

★ LAS VEGAS ★

'SHOWCAST OF THE STARS'

Mark Tan
IN
LAS VEGAS



STRIP CHIPS.....Hilarious femme impressionist **LYNNE CARTER** who made such a big hit on the recently aired **MERV GRIFFIN** in Las Vegas shows, has a serious business side when he's not donning characters like **PEARL BAILEY**, **BETTE DAVIS & PHYLLIS DILLER** in his act. Lynne just completed a deal to buy his own hotel and nightclub in popular east coast resort of Provincetown; Lynne will work at the club whenever his schedule permits and is busily lining up his own stable of stars to play dates this summer. Carter who has thousands of friends in show business can easily persuade pals from superstars to newcomers to 'Play Provincetown'.....**SIG SAKOWIZC**, and wife Gina, head for L.A. and a stay at the Century City Plaza Hotel. Sig will be covering the upcoming Academy Awards telecast and celeb interviewing for his 15th consecutive year. Sig's reports will be heard locally over **KVOV** and on Chicago's powerful **WGN**.....Beautiful blonde **RONNIE ROGISH** reports that Line Renaud's newest production "Fantasies of Love" (in which Ronnie is a featured dancer) is doing great biz in his current stand at the Playboy Hotel in Miami Beach. We hear that "Fantasies" will be closing in April and could possibly be scouting a Vegas berth for the summer.....**BRECK WALL & JOE PETERSON'S** "Bottoms Up" has been signed to open April 19 at Harrah's Reno in the Cabaret Theater. Currently playing to SRO-plus audiences in its annual return engagement to Dallas, Texas, the "Bottoms Up" cast will be "home" for a brief holiday at month's end prior to the Reno date.....French singer-actor **JEAN PAUL VIGNON** will star in the upcoming musical production opening at the Hacienda in late April. The show's title is still up in the air, and the producers are making little effort to keep the press informed as to casting, title, opening date, etc.....**THE KIM FAMILY** returns to the Vegas scene this month; **THE KIM BROTHERS** open at the Flamingo Casino Theater on Mar. 29; **THE KIM**

SISTERS open March 22 at the Stardust Lounge.....Movie star-singer **JAMES DARREN** opened to capacity crowds this week in his first nitery date in his hometown, Philadelphia, at Palumbo's. Darren will be guesting on the Mike Douglas Show while appearing in Philly and returns to the coast to cut his first sides for MGM before returning, with **BUDDY HACKETT**, to the Sahara Congo Room on April 8.....Speaking of movie stars, **BURT REYNOLDS** flew in with **MERV GRIFFIN** over the weekend for his first look at the Vegas bright lights, and ended up making his first Vegas stage debut as a surprise guest at the **DON RICKLES** show at the Riviera. And movie star Academy Award nominee **MICHAEL CAINE** arrives here on March 21 to help his good buddy **MARTY ALLEN** celebrate his closing night at the Flamingo. A couple of Marty's "first nighters" are also hoping to get back for the closing night, including **ERNIE BORGNINE**, **MIKE CONNORS**, and Herald Examiner movie critic (and sometime movie star himself) **RICHARD "The Thief Who Came to Dinner" CUSKELLY**.....

TALENT SCOUTING.....You're going to be hearing alot more about Detroit singing sensation **BOB ANDERSON**. Anderson, in town last week on a holiday, gave a couple of unrehearsed "auditions" for people like producer **FREDERIC APCAR**, entertainment director **BILL MILLER**, and Flamingo star **CASS ELLIOT**. Reaction to Anderson was slightly overwhelming, and encouraging enough for Bob to make a move westward. To give you just a slight idea of just how exciting the young, ruggedly handsome singer is - **MARTY ALLEN** heard him and wants to present him on an upcoming **MERV GRIFFIN** show; **CASS ELLIOT** heard him and wants to have **MIKE DOUGLAS** hear him; **JOAN RIVERS** heard about him and wants to hear him as a possible newcomer presentation when she returns to the Ye Little Club in Beverly Hills in April; producer **BARRY ASHTON** missed the audition but asked that Anderson sing for him with an eye toward a featured slot in one of Ashton's extravaganzas in Miami or Puerto Rico; and three recording companies are hearing Anderson's tapes (from various shows he's done in Detroit) and his first recording master, this week in L.A. Bob's manager, Grosse Point-Birmingham business exec **DANIEL RAPPAPORT**, has decided that the attention warrants a headquarters in Las Vegas and Beverly Hills, and Anderson will be arriving here over the weekend. Next week, he'll start singing for his supper, and at the same time, for Hughes Hotel entertainment chieftain **WALTER KANE**, and hopefully for **BOB HOPE**, **DANNY THOMAS**, **ROWAN**

AND **MARTIN**, **TOTIE FIELDS**, **DON RICKLES**, and **JACK BENNY** (all of whom are well known for their interest in new talents for their stage and television shows). The personal highlight of his visit last week was that Anderson got to meet his idol, **ROBERT GOULET** (just closed at the Frontier). Bob's singing style has been compared to Goulet, Vic Damone, Tony Bennett, Humperdinck and Tom Jones, to mention a few. The reason for so many comparisons is because Bob has a powerful, full range vocal instrument, a musician's ear for sound and a poet's ear for lyric appreciation. You've heard just an intro to **BOB ANDERSON**; you're going to be hearing more as his star races upward in the coming months.....

'ROUND TOWN.....Lovely lady **JEANNIE THOMAS** opens this week at Caesars Palace, on Cleopatra's Barge. Jeannie, a former singing star of "Minsky's Burlesque" and various revues in and out of town, is making her solo debut.....Although "GEISHA'RELLA" hasn't yet been given official notice of closing in April, **DONALD O'CONNOR** has been announced as the first star in the Thunderbird/Mark Anthony Hotel's return to a name star entertainment policy. O'Connor, who hasn't played Vegas since "Little Me" at the Sahara, is scheduled to open April 5.....**DAVE MADDEN**, one of the stars of tv's "The Partridge Family" makes his Strip bow as guest star with **DAN ROWAN & DICK MARTIN**, opening March 29 at the Sahara.....Hear that the new Mark Anthony/Thunderbird Hotel plans to return to a "star name" policy in its showroom later this spring. **CONNIE STEVENS**, **TONY MARTIN**, **FRANKIE AVALON**, **MILTON BERLE** and **EDDIE FISHER** are among the star names being mentioned as possible attractions....."IT CAME TO PASS" is not a Biblical extravaganza but a new rock group featuring lead singers **OWEN McCONVAL** (from Belfast, Ireland), **DENNIS TUTTLE**, and **JOHN MORENO** (son of "Artists & Models" **PAT MORENO**). The group recently played an intro date at Cleopatra's Barge, at Caesars and should be making a Strip return soon.....**TRINI LOPEZ & JOAN RIVERS** open March 20 at the Desert Inn.....

LOCAL-LIGHTS.....**BOB WILSON** is the new maitre d' at the Frontier Music Hall. Bob's a familiar figure round town having worked showrooms at both the Riviera and the Dunes for the past twenty years or so. Congratulations.....

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