

LAS VEGAS SHOWGAST



MATHIS, RIP TAYLOR, SAMMY SHORE, PHYLLIS DILLER, ABBE LANE, JACK JONES, and many more dropping in to hear the latest scathings of stars, vips, and modern fables of our times as seen thru the staggering Gayle scrutiny. Jackie closes this season Jan. 16...RIP TAYLOR, the "Cryin' Comedian" last here in the Aladdin's "Funny Farm" takes over the Casbar Theater on February 14 for his Sahara debut...Coming to the Desert Inn Lady Luck Lounge: RICK HARRIS, CANDY AND MR. D. one of the most popular and talked-about young musical comedy acts to play here. The trio of new talents debuted here last summer and went on to further successes with club dates in Hawaii, New Orleans, and their home base area of Seattle-Tacoma. Rick, Candy and Mr. D. open February 8...THE GOOD HUMOR COMPANY - whose talented sextet has been seen recently on television commercials for Toyota, Hanes, Head & Shoulders, and PSA Airlines - debut their all new comedy revue at the Desert Inn Crystal Room January 25, with BOBBY DARIN headlining. The G.H. COMPANY played here at the Thunderbird for six months and are looking forward to coming back to renew their many many acquaintances 'round town. The new show is being staged and choreographed by dancer-choreographer STEVE MERRITT, who has appeared here in numerous spectaculars and with star revues. Merritt just got back from choreoing two superspectaculars for producers BARRY ASHTON & WOLF KOCHMANN - "Paris Scandale" in Miami's Americana Hotel, and "Revue Royale de Paris" at the Americana in Puerto Rico. Designing and executing the group's new duds will be HIBGY-O'DANIEL who count TOM JONES, LIZA MINNELLI, DELLA REESE, etc. among their clients. ARTIE PHILLIPS, BRAD CRAIG, and "Upstairs at the Downstairs" producer for so many years ROD WARREN, are writing the new show....

in "Anything Goes" opening first in Palm Beach, Florida on Jan. 31...Bushy haired MARTY ALLEN, so busy busy with tv and movies lately, returns to the Flamingo on Feb. 17. Marty's perf in the soon-to-be-released "Whale of a Tale" is being most favorably compared to the great Spencer Tracy classic, "The Old Man and the Sea"...Blonde songstress SHEILA SPARR who was featured here in the D.I.'s "Pzazz" spectaculars, is now one of the featured singers in the "Never Before Folies Bergere" at the Tropicana...Actor-singer CRAIG GARDNER, recently closed in "The Caine Mutiny" at the LA Music Center, pops into Vegas for a short holiday and reunion with his former "boss", CONNIE STEVENS opening Jan. 20 at the Flamingo...And just wait til you see Connie's ultra sexy, super treatment of the theme music from "Shaft". It's an eye-popper!...Dancer-choreographer-producer WALTER PAINTER, who did the last ANN MARGRET SHOW at the Hilton, is putting the final touches on his new show for BARBARA EDEN, opening at the Landmark on Jan. 26. Tv's "Jeannie" hasn't been here for several years, since her last revue at the Frontier...FIDDLER ON THE ROOF" still going strong, stronger, strongest at Sam Boyd's Union Plaza, downtown...And delightful daffy lady FAY MCKAY makes a big big difference in the revamped refurbished "CASINO DE PARIS" at the Dunes...Former "Casino" star ROUVAUN is making his first Vegas mainroom debut now at the Fremont Hotel's Fiesta Room...SOUP is back, and cookin', at the Hilton Casino Theater. KENNY ROGERS AND THE FIRST EDITION, who broke all kinds of attendance records when they debuted here a few months ago, are headlining at the Hilton lounge with comedy star SAMMY SHORE showing off all new facets of his comedy talent heretofore hidden by his many mainroom stints with ELVIS, TOM JONES and THE SUPREMES.

LOUNGE HOPPING...Even if ALL the Strip hotels had lounges going full blast and round the clock (remember those days??), the FLAMINGO CASINO THEATER would still be the hottest in town with its current three star line-up: WAYNE COCHRAN, THELMA HOUSTON and SAMI JO AND THE CANDY MOUNTAIN. Each star is doing their own unique thing, and it's music, music, music as old & cheerful as Sami Jo's "Camptown Races" to Thelma's barefooted bouncy pop-rock-soul-gospel bouquet to Wayne's still-to-be-released rafter shakers and quiet, tender poetry written by Cochran for his upcoming Columbia-Epic album. It's quite a show! Thelma and Wayne need no introduction here in Vegas. Cochran's a longtime Flamingo headliner and a Vegas resident. Miss Houston, a "performer's performer" as well as a vivacious audience pleaser, is making her first Vegas appearance since the days of Nero's Nook at Caesars. She's a bundle of dynamite - explosive, exciting and a mistress at her craft. Newcomer to the scene is Arkansas beauty, Sami Jo, and one of the brightest new finds for RCA records. Sami Jo moves easily from sassy to sexy, from updated oldies to contemporary tunes. Sami Jo has a husky, almost contralto range in her vocals that is velvety and sweet or strongly soul-fied when she chooses, but always compelling. Go anywhere and everywhere in town, but don't miss the triple treat of talents at the Flamingo Casino Theater....

ROUND TOWN...Seems everybody wants to be a GAYLE target these nights at the Sahara Casbar Theater. The outrageous, hilarious and totally irreverent JACKIE GAYLE, that is. His late shows are celebrity jammed with folks like MILTON BERLE, TOTIE FIELDS, JOHNNY

STRIP BITS...The January-February line up of Strip stars reads like a roster from the rock and roll heydays of the 1950's and early 60's with ELVIS PRESLEY, PAUL ANKA, BOBBY DARIN, FRANKIE AVALON, AL MARTINO, and JOHNNY MATHIS all plying their trade in the main showrooms...BILL COSBY & DIAHANN CARROLL team up for the first time at the Las Vegas Hilton, following Elvis, on Feb. 24...PHIL FORD & MIMI HINES return to their first love, musical comedy, starring

WEEKEND WANDERERS...HURRY UP! JOHNNY MATHIS and FORD & HINES close Jan. 17 at the Sahara Congo Room. Mathis is magical, Phil & Mimi a sheer delight!...D-Day at the Riviera with PHYLLIS DILLER & JOHN DAVIDSON reprising their best-ever engagement...Actor-comedian-singer-producer-director JERRY LEWIS is back at Caesars Palace...The opulent splendor of the Far East, "GEISHA-RELLA" at the Thunderbird starring TAKEUCHI KEIGO and his Imperial Japanese Dancers...ABBE LANE, the sex goddess with a smile, stars at the Landmark....

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