

# ★ LAS VEGAS ★

## 'SHOWCAST OF THE STARS'

Mark Tan  
IN  
**LAS VEGAS**



**STRIP CHATTER.....**Singer BOB ANDERSON who was a comparative "unknown" a few months ago, will be seen making his second appearance on the Merv Griffin Show on the show airing in Las Vegas on June 13. Anderson appeared with Merv from Caesars Palace last month and was quickly called back for an encore appearance. On June 14, Bob will be making his mainroom debut with NANCY SINATRA in her new show opening at the Nugget in Reno. After that, it'll be a quick vacation home, to Detroit, then on to other club dates and television guestings: Anderson has a head-turning pack of offers to choose from including a debut in Honolulu, engagements in Florida, New York or Chicago, and at least three major recording labels ready and willing to talk a disc deal....DIANA ROSS, who many still think should have won a "Lady Sings the Blues" Academy Award in a walk, returns this week to Caesars Palace. In a word, DON'T MISS HER!!.....One of the stars who other stars talk about is delightful lady ventriloquist KAY CAROLE, currently in her Vegas debut at the Sahara Casbar Theater. Kay and her funny friend (who talks and acts alot like Don Rickles) can count MITZI GAYNOR & JACK BEAN, DICK ROWAN & DAN MARTIN, PEPPER DAVIS (now resident pr man at the Hacienda Hotel), MILTON BERLE, ROBERT GOULET and dozens more among her star boosters 'round town....Speaking of Rickles, Don'll be back at the Riviera Hotel opening July 11 with the latest discovery of GORDON (Tom Jones, Engelbert, Gilbert O'Sullivan) MILLS - Burmese-Italian-English singer PETER GORDENO....Beautiful SHERRI SPILLANE (her husband is detective yarn spinner MICKEY) is back as the star of the Union Plaza's new production of "South Pacific". Also co-starring in the cast are DIOSA COSTELLO, SCOTT STEWART and ROBERT CORFF (former star of "Hair" and "Jesus Christ, Superstar")....TONY MARTIN & CYD CHARISSE who have been doing such a marvelous job of bringing the Thunderbird back to the Strip scene in a blaze of glory in their current show, close on June 13. MEL TORME & DICK SHAWN follow....NORM CROSBY who just closed with Tom Jones at Caesars, is scheduled for a quick return opening June 26 at the Desert Inn. Norm's costar is still to be announced.....

**LIFE UPON THE WICKED STAGE.....**MILTON BERLE will be celebrating his 60th year in show business this year. Currently doing great biz in his latest Desert Inn romp, Uncle Miltie has a full calendar of nitery dates, tv guestings, and concert appearances from now til October. In October, Milton's career-long chums will be getting together to honor him at the Friar's Club with none other than MR. FRANK SINATRA as chairman of the Berle tribute. Same month, Berle has promised his publishers, Delacorte, that he'd have the first draft of his autobiography, still untitled, and that'll cover only the first 35 years of his show biz career and personal life....Local-lads called THE RICHARD CURTIS SHOW currently on the road, open this week at Giovanni's in Mason City, Iowa. The group just closed in Akron, Ohio at the Brown Derby....Two of manager CHARLIE JOHNSTON'S hot young rock groups are currently playing in town; at the Sahara Casbar it's the GRINGOS and at the Las Vegas Hilton Casino Theater, EDDIE HADAD & CANYON. Johnston also manages the very popular S.O.U.P. who played here for months on end last summer....Speaking of groups, STARK NAKED AND THE CAR THIEVES - a longtime Vegas favorite but not seen in many months here - is back in full time action recording for Verve Records under the Alias of "David". The group had to make a name change for records because certain radio station refused to air them as "Stark Naked".....ALLAN CHAPIN is the new maitre'd at the Hacienda Hotel where JEAN PAUL VIGNON, SUSAN ANTON, NANCY BOND, DIANE DESTRY and NEIL J. SCHWARTZ are among the cast of "TURN IT ON". "T.I.O." has been completely revamped and restaged since its opening at the new Azure Room, and business is brisker than ever. The show will be getting word later this month if the hotel management has decided to extend their run into

mid-summer, or to premiere another new revue.....BOBBY MORRIS, a jack of many trades and President of the very successful Creative Entertainment Agency, based here, is now back on the eligible bachelor list. Morris' latest coup is to have his agency named as exclusive bookers for the Western Hotel chain in Europe and South Africa.


**'ROUND TOWN.....**On a talent hunt for a new unknown leading lady for his upcoming production of "Day of the Locust", famed director JOHN SCHLESINGER with producer JEROME HELLMAN, casting director MARIAN DOUGHTERTY and photographer MICHAEL CHILDERS, came to town this week and spent four days interviewing Vegas lovelies for the role. So far, there's been no official report as to whether or not Schlesinger found "her" or not but among the contenders were such glamor dolls as HEATHER VICTORSON ("Lido de Paris"), MARILYN ROBERTSON, DIANE LEWIS, SUSAN ANTON ("Turn It On"), MIKKI SHARAIT ("Bare Touch of Vegas"), JOYCE GREENWOOD, SHEILA SPARR ("Folies Bergere"), CARRIE ST. CLAIR, KATHY REAHM, and BONNIE ALBRITTON....Speaking of talent hunts, producer BARRY ASHTON is getting ready to start work on his two new spectaculars for the Americana Hotels in Miami and Puerto Rico. The shows won't open for several months but Ashton is already scouting new novelty acts and lead performers. Ashton's current revue here is "THIS IS BURLESQUE" at the Aladdin....ROBERT GOULET'S new group "SUNFLIGHT" showcased here last week has interested bids from several Strip hotels. The group will be leaving to tour shortly with CAROL LAWRENCE (after Robert & Carol's upcoming duo date at the Frontier opening June 28).....



DON ADAMS, BEST KNOWN FOR HIS FAMOUS ROLE AS THE SUPER SLEUTH IN THE TV SERIES, "GET SMART", RETURNED TO THE SANDS COPA ROOM ON JUNE 6. JOINING ADAMS DURING THIS THREE-WEEK ENGAGEMENT IS SPARKLING LOLA FALANA, WHO ROSE TO FAME AS ONE OF THE FEATURED DANCER - SINGERS IN THE SAMMY DAVIS SMASH MUSICAL, "GOLDEN BOY".

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