

OF THE STARS ★

ENTERTAINMENT TRIP AROUND THE WORLD



DICK MCINNES

Tripped out to the "Here's Lucy" set at Universal and the usually calm LUCILLE BALL was furious about the spiel that the tour guides are giving as they take tourists through her dressing room. She had never heard it before and just happened to be nearby when the spiel started. Lucy told her audience before the taping began that she was going to take care of the situation personally and that anyone who had heard the spiel before should know it's a bunch of baloney. I'd well imagine that the next day, there was a completely new Lucy spiel. Hubby GARY MORTON when queried about DESI JR. & LIZA MINELLI's wedding plans said there was no immediate plans at all. Seems Desi's career is going full guns with just completing "The Adventures of Marco Polo" in Japan and starting "Billy Two Hats" in Texas with GREGORY PECK. Liza is doing a Lucy show in September that she was supposed to do with Desi until all his film commitments came up. Most exciting Lucy news is that next year there will be a cartoon version of the incredibly funny redhead on Saturday mornings. Do you realize that she is still on reruns in most cities and countries in "I Love Lucy," CBS is running reruns of "The Lucy Show" daily at 9 AM, "Here's Lucy" at 9 pm Monday nights and now the cartoon series. Is there any doubt in your mind that the whole world loves Lucy?

The original "French Bombshell" FIFI D'ORSAY is back in Hollywood co-starring in

"Follies" so pal MARVIN SAUL threw a "Welcome Home, Fifi" party at his Junior's Restaurant & Deli in Westwood, our answer to New York's famed Stage Door Deli. The 68 year young Fifi had everyone mesmerized as she told her favorite stories while sipping French champagne and munching kosher corned beef. It's the only way to eat. CHRISTINE JORGENSEN, just back from a lecture tour was pursuing her other hobby, photography, and taking many pictures of the gang there including TOM BROWN from "General Hospital" and fabulous JACK OAKIE with his lovely Vicki, and Israeli designer LAWRENCE ZIV who calls his fashion line, Lawrence of Judea.

Speaking of "Follies," JANET BLAIR has been signed to replace DOROTHY COLLINS on September 15 when Dorothy goes back home to hubby RON HOGATE in New York. Dorothy plans to rejoin "Follies" when they do the London company. JAN CLAYTON who has been standing by for Dorothy is reportedly most unhappy about not taking the role over. That's no way to treat a friend of LASSIE'S. Sic em, girl!!!!

THE MOVIE TRIP... Look out world, the first black horror movie has been made and you know something, it's pretty good. "Blacula," a Samuel Z. Arkoff presentation for AIP could have been just a routine exploitation flick but with hard work and imagination, they made it into a good horror film. "Blacula" opens with African Prince Mamuwalde (WILLIAM MARSHALL, who is excellent) asking Count Dracula to sign a petition abolishing slavery. Dracula doesn't take too kindly to this and does his blood sucking bit on the Prince and tells him "I curse you with my name, you will be called Blacula, a vampire like myself. A living fiend." And all this in living color too. The credits then flash on the screen

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Stan Colton, Registrar of Voters, announced the Clark County Election Department will be open Saturdays to accommodate those who wish to register to vote for the coming elections.

and they get my vote for the most original titles ever seen. We are then transported to modern day when two very gay interior decorators (RICK METZLER & TED HARRIS, a bit overdone) buy Blacula's coffin and bring it to Los Angeles. For their trouble, they become his first victims and fellow vampires. I guess you might call them the first "Dragulas." Good performances by DENISE NICHOLAS, THALMUS RASULALA, GORDON PINSENT plus sound effects by KETTY LESTER, EMILY YANCY and that old alumnus of many horror flicks, ELISHA COOK JR. contribute to the believability of "Blacula." VONETTA MC GEE, the love interest was attractive but wooden. Music by GENE PAGE made a big impression. Go see it, but don't forget to take your own cross, just in case.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO: NOAH BEERY, JR., JIMMY DEAN, EDDIE FISHER, RHONDA FLEMING (Marilyn Louis) MARTHA HYER, & JANE WYATT (10); ARLENE DAHL, JEAN PARKER (Mae Green) & LLOYD NOLAN (11); JOHN DEREK, GEORGE HAMILTON, OSCAR HOMOLKA & MARJORIE REYNOLDS (12); NEVILLE BRAND, GENE RAYMOND (Raymond Guion) & CHARLES "BUDDY" ROGERS (13) WENDY HILLER, LORI NELSON, JANIEE RULE & LESLEY ANN WARREN (15) and ANN BLYTH, MAE CLARKE, JULIE NEWMAE (Julie Newmeyer) and FESS PARKER (16).

Former talk show hosts don't even fade away they keep coming back. JACK PAAR has been signed to return in January to late night TV, doing one week a month on ABC with DICK CAVETT, doing another week. Cavett will stay on until the end of the year. They are rumored to looking for other hosts to fill out the remaining two weeks. Why not JOEY BISHOP & STEVE ALLEN to complete the former talk show host format???

OK, gang that's the trip this week. See you,

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