

# OF THE STARS



**TELLING IT LIKE IT IS**

## Diller A Thriller

Yes we were curious. Did the recent well publicized face-lifting of Miss Phyllis Diller make her a museum curio or could she hack it on her own witty dialogue as always?

The packed audience and I responded in unison. The world's most popular comedienne transplanted her faded facial stitches into our ribs and had us holding our sides for support during 50 minutes of solid merriment. Not only was she as zany as ever, she was beautiful. The new Diller face now makes her officially the best looking, most popular comedienne around.

If you should happen to miss her current headline appearance at the Copa Room of the Sands Hotel, you can jot down Nov. 21 when she opens the Desert Inn with gueststar Frankie Avalon.

Sharing headline honors at the Sands is Jerry Vale, local LV resident and one of our longtime favorites. We shall never forget the warmth of the evenings we spent listening to Jerry sing at the old Copa Lounge of the Sands. His renditions of "Two Different Worlds," "Purple Shadows In The Snow" and "In Armadura" had the good



THE NEW MISS DILLER

wife Rita and I holding hands in sentimental intoxication.

Quietly Jerry Vale has worked his way to the top of the easy listening charts. His current version of Gilbert O'Sullivan's "Alone Again Naturally" is a show stopper. Mr. Vale deserves headline status in Vegas and will share an unforgettable slot in our memory files forever.

A special thanks to Al Guzman, director of publicity and advertising at the Sands for the kind treatment. Al took over the post after the passing of our dear friend Al Freeman who started with the opening of the Sands in 1952.

## NEW LIDO SHOW AT STARDUST DEC. 28

All systems are "GO" and hundreds of the finest craftsmen in the world are toiling long and hard as they prepare for the 10th and most lavish edition ever

of the spectacular Lido de Paris, set for a Dec. 28 premiere at the Stardust Hotel.

The famed Lido, which has played to nearly 10 million awe-struck visitors since first appearing at the Stardust in 1958, is undergoing a total revision only the name "Lido" will remain the same.

The current 9th edition has been the most successful of the long line of presentations, playing to turnaway crowds twice nightly since April, 1970. But Stardust management says it's time for a change, and change it will.

Auditions have already been held in La Vegas and many major cities of the world to assemble a cast of more than a hundred dancers, nude showgirls, musicians, and specialty acts to star in the edition entitled "Pariscopes."

Donn Arden, in charge of all staging and direction of the Lido, along with producer Frank Sennes, spent agonizing days with Madame Bluebelle, of the Paris Lido, selecting what has already been acclaimed as the most beautiful and talented group of dancers and showgirl ever for the new revue.

The representative of a Japanese news magazine summed up the difficulty by asking, "How

could anyone ever say 'no' to any of those beautiful fgirls?"

But "No" it was to most of the 800 plus young ladies who vied for what has been termed the most perfect job in the world for a dancer or showgirl.

The group travelled thousands of miles to check on a report of a spectacular specialty act that might be included in the show. Or they would hop on an intercontinental jet to inspect a scenic wonder which might be reproduced a lavish production number.

Audiences who have thronged to the present edition and Stardust officials have dared them to top one of the dance production numbers, which includes a rooftop chase through Paris, complete with helicopters flying right over the heads of the crowd.

The staging features include a swimming pool ice skating rink, huge hydraulic elevators that can produce a myriad of special effects, lighting and sound systems not found anywhere in the entertainment world and a staff that is constantly coming up with new thrills and surprises for the nightly throngs.

Stardust president Sachs has complete confidence in Messrs. Arden, Sennes, Fraday and Guerin to come up with the best there is.

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### KAY STARR AT FREMONT

Vocalist Kay Starr returns to the scene of her greatest nightclub triumphs Oct. 10, when she opens a three-week engagement in the Fiesta Room of the Fremont Hotel.

The vibrant voiced charmer who rode to international fame on the success of her all-time hit record, "Wheel of Fortune," will share the bill with comedian Lee Tully.

The Fremont Orchestra will provide musical backing for the show, slated to remain in the Fiesta Room thru Nov. 1.

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