





STRIP HOPPIN'.....Delectable as she is talented, voluptuous DIANE VARGA, making a hit in her first solo outing, now at the Desert Inn's Gold Cup Lounge If the current strike of sign hangers doesn't end, you'll soon be seeing a Strip without a single mainroom name on the marquee!! Last week, BUDDY HACKETT, JAMES DARREN. ABBE LANE, TONY MARTIN, CYD CHARISSE, CORBETT MONICA, and THE LETTERMEN were among the star attractions who had to open without benefit of marquee billing. Despite the loss of signs, business in all showrooms was good, and somehow (hopefully through publications like the Vegas Visitor, for instance) the fans and tourists were able to find their Strip favorites!!DEAN MARTIN will tape two of his tv show "Roasts" from his MGM Celebrity Room headquarters. The tapings will be held on Nov. 3 and 4, and the "roastees" will be TELLY SAVALAS and LUCILLE BALL, JACKIE GAYLE, currently headlining at the Lion's Den, will be guesting on Savalas roast show. A dozen or more other "surprise" gueststars will be announced later this month......JOEY BISHOP, a longtime absent from the Strip, has reportedly been signed to make a return in early '75, playing the first of several engagements at the Sahara Hotel.....DICK HAYMES (and COMPANY) will make his MGM Lion's Den bow on October 31 A new group from the Charlie Johnston stable (S.O.U.P., The Gringos, Quantrell, etc.) called THE PHOENIX EXPRESS will make its initial appearance at the Flamingo's new Nitebird Lounge, opening October 10. (The Express will be replacing originally scheduled FRANKIE VALLI & THE FOUR SEASONS, who asked for and got a cancellation of their Flamingo contract). The eight-member Express is headed by ROD WORK. The group will be at the Nitebird for a month, opposite B.B. KING til Oct. 30, and then with CHUBBY CHECKER Beautiful BARBARA EDEN, the Geni of "I Dream of Jeannie" fame, returns to the MGM Celebrity Room, with SHECKY GREENE, on October 23. Barbara's recent movie-of-the-week for tv. "The Stranger Within Me" received rave reviews and was one of the week's top rated attractions.....Speaking of Genies, zany RIP TAYLOR (seen every Sat. morn on "Sigmund and the Sea Monster" as the genie who can do nothing right!) is back in town - as if you had to be told! You can't MISS HIM Taylor is everywhere including ABBE LANE'S opening at the Tropicana, BOBBIE GENTRY's opening at the Desert Inn, in to see THE CARPENTERS and GABRIEL KAPLAN at the Riviera, at the special third show performance of "SPICE ON ICE" at the Hacienda, and up and down the Strip catching pals like JACKIE GAYLE (Lion's Den at the MGM), DYANNA WHITMAN (Flamingo Casino Theatre), "BARE TOUCH OF VEGAS" (Stardust Lounge), etc. at work. Taylor goes back to work Oct. 21 opening at Harrah's Reno. On November 1, Rip returns to headline at the Stardust



THE CHARLIE SHAFFER TRIO BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND IN THE LANDMARK'S SKYTOP RENDEZVOUS SETS THE MOOD FOR ROMANCE WITH SOUNDS FOR DANCING AND COCKTAILS HIGH AMONG THE STARS ON THE 3IST FLOOR, WITH SHAFFER, PIANO MAN AND VOCALS ARE DIANE ELLIOTT ON VOCALS, BOONE STEIN ON DRUMS AND BOB BAKER ON BASS.

