

# ★ LAS VEGAS ★

## SHOWCASE OF THE STARS

### THE VEGAS BAG

by Mark Tan



**HAPPY FOURTH OF JULY.....**The Las Vegas Strip is ablaze with stars starting with A for gorgeous **ABBE LANE**, now at the Desert Inn, in a brand new, superspecial kind of revue. Abbe, as you may have heard by now, has left her cha cha days far behind her and took the cafe world by storm last year with her sparkling versatility in song, dance and comedy. The ravishing redhead's new show was directed by **HUGH LAMBERT**, special material by **BILL ANGELOS & BUZ KOHAN**, musical material by **EARL BROWN**, special staging by **JACK REGAS**. Abbe's perennial escorts **GARRETT LEWIS & LARRY BILLMAN** lend their musical comedy talents contributing much to the flavorful fireworks. Co-starring headliner **BOB NEHWART** is the master of droll tales and satirical sallies sharing the D.I. stage...Canada, England and Italy have relinquished their claims on international stars **ROBERT GOULET**, **ENGELBERT HUMPERDINCK** and **SERGIO FRANCHI**, and the ladies will be going crazy trying to get to see all three of the handsome, singing stars currently appearing at the Frontier, Riviera and Flamingo Hotels...And don't forget **The King of Wails**, the one-of-a-kind **JOHNNIE RAY** now back at the Desert Inn Lady Luck Lounge. Johnnie is as contemporary as ever with the current music scene, but still can be coaxed to cry ("Cry", "Little White Cloud That Cried") and walk ("Walkin' in the Rain", "Walking My Baby Back Home") to bring back memories to his capacity audiences...And speaking of crying, that hilarious crybaby, **The Crying Comedian, RIP TAYLOR** is a "must see" in his tour de force performances, thrice night, in the Aladdin's "Funny Farm".

**COMEDY CAPERS.....****ELMARIE WENDEL** ("Vive Les Girls") and **DONNA JEAN YOUNG** (currently at the Fremont with **PAT BOONE**) have a mutual admiration society going; seems whichever one you talk to sings the praises of the other...Bushy haired **MARTY ALLEN**, who had to cut his famous hair for his current movie, "The Ballad of Billie Blue", returns to the Flamingo on August 12...Country-western comedy philosopher **PAT BUTTRAM** plays back to back engagements at the Fremont: first with **ANDY RUSSELL** (opening July 8), then with tv's favorite "Mother-in-Law" **KAY BALLARD**....

**ON THE STRIP.....**Happy Birthdays to **ALICIA IRWIN** and **ROB BARRON**, of "BOTTOMS UP"...and to performer-turned-producer **LINE RENAUD** now entertainment directress of King's Castle where her latest production "Love In" opens this week...and to Flamingo entertainment exec **FORRESTER MASHBIR**...Popular **FREDDY MANJON**, who is co-producer-choreographer and one of the stars of "Latin Fire '72" at the Thunderbird, has been hospitalized at Sunrise with a severe ear infection. Freddy's partner **MANOLO TORRENTE** says doctors expect Freddy to be well enough to rejoin the show in time for the holiday weekend...Songstress **MONICA MYERS** added to the cast of Breck Wall-Joe Peterson's newest revue, "La Dolce Femme" opening this week at Le Bistro in Atlantic City, New Jersey. The show has a ten week run...Director-choreographer **AL GOSSAN** telephoning from London said he will be returning to Vegas in mid-July. Al has a project that will take him next to Honolulu for the rest of the summer. Also, Al reports to her Vegas friends that for "Vive Les Girls" showgirl **CASSANDRA PETERSON** has arrived safe & sound in London for her summer holidays...**LEN YELNICK**, former publicity assistant to **LARRY CLOSE** at the Sahara, is now pr & publicity director at the Thunderbird...Rock concert promoter **MIKE TELL** is more than just a little chagrined at the turnaround treatment he's getting in the latest batch of Hollywood fan magazine stories. Now Mike is the villain in the breakup of his marriage to actress **PATTY DUKE**: up until now Mike was the hero who was going to stand by his mixed up bride and give her child his name....

**STRIP HOPPING.....**The doll-like Filipino singing quartet, **THE ST. PAUL SISTERS** are the surprise of surprises at the Flamingo Casino Theater. The lovely and talented group - **RINA, LIANA, CORA & LYNN** - look so

### ROG WILLIAMS IN TROP BLUE ROOM

The rollicking pianistics of Roger Williams rumble through the Blue Room of Hotel Tropicana for three weeks beginning Friday (July 2) as he opens the Independence Day weekend with a note worthy barrage.

Williams, who rose to prominence with his first record hit, "Autumn Leaves," is a regular in the spacious, million-dollar showcase and will be staging his second outing this year.

Parlaying "Leaves" with 14 other million-plus sellers, the popular

artist has sold more albums than any other pianist. Other tunes identified with Williams include "Born Free," "Summer Wind," "Somewhere My Love," and "The Impossible Dream."

