

# ★ LAS VEGAS ★

## 'SHOWCAST OF THE STARS'

*Mark Tan*  
IN  
**LAS VEGAS**



**CELEBRITY CIRCUS.....**BOB HOPE in to see SHECKY GREENE & VIC DAMONE at the Riviera and to chat about a new tv series to star Shecky. If the crowd's cheers and standing ovation are indicative, Mr. Hope should play Vegas and be the biggest attraction in all of Las Vegas history!.....ELVIS PRESLEY in to see TOM JONES at Caesars and BOBBIE GENTRY at the Frontier. One thing that the three stars have in common is that they all use Mickey Newberry's "American Trilogy" in their nightclub acts. So do ANDY WILLIAMS & WAYNE NEWTON, and all five have played here in the last month!.....MARTY ALLEN joins Bob Hope as one of the Miss World judges this week. Marty will also stop off in Philadelphia to make a record 100th guest appearance with his good pal MIKE DOUGLAS.....ROWAN & MARTIN, HARRY RITZ, DIANE LEWIS, JOAN RIVERS, RIP TAYLOR and PETER ANTHONY among the first night crowd jammin' by to catch JACKIE GAYLE in his latest (and last) engagement at the Sahara Casbar. Jackie will play the mainroom at the Thunderbird with MEL TORME in October, and then move on to the new Lion's Den at the MGM Grand Hotel.....A quartet of funny folk - JOAN RIVERS, PHYLLIS DILLER, ARTE JOHNSON & RUTH BUZZI - in to see zany RIP TAYLOR now at the Stardust Lounge. Rip has been held over until Sept. 25 by the hotel execs who've caught his SRO pandemonium twice nightly. Rip is also scheduled to join Desert Inn lovely JULIET PROWSE when she travels next to the Nugget in Sparks for an October date.....Winners of Moscow's highly coveted Festival of Arts golden medallion, THE FLYING FERCOs (Tony, Olga, Ferdinand, Dagmar & Areanna) now featured in the Dunes' "Casino de Paris", have decided to make Las Vegas their American home. The troupe, originally from Czechoslovakia, are in their American debut after several award-laden years travelling with Europe's top circus and theater productions.....Comedian HERB BROWN, not here since his last Frontier stint with The Supremes, has a new long term deal with the MGM Grand Hotel in the Lion's Den. Herb's managers are hoping to free him of previous commitments so that he can join Lou Rawls as the co-headlining opening attraction at the MGM, still scheduled for mid-November.....

**UP & COMING.....**Singer PETER LEMONGELLO, now in his Nevada debut, with DON RICKLES headlining at Harrah's, Reno.....THE KING COUSINS, just back from a special performance in Cannes, now ready with an all new Vegas-designed nitery revue. The cousins, all off-springs of the famous King Sisters, have been breaking in their act with dates at the new Disney World in Florida and at Disneyland in L.A.....PETER GORDENO, the Burmese-Italian-English singing star who had such a strong bow with Don Rickles at the Riviera, will headline next with the Ice Follies at Caesars Palace. Oddly enough, Peter's headline bow will be just about the same time as his mentor Rickles returns to headline at the Riviera later this year.....Songstress JEANNIE THOMAS, who's been shuffling between the Thunderbird and Caesars Palace Cleopatra's Barge for the past couple of months, gets some free time now to finish off her first single wax effort for a major label. Jeannie's record is being produced by her multi-talented husband & musical director Quitman Dennis.....Bistro favorite BILLY DARE (Chicago, Hollywood, Palm Springs, Honolulu, etc.) and now at Stefanino's in Bev Hills, will be making his first Vegas appearance in more than three years if the current deal jells with a Strip hotel.....The recently "unveiled" COCK ROBIN will be presented in a special showcase perf at the Landmark later this month. His manager is locally prominent socialite-sculptress-artist JEANNE WILLIAMS WILSON.....

**LIFE UPON THE WICKED STAGE.....**ABBE LANE enroute to a holiday in Europe with husband PERRY LEFF stops off in London to record four sides of an upcoming album for Glen Campbell's recording subsidiary. Abbe's musical director RICHARD BELLIS and


choreographer JIM BATES will be scouting and auditioning male singers-dancers for Abbe's new act opening Nov. 6 at the Desert Inn while the boss-lady is touring European capitals.....LENA HORNE set to make a rare Las Vegas appearance, opening next with DANNY THOMAS at the Sands opening December 5.....Las Vegas MAYOR ORAN GRAGSON will present MERV GRIFFIN with a special city award as Las Vegas' Goodwill Ambassador (via Merv's series of weekly shows from Caesars Palace) when the Griffin show returns to CP in October..... BETTE MIDLER, DICK JENSEN, EARTHA KITT, LYNNE CARTER, JOHNNIE RAY and LORNA LUFT among the stars reportedly being packed for outings in '74 at various Strip showrooms.....Speaking of Vegas showrooms, when will RAQUEL WELCH, GOLDIE HAWN, PERRY COMO, MARLENE DIETRICH, JOEL GREY, DIANA ROSS, BARBRA STREISAND, and JOEY HEATHERTON, be returning to the Strip??.....

**HAVE YOU HEARD.....**that there's new talk about building a new hotel-casino on the old El Rancho Vegas property opposite the Sahara?.....that FRANK SINATRA, now out of retirement with a new album and television special upcoming, is re-considering a very very limited engagement at a Strip hotel?.....that BURT REYNOLDS is mulling an offer to play Caesars Palace?.....that MITZI GAYNOR will be the official First Star at the new Tropicana Superstar Theater opening October 5?.....

**WEEKEND WANDERERS.....**TOM JONES in super form at Caesars Palace.....Strip Fair Ladies: JULIET PROWSE at the Desert Inn, BOBBIE GENTRY at the Frontier, PHYLLIS DILLER at the Sands, SHIRLEY BASSEY at the Hilton, BARBARA McNAIR at the Thunderbird, and JOAN RIVERS at the Sahara.....The one and only SHECKY at the Riviera.....Strip Showstoppers: THE ARGENTINIAN GAUCHOS now in the "Casino de Paris" at the Dunes.....RIP TAYLOR at the Stardust.....

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