

# ★ LAS VEGAS ★

## 'SHOWCAST OF THE STARS'

*Mark Tan*  
IN  
**LAS VEGAS**

**NEWCOMERS FOR THE NEW YEAR.....**Las Vegas the last bastion of live entertainment and the world's most exciting showplace is the logical launching pad for new talent. 'Round town and coming all month are several newcomers who are hoping to make the grade and fill some of the yawning vacancies in show business as singers, comedians, musical groups, etc. in the new year. These are just a few.....**MARILYNN ROBERTSON**, who's distinguished herself as the Female Performer of the Year last year, is showcasing her one woman nitery act, "Me and My Friends", on January 28 at the Flamingo Casino Theater.....On January 29 at the same room, will be the first Las Vegas appearance of new east coast singing sensation **SONNY PURCELL**. Purcell who records for Session Records has performed at most of the leading hotel showrooms and nightclubs in the east including the La Martinique and Dangerfield's in New York, Miami's Doral Hotel, and Mickey Rooney's Downington Inn. His first album, "Sonny Purcell, Live!" is moving nicely and building an interest and following in the young singer's blossoming career. Purcell's manager, LEW KULA, decided on a Vegas showing to kick off Sonny's west coast string of engagements.....**AL GAMBINO**, well known here for his technical wizardry and musicianship as a composer-arranger-pianist, is resuming his own career as a singer. Al who has played several hotels here with his own group backing, recently closed at the Flamingo where he starred in his own show as well as being musical director for.....**DYANNA WHITMAN**, the hottest new songstress around, and readying her mainroom debut with Don Rickles at Harrah's, Lake Tahoe next month. Miss Whitman debuted here as the star of Matt Gregory's "Fancy That" at the Flamingo Casino Theater, and was immediately signed to an exclusive contract to headline in her own act both in the lounge and mainroom.....**THE CAIN MUTINY**, now winding their debut engagement at the MGM Lion's Den, should be getting a lot more exposure in the coming months for their unique and refreshing originality. The Brothers Cain - Howard-Howard & Mat - are not only singers and musicians but songwriters as well, and their original material is the highlight of their act. Sister Joyce Cain is featured with her brothers and is as much a visual asset as she is a vocalist.....**FRANK RICCI** is making his Strip bow currently at the Frontier Winner's Circle. Ricci, originally from Rhode Island, has been singing for the past couple of years on the west coast.....

**'CELEBRITY CIRCUS.....**Looking radiant and very pregnant, **NANCY SINATRA** at the Tropicana to catch "The Best of Ann-Margret" (twice!), on a short holiday with husband **HUGH LAMBERT**.....Comedienne **LIZ TORRES**, who recently closed here at the Thunderbird where she filled in on short notice for ailing Marilyn



(ROGER)

King of the Road act, The Lockers. Roger Miller becomes Roger Miller is a royalty in the MGM Grand Hotel opening a slice of pure Americana three-week stand in the served up with tender Grand's beautiful 1,200 loving care. Neatly seat Celebrity Room, fusing country with modern. Miller has led with comedian Pat the recent renaissance Cooper and a new dance of country music.

Michaels, back in town for a guesting on ABC-TV's Wide World of Entertainment special being filmed at the Tropicana Blue Room.... Manager **ALLAN CARR**, busy as ever, in for meetings and promo for the upcoming Las Vegas debut of **FABIAN** opening this month at the MGM Lion's Den. Carr's superstar attraction, **ANN-MARGRET** will be returning to the Tropicana Superstar Theater on February 28..... Australian designer **WARDEN NEIL** who does the wardrobe for The Johnny Mann Singers, "Stand Up and Cheer", and "Dick Clark's Rock and Roll Years", in for a short visit with the Mann group now costarring with **DON RICKLES** at the Riviera.....Producers **BARRY ASHTON & WOLF KOCKMANN** in for photo sessions on their latest runaway smash, "This Is Burlesque" at the Aladdin Hotel starring **IRV BENSON & TOMMY MOE RAFT**. Ashton's finale number, "Salute to George M. Cohan" is the talk of the town featuring, as it does, lead nude **MARINA MAUBERT** as a toe-tap dancing Miss Liberty, exotic **SATAN'S ANGEL** as a roller skating Uncle Sam, and comedy stars **Raft, Benson and Jack Mann** as The Spirit of '76.....**EVERYBODY** is at the MGM's new **Jai Alai** fronton! **SHECKY GREENE** and his gorgeous **NALANI KELE**, **KITTY "HELLO, DOLLY!" KOVER**, **RIP**

**TAYLOR, BILL COSBY, LIZ TORRES, MEL TORME, BARBARA EDEN, BOBBIE GENTRY, WAYNE & ELAINE NEWTON, THE FLYING FERCOES, TOMMY MOE RAFT, LESLIE UGGAMS, ROGER MILLER, RED BUTTONS and HERB EDEN** among the stars poppin' by for some quick "between shows" thrills at the colorful and exciting show. Among the top stars and fans' favorites at the fastest game in town: **Ugarte, Aramayo, Inaki, Guereña, Juan, Enchave, Carlos and Orbegozo**.....**Producer GEORGE ARNOLD** back in town to discuss a new deal with the Hacienda Hotel and the return, topless this time, of his popular "Fantasy On Ice" revue later this spring.....

**STRIP BITS & PIECES.....MARTY ALLEN & DELLA REESE** open Jan. 24 at the Flamingo.....**PETER ANTHONY**, a hit, in his first headliner stint at the Sahara Casbar's Theater....Comedian **SAMMY SHORE**, who toured for so long with Elvis Presley, will be the headliner at the Hilton's new Vestal Virgin while Elvis is starring in the mainroom.....**ABBE LANE & JACK CARTER** co-star at the Desert Inn Crystal Room opening Feb. 12. That will be Abbe's last Hughes Hotels engagement. She'll move to the Tropicana Superstar Theater in mid-year.....

**WEEKEND WANDERERS.....TONY BENNETT & RED BUTTONS** at the Hilton.....**ROGER MILLER & PAT COOPER** at the MGM.....**DON RICKLES & THE JOHNNY MANN SINGERS** at the Riviera.....**PAUL ANKA & THE SHIPSTAD & JOHNSON'S ICE FOLLIES** at Caesars Palace.....**BRECK WALL - JOE PETERSON'S "BOTTOMS UP"** - Las Vegas' longest running revue - at the Circus Circus Hippodrome.....**BARRY ASHTON'S "THIS IS BURLESQUE"** at the Aladdin.....**KITTY KOVER, NANCY AUSTIN, PHIL FORD** in Maynard Sloate's production of "Hello, Dolly" at the Union Plaza.....

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