

# LAS VEGAS

# SHOW EAST

## Mark Tan IN LAS VEGAS

**'ROUND TOWN.....**A month of SUPERSTARS for our mid-winter visitors include SAMMY DAVIS, JR. (at Caesars), DON RICKLES (at the Riviera), ELVIS (at the Hilton), and - in a somewhat different direction, the University of Nevada's Bayley Theater presentation of the rock classic, "JESUS CHRIST, SUPERSTAR".....MR. LAS VEGAS, WAYNE NEWTON, is at the Sands for the holidays opening Dec. 10 with his longtime comedy gueststar DAVE BARRY, and The Jive Sisters.....SHIPSTAD & JOHNSON'S ICE FOLLIES opens this week at the Sahara Space Center for a limited holiday engagement. Tickets are now on sale for all performances at the Sahara.....A newcomer to Vegas but already a "veteran" (he's been performing since he was a child) is singer JASON, now featured at the off-the-Strip VILLAGE PUB (behind the MGM Grand). Jason, whose performing career has taken him all over the country and throughout Europe, has been held over week after week, and is quietly but steadily building a strong following with his 10 p.m. til 3 a.m. stints. A composer as well as a singer, Jason accompanies himself on guitar, and keeps the mood mostly mellow and romantic but has a repertoire of comedy and singer impressions that give his show a lively versatility. Catch him soon; you'll be hearing much more about him in the coming months and the new year.....RICH LITTLE and MEL TORME wind their year long association and togetherness (with their just closed sellout date in Chicago at the Mill Run Theater) and split for their individual commitments. Rich starts taping his new television series for a mid-season (January) debut. Mel takes a brief holiday and opens Dec. 26 at the Fairmont in San Francisco.....The all new "CASINO DE PARIS" debuts December 26 at the Dunes Hotel. RON LEWIS is staging and choreographing for producer Frederic Aparc.....Another Lewis opus, the long running and award winning "BARE TOUCH OF VEGAS" is on a hiatus from the Marina Hotel for a month, reopens for Christmas.....Also closed for all or part of the month: JERRY NORMAN & DICK FRANCISCO'S "WILD WORLD OF BURLESQUE" at the Holiday Casino; the Desert Inn Crystal Room; the Frontier Music Hall; and the Las Vegas Hilton (on Dec. 16-22; ANN-MARGRET returns Dec. 23).....

**AT THE JUDY BAYLEY THEATER.....**ANDREW LLOYD WEBBER & TIM RICE made theater history with the Broadway smash of their rock opera "JESUS CHRIST SUPERSTAR". Produced on Broadway by ROBERT STIGWOOD and with a conception by TOM O'HORGAN, the now classic opera is being offered in a special series of performances at the University of Nevada. PAUL C. HARRIS directed the UNLV prod with choreography by



JAMES WHETTON, CENTER (IN CHECK COAT) GENERAL MANAGER OF THE DESERT INN AND COUNTRY CLUB, CONGRATULATES MIKE BONFIGLIO, WHO HAS BEEN APPOINTED CASINO MANAGER. BONFIGLIO WAS EDUCATED IN HIS NATIVE HOMETOWN OF STEUBENVILLE, OHIO, AND IS A VETERAN OF SOME 34 YEARS IN THE RESORT BUSINESS, STARTING IN 1961, AS A DICE DEALER, HE HAD HELD VARIOUS KEY POSITIONS AT

THE DI. ALSO SHOWN BEING WELCOMED TO THE NEW CASINO PERSONNEL TEAM ARE FROM LEFT; JOE PHELAN, DAY SHIFT BOSS; GARY YELVERTON, SWING SHIFT BOSS; SANDY PERRY, ASSISTANT CASINO MANAGER; BONFIGLIO, WHETTON, AND PETE ELIAKIS, BACCARAT MANAGER; RUSS SCOTT, RELIEF SHIFT BOSS AND TED ZAKAS, GRAVE-YARD SHIFT BOSS.

PATTI WOOD, costumes by ELLIS PRYCE JONES, musical direction by KENNETH HANLON and choral direction by DON EAHOLTZ. The UNLV production is an excellent and faithful rendering of the original with considerably less in the extravagant scenery and effects of the New York company. The cast is however, first rate and impressive in both the acting and singing roles. JAMES BENNETT is the handsome, blond "Jesus" who gives his role the proper shadings as the gentle albeit doubting uncertain Man-Messiah. Bennett's agonizing and demanding role is given its greatest moments in the show's brilliant "Gethsemane" solo. WAYNE HARGRAVE as 'Judas',

BARBARA REINHARDT as 'Mary Magdalene', HUGO KANTER as 'Pontius Pilate', TRIVOR PICKERING as 'Herod' and LAYNARD WILLIAMS as 'Simon' are outstanding in the large company. "JESUS CHRIST, SUPERSTAR" is a production of the UNLV Theater Arts Drama Department under the chairmanship of ROBERT N. BURGAN and produced by special arrangement with Music Theater International. "Superstar" continues at the Judy Bayley Theater for performances on Dec. 12, 13, 14, 19, 20 and 21. Contact the UNLV boxoffice for ticket information and performance schedule.....

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