Meanwhile, the Trop's Theatre Restaurant stages "The One in '71" Folies Bergere, the Casino Lounge pairs Dave Burton and the Red Norvo Trio, the Gourmet Room features Julian Foorman and his Stradivarius and La Fontaine Lounge lists the Eddie DeSantis Duo.

gentle and mild until they explode with their musicianship and vocalizing: the St. Paul Sisters run away with rock, sizzle with soul, and keep the show moving on an uptempo contemporary beat...Good news after all the rumors about Strip lounges closing is the reopening of the Aladdin's Sinbad Lounge. General manager **HERB TOBMAN** and entertainment director **MOE LEWIS** have yet to set the entertainment policy at the new room..."RIGHT ON", now at the Sahara Casbar Theater, alternating with new Strip favorite **DON LANE** (the American singer who went Down Under to become Australia's answer to Johnny Carson), closes July 27 (not the 7th as reported earlier)...Rumors are flying that "BEDTIME RIOT" at the Thunderbird will be closing shortly, and that the former "Tower Sweets Revue" will not be reopening under another title at the Stardust Lounge after all, and a new production of the rock opera "JESUS CHRIST, SUPERSTAR" will find a summer berth at the International's Theater Royale...Showstopper: the stylish artistry of adagio team **MARINA MAUBERT & MARTIN GAVIN** in the new "Wonderful World of Burlesque" at the Silver Slipper...**THE ESTABLISHMENT**, closing this week at Caesars Palace, have a short but well deserved vacation, until July 19 when the group returns for its fourth Las Vegas engagement in three months with **PERRY COMO** at the International. In the interim, The Establishment has a Greek Theater stint with **BURT BACHARACH**...**ROBERT GOULET**, now at the Frontier, personally clarified that he has not been signed for the musical version of "Some Like It Hot" as reported in L.A. and N.Y. press last week. Bob said he is awaiting a script from producer **DAVID MERRICK** before making a firm commitment. **BOBBY MORSE** has been set for the Jack Lemmon role, and the Marilyn Monroe part is reportedly wide open for a bright, blonde, and beautiful unknown!...**THE KIDS NEXT DOOR**, opening next with **PHIL HARRIS** at the Frontier, will be minus the talents of **JACK MORAN**. Jack is currently featured as one of **JOHNNIE'S FRIENDS** (Johnnie Ray at the D.I.)...**NELSON SARDELLI**, the Brazilian-born Italian singer-comedian, is gaining on Wayne Newton for number of standing ovations he receives after his whirlwind performances at the Flamingo Casino Theater....

**CELEBRITY CIRCUS.....****MRS. PERRY LEFF** (better known to you as Abbe Lane) with her husband **PERRY**, and little Leffs, **STEVEN & ANDREW** (entranced at the antics of **THE MUPPETS**) in to see **NANCY SINATRA & FAMILY** at the International...Dozens of VIPs and the cream of Las Vegas society in for the return of **JACK MORGAN** and the **RUSS MORGAN ORCHESTRA** at the Top of the Dunes...Busty blonde British beauty, actress **JUNE WILKERSON** in to see **JOHNNIE RAY & NANCY SINATRA**....

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Don Tell

(Continued from Page 1)

### TELLING IT LIKE IT IS

this country. It's all there. The beautifully dressed and undressed dancers. The drunks, the wisecrackers and the dames. The review is not only applauded for its nostalgia but for the exacting detail of effort that went into costuming, set decoration, music and placement of the perfect performer in the right sketch. Top hats off to Barry Ashton for a truly remarkable stage production....

Around Town...Are the rumors true that a group headed by a famous Las Vegas producer with the initials A.L. will announce purchase of the Hotel Tropicana?....**Jackie Novack**, known to local Vegans as Tiger, usually catches all of the worthwhile charitable causes by the tail. A boss for many years of the El Cortez Hotel, Tiger is one of the better of the good samaritans in our fine city....The 30,000 plus throng of Lions who invaded our city from all fifty states and most Foreign Nations spent their money like pussycats according to three out of three confidential sources...We were amazed to discover that we had purchased a fire-engine red mustang after it passed through the car wash machines of Moore's Supersonic on East Charleston. We thought our car was dusty pink for the last two years....Anyone in need of some used towels with the name International Hotel imprinted just send a postcard. (Just kidding fellas). They now read Hilton International....Hear the one about a gent who passes out the following business cards. "I'd rather service one thousand Arabs than one Jew." Flip the card over and it says, Goldstein's Funeral Parlor. ...Bring your autograph book when you dine out at Food For Thought health Food restaurant in Commercial Center. The place is loaded with strip celebrities every night....Guess who landed at the Landmark? Just two of the best hairstylists in town. Fran and Eileen, formerly located at Sahara Square Salon, have joined forces with some of the better hair raisers in Las Vegas. A night of elegance follows your visit to the Landmark Beauty Salon.



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