Lounge

NOTES FROM ALL OVER Isn't it nice to have singer BARRY MONROE and wife BRANDI back in town! Barry was the featured male singer in "Casino de Paris" until a few months ago when he decided to move to Montana and raise horses. The Montana landscape, impressive as it is, just wasn't enough to hold Barry - he missed the lights and masquerade parade which starts at 3:30 a.m. (Nov. 1 excitement of Las Vegas and show business so he came "home". He'll be in a new show soon!!.....Also home and maybe to stay, dancer EVERETT 'LONNIE' CHASE who left the "Lido de Paris" a few months ago. Everett is now in "Casino de Paris", and plans to stay in Vegas til next year when he'll move to London to attend a dramatic academy to pursue an acting career.... Impressionist DAPHNE DAVIS makes her debut at the MGM Lion's Den in December If you haven't made the trip out to MARGE JACQUES Le Cafe to see spicy, sexy Brown Sugar, MISS SUPERSTAR!!.... BUDDY HACKETT and JAMES SANDRA ALEXANDRA - do it now! Sandra is the first DARREN at the Sahara.....TONY & CYD at the star of the bistro's new after hours cabaret policy; her Thunderbird George Arnold's SPICE ON ICE at the shows are continuous from midnight to 5 a.m. Sunday thru, Hacienda..... Thursday (off weekends) and she's one of the freshest, in most unique musical and glib personalities around. Sandra has a huge following in Los Angeles where she has been appearing for the past couple of years. Except for a brief stint at the Dunes, this is her Las Vegas debut. She's funny, flip and a special kind of songstress whether she's into a jazz riff, a torch song, one of her many special material ditties, blues or contemporary pop. Le Cafe, a longtime popular haunt for showfolk, locals and tourists, is at Tropicana and Paradise Roads......PAUL ANKA riding high 4

with his "You're Having My Baby" just about ready to join his collection of Gold hit records, is back at Caesars Palace. Joining Paul is his "discovery", ODIA COATES. Now that TOM JONES is on schedule to make his first movie, "The Gospel Singer", Paul's showstopping "JUBILATION" (written especially for Jones and the flick) will be one of several new Anka tunes included in the score.....MEL TORME returning October 19 to the Sahara Congo Room with Jerry Lewis, intros his new Gershwin medley in his new show. This is the composer's 75th anniversary, and Mel's medley, introduced in his recent stint at the St. Regis in New York, had music and nitery critics pouring on the superlatives! Winding the year on a high note, Mel's new movie, "THE SNOWMAN" is being readied for Christmas release. Mel doesn't get to sing a note in the film (he's the lone human survivor in a plane crash; all the other survivors are circus animals) but he did write the musical score which backgrounds the adventure saga...

'ROUND TOWN.....THE ARGENTINIAN GAUCHOS now at the Dunes in "Casino de Paris" - winners of last year's Best Production Act of the Year category in the Las Vegas Entertainment Awards, will reportedly join emcee BOB HOPE and guest presenters like SAMMY DAVIS JR., ANN-MARGRET, LIZA MINNELLI, MITZI GAYNOR, RICH LITTLE, REDD FOXX, etc. on the NBC-TV special airing Nov. 20. The Gauchos will reportedly be part of the special Awards Entertainment segment of the show which will be taped Nov. 12-14 at Caesars Palace......BOBBIE GENTRY, back at the Desert Inn (and set to be the Christmas-New Year's attraction as well) will be making her major motion picture debut later this year and early '75 costarring with two of Hollywood's most sought after leading men, RICHARD BURTON and ROBERT MITCHUM. Miss Gentry is also awaiting final word on the go-ahead of her own tv variety special, for CBS, on the mid-season January lineup.....Tickets are now on sale for the October 31 showfolks' BEAUX ART HALLOWE'EN BALL to be held at the Stardust Convention Center. MITZI GAYNOR, ANN-MARGRET, BOBBIE GENTRY, RIP TAYLOR, CONNIE STEVENS, MEL TORME and others are among the celebs that'll be on the Judge's Panel for the morning). Dunes singing star GINNIE PALLONE's specialty boutique SECOND HAND ROSE and JERRY WALKER'S "UNDER YOUR HAT" beauty salon are two new locations handling tickets......

WEEKEND WANDERERS WAYNE NEWTON at the Frontier, PAUL ANKA at Caesars, ROBERT GOULET at the Sands and GLEN CAMPBELL at the Hilton are the quartet of male singing favorites currently on view round town.....MITZ1 IS AT THE TROPICANA

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