

Mark Tan
IN
LAS VEGAS



LIFE UPON THE WICKED STAGE.....MEL TORME, who'll be returning to the Sahara Hotel with Jerry Lewis on February 27, was the recipient of a personal letter from none other than **BING CROSBY**, who caught Mel's act at the Fairmont in San Francisco. Bing's note to Mel was a completely unsolicited commentary on Mel's flawless artistry; said Mr. Crosby: "I think it's the single most exciting experience I've had watching somebody perform since 1927 when I first heard Ethel Waters sing "Dinah". You certainly have perfected your art to an unbelievable degree." Praise from the master, indeed!.....Another Sahara pactee, the popular and handsome movie star-singer **JAMES DARREN**, has been signed to star in a new rock musical version of the life of Rudolph Valentino. Darren who hasn't been to the Strip in a couple of months now will be returning to the Congo Room later this year.... **MERV GRIFFIN** receives the Al Freeman Award from the Public Relations Association of Las Vegas (Jim Seagrave, Thunderbird pr director is current president) for his outstanding contributions and coverage of Las Vegas. The annual "Spotlight" awards from the PRALV will be presented at a special banquet in early February at the Tropicana Hotel....Speaking of the Thunderbird, **DICK HAYMES** and **PAT BUTTRAM** are appearing in the Continental Room thru Feb. 19 with **JACK JONES** coming in on the 20th....The "other" **JONES**, - Tom - returns to Caesars Palace on May 22, the first of two appearances the wailin' Welshman will make this year in Vegas....**WAYNE NEWTON** and his prized Arabian stallion **ARAMUS** were the co-hosts of a special "Welcome to the Frontier" reception for current headliner **BUCK OWENS**, **LESLIE UGGAMS**, **BILLY HOLLIDAY** (the comedy star of the just closed Charlie Rich Show), **KITTY KOVER**, **SIG & GINA SAKOWICZ**, **JAN MURRAY**, **DAVE BARRY**, **BOBBY CURTOLA**, **MICKEY FINN**, **DICK ROMAN**, and dozens more dropped by to greet Buck and his special guest star **FOSTER BROOKS**.....Hughes Hotels entertainment director **WALTER KANE** has signed an all new country western revue to open February 10 at the Landmark Hotel. The titles and stars will be announced this week....**RUTH BUZZI**, Laugh-In's lady of a million disguises, is getting absolute raves on her first go-round as a nightclub performer. Currently breaking in her comedy-music act at the Fairmont Hotel in Atlanta and opening shortly in Dallas, Albuquerque and San Francisco, Ruth's managers are negotiating a Las Vegas debut to follow this summer. Ruth's new act was directed and choreographed by **ERNIE FLATT**, with special material by **BILLY BARNES**, and features **KEITH SARGENT**, **MICHAEL BYERS**, **STEVEN DOLAN** and **LARRY ROSENBERG**.....

STRIP BITS & PIECES.....BARRY ASHTON'S wild new revue "VIVE PARIS VIVE!" world premiering at the Aladdin is the latest "between shows" favorite for Strip headliners and other performers who can catch the 10 p.m. performance of Barry's sexy, naughty and slightly kinky comedy production. **SAHJI**, **THE GREAT TOMSONI**, **SUZI WILLIAMS**, **ROGER PITTORE**, **ANGELIQUE**, **JIMMY ROGERS**, **MICHELLE MERCIER**, **MAX HONIGSHEIM SR.**, **RANDY DiGRAZIO** and French singing star **ROBERT SISSA** are featured in the all-star company....**TONY ORLANDO & DAWN** make their headliner bow at the Riviera....Blonde beauty **JANUARY JONES**, who resumed her singing career in '74 (after a semi-retirement marriage) visiting Las Vegas, from her current home base Philadelphia. Miss Jones recently headlined at Palumbo's in Philly and sang the past summer away starring at Cozy Morley's lively Wildwood resort cabaret....**STEVE & EYDIE** (lawrence and Gorme) play their first Strip date of the New Year opening February 6 at Caesars Palace. Then **JOHNNY CARSON** makes his Palace bow on February 27; Carson's first Strip date since he ended his long term pact at the Sahara Hotel last summer....**PAUL LOWDEN**, the very enterprising young musical director who became a very young millionaire thru investments, developments and real estate, has been named Entertainment Co-ordinator at FIVE hotels - the Hacienda,



WHEELA GALLEZ IS A GAL WHO SITS AT THE PIANO BAR IN THE LANDMARK'S NIFTY NOOK WEAVING A PATTERN OF TEXTURED SOUNDS THAT TAKES LISTENERS ON A TRIP FROM MEMORIESVILLE TO TODAYSVILLE, STOPPING BRIEFLY HERE AND THERE TO CATCH SOMEONE OFF GUARD AS SHE REVEALS THAT SHE IS ALSO THE MISTRESS OF INSULT. EVERYONE IN THE ROOM IS A PART OF THE END PRODUCT -- ABSOLUTE FUN!

Tropicana, Stardust, Fremont, and the soon to be opened Marina Hotel-Casino (on the Strip between the Tropicana and the Aladdin). Paul is partnered with **ALLAN GLICK** and his Argent Corporation at the Hacienda, and with **EDWARD & FRED DOUMANI**, the new owners of the Tropicana Hotel....Speaking of the Tropicana, entertainment director **ALAN LEE** who is producing the all new "Folies Bergere" scheduled to open March 15 in the Superstar Theater, has signed singer dancer **BUDDY VEST** as the show's

SHECKY BACK AT MGM GRAND

Shecky Greene returns to the MGM Grand Hotel, for a two-week engagement in the Celebrity Room. Joining the wildly unpredictable Greene is Columbia Records artist **Karen Wyman**.



SHECKY

This marks the eighth MGM appearance for Greene at the hilarious one's second "home," while Miss Wyman is making her premier performance.

Laugh-maker **Jackie Gayle** returns to the MGM Grand Hotel, when the stand-up comic steps into the Lion's Den spotlight.

Also on the bill for a four-week engagement, is the internationally-known recording

group, **The Platters**. Filling out the full entertainment package in the lounge are **Juan Carlos** and the **Apple Jacks**.

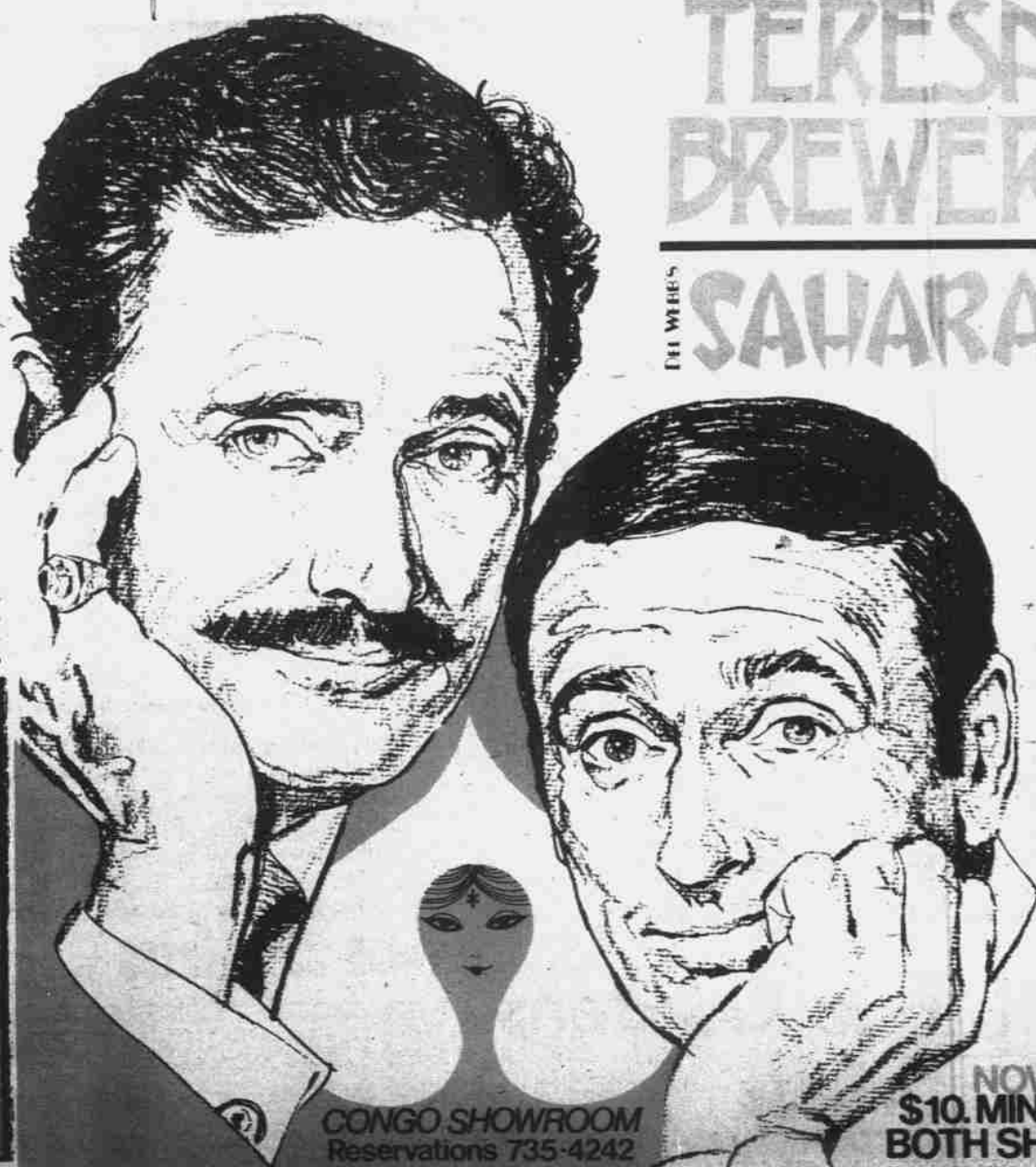
musical-host, **Vest** who was formerly partnered with **Sterling Clark** (Vest & Clark) recently returned to the U.S. after two years starring in the "Lido de Paris". Vest & Clark last appeared in Vegas as stars of the Dunes' "Vive Les Girls"....

WEEKEND WANDERERS.....ENGELBERT at the Riviera....**ANN-MARGRET** at the Las Vegas Hilton....**SHECKY GREENE** and **JACKIE GAYLE** at the MGM (in the Celebrity Room and Lion's Den, respectively)....**JAI ALAI** at the MGM Fronton where **ARAMAYO**, **PEDRO**, **AJURIA**, **BERRIA** and **OSCAR** are among the favored and favorite players in the new season....**DICK HAYMES** and **PAT BUTTRAM** at the Thunderbird....**LOUIS PRIMA** and "The Way It Was" at the Tropicana Blue Room....**PAUL ANKA** at Caesars Palace.....

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