brazil's superstar NELSON SARDELLI returns to the Flamingo Casino Theater. Nelson just got back from an around the world tour that included Spain, Israel, Peru, South Africa and throughout South America...Korea's SUE KIM (of the famous Kim Sisters) gave birth to her first - a boy, Anthony Bonifazio born June 15 at Sunrise Hospital. The Kim Sisters have been on an eight month hiatus from show business and performing awaiting Anthony's arrival. Sue and husband John refer to the baby as a "Ko-Wop" venture...Did anybody see DUSTIN HOFFMAN 'round town last week???...Hawaii's THE SOCIETY OF SEVEN back to their homebase, The Outrigger, in Waikiki for the rest of the summer...Dixieland musician GEORGE ROCK has partnered with Aladdin stagehand DICK FRANCISCO to open GUNS UNLIMITED on West Charleston. The new shop specializes in custom, antique and modern weapons as well as maintaining one of the largest collections (for display only) of confiscated illegal homemade weapons, the original guns of Tom Mix, and various Old West momentos from the Adams Express Company (predecessor of Wells Fargo). ELVIS PRESLEY, BUDDY HACKETT & SAMMY DAVIS JR. are among the shop's more famous customers. Other avid gun collectors include JERRY LEWIS, MEL TORME, NELSON SARDELLI and SID CAESAR....



Don Tell

(Continued from Page 1)

TELLING IT LIKE IT IS

of the attraction.

Stevens opens with "Love The One You're With" and rolls on with two of his own hits, "Take Care of Business Mr. Businessman," and "Ahab the Arab." He interjects cute remarks such as he was first offered to do the movie score of Butch Cassidy and turned it down. He explains he stupidly turned away a-half a million smackaroos by not recognizing the potential of the song, "Raindrops Keep Falling On My Head." His Ray Charles' medley proves he can switch from country and folk-rock to soul sounds and put them over equally well. More kidding around, he teases his audience with a definition of a highbrow, "Someone who listens to the William Tell overture and does not think of the Lone Ranger." Stevens winds up the very entertaining evening with his biggie, "Everything Is Beautiful." And he helped make it so on opening night....

Ganders at Gambling....Poker players take note. Two more card rooms are scheduled for opening on July 1. The new Union Plaza Hotel will feature a lavish layout while the Aladdin plans to re-open its poker and pan tables. Remember years back in our own hometown when we had to make twenty frantic calls, find a place, find a deck of cards, argue about whether dueces or one-eyed jacks are wild and then check the front window every ten minutes to see if we were going to be raided, just for the sake of a little poker action? No need to fret in this Vegas. Hotels such as the Stardust, Circus Circus, Dunes, Hacienda, Horseshoe, Fremont and Golden Nugget offer twenty-four hour poker action all year long. Name your speed from a nickle ante to no limit games available....

Around town....Our favorite maitre d' Francis of the Sands Garden Room tells us the cat story of the year. Seems his five year-old whisker mouth named Poopi needs a vitamin every day. She eats the same food as her master and requires more attention than a newborn set of triplets. The payoff to Francis is two recent gall bladder attacks resulting in separate operations. Francis has spent so much money on Poopi this year he calls it a CATastrophe....Loretta Young, not the movie star, sister of daredevil Evel Kneivel is a local Lido lovely. She was seen recently with Sands heavy, Jack Jones at Food For Thought restaurant in Commercial Center. This health food eatery is quickly becoming a gathering spot of late night, strip celebrities. Why not? Where else can you get this healthy up to 4 A.M.?....Interspace Environment, a local firm, features the world's only temperature control water bed. Hugh Hefner, Playboy magnate, has purchased hundreds of these water beds for Playboy clubs around the world. For further information call 734-0996, or drop in for a free demonstration at 120 East Flamingo.... Pat Ginn's Chinese Kitchen features the eating treat of the week. His famous fried won-ton dish is free for the asking during Wednesday and Thursday of this week with pick-up orders only.

Candlelight Room
6pm till Midnight
when you're
becoming
most enjoyable
experience

RESERVATIONS/735-8111 your host/PHIL BODDY