

OF THE STARS

RECORDING GREAT JOHNNY PAYCHECK IN LANDMARK'S COUNTRY MUSIC

It's the eighth time around for the Landmark's well-received country western revue "Country Music U.S.A." and this time

it stars one of the greatest recording artists in the business -- Johnny Paycheck, along with his band The Lovemakers, and featuring one of Las Vegas' favorite sons, comic Jerry Collins and beautiful Columbia recording talent Vicky Fletcher.

charts. It was also during that year that Billboard Magazine named him the "Biggest Comback Artist of the Year." Since then, his hit singles have followed consistently without exception. All six of his albums have graced the national country charts, including "She's All I Got," "Mr. Lovemaker."

Paycheck, who put his soul in his songs (he has written as well as recorded many of his hits) laid down several top tunes during the 60's, but really got his boost in 1971 when Billy Sherrill of CBS Records was turned on to him. After getting together with Sherrill, Paycheck released his first Epic single "She's All I Got," which soared to number one on the national

country show is one of Las Vegas' favorite entertainers -- comedian Jerry Collins.

Also featured is the beautiful Vicky Fletcher, whose latest recording on the Columbia label is due to be released within the next two weeks.

Showtimes are 8 p.m. and Midnight -- 7 nights.

SERGIO FRANCHI, PHYLIS DILLER AT MGM GRAND

Sergio Franchi, whose operatically trained tenor voice caresses a pop ballad in singular fashion, returns to the MGM Grand Hotel September 17. Phyllis Diller will co-star.

The powerfully voiced Italian sings in a manner bigger than life and twice as exciting. Sergio is a spellbinding performer whether delivering contemporary hits or an occasional serious selection from the operas Aida or Rigoletto.

What an apt coincidence it is that the "Grand" tenor was born in Cremona, Italy, the home of Antonio Stradivari maker of the Stradivarius violin.

The transition of Sergio Franchi from internationally acclaimed opera star to the stage of major cabarets and Broadway was not as difficult as it may seem.



SERGIO

The main reason being, his most avid supporters included Norman Luboff, Sol Hurok and Ed Sullivan.

There is no question, however that Franchi made it because of his unique qualities that encompass the popsinger's search for expressiveness and the opera singer's dedication to perfecting his art.



Johnny

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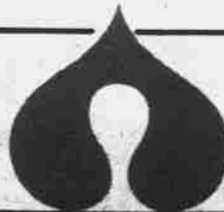
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