

LAS VEGAS SHOWGASTE

Mark Tan
IN
LAS VEGAS



STRIP BITS... WELCOME HOME to BRECK WALL & JOE PETERSON'S "BOTTOMS UP" preeming its 1973 edition today (May 5) at the Flamingo Casino Theatre (afternoons). The Las Vegas favorite just returned from its annual winter road tour and playdates in Lake Tahoe at Harrah's, and Tony Caterine's The Losers Club in Dallas, Texas. Dallas is really home to the "BU" company; the show originated there, at the Adolphus Hotel, more than a dozen years ago... JEANNINE BURNIER, the funny, funny lady now appearing with PATTI PAGE at the Landmark Hotel, had a very unfunny - and near tragic - welcome to Vegas when she arrived last week for her mainroom debut. Jeannine, her 10-year-old daughter, and her manager MIKE CONNER were involved in an auto collision, just outside the Landmark, on opening day. Jeannine was the only one not requiring hospitalization, and was able, a few days later, to quip "It happened right under the Landmark marquee... do you think it might be an omen of some kind?"... DEBBIE REYNOLDS, the Desert Inn's million dollar baby and now the D.I.'s Number One attendance record holder, never, never misses a show! But Debbie's medics were firm enough to persuade her to cancel

out one night this past week because of a pinched nerve in her back that was causing her much pain and fainting spells... If you haven't seen Debbie's new show - featuring her male escorts, JEFF PARKER, WALTER STRATTON, STEVE LARDAS, JERRY TRENT & FRANK DE SAL - better hurry, she closes this engagement and this show on May 8... WAYNE COCHRAN'S bosses at Epic Records are so pleased with his first album "Cochran" and the sales its racking up nationwide, they're picking out two cuts for a single to be released this month. Wayne wrote most of the songs, and has been performing them in his shows at the Flamingo Casino Theatre... TICKETS now on sale for the next "CONCERTS FOR CHILDREN" at the Las Vegas Convention Center on May 13. "A Family Affair" starring Frontier headliner WAYNE NEWTON, Hilton rock group S.O.U.P., and the 100 voice Boys and Girls Choir. DAVID FORESTER conducts the Nevada Symphony. The concert starts promptly at 1:30 p.m. Speaking of S.O.U.P., the group's settling in for a long Las Vegas stay. They've leased the home of "Vive Les Girls" comedienne ELMARIE WENDEL for the summer and will be busy writing, rehearsing and working on their own compositions, (some of which will be performed for the first time at the Concerts for Children). The popular group, never too busy to help out at any worthy cause, just performed at the Cancer Fund celebrity party...

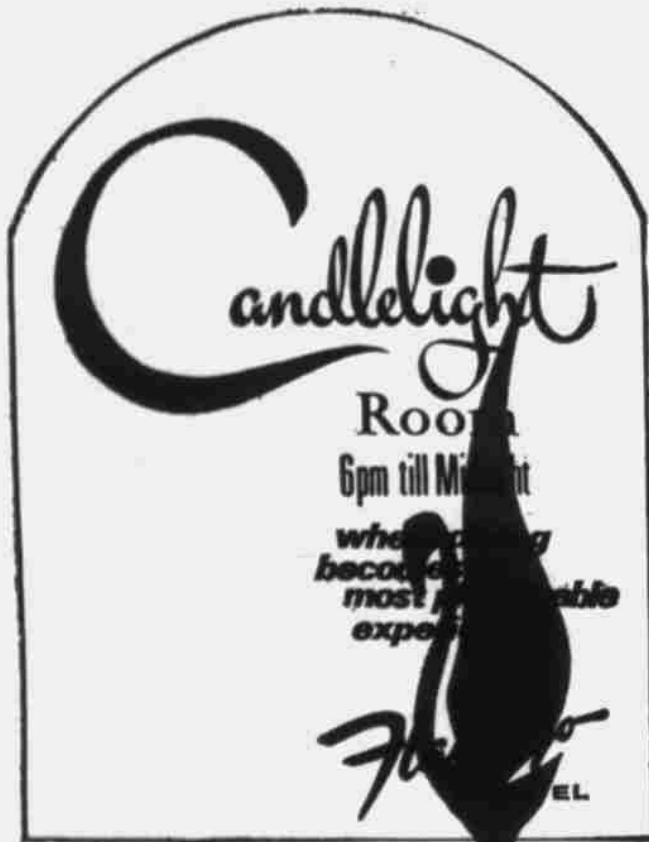
ROUND TOWN... Isn't producer FREDERIC APCAR near to a deal to present his "Vive Les Girls" (under another title, of course) at the Circus Hippodrome Theater when the CC's new highrise hotel opens in July?... THE U.S. AIR FORCE WORLDWIDE TALENT CONTEST gets underway at the Stardust Hotel on May 27. More than 200 performers will be judged in the week long competition ending June 3... VIVIAN WOODARD COSMETICS rep PETER PETERSON in from San Francisco (where the line is exclusive with equally exclusive and posh boutique DANIELS-TOBIY-DANIELS) to scout Vegas expansion plans. The firm's big news is a revolutionary new rejuvenation process that replaces moisture in the skin. Peterson's handling the distribution but won't reveal the "secret" scientific formula... Producers BARRY ASHTON & WOLF KOCHMAN (Silver Slipper, Union Plaza, etc.) now in England scouting new talent for their 1973 editions of revues at the Americana Hotels in Miami and Puerto Rico. Meanwhile, at the Silver Slipper, Ashton's "Wonderful World of Burlesque" is doing big biz thanks, in part, to the presence and performances of its new quartet of leading ladies - MISS VELVET, MARILYN ROBERTSON, SHARON DALL, and LISA (of lead dance team Lisa and Salerno)... Making the "must see" list of performers, singers, musicians, etc., plus hundreds of visitors: the dynamite song stylings of MISS DAMITA JO, now in her debut at the Hilton Casino Theater. TOM JONES, JOHNNIE RAY, WAYNE COCHRAN, TONY BENNETT, among the star studded performances for the popular and imitable songstress... Former Vegas, choreographer AL GOSSAN is turning producer in his native Chicago with mini-Vegas-style revues. Gossan, recently back from a couple of months in Hawaii, is now doing shows for Chicago's Sabre Room (with a soon to be opened 1000-capacity showroom), the plush Mangam Chateau, and the chain of Gaslight Clubs. Gossan said he's hoping to start using Vegas talent in the rotating showroom revues... Hilarious impressionist LYNNE CARTER due back at the Flamingo in June, to be followed by RUSTY WARREN and PAUL REVERE & THE RAIDERS in July...

