

# ★ LAS VEGAS ★

## 'SHOWCASE OF THE STARS'

*Mark Tan*  
IN  
**LAS VEGAS**



**MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY, PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR** — energy crisis, shortages of everything, and a growing national gloom may not be much of a new year to start off with but hope and optimism spring eternal, especially on the Las Vegas scene where business continues as usual and with surprising briskness. My personal thanks and appreciation to all the stars, performers, hotel executives, entertainment directors, publicity directors, managers, agents, publicity firms, and most of all, friends who've made the past year a memorable one. Best to us all in 1974!!

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'ROUND TOWN....If the Christmas and New Year's throngs aren't as hearty, happy and heavy as ever, it won't be the fault of Las Vegas hotels who are bringing out their holiday specials and a barrage of star talents to keep the Vegas Visitors feeling merry.....SHECKY GREENE & BARBARA EDEN, now at the MGM Grand Hotel's Celebrity Room head the list of holiday favorites. Shecky's never been more brilliant; Barbara is twice as beautiful as any of her movie and television appearances, and is showcased in a charming and delightful song and dance fest....At the Tropicana Superstar Theater — the not to be missed ANN-MARGRET in the Strip's most lavish, colorful and exciting entertainment titled, appropriately enough, "THE BEST OF ANN-MARGRET". Ann-Margret's selection of some of her favorite productions from her past Las Vegas, Reno, Tahoe and Miami revues, is Ann-Margret at her most sensational, beautiful and exciting! Roger Smith's brilliant innovation of having FOUR Ann-Margrets on stage, singing and dancing, all at once is the talk of the town and one of the many highlights of the stunning Mrs. Smith's program.....If sheer bedlam is your holiday eggnog, RIP TAYLOR, currently headlining at the popular Stardust Lounge, is spreading pandemonium, hysterics and hilarious non-stop nonsense in his new act. It's not entirely a laughing matter — Rip is now singing and the new quieter side of Taylor is a delightful surprise!....PETULA CLARK and the dazzling Shipstad & Johnson's Ice Follies (bigger and better than ever!) is the attraction at the lush Circus Maximus showroom at Caesars Palace. The witty, winning songstress from Great Britain is at her most stylish, and strictly uptown fare with her ever-popular "Downtown" flair!....Las Vegas' reigning champion of Standing Ovals, Record Breaking Attendance, and Super Showmanship, WAYNE NEWTON is at the Sands Hotel for one of his longest, continuous engagements. Wayne opened December 26 and will be at the Sands until February 5.....At the Sahara, it's the genius of comedy, JERRY LEWIS and his special gueststar, the incomparable and multi-talented MEL TORME (in his first Congo Room appearance).....And back for the secondhalf of her split December engagement at the



**BARBARA PORTER & LITTLE ROCK RETURN FOR THEIR SECOND ENGAGEMENT IN THE LANDMARK SUPPER CLUB FOR FOUR WEEK PERIOD. BARBARA NOT ONLY SINGS, SHE COMMUNICATES WITH HER AUDIENCES.**

Desert Inn Crystal Room, the gorgeous singer-dancer-comedienne BOBBIE GENTRY in her new edition of "Levis by Strauss, Diamonds by Tiffany" revue, with gueststar JOHN BYNER (in and out of the show as James Cagney, Fats Domino, Little Richard, Johnnie Ray, and a couple of others). Bobbie's musical marathon includes over the shoulder-tongue in cheek glances at the music that made the 1940's, 50's and 60's the ever-revered nostalgia that they are these days!.....

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**STRIP CHATTER.....**ROGER MILLER has been signed to headline next (Jan. 6) at the MGM Grand Hotel's Celebrity Room.....HERB EDEN, one of the Strip's all too infrequent comedy stars, and dynamic LOU RAWLS are currently costarring in the Grand's new Lion's Den lounge.....DELLA REESE will be bushy-haired MARTY ALLEN's gueststar when Marty returns to the Flamingo Hotel on January 24. Marty & Della kick off the Week of All Las Vegas Weeks of Entertainment. On January 25 — it's FRANK SINATRA at Caesars, ELVIS opens the 26th at the Las Vegas Hilton, TOTIE FIELDS debuts at the Sahara on the 28th, LIZA with a "Z" Minnelli returns to the Riviera on January 30, and SERGIO FRANCHI & JOAN RIVERS coheadline at the Grand on the 30th.....Longtime gone from the Strips scene, BUDDY GRECO makes a rare Vegas appearance, opening January 17 at the Thunderbird. Buddy's comedy costars will be Pat Henry the first week, and Morey Amsterdam for the second.....JAMES DARREN,

**NEW MINSKY REVUE AT FREMONT DEC. 28**

Bigger and better than ever is the best description for Minsky's '74, Tommy Me Raft in the new burlesque revue set to open in the Fiesta Room of the Fremont Hotel, downtown, Friday Dec. 28.

Referred to by impresario Harold Minsky as "the sexiest show in Las Vegas," Minsky's '74 features burlesque comedian Dick Richards in a series of hilarious sketches guaranteed to bring tears of laughter to the eyes of nightly audiences.

Richards, who will be making his Las Vegas debut, has captivated the eastern part of the nation with his specialized brand of humor. Joining him in the riotous skits will be Lou Ascol, considered as one of the best slap stick comics in the business today. Jerry Lucas, who appeared as straight man for Top Banana in Minsky's '74, Tommy Me Raft in the new burlesque revue set to open in the Fiesta Room of the Fremont Hotel, downtown, Friday Dec. 28, will assume a similar position with Richards and Ascol.

A large portion of that fun will be provided to Fremont visitors by Berri Lee, a fine magician and humorist, whose comedic talents make him appear to be one of the most inept purveyors of legerdemain to ever grace a stage.

The famed downtown resort is maintaining its policy of topflight entertainment at low, low, prices, with dinner and the show starting at \$5.75. Minsky's '74 will be presented twice nightly at 8 p.m. and midnight. Showtimes each Saturday are 8pm., 10:30 p.m. and a special "no cover, no minimum" performance at 1 a.m.

one of the town's most popular and personable favorites, precedes himself into town with a weeklong guesting on NBC-TV's "Baffled" gameshow Jan. 7-11. Jimmy opens on January 10 with BUDDY HACKETT at the Sahara for their 8th teaming.....

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SING, GYPSY! DANCE, GYPSY!.....WAYNE ALBRITTON (the Ensemble Boy of the Year) on vacation from the Stardust's "Lido de Paris", and wife BONNIE, on a monthlong hideout at their Mt. Charleston retreat.....Dancer JIMMY ROGERS featured in the new Barry Ashton revue, "THIS IS BURLESQUE" opening Dec. 27 at the Aladdin.....

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WEEKEND WANDERERS.....ANN-MARGRET at the Tropicana Superstar.....BARBARA EDEN & SHECKY GREENE at the MGM Grand.....BOBBIE GENTRY at the Desert Inn.....IKE & TINA TURNER at the Hilton, with Bill Cosby.....PETULA CLARK at Caesars.....KITTY KOVER & "HELLO, DOLLY" at the Union Plaza.....RIP TAYLOR at the Stardust.....BRECK WALL-JOE PETERSON'S "BOTTOMS UP" returns to the Circus Hippodrome December 27.....

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Advance Notice required on:

**5 P.M. to 12:30 A.M.**

**308 W. SAHARA**  
(2 Blocks West of Sahara Hotel)