

# LAS VEGAS 'SHOWCASE'



**PEOPLE ARE WHISPERING ABOUT...**...a trio of well-known singers-personalities who used to be such great friends, and are now spitting and spitting at each other at every turn. Seems the biggest of the three - a lady - feels abused and misused by her former chums. The male pal in the trio has clawed his way quite successfully to the upper rungs of show biz society thanks, in part, to his "association" with the femme star. The final member, a hot young singing discovery, is crushed that her star friend is fanning the non-existent feud....a quickly hushed up story that starred two Vegas headliners in a reportedly harsh and heavy bout. All that is really known is that one of the stars left town suddenly. One story has that it was DEFINITELY a medical reason; the other insists was more marital than medical....a heavyweight headliner here who reportedly has a problem getting booked at any of the Strip hotels because he flatly refuses to pay off old gambling debts. The inner workings of the hotels passed the word that the star was a no-pay when he played at other hotels, and now he finds himself without a long term pact for the first time in many many years....that big mouthed movie star who stupidly put down Vegas in a couple of recent interviews. Interest in the lady's supposedly blossoming nightclub career is practically nil here with even other Strip stars wondering how she could expect any but the chilliest of receptions if and when she plays here....

**BOUQUETS & BRAVOS...**To young Miss PATTI SWALLIE the "surprise" guest singer with The Don Ho Show at the Flamingo Hotel. Patti makes a most impressive bow with her rendition of "I Don't Know How to Love Him" in a kind of throwaway presentation by the Hawaiian superstar. Don Ho, by the way, has a new hit in the making if and when he records "I Will Never Pass This Way Again" (his closing song this show). The song and Don's version of it just about sum up his personal philosophy and his easy going - out giving Aloha spirit that he brings to the mainland twice a year....to the really fine presentation of the 2nd Annual Las Vegas Entertainment Awards held last week at the Hilton Theater Royale. A star studded production hosted by SAMMY DAVIS JR. with presenters SONNY & CHER, JULIET PROWSE, MILTON BERLE, ABBE LANE, GLEN CAMPBELL, JACKIE GAYLE, RIP TAYLOR, MYRON COHEN, JERRY VALE, FAY MCKAY, SIEGFRIED & ROY, JILLIAN, Caesars Palace comedian-host LENNY KENT, and many more. Producers BRECK WALL & JOE PETERSON gave the awards a high professional gloss and a sparkling showcase to the performer favorites as voted by more than 1000 entertainers, press, and hotel executives. Among the

highlights was the selection of beautiful MARILYN ROBERTSON - featured in Barry Ashton's Wonderful World of Burlesque at the Silver Slipper, and ROGER MINAMI, dancing star of the Stardust's "Bare Touch of Vegas" as Female and Male Performers of the Year (in a show). Marilyn and Roger are two of the town's most popular performers. Production Show of the Year winner was "LIDO DE PARIS" for the second year; ditto Male Star of the Year, SAMMY DAVIS JR., and the awesomely popular LIZA MINNELLI a resounding and overwhelming pick as Female Star of the Year. Liza, incidentally, returns to the Riviera with her "Cabaret" co-star JOEL GREY on Dec. 1.... MILTON BERLE & ABBE LANE, the current powerhouse at the Desert Inn Crystal Room, are one of the best and most popular combos paired in the Hughes Hotel chains teams. The Hughes policy of repeating "winners" (like PHYLLIS DILLER & JERRY VALE, BOBBY GENTRY & NIPSEY RUSSELL, etc.) is proving a good one, and Mr. Television Berle and beautiful Abbe should be back again and again....

**STRIP CHATTER...**MISS KELLIE GREENE, the

multi-talented composer-arranger-jazz pianist-musician-conductor, currently part of the Phil Harris Show at the Frontier Hotel, is tackling one of her biggest projects with the writing, scoring and arranging of a new motion picture. Kellie, who is also one of SOL HUOK's most popular concert attractions, was cited by conductor LEONARD BERNSTEIN as "One of the best of the young talents" in the demanding field of concert artistry. A pianist in the popular field as well, Kellie is recording a new album shortly for Dot Records....

**'ROUND TOWN...**The Landmark's new "Supper Club" concept is going great guns with a \$3.95 dinner and continuous entertainment featuring KIMO & THE 50th STATE, HOT ICE, and upcoming, THE CHANDLER CONSPIRACY....PHIL HARRIS, HARRY JAMES, & FRANK SINATRA JR. return en masse for another go round at the Frontier opening Dec. 21, replacing JIMMY DURANTE for the Christmas-New Year's attraction....GORDON MACRAE makes his first Strip date in years next at the Desert Inn with PHYLLIS DILLER opening Nov. 21....



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