COMING ATTRACTIONS... MANOLO TORRENTE & FREDDY MANJON'S "LATIN FIRE '73" returns to the Thunderbird on June 15 for a six month run. Manolo and Freddy have been working on the new show and have been

visiting several Latin American countries looking for new acts... ENGELBERT HUMPERDINCK & THE CELEBRATION open May 24 at the Riviera. Comedian MORTY GUNTY will also be on the bill... ANN-MARGRET, so busy with film assignments and cafe dates, returns to the Hilton in October... ABBE LANE & JOAN RIVERS share headline honors at the Desert Inn Crystal Room, opening August 1... JOEY BISHOP returns for his annual visit to the Sands, opening May 24...

MIMO TO WRITERS OF JUVENILE BOOKS... New York literary agent MARTIN PINE is looking for new talent, old talent, and new manuscripts to expand his young people's book department. Pine, formerly associated with the east coast public relations for the Tropicana Hotel, can be contacted, directly at his Broadway offices...

WEEKEND WANDERERS... "THE LITTLE WHITE CLOUD THAT CRIED", "Cry baby" JOHNNIE RAY in his Flamingo debut... The amazing SIEGFRIED & ROY, the master illusionists, with beautiful lead dancer JILLIAN, THE VOLANTES, DOMINIQUE, and the spectacular spectacle known as the "Lido de Paris" at the Stardust...



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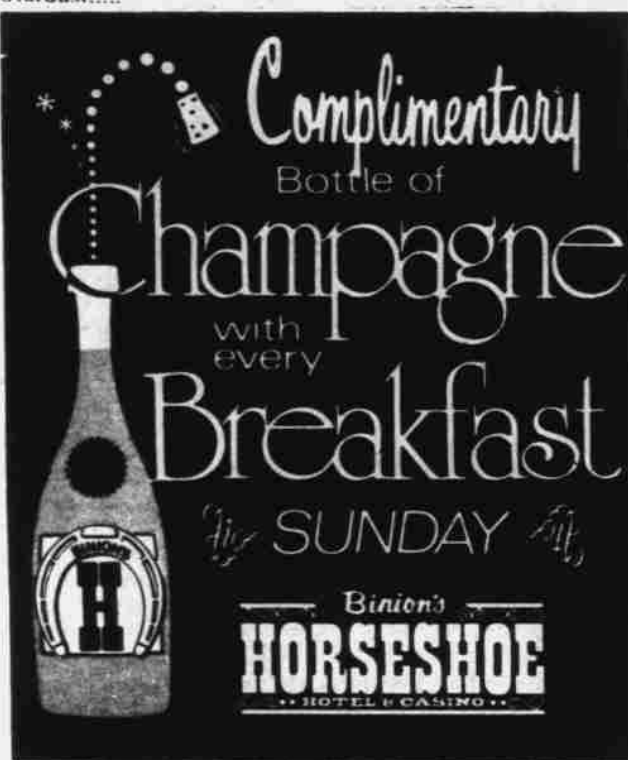
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