

Mark Tan
IN
LAS VEGAS



STRIP CHATTER.....FRANKIE VALLI AND THE FOUR SEASONS, back for their second go-round at the Flamingo Casino Theater, are doing the top lounge business in town. The million selling recording stars (make that 80 million records sold in their dozen years of performing) are now on the Motown label, and have a new hit aborning in their just released "Hickory" backed by "Charisma". Valli, the multi-ranged leader and spokesman of the group, has had several million sellers in his own right, and laughingly recalls the time, a few years ago, when the group had three top ten hits under three different neames. Frankie and the Seasons are set for a third engagement at the Flamingo in October but with biz as booming as it is, don't be surprised if Flamingo entertainment director Dick Lane finds an earlier slot for them. The group is solidly booked throughout the rest of the year and into 1975 with concert dates (like their recent Madison Square Garden sellout), nightclubs, and more recording sessions for their new disc base Motown....**STEVE ROSSI & BERNIE ALLEN**, back at the Sahara Casbar Theater, have a new pact at the hotel that will include several stints in the mainroom Congo Room in '74 and '75. Rossi and Allen have a new comedy album due for release shortly, and are talking a deal for their own comedy series for both television and movies....Comedian **MICKEY MANNERS** well known here for his many Strip revues and appearances at the Thunderbird, Sands, etc. makes a long overdue return to the Strips scene with his June debut at the MGM Lion's Den....**GABRIEL KAPLAN**, the brilliant new comedy find now at the Tropicana in "The Best of Ann-Margret" has his first comedy album, on the ABC-Dunhill label, on the racks. Kaplan has also been signed to guest star on the upcoming May 28th Emmy Awards telecast, and has been given an unheard of, eight minute solo monologue spot....Dancer **CECIL GOLD**, just closed here with The Connie Stevens Show, is back in L.A. and resuming his first love, movie producing-directing. Gold has his own film company called **CINEMA PLUS**, and has had several major flicks out on his production banner. Gold's latest project is a new film called "SYNDICATED DEATH" which will be filmed this month in L.A.....Music fans of the late 1950's and 60's should remember a million selling hit called "YOU ARE MINE". The singer was named **VINCE CARSON**. But didja know that the same Vince Carson is now the maitre'd at the Hacienda Hotel?? Carson's show biz career was in high gear at the peak of the musical rush headed by such greats as **JONI JAMES, CONNIE FRANCIS, TONY BENNETT, FRANKIE LAINE, TERESA BREWER**, etc.....

THE MOVIE MAKERS IN LAS VEGAS.....Producer-director **JERRY SCHAFER**, here with his Affinity Pictures Corporation and the lensing of "HORACE & FRED", is drawing some long overdue attention to the advantages and possibilities of major motion picture activity in and around Las Vegas. Schaffer and executive producer **ELIAS SAKA**, recently concluded a pact for "Horace & Fred" to be distributed throughout Europe later this summer. "H&F" stars **BRECK WALL, DICK SHANE, JOANNE WORLEY, DAVE MADDEN, ROOSEVELT GRIER & THE FLYING TORRELS** can be spotted this week shooting scenes on the madcap comedy adventure at the Sahara Hotel, the University of Nevada, etc., etc.....Producer-director-writer **RICHARD BROOKS** ("In Cold Blood", "Elmer Gantry", "The Professionals", etc.) arrived in town this week to set locations and production schedules for his new film, "Bite the Bullet" which starts filming April 1 with stars **GENE HACKMAN, JAMES COBURN & CANDACE BERGEN**.....

'ROUND TOWN.....DONN ARDEN'S "HALLELUJAH, HOLLYWOOD" opening next month at the MGM Grand Hotel's new Ziegfeld Room.....**HAPPY BIRTHDAY** to "Hallelujah's" musical director **ANTHONY COSTA**.....S.O.U.P. just at the Lion's Den, seeing Vegas as residents for another week or so as they prep their new shows for their upcoming cross-country tour....Del Webb exec **AL GOMES** has been named General Manager of Webb's luxurious **LUILIMA RESORT HOTEL** in Hawaii (Oahu). The 500-room Kuilima is Oahu's only oceanside resort with five miles of natural shoreline. Gomes has been with the Webb organization since 1968 and was asst. g.m. at the Kuilima.....Stardust pr director **DICK ODESSKY** heads the Vegas contingent off on a Southern California Blitz to San Diego, Los Angeles, Orange County, etc. to spread the good word that there are no gas shortages in Vegas and to hype the Southern Calif tourism**THE DOVELLS** presented Bobby Riggs with a specially strung tennis racket - with a hole in the center!! - as part of their musical comedy antics at Riggs' Tennis Spectacular at the Tropicana Hotel's new indoor tennis club. Other celebs on hand to play Riggs included **LIBERACE, CLINT EASTWOOD, PHYLLIS MCGUIRE** and an unexpected special guest - a female stalker!!.....Speaking of stalkers, the band of nudniks that belted at the University of Nevada last week during the High School Band Competition will be happy to know that producer **JERRY SCHAFER** turned his cameras on them as part of his "Horace and Fred" movie. Schaffer was at the University to film the band contests, and now he's wondering what to do with the stalker footage in his family rated G comedy.....



