

# ENTERTAINMENT TRIP AROUND THE WORLD



DICK MCINNES

"Hamlet" is back and alive and well and staying at the Mark Taper Forum thru April 28. STACY KEACH repeats his much heralded role and for the most part, is worthy of his reviews. He doth trippingly speak those speeches and is, in fact, a very sensitive Prince of Denmark. SALOME JENS is a very regal yet sensuous Gertrude and HARRIS YULIN's Claudius is strong and seemingly guiltless until the play within the play does him in. JEFF COREY is truly fantastic as Polonius, making him very human and warm and AVERY SCHREIBER, LEON CHARLES, JAMES CROMWELL & ART BURNS all make heavy contributions to the plus side of "Hamlet." I admire EDWARD ALBERT, who is considered a star in the movies, for taking on such a small role (Fortinbras) to get stage experience. KITTY WINN (Ophelia), although she looked and acted beautifully when she went mad, unfortunately looked and acted pretty much the same when she wasn't. GEORG STANFORD BROWN is totally wrong. A... his acting and B...I can't understand casting a black actor in a role that has a line like "you look pale, Horatio delivered to him. It nearly broke up the audience and it was a little hard to take the production seriously from that point. I feel that mixed casting certainly works in some cases but would you believe a play about a family of slaves in the South and one of them happens to be white???

HARRY & MARILYN LEWIS, owners of the Hamburger Hamlet chain of restaurants, threw a delightful alter-theatre supper at the H.H. on the Sunset Strip honoring the Royal Company of Hamlet. They even prepared a special menu featuring such tasty morsels as the "Ophelia Burger" (melted cheese and basted egg), the "Big Hamlet Himself Burger" (1/2 pounder with melted cheese bacon strips & Russian dressing), the "Player King Burger" (ham, cheese, Russian dressing, bacon strips) and the most tasty of all, their fabulous Onion Soup Fondue with garlic toast. It was so popular that the fondue machine blew a fuse. Among the friends of Hamlet, (and although there were complaints, they all agreed it was



SUPER SINGER ANDY WILLIAMS, ONE OF THE WORLD'S ALL-TIME-GREAT NIGHT-CLUB, TELEVISION AND RECORDING ARTISTS, IS BACK AT CAESARS PALACE WITH THE POPULAR LENNON SISTERS (DIANNE, PEGGY, KATHY AND JANET).... SHOW TIMES ARE 8 P.M. AND MIDNIGHT....

a noteworthy production) were JACK & VICKIE OAKIE, EDDIE & MARGO ALBERT, KATE JACKSON (young Albert's current girl), KIRK & ANNE DOUGLAS, MARGOT KIDDER & PETER BOYLE, SAMANTHA EGGAR & artist EDWARD RUSCHA, the JOHN MARSHALLS (JOAN VAN ARK), JACK STARRETT, JOHN & TILLIE STERNIG with their daughter BARBARA, & FRANK MCCARTHY.

MOVIE TRIPPING....For the laugh of the year, please go see "Blazing Saddles", MEL BROOKS latest contribution to the film world. I'm not going to say that it's always in the best of taste or that it's good clean entertainment but if you need to laugh, then run to the box office right now. CLEAVON LITTLE stars as the sheriff with "Gucci" saddlebags who is hoodwinked into cleaning up Ridge Rock, a town loaded with borderline bigots. You then are treated to every classic western situation as seen through the zany eyes of Brooks. Every performance is a gem particularly MADELINE KAHN as a Marlene Dietrich type, HARVEY KORMAN as the crooked governor, Hedley Lamarr, GENE WILDER as the Waco Kid and SLIM PICKENS as the bad guy. GEORGE FURTH, DOM DELOUISE, ROBYN HILTON, CAROL ARTHUR, ALEX KARRAS, CLAUDE E. STARRETT JR. & LIAM DUNN all make "Blazing Saddles" an incredibly funny movie but you know that if it wasn't for the insanity of Brooks' humor, there would be no picture. The man is a

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genius and like him or not, he succeeds in making films funny again. HALLELUJAH!!!!

DIANA TRASK, who just finished up a smash 5 weeks at the Sands with DANNY THOMAS, is packing her bags and passport to take off for England and a concert tour with GLEN CAMPBELL. They will play such cities as Liverpool, Manchester, Bristol, Bournemouth and then wind with a two day stand at the Drury Lane Theatre in London. There are also rumors that the redheaded Australian singer is up for a starring role in a major studio's next big flick about a femme country singer. Hope she gets it, she's a dynamite performer.

Speaking of rumors, the big one in Hollywood right now is that RICHARD THOMAS & SIAN BARBARA ALLEN have decided to cool it awhile. Thomas just finished an engagement at the Ahmanson Theatre playing in "Saint Joan" opposite SARAH MILES. For a change, there weren't the usual rumors about Sarah and her leading man. But then, she's been keeping busy with BRUCE DAIVSON.

KEEP YOUR EYE ON....A dynamite new recording group called, "CHUNKY, NOVI & ERNIE" and their first record on Reprise called, oddly enough, "Chunky, Novi & Ernie." It's great and the only way I can describe it is a "classical rock" sound... but that doesn't really describe it either... well it's just about the most different sound I've ever heard. They are all brilliant musicians which doesn't hurt a bit. And dig the album cover. So go out and buy it! Go out and have a good week while you're at it.

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