

# LAS VEGAS

# SHOWWASTE

*Mark Tan*  
IN  
**LAS VEGAS**



**GLITTER GO-ROUND.....RUTH BUZZI**, currently at the Fairmont in San Francisco, has been signed by entertainment director **LENNY MARTIN** to make her first mainroom appearance at the Sahara Hotel, opening March 13 with **JIM NABORS**. Ruth whose only Strip date was with Gene Kelly at the Las Vegas International (now Hilton), took her new solo nitery act on the road in December and has been gathering raves from all over the country.....Gorgeous **BOBBIE GENTRY**, with her 19-inch "Scarlett O'Hara" waistline at the Desert Inn is already at work on her all new musical spectacular for her return date in June. Bobbie's busy schedule this year also includes a guesting as a judge at the upcoming Miss U.S.A. Universe Pageant, a couple of television specials, the release of her new single "Macon County Line" (from the hit movie), and just possibly her motion picture debut in one of the year's biggest multi-million dollar blockbusters.....**CONNIE STEVENS** sneak previewed the uncut version of her tv movie "The Sex Symbol" for Strip pals and press at the Flamingo. The sizzling and controversial film will have major release in Europe but not the U.S.A. Connie plans to have another showing of the flick for all the Strip performers (at 3:00 a.m.) sometime during her current Flamingo stint. **SHELLY WINTERS**, **JACK CARTER**, **DON MURRAY**, **JAMES OLSON** and **MADLYN RHUE** are costarred.....**STEVE LAWRENCE**, **EYDIE GORME**, **NIPSEY RUSSEL**, **CONNIE STEVENS** and **BOBBIE GENTRY** among the late-late show turnout for **BUDDY HACKETT's** special extra show Saturday at the Sahara to give his co-star **EDDIE FISHER** (in his first Strip date since 1969) a chance to perform for his in-the-business pals. As it happened, all the stars in the audience ended up on stage performing with Buddy and Eddie - a rare treat for the general public attending the show! Connie and Eddie sang "I'm Yours", Nipsy and Eydie danced, Buddy and Bobbie sang, and Steve Lawrence was his quippiest and quickest as the unofficial emcee of the group's Al Jolson medley singalong! ....Comedy star **GABRIEL KAPLAN** who's played here with **ANN-MARGRET** and **HELEN REDDY**, and out of town with **DIANA ROSS** and **DIONNE WARWICKE**, joins **MAC DAVIS** when Mac makes his headliner bow at the MGM Grand in March.....**LORETTA ST. JOHN** and **BILLY EVANS** showcase their new duo act, with musical group **THE PROFESSIONALS**, this week at the Tropicana. Loretta has sung at several Strip hotels including the Hacienda, Stardust, Landmark and Desert Inn.....

**STRIP HAPPENINGS & HOPPINGS.....RIP TAYLOR** roars back from a week of cohosting the Mike Douglas Show in Philadelphia for rehearsals, costume fittings, etc. for his starring role in Alan Lee's all new "FOLIES BERGERE" opening March 14 at the Tropicana. The zany favorite (whose current kiddie caper on Sat. morn tv "Sigmund the Sea Monster" is top rated) has been a Vegas resident for the past year. Also in the new "Folies" will be singer host **BUDDY VEST** and comedy magician **CARL BALLANTINE**. **JERRY JACKSON** is staging and choreographing; **WILLIAM MORRIS** is creating spectacular scenics, effects and sets; **NOLAN MILLER** is costuming...**JOAN RIVERS**, opening March 7 with Helen Reddy at the Grand, will not only be the funniest gal in town, she'll be one of the busiest. Joan is currently working - simultaneously - on a new book, a new movie for tv, and a film for theaters! Miss Rivers also has a newspaper column currently appearing in more than 100 papers across the

**JERRY LEWIS** HEADLINING THE NEW SHOW IN SAHARA CONGO ROOM WITH **MEL TORME**, **THE NEW, LOW, \$10 MINIMUM GOES INTO EFFECT**.

country.....What a good idea singer-arranger-composer **GARY PIROT** has developed. Gary's new Singers' Service provides vocal groups and back-up singers for star headliners who come to Las Vegas without their own accompaniment. With an instant reference on all singers available in Las Vegas, Gary can put together a group of from three to fifteen voices to suit any musical arrangements and requirements. Gary, currently with a six voice group with **STEVE & EYDIE** at Caesars Palace, can be contacted thru his manager's offices at **DONNA TAYLOR MANAGEMENT**, Las Vegas.....Voluptuous comedienne-singer-actress **DYANNE THORNE** (whose recent flick "She Wolf of the S-S" a semi-documentary, is a box office bonanza) in town a few days to see Strip pals and chat with manager-producer **JIM HALSEY** about a spot in his new "Country Music U.S.A." revue at the Landmark. Dyanne's recently been on tour as a country-western songstress and has a new disc hit coming out in "Where Were You When I Needed You?". But the biggest news about the popular blonde beauty is that she will be getting married early this summer to **HOWARD CAIN**. Cain is currently winding his stint with his brother **Mat** and sister **Joyce** at the Hacienda where they've been appearing as **THE CAIN MUTINY**.....

**STRIP BITS.....THE KIM SISTERS & THE KIM BROTHERS**, both Hilton pactees at the Hilton Casino Theater, will go on a special 'back home' tour to South Korea this spring. The Kim family who left Korea more than nine years ago made their first en-rasse appearance there last year and reception was so great, the government has asked them to return..... Country artist **FLOYD DAKIL** makes his Sahara Casbar debut on March 4.....**LIBERACE**, who recently purchased a home here, will

officially open his Hollywood Hills estate as a museum on March 10.....A publisher in New York is after producer **BARRY ASHTON** ("Vive Paris Vive" at the Aladdin) to write an as-told-to biography. Ashton who started his career as a dancer in England and has become the new Ziegfeld with his opulently lavish revues all over the world (including Las Vegas, Miami, San Juan, Paris, Mexico City, Copenhagen and later this year the new Ashton-Kochman ice skating spectacular in Tokyo) has been actively involved in producing shows in Las Vegas since about 1959. Barry's current sparkler "Vive Paris Vive" is breaking house records and is the talk of the strip for its naughts and spicy touches, served up in exuberant good humor by the French and American company.....**JAMES DARREN**, always a popular attraction and addition to the Strip line-up, may have to absent himself from the scene til later this summer. Jimmy's been signed to star in a rock musical bio of **RUDELPH VALENTINO** and the shooting schedule of the film conflicts with his usual six-times-a-year guestings with **Buddy Hackett** at the Sahara.....

**SHOWTIME. LAS VEGAS.....**Producer **JOHN DADES** kicks off his new opus of rising young superstars in a package called "NOW THAT'S ENTERTAINMENT". The 26 person revue headed by **EDDIE HADDAD** and **KANYON** starts a thirty state tour of college campuses this week. Reaction to the novel presentation has encouraged Dades to start casting, auditioning, and etc. for a second edition to hit the very popular college circuit later this spring..... Washington, D.C. personal manager **AL CADEAUX** here for confabs with entertainment directors to present **THE SECOND COMING** in their West Coast debut later this summer. The Coming, one of the east coast's top drawing show band revues, is currently at the Classics III in D.C.....Detroit singer **BOB ANDERSON** enroute to Los Angeles where several recording companies are tempting his management for recording deals, huddling with Strip hotel execs for a sing-for-his-supper outing here. Anderson's mainroom bow here was with **Nancy Sinatra** at the Sahara last year.....

**WEEKEND WANDERERS.....JOHNNY CARSON** debuts at Caesars Palace with gueststar songbird **PHYLLIS MCGUIRE**.....**CONNIE STEVENS** and **LONNIE SHORR** at the Flamingo.....**JACK JONES** and newcomer comedy star **KIP ADDOTTA** at the Thunderbird.....**PETULA CLARK** at the Riviera.....

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