HENNY YOUNGMAN, ONE OF THE MOST POPULAR ENTERTAINERS IN AMERICA, IS RECOGNIZED AND CONGRATULATED BY WELL-WISHING FANS WHEREVER HE GOES. HERE HE IS POSING FOR A PHOTO WITH CAESARS PALACE DOORMAN **RAY GALLEGOS**, ISRAELITE PUBLISHER **JACK TELL** AND ANET PAULSON, FLORIDA VISITOR TO LAS VEGAS.



UNIVERSAL LANGUAGE--GARY SMITH AND THE WHISKEY RIVER BAND COMMUNICATE WITH LANDMARK SUPPER CLUB PATRONS THROUGH MUSIC IN A MIXTURE OF FORMS FROM CONTEMPORARY TO MODERN COUNTRY AND FOLK-POP. SMITH GEARS EACH SHOW TO THE PLEASURE OF HIS AUDIENCE.

CELEBRITY CIRCUS.....MILTON BERLE, back in town at the Frontier Hotel (his debut at that hotel) has the crowds screaming when he plays his "That's Not Funny" routine with comedian **JERRY COLLINS** lending an assist.....Beautiful **BOBBIE GENTRY**, across the street at the Desert Inn, treated her opening night guests to dinner and the show. Bobbie's reasoning was that her new revue was reaching its final dress rehearsals stages on opening night and the audience shouldn't have to pay. Miss Gentry "comped" the entire room of several hundred - and the first show crowd loved the show - ready or not! - and especially Bobbie and her special guest star, **LARRY**



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STORCH....."THE BEST OF ANN-MARGRET" still the hottest show in town at the Tropicana Superstar Theater has new showtimes of 9 p.m. and midnight; on Sundays the shows are at 5:00 p.m. and 9:00 p.m. with no midnight performance. Roger Smith shows first run movies to the cast and friends on Sunday night at the Movies with Ann-Margret....**HAPPY ANNIVERSARY** to Flamingo entertainment coordinator **FORRESTER MASHBIR** and his delightful **CAROL** celebrating their fifth year of togetherness..... Dancer **PAT CABA** ("Hallelujah", "Casino de Paris", etc.) says he is going to become a "singing ice skater" before the year is over. Pat, who will be one of the dancers in Vasili Sulich's next Dance Concert in May, is also taking skating lessons at the L.V. Ice Palace, singing lessons thrice a week, and rehearsing with the Donn Arden spectacular.... **HECTOR NUNEZ**, from the Stardust Lido de Paris, will be spending the next couple of months in Miami as lead dancer in Harold Minsky's new show at the Playboy Hotel.... Red Sash **WILLIAM REEDERS**, Orange Sash **DAVID HOUSTON** and Chief Instructor Red Sash **ARTHUR E. SYKES** head the new **LIU SEONG-ROYAL KUNG FU CLUB OF NEVADA**, now open on North Eastern, and offering the program to both men and women as well as children....The Thunderbird's technicolor twosome, **TONY & CYD** (Martin & Charisse) are back at the 'Bird, with comedy star **DAVID BRENNER** (who recently closed here with Diana Ross at Caesars).....

WEEKEND WANDERERS....."THE BEST OF ANN-MARGRET" at the Tropicana Superstar....**MILTON BERLE & FRANK SINATRA JR** at the Frontier.....**TONY BENNETT** at the Las Vegas Hilton.... **RIP TAYLOR** at the Stardust Lounge....**FRANKIE VALLI & THE FOUR SEASONS, DYANNA WHITMAN & THE DOVELLS** at the Flamingo Casino Theater....**STEVE DE PASS** at the Vestal Virgin.... **BARRY ASHTON'S "THIS IS BURLESQUE"** starring **IRV BENSON** at the Aladdin